

PMJ/AMB

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Ken Edwards Building
University Road
Leicester LE1 7RH · UK
Tel: +44 (0)116 252 3957
Fax: +44 (0)116 252 5515
Email: am56@le.ac.uk

Professor Peter M Jackson AcSS
Dean: Faculty of Social Sciences
Professor of Economics and Strategy

I am delighted to provide this letter of confirmation and support for Stafford Associates (Dubai).

The University of Leicester has worked closely with Stafford Associates since 1995. This is an academic partnership which has proved to be extremely effective and which received a very positive report from the U.K.'s Quality Assurance Agency of the Higher Education Funding Council. In that report Stafford Associates were highly commended for the quality of the professionalism with which they implemented processes and supported the University's students.

During the past 15 years the University of Leicester and Stafford Associates have built up a strong and very effective partnership. We have found that the owners and staff of Stafford Associates subscribe to the same values as those held by the University of Leicester, namely, to provide education to the highest standards and to provide top quality professional support for students. Stafford Associates have excelled in delivering these values.

The University of Leicester is one of the U.K.'s top 20 universities and has regularly featured in the Top 200 Universities of the World - a league table produced by Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China.

The University of Leicester was granted its Royal Charter in 1958 and is one of the World's leading research based universities. The University of Leicester Act (1958) and current versions of the Charter and Statutes can be found on the University's website at www.le.ac.uk/press/calendar.

All degrees awarded by the University are equivalent in terms of quality and academic standing irrespective of the method of study.

The MBA and Diploma in Management programmes awarded by the University of Leicester if studied by distance learning are equivalent, in all important material respects to the MBA and Diploma in Management studied full time on campus. The design; course content; learning and teaching materials; the assignments, examinations and dissertations are completely (100%) controlled and quality assured by the University of Leicester. Whilst Stafford Associates, with whom we have worked closely in the Middle East since 1995, provide support for our students,

the setting and marking of all assignments, examinations and dissertations are carried out within the University of Leicester by tenured academic members of staff.

In addition, distance learning students are given academic support by Leicester based academics through the virtual learning environment of Blackboard and at Summer Schools in the UK.

The equivalence of the University of Leicester distance learning and full time MBA degrees is acknowledged and validated by the Association of MBAs (AMBA). AMBA has accredited both versions of the University of Leicester MBA.

Moreover, the full time and distance learning programmes are externally examined and subjected to the highest exacting quality standards. These quality assurance systems and standards are regularly audited by the UK Government's Quality Assurance Agency.

If I can provide you with further information, I shall be pleased to do so.

Yours sincerely

The image shows a handwritten signature in cursive that reads "P. Jackson". To the right of the signature is a circular official seal. The seal features a central crest with a shield and a crown, surrounded by the text "UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER" and "FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES".

Professor Peter M Jackson
Dean
Faculty of Social Sciences