

**News Release****29 November 2007****INTO UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA GRANTED BRITISH COUNCIL  
ACCREDITATION FOR NEXT FOUR YEARS**

INTO University of East Anglia has been granted British Council accreditation for the next four years after an inspection by Accreditation UK (formerly English in Britain Accreditation Scheme) earlier this year.

British Council accreditation is an internationally recognised quality marker for English language providers and, as such, adds value to the promotion of INTO courses in overseas markets. Accreditation further affirms INTO'S commitment with its partner universities to improving the quality of the international student experience in the UK and abroad.

Alan Preece, Director of marketing and communications at the University of East Anglia, said, "This is an excellent result and I congratulate colleagues on the tremendous efforts they have put into making INTO University of East Anglia such a success. The joint venture has achieved an extraordinary amount after only 18 months in existence. It has established outstanding standards of care and service which future students will continue to enjoy."

Accreditation UK considers all aspects of the Centre's operation focusing on: management; resources and environment; teaching and learning; and welfare and student services. The two inspectors, one of

whom was a Chief Inspector for the scheme, spent a total of four days in the Centre talking to individuals and groups, from students through to senior local management.

Lawrence Denholm, INTO Academic Director commented, "While the report is hugely welcome, more important still is what it reveals of colleagues' underlying commitment, energy and engagement with students - which will be the grounds of INTO University of East Anglia's long term success."

Centre Director of INTO University of East Anglia, Debbie Price, commented, "The granting of accreditation is testament to both the operational success of the Centre and the quality of the courses we offer. The inspection was carried out at an especially busy time of the year when a full range of courses were underway, and the INTO Centre team were at full stretch. The Centre will be revisited as a matter of course when the new building is occupied in the autumn of 2008."

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## **NOTES TO EDITOR**

### **INTO University Partnerships**

The groundbreaking joint venture between INTO University Partnerships and the University of East Anglia launched in 2006 has gone from strength to strength, significantly increasing the international

student population at University of East Anglia. The university-led initiative offers international students high quality pathway programmes, leading to both undergraduate and post-graduate courses. The INTO Centre is a £35 million INTO investment and part of a £400 million investment in the internationalisation of UK Higher Education. INTO students enjoy university resources and facilities.

Other universities have since entered into joint ventures with INTO University Partnerships, including the University of Exeter and Newcastle University.

### **The University of East Anglia**

The University of East Anglia is one of Britain's premier research and teaching universities and has been welcoming international students onto its campus for the last 40 years. Situated on a 340-acre campus in Norwich it was ranked as one of the top five universities in the UK for student satisfaction in the first National Student Survey. The University currently recruits around 600 non-EU international students for undergraduate and post-graduate study each year with non-EU international students currently representing some 13% of its total community of 13,300 students.

### **Accreditation UK**

Accreditation UK is a voluntary quality assurance scheme for providers of English language teaching (ELT) services in the UK. The Scheme is open to language schools, home tuition providers, FE and HE institutions, international study centres and independent schools. The Scheme operates as a partnership between the British Council and English UK (formerly the Association of Recognised English Language Services and the British Association of State English Language Teaching).

The Scheme was established in its present form in 1996 with the coming together of separate quality assurance schemes for private and state sector providers, which had been set up under the auspices of the British Council in the early 1980s. The aim of the Scheme is to protect international students who are studying or planning to study English language in the UK. This is achieved by external inspection, ensuring that providers that are accredited through the Scheme meet agreed quality standards.