

FLTQC 7 June 2023

Wednesday, 7th June 2023 9:15am

Teams | Faculty of Science Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee

Attendees

Attended

Liz Beaven

Andrew Burrows (Chair)

Susan Crennell

Fabio Nemetz

Sarah Paine

Philip Rogers

Tony Shardlow

Gan Shermer

Paul Snow

Chris Todd

Marguerite Hallett (Secretary)

Did Not Attend

Florin Bisset

Elizabete Francmane

Julia Kildyushova

Shehij Raina

Stephen Ward

Zidong Zhao

Welcome and Quorum (3207)

The Chair welcomed members, noted apologies and observed that the meeting was quorate.

Declaration of Interest (3208)

There were no declarations of any potential conflicts of interest.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting (3209)

The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee held on 26 April 2023 (Paper 129).

Matters Arising (3210)

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

Chair's Business (3211)

The Chair brought the following matters to the attention of the Committee:

Marking and Assessment Boycott (MAB):

Senate has approved a set of options for dealing with finalist outcomes. Where marks are missing, departments can either a) seek BoS approval (via Chair's action), in advance of BEUs, of a deviation from QA16 (e.g. having one marker and an auditor, instead of double marking) in order to award a robust mark (not hypothecated), b) seek BoS approval, in advance of BEUs, to make a judgement as to whether a piece of work has met the pass mark, thereby awarding an interim mark of 40AD (AD meaning the mark will change later on) so that the student receives the credit for the unit, or c), if a decision cannot be made, award an interim mark of 0AD. Senate also approved the option to award interim (minimum) degree classifications, and interim Ordinary degrees or HE Diplomas. The Committee noted that it was unclear whether staff who have participated in the MAB will be expected to eventually mark the work they originally refused to mark, given they will have had their pay reduced. It is also unclear how long the MAB is expected to last. Senate is currently considering how to deal with MAB impact on continuing and PGT students. The Chair clarified that it would not be possible for BEPs to conduct scenario modelling involving AD grades. Communications about the University's approach to managing MAB impact on results will be sent centrally but the Chair encouraged departments to communicate more specifically with students about affected units. It is expected that Registry will issue a template email, that will address MAB impact, for departments to send out to students about their results.

Curriculum Transformation:

The Chair sought updates from departments. Dr Snow reported that staff would be assigned to curriculum transformed units shortly to enable materials to be written over the summer. Dr Shermer reported that most of the teaching for all the units had been assigned. Initial meetings had been held about Year 1 units, to get staff started on writing lecture notes. Lab units will be put together over the summer. The Department has submitted a Faculty TDF bid to get funding to enable some students to try out experiments. Dr Todd reported that unit convenors are in place. There are some concerns about timetabling issues given there are now fewer but larger (with ~300 students) units. Dr Rogers reported that Moodle needs to be rebuilt with new units and a new School of Pharmacy frontpage. Years 1, 2 and 3 of the new MPharm will start in 2023/24; a virtual self-study Moodle course is being created for students entering Years 2 and 3 to complete over the summer, to facilitate transition from old to new programmes. Dr Nemetz reported that teaching allocation is underway and Year 1 preparation is almost complete. Dr Crennell reported that information is currently being sought from departments about what they can offer in terms of interdisciplinary practicals for the practical unit. Dr Shardlow reported that some structural changes in Moodle are needed for Year 1 and that a greater amount of preparation will be needed for Year 2.

The Chair reminded colleagues of the Faculty Teaching Development Fund (TDF) of £5,000.

Chair's actions:

- Removal of DEU status from all Year 1 units of undergraduate CT courses (Paper 130A) (were DEU in error), and addition of MA30280 and MA30279 to Year 3 of all current

undergraduate courses (Paper 130B), in the Department of Mathematical Sciences from 2023/24 (approved 28 April 2023).

- Removal of Visual Computing from Y2 and Advanced Computer Vision and Advanced Computer Graphics from Y3 of undergraduate CT courses in the Department of Mathematical Sciences (no paper) (approved 2 May 2023).
- Addition of CM50272, CM50264 and XX50215 to Semester 1, and CM50265 and CM50268 to Semester 2, of the Final Year of the current MComp (Hons) Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence (all variants) from 2023/24 (approved 3 May 2023) (Paper 131).
- NHS England accreditation submission for the MSc Advanced Clinical Pharmacy Practice programme (approved 1 June 2023): Standards for Education and Training (Paper 132A) and Multi Professional Framework (Paper 132B).

Royal Society of Biology (RSB) Annual Accreditation Report (3212)

The Committee approved the annual report prior to submission to the RSB (by 30 June deadline) (Paper 132). Dr Todd highlighted that the report is retrospective so does not refer to CT changes; no significant changes to the courses had been made that needed to be reported back. Next year's report will also relate solely to the pre-CT courses because the CT courses cannot be accredited until they are up and running. Following next year's report there will be a reaccreditation event.

Degree Apprenticeship Quarterly Monitoring Report (3213)

The Committee approved the MSc Computer Science Degree Apprenticeship (DA) Quarterly Monitoring Report (Paper 132A). Dr Nemetz reported that the report had been presented verbally during DLTQC. Dr Nemetz stated that the report is required to be compliant for DA regulatory purposes. The report provides a summary of how the programme is working, the status of the apprentices, results to date, and actions arising from SSLCs and Online Unit Evaluations (OUE). Dr Nemetz clarified the following acronyms:

OTJ: off the job, i.e. the time the apprentices are given by their employer for studying.

BiL: break in learning, i.e. if the apprentice has to pause for any reason.

Gateway Review: where the apprenticeship portfolio is finally signed off in conjunction with the employer (a formal part of the end point assessment process).

DACM: Degree Apprenticeships Compliance Manager (Miranda Blofeld).

The Chair enquired as to how OUE feedback about contradictory information on Moodle had been addressed. Dr Nemetz stated that he would discuss the matter, which related to a certification opportunity, with the unit convenor. The Chair suggested that the report be updated to make clearer the action taken to address this feedback. Dr Nemetz agreed, and added that he had requested that role titles, e.g. unit convenor, be used instead of individuals' names.

Feedback from Committees (3214)

Courses and Partnerships Approval Committee (CPAC):

The Committee noted the minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2023 (Paper 133A), in particular:

- Stage 2 Full Approval of the proposal to deliver the MPharm (Hons) Pharmacy degree at the University of Plymouth from 2024/25.
- Stage 2 Full Approval of a new MSc Financial Mathematics with Data Science degree, in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, from 2024/25.
- Approval of a major change to the MSc Advanced Clinical Pharmacy Practice programme, in

the Department of Life Sciences, for 2023/24.

Education, Quality and Standards Committee (EQSC):

The Committee noted the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2023 (Paper 133B).

Department Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee (DLTQC) Minutes (3215)

The Committee noted the minutes of the meetings held on:

Department of Chemistry: 3 May 2023 (Paper 134).

Department of Computer Science: 24 May 2023 (Paper 135A)

Department of Life Sciences: 3 May 2023 (Paper 135).

Department of Mathematical Sciences: 19 April 2023 (Paper 136).

Department of Physics: 25 April 2023 (Paper 137).

Any Other Business (3216)

There was no other business.