

# Individual Report

Exam board meeting: 11-Sep-2015

MSc in One Health, 2014/15

Professor Mark Eisler

## The Programme

Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:

### 1.1 Course content

The course content is comprehensive and well compiled

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.2 Learning objectives, and the extent to which they were met

The learning objectives are appropriate and appear to have been met by the materials

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.3 Teaching methods

The teaching methods are satisfactory

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.4 Resources (in so far as they affected the assessment)

Appropriate resources are available

Response from college requested: **NO**

## Student performance

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you

The range of students' performance is similar to that of those on other taught MSc courses with which I am familiar, such as at the University of Bristol and the University of Edinburgh

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 2.2 Quality of candidates' knowledge and skills, with particular reference to those at the top, middle or bottom of the range

Candidates largely displayed a commendable range of knowledge and skills. A couple at the top of the range were impressive, although there were also one or two rather weaker candidates.

Response from college requested: **NO**

## Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The assessment methods were appropriate and relevant

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

The assessment procedures are highly rigorous, and the examiner is impressed by this aspect, evidence for instance by the detailed consideration given by the exam board to all aspects of procedure

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

The level of assessment is consistent with that expected at Masters level

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.4 Standard of marking

The standard of marking is generally high, although one or two issues have come to the fore this year in terms of discrepancy between markers of project dissertations. These were addressed to the external examiners' satisfaction by the exam board

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)

The procedures are sound and fair

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.6 Opinion on changes to the assessment procedures from previous years in which you have examined

N/A

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

A degree of inconsistency was noted with regard to the level of detail provided in some of the model answers to the exam questions. It was suggested to the interim exam board that this be addressed.

A few issues arose at the interim exam board relating to preparing for resit exams at short notice during the late summer period when key teaching staff are often away. Contingencies could be put in place earlier in this regard.

**Response from college requested: NO**

We will provide guidance and examples of model answers to examiners and remind them of the Learning Objectives.

**ACTION: Exams Office**

## Assessment Process

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The assessment methods were appropriate and relevant

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

The level of assessment is consistent with that expected at Masters level

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.4 Standard of marking

The standard of marking is generally high, although one or two issues have come to the fore this year in terms of discrepancy between markers of project dissertations. These were addressed to the external examiners' satisfaction by the exam board

Response from college requested: **NO**

## General Statements

4.1 Comments I have made in previous years have been addressed to my satisfaction

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: **NO**

4.2 An acceptable response has been made

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: **NO**

4.3 I approved the papers for the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: **NO**

4.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate sample of students' work and marks to enable me to carry out my duties

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: **NO**

4.5 I attended the meeting of the Board of Examiners held to approve the results of the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: **NO**

**4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**

**4.7 The standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**

**4.8 The standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**

**4.9 I have received enough support to carry out my role**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**

**4.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**

**4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**

**4.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**Response from college requested: NO**



## Completion

**If you have identified any areas of good practice, please comment more fully here. We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:**

**Do you have any suggestions for improvements based on experience at other institutes? We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:**

The Programme is of a high standard and the organisers are to be commended. The wide spectrum to dissertation projects and supervisors from different disciplines and backgrounds across more than one Institution is one of its strengths. Although results in inevitable challenges with regard to standardisation of supervisory inputs, the Programme organisers and exam board members respond to these challenges well and minimise any adverse impacts such that the benefits of the wide range of opportunity presented to the students clearly outweigh any potential disadvantages.

**Response from college requested: NO**

# Individual Report

Exam board meeting: 11-Sep-2015

MSc in One Health, 2014/15

Dr Peter Mertens

## The Programme

Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:

### 1.1 Course content

As far as I am able to tell the course content is appropriate. There do seem to be real benefits from the combined resources and teaching of RVC and LSHTM. Some care needs to be taken to include a consideration of both the animal and human side of diseases and pathogens that cause 'one health' problems

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.2 Learning objectives, and the extent to which they were met

In my opinion the learning objectives are appropriate and appear to have been met

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.3 Teaching methods

In my opinion the teaching methods are appropriate and appear to have been largely successful

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.4 Resources (in so far as they affected the assessment)

The resources appear to be adequate.

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

An effort could be made to use a more uniform system and format for marking and provision of feedback to students, between RVC and LSHTM.

Response from college requested: **NO**

## Student performance

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you

In my opinion there has been a significant improvement in the scope, opportunities for student learning and advancement, and the quality of submitted projects from this years students, compared to previous years and courses.

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 2.2 Quality of candidates' knowledge and skills, with particular reference to those at the top, middle or bottom of the range

The top students performed very well at Viva and it is clear that several of them have real potential to develop outstanding careers. There were few poor students and the problems involved appeared to relate to health issues, dyslexia, and in some cases perhaps a lack of focus. The colleges need to ensure that issues related to dyslexia are picked up early and appropriately supported

Response from college requested: **NO**

The College is proactive in identifying and supporting students with specific learning difficulties and has one of the highest proportion of students receiving DSA

### 2.3 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the students' performance

Overall very good!

Response from college requested: **NO**

## Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The assessment methods appear to be appropriate

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

The assessment methods appear to be rigorous

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

I think that there is a good standard and good consistency in the level of assessment for the course

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.4 Standard of marking

The standard of marking is good and I applaud efforts by the colleges to use a consistent marking scheme with defined parameters.

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)

In my opinion the procedures are sound as well as being fairly and consistently conducted

Response from college requested: **NO**

### 3.6 Opinion on changes to the assessment procedures from previous years in which you have examined

The changes that have been implemented seem to be appropriate and effective.

Response from college requested: **NO**

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Please comment, as appropriate, on:

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Response from college requested: **NO**

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**Response from college requested: NO**



## Completion

**If you have identified any areas of good practice, please comment more fully here. We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:**

**Do you have any suggestions for improvements based on experience at other institutes? We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:**

I am impressed with the quality of student work and particularly their project reports this year. Both the students and course staff deserve congratulations on this. Ideas for course improvement were discussed at the exam-board meetings. It might be useful if the external examiners were invited to the student presentations.

**Response from college requested: NO**