

Collaborative Report

Exam board meeting: 11-Sep-2015

MSc in Veterinary Education (Part-Time), 2014/15

Lead examiner: Dr Sean McAleer

Collaborating examiner(s): Professor Peter van Beukelen

The Programme

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

1.1 Course content

The course content for the certificate, diploma and masters is clearly described and covers a wide range of relevant topics appropriate for veterinary education.

Response from college requested: NO

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

The learning outcomes were relevant for the various modules and set at the appropriate level.

Response from college requested: NO

1.3 Teaching methods

I did not see any face to face teaching but evidence emanating from our visit and talks with the staff would suggest these were appropriate.

Response from college requested: NO

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

The resources available were fine and not a problem.

Response from college requested: NO

1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

I was impressed with the programme and the teachers and administrative back up. All seems to work smoothly. One suggestion would be to provide more specific feedback (track changes) to highlight the more general comments in the cover sheet.

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Kim Whittlestone

Course Director Response:

We provide this detailed feedback on request and will look at standardizing feedback mechanisms using turnitin during the next academic year.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Ayona Silva-Fletcher

Course Director Response:

We have introduced comments and feedback based on track changes to the assignment and this is done using 'grademark' facility within Turnitin. This has also reduced the administrative workload of having to download the assignments from Turnitin and sending them to tutors and then collating assignments back to be sent out to students.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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 quality of the assignments on the Certificate and Diploma was high and there was substantial evidence of reflection throughout the course work.

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 quality of the assignments for the Certificate and Diploma was high. The dissertations were of a mixed standard.

Response from college requested: **NO**

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

I was very happy with the conduct of the course and impressed with the standards applied.

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 valid and clearly described.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

Double marking of all the scripts is impressive with a 3rd marker employed when needed.

Response from college requested: **NO**

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

The assessment meets with the Framework.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.4 Standard of marking

I felt the standard of marking and feedback was very high.

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)

Yes - the procedures are clear and adhered to.

Response from college requested: **NO**

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

Any recommendations made have been taken on board.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

As before I fail to see how a 15 point marking systems benefits this type of programme.

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Kim Whittlestone

Course Director Response:

The common grading scheme used is a college wide marking system to which we have added reflective essay descriptors. At the present time there is no plan to change this RVC mark scheme.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Ayona Silva-Fletcher

Course Director Response:

We have added a column to mark reflective essays to the RVC's 17-point marking scheme and unless the 17-point MS is altered we cannot change the MS.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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 academic staff put a lot of hard work into this programme and are backed up by a good administrative set up. I have no issues with this course.

Response from college requested: NO

External Examiner comments: For College information only (Responses to External Examiners are published on the College's website. Please only use this box to add any comments that you wish to remain confidential, if any)

Response from college requested: NO