



Academic & Student Support Services
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Sent by email to daragh.oconnell@ucc.ie

28 July 2017

Dear Dr O'Connell,

Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2016–2017

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the BA in Italian.

Your Report has been considered by the School in accordance with our approved procedures. I am, therefore, now in a position to respond on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor to the main points you had raised.

Issue Highlighted

Weighting of assessments requiring translation into Italian.

The following response has been provided on behalf of the School:

The Italian Department will discuss the possibility of giving more weight to the translation component of the exam within the context of the practice of other departments within the School.

The Department intends to keep the element of translation into Italian in the examination of the Module concerned in future years.

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The University is pleased to note your positive comments including:

1. wide range of balanced subject areas, allowing for teaching of different genres and periods, with a variety of theoretical approaches;
2. fair, rigorous and transparent assessment process, using the full range of marks;
3. improved schedule for External Examiner engagement in the process;
4. impressive overall standard across language and culture modules;
5. dedicated language teachers, who are teaching with 'passion and rigour'.

I hope that you will find this response satisfactory and we thank you for your continued support of the programme.

As this is your final year as External Examiner, we would like to thank you for your service and we are most grateful for your valuable input into this process.

In order to meet the expectations of the QAA Quality Code, both the External Examiner Annual Report and this Institutional Response will be published on the University website and will be available to all students and staff.

The University's provision of the formal Institutional Response is not intended to constrain direct communication between schools and their External Examiners. Schools are encouraged to discuss with their External Examiners any matters of detail raised in their Reports and, more widely, any issues impacting on the quality and standards of awards, including possible changes to programmes.

We are most grateful for your comments and for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Simon Wright
Academic Registrar