

Guidance notes are available to support the completion of this Report via the Cardiff University Intranet [here](#) and from ExternalExaminers@cardiff.ac.uk.

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	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Professor StJohn Crean		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	University of Central Lancashire		
Programme and / or Modules Covered by this Report	BDS		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	finals	Date of Report:	2/9/18

Please complete all information in the spaces provided and submit within **six weeks** of the Examining Board.

Please note this form will be published online and should not make any reference to any individual students or members of staff in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).

Please extend spaces where necessary.

1. Programme Structure (curriculum design, programme structure and level, methods of teaching and learning)

I have examined for 5 years (one year as emergency stand-in) and have developed a good impression of the program and its structure. It combines traditional block based events at the base dental school, but has developed a strong and effective outreach program, providing the contextual day to day experience the new graduate will encounter from day one. The experience of the students is equivalent to that provided by other programs that I have worked on or externally examined.

2. Academic Standards (comparability with other UK HEIs, achievement of students, any PSRB requirements)

I am comfortable that the standards are those reached by other UK HEIs.

3. The Assessment Process (enabling achievement of aims and learning outcomes; stretch of assessment; comparability of standards between modules of the same level)

Over the past 5 years there have been significant changes in the Final BDS assessment process.

It has come under the leadership of a Professor of Dental Education ([REDACTED]) and she has assembled an effective team, who together have led the

changes and improvements. The most notable of these is the improvement in consistency of the assessment event, providing examiners the opportunity to make fair comparisons. This is a much more equitable system in which to ensure candidates achieve expected learning outcomes but also the evaluate their relative performances

There are still areas of improvement needed, most notably the variation in standard of question setting involving style and award of marks. I know however the internal team are working to improve the standardisation.

The finals are a significant undertaking and the outcomes for the regulatory body are covered throughout the process. There are areas for the team to consider reducing the burden of the event, as some repetitive assessments do occur, such as the three knowledge based papers which the external examiners feel could benefit from a reduction in volume.

But overall the process is functional and represents an acceptable process by which to evaluate the new graduate for consideration of entrance onto the Dental register.

4. **Examination of Master's Dissertations** (sample of dissertations received, appropriateness of marking schemes, standard of internal marking, classification of awards)

NA

5. **Year-on-Year Comments**

[Previous External Examiner Reports are available from the Cardiff University Website [here](#).]

I have summarised that under the leadership of [REDACTED] there have been and remain ongoing improvements in the assessment process. This has been pleasing and reassuring.

6. **Preparation for the role of External Examiner (for new External Examiners only)** (appropriateness of briefing provided by the programme team and supporting information, visits to School, ability to meet with students, arrangements for accessing work to review)

NA

7. **Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement** (good and innovative practice in learning, teaching and assessment; opportunities for enhancement of learning opportunities)

I support the community based experiences the students undergo, reflecting the “real world” expectations of the modern dentist.

I was impressed with the methods adopted to train the large number of examiners especially those employed within the service delivery sector rather than the University system.

8. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only) (significant changes in standards, programme/discipline developments, implementation of recommendations, further areas of work)

I have highlighted all my thoughts above

I believe that under [REDACTED]'s leadership the assessment process for the BDS Finals will continue along the improvement trajectory it has been travelling for the past 4 years.

9. Annual Report Checklist

Please include appropriate comments within Sections 1-7 above for any answer of 'No'.

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
Programme/Course information				
9.1	Did you receive sufficient information about the Programme and its contents, learning outcomes and assessments? Y	Y		
9.2	Were you asked to comment on any changes to the assessment of the Programme? Y	Y		
Commenting on draft examination question papers				
9.3	Were you asked to approve all examination papers contributing to the final award? Y	Y		
9.4	Were the nature, spread and level of the questions appropriate? Y	Y		
9.5	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	Y		
Examination scripts				
9.6	Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts to be able to assess whether the internal marking and classifications were appropriate and consistent?	Y		
9.7	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	Y		
9.8	Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	Y		
9.9	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the internal examiners?	Y		
9.10	In your judgement, did you have the opportunity to examine a sufficient cross-section of candidates' work contributing to the final assessment?	Y		
Coursework and practical assessments				
9.11	Was the choice of subjects for coursework and / or practical assessments appropriate?	Y		
9.12	Were you afforded access to an appropriate sample of coursework and / or practical assessments?	Y		
9.13	Was the method and general standard of assessment appropriate?	Y		
9.14	Is sufficient feedback provided to students on their assessed work?			NA

Clinical examinations (if applicable)				
9.15	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of clinical assessments?			NA
Sampling of work				
9.16	Were you afforded sufficient time to consider samples of assessed work?	Y		
Examining board meeting				
9.17	Were you able to attend the Examining Board meeting?	Y		
9.18	Was the Examining Board conducted properly, in accordance with established procedures and to your satisfaction?	Y		
9.19	Cardiff University recognises the productive contribution of External Examiners to the assessment process and, in particular, to the work of the Examining Board. Have you had adequate opportunities to discuss the Programme and any outstanding concerns with the Examining Board or its officers?	Y		
Joint examining board meeting (if applicable)				
9.20	Did you attend a Composite Examining Board, i.e. one convened to consider the award of Joint Honours degrees?			NA
9.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?			NA
9.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?			NA

Please return this Report, **in a Microsoft Word format**, by email to:

externalexaminers@cardiff.ac.uk

Your fee and expenses claim form and receipts, should be sent electronically to the above email address or in hard copy to:

External Examiners, Registry, Cardiff University, McKenzie House, 30-36 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0DE

