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Sent by email to c.j.lim@ucl.ac.uk

15 July 2016

Dear Professor Lim,

Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2015– 2016

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the BSc in Architectural Studies.

In accordance with our standard practice, a copy of the Report has been forwarded to the Welsh School of Architecture, who will use its contents to help inform its Annual Review and Enhancement process. The University is pleased to note your positive comments on the organisation of the programme and for commending the work of a one particular group of students and the associated teaching.

The School and University are disappointed to hear that you wish to resign as an External Examiner as identified in your report. The External Examiner Handbook sets out the University's expectations of the role and how they align with national expectations. These are fully aligned to the Quality Assurance Agency guidelines about External Examining in its [UK Quality Code for Higher Education - Chapter B7: External Examining](#) along with the [Higher Education Academy](#).

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The University attaches great importance to peer review from External Examiners as a key means of ensuring that:

- the academic standards of University awards and their component parts are set and maintained at the appropriate level, and that the standards of student performance are properly judged against this;
- the final assessment process accurately measures student achievement against intended learning outcomes, is rigorous, fair and fairly operated, and is in line with University Regulations and policies;
- the University is able to compare the standard of its awards with those of other higher education institutions;
- the University's provision is continuously enhanced to reflect developments in the sector, institution and discipline.

The External Examiners role in assessment is to verify the quality of final assessment processes and ensure that academic standards of awards are set and maintained at the appropriate level (rather than to seek to judge individual cases).

Whilst there are subtle differences between institutions and subject disciplines, many UK institutions will subscribe to the principles outlined by the QAA to improve the effectiveness, transparency and credibility of the system, especially with external audiences.

As this is your final External Examiner report 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.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Simon Wright
Academic Registrar