

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE: EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT 2012-2013 - MSc in Pharmacy Clinical Practice (Community & Primary Care)

Dear Dr MacAdam,

I am writing further to your External Examiner's report for the above programme(s). Your Report has been considered by the Cardiff School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 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

Your Report raised one issue which have been referred for consideration by the School. The following response has been provided on behalf of the School.

"...one suggestion is that you may want to consider audio-recording OSCEs for quality assurance purposes"

"The School is grateful for Dr MacAdam's overall positive comments about the postgraduate programme and takes note of the above suggestion. The School has recently purchased 25 iPads for use in situations of this nature. It is the intention of the course team to use these to record (visual plus audio) students when consulting with patients on weekend schools in order to provide formative feedback in preparation for the OSCE assessments in May. The plan is also to record the OSCEs, not only for QA purposes but also as a continuation of the learning process. We are looking forward to doing this for the first time in May 2014 and discussing this with you during your next visit to Cardiff University."

Positive Comments

The School and University are pleased to note your positive comments on the School's provision including:

- a. **[1 and 2] your endorsement of the Programme Structure and Academic Standards, including indications that the "academic standard of the course is excellent and compares favourably to other programmes nationally at this level" and "has good add-on value";**
- b. **[6] your commendation of the "pre and post OSCE meetings" and level of support and feedback the team provided to students".**

I hope that you will find this response satisfactory and thank you for your service as External Examiner.

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 Registry web pages and will be available publically.

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.

Mrs Jill Bedford

Director of Registry and Academic Services