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**Sent by email to [martyn.dade-robertson@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:martyn.dade-robertson@ncl.ac.uk)**

**02 December 2020**

Dear Dr Dade-Robertson,

**Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2019/20**

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's report for the MSc Computational Methods in Architecture.

Your report does not appear to raise any significant issues that require a more detailed response, however the School have been asked to note the following comments:

- The relevance of a number of the modules taught externally to the Architecture School, as well as the categorisation of core and optional modules.
- There are elements of online teaching that are worth considering making permanent.
- Some information needed to fulfil the role was missing.

I am confident that the Programme Team will endeavour to address the issues identified in your report and your comments will help inform their [Annual Review and Enhancement](#) process.

The University is pleased to note your positive comments, including:

1. Your positive comments regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process.
2. Confirmation that the actions taken as a result of the variation of assessments in relation to industrial action and Covid-19 have been appropriate to protect the academic standards of the programme and have allowed students to achieve their programme level learning outcomes.



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3. The fact that the course accommodates engineers and designers from a broad range of backgrounds is a particularly strong aspect of the programme and was highlighted by the students as an important part of their experience.
4. The provision of studios prior to lockdown was also seen as a key strength of the project and this allows the development of cohort identity and rich interdisciplinary interactions.
5. The response of the leadership team to the crisis is also worthy of note.

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

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's [Public Information website](#) and will be available to all students and staff.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Wright', written in a cursive style.

Mr Simon Wright  
Academic Registrar