

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE: EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT 2013-2014 - MA in Archaeology / Early Celtic Studies. Early Medieval Society and Culture (Archaeology modules)

Dear Professor Rippon,

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 History, Archaeology and Religion 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.

Issues Highlighted

Your Report raised one issue which has been referred for consideration by the School.

[4 (1a. and b.)] your detailed suggestions on one aspect of the programme regarding the process of double marking and associated documentation.

The following response has been provided on behalf of the School and I understand from the School that your comments relate primarily, not to MA Archaeology as such, but to the Research Training module (HST900) which was introduced last year and is taught across all of the School's MA and MSc (but not MTh) programmes.

"Double marking of presentations. We agree that it would be more transparent if we showed the two individual marks for each marker, as well as the agreed mark, and we will endeavour to do this during this year."

Positive Comments

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

a. [1, 2 and 3] your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process.

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.

Dr S L Wiliamson

for Dr C B Turner
Academic Registrar