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Sent by email to [c.r.hajarnavis@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:c.r.hajarnavis@warwick.ac.uk)

18 September 2017

Dear Professor Hajarnavis,

**Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2016–2017**

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the Pure Mathematics modules on undergraduate programmes.

Your Report has been considered by the School 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**

1. Need to strengthen algebra in the curriculum.
2. Provision of model solutions to exam questions
3. Provision of internal examiners' detailed comments on projects to allow review by external examiners.
4. The odd question on the examination papers was not originally phrased in idiomatic English. This would have worried the students in interpreting the exact meaning.

**The following response has been provided on behalf of the School:**

1. The School has been enhancing its algebra provision over the last few years. Next year the current Groups, Rings and Fields module will be replaced by a new Rings and Fields module that the School is confident will be of the

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required level. The School is continually considering its module provision and your comments concerning Galois Theory and Ring Theory will be considered further.

2. All staff will be required to provide full solutions for their exam papers. They will be informed at the next School Board of Studies and reminded when asked to provide their exam papers.
3. Staff will be reminded to write comments on the projects.
4. To avoid this problem, the checkers for each module will be reminded of the need to check phrasing.

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

1. your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process;
2. particularly strong projects in pure mathematics this year;
3. carefully designed, fair and transparent assessment process;
4. the role of the SIMS in producing fair outcomes for borderline candidates;
5. the Programme continues to attract high calibre students;
6. the responsiveness of the Programme Team to your recommendations and the outstanding administrative support you have received from the School.

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

As this is your final year as External Examiner, 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.

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.

Yours sincerely,

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