

Academic & Student Support Services
Academic Registrar
Simon Wright LLB
Gwasanaethau Academaidd a Chefnogi Myfyrwyr
Cofrestrydd Academaidd
Simon Wright LLB



Sent by email to Frank-Ulrich.Fricke@th-nuernberg.de 07 December 2015

Dear Professor Dr Fricke,

Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2014 – 2015

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the MSc in International Pharmacoeconomics & Health Economics.

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.

Issue Highlighted:

1. Your report of assessed examination questions bearing marks but lacking associated comments.

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

1. The School will require the Programme markers to adopt the marking scheme successfully used for the Cardiff MPharm (relevant elements of the Cardiff MPharm programme are attached).

The University is pleased to note your positive comments including:

1. Your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process
2. Your commendation of arrangements for your induction and of preparations for the Examining Board.

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 website and will be available to all students and staff.

Cardiff University
McKenzie House
30-36 Newport Road
Cardiff CF24 ODE
Tel Ffôn I +44(0)29 2087 9189
www.cardiff.ac.uk

Prifysgol Caerdydd
Tŷ McKenzie
30-36 Heol Casnewydd
Caerdydd CF24 ODE
Tel Ffôn I +44(0)29 2087 9189
www.cardiff.ac.uk

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,



Mr Simon Wright
Academic Registrar

Attachment

Cardiff MPharm Marking Criteria 2015/16

1. Wherever possible, summative assessments will be marked anonymously i.e. the marker will be 'blinded' to the student's identity¹.
2. The award of all marks should be justified by reference to the accompanying marking scheme.
3. Where the marker is not the question-setter they will have sufficient expertise to apply the marking scheme.
4. Markers will indicate clearly how each mark is awarded on the submitted assessment. This should be adjacent to the relevant material.
5. Where a student response or error compromises patient safety, the marker will follow the school's Critical Error Policy.
6. Markers will highlight errors for feedback and justify the non-award of credit using standardised annotations:

FE	Factual Error
FTE	Follow Through Error (to indicate when an incorrect answer has arisen from an early error, but some credit is due)
NED	Not Enough Detail
NR	Not Relevant
QNA	Question Not Answered
R	Repetition

7. A sample of approximately 10% of the submitted assessments will be second marked. Assessments are sampled at the top, middle and bottom of the mark range.
8. All failed assessments will be second marked.
9. Second marking will be undertaken by a member of the school's teaching staff with sufficient expertise in the area and against the accompanying marking scheme. The second marker will indicate clearly how they have awarded each mark on the submitted assessment.
10. If the second marker's mark varies from the first, the two markers will meet to discuss and agree each mark. If the markers are unable to agree then the assessment will be referred to the school's Assessment Strategy Implementation Group (ASIG) for resolution and the Group's decision shall be final.

1. Exceptions to this principle are generally oral or clinical skills based assessments in which the student 'faces' the assessor e.g. OSCEs.