



Academic & Student Support Services
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Sent by email to alistair.warren@nottingham.ac.uk

08 November 2019

Dear Prof Warren,

Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2018/19

I am writing further to the receipt of your report for BSc in Biomedical Sciences and the BSc in Biomedical Sciences (Intercalated) (Anatomy).

Your report has been considered by colleagues in the School and is the basis of this Institutional Response on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor. The School will also use its contents to help inform their [Annual Review and Enhancement](#) process and where appropriate, [Periodic Review](#).

The University is pleased to note your positive comments including:

1. Your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process.
2. Running fewer large modules instead of many small ones is a major enhancement.
3. Successful introduction of the integrated Masters programme.
4. The investment in a large computer facility (eLEAF).
5. The use of common rubric for on-line assessments appears to be successful and worthy of further evaluation.
6. The School's commitment to curriculum development, an awareness of the changing higher education environment and the evolving needs of students.

Issues highlighted in your report and response provided by Registry:

1. **Year-on-Year Comments:** *The format of data provided to Examining Boards.*



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Schools continue to have access to a standard set of reports that the University provides. The reports are set to meet the needs of all Schools and provide an appropriate baseline to allow examining Boards to function comparably and consistently across the University. We appreciate that Schools will want the information presented to them in a number of different ways including information that falls outside of the scope of the standard business object reports. We continue to work with Schools to enhance the available reports to meet their needs, however we regret that there is limited capacity to make bespoke reports with unique specifications for each of the University's 24 Schools.

Where Schools wish to create their own reports to represent the data in a format of their choosing, then any resource implications will need to be considered and appropriately managed by the Head of School. Schools can seek advice and guidance on how best to utilise and manage institutional data from their College Data Analyst.

With regards to the requirements of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, this has been recently revised and updated. Our Academic Regulations and associated policies and procedures have been recently mapped to the expectations, core and common practices to ensure they meet the requirements of HEFCW's Quality Assurance Framework. In addition, the expectations and practices noted in the QAA supporting advice and guidance on Course Design and Development, Assessment, Enabling Student Achievement, External Expertise, Learning and Teaching, and Partnerships have been used throughout the review.

We hope that you will find this response satisfactory and 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.

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.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Simon Wright
Academic Registrar