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Sent by email to Dr Elizabeth Mills

3 February 2020

Dear Dr Mills,

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

I am writing further to the receipt of your report for Pharmacist Independent Prescribing Module (40 credit).

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. The individual support and feedback given to the students through the personal tutor system.
3. The amount of physical examination skills taught in the course which goes far beyond what is required by the GPhC.
4. The impressive level of critical reflection and ongoing development of the course from the course team.

Issues highlighted in your report:

1. The weighting of the OSCEs in terms of contribution to the final mark is heavily in favour of the clinical reasoning and decision making OSCEs. Pharmacists' roles are changing to incorporate more physical examination so that these skills are equally as important as clinical reasoning and decision making. The weighting of these two OSCE assessments could be reviewed in light of this.



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2. The course team could look at emphasising the physical examination skills content as a unique selling point for the course.

Response provided by the School:

1. The module is due for reaccreditation in 2020 with the General Pharmaceutical Council and balance between the OSCEs will be considered and amended within the revised programme.
2. Again once when we have a revised course, the marketing department within the College will review the marketing strategy, ensuring that the physical examination skills content is emphasised.

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