

**INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE: EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT 2012-2013 - BN (Foundation Programmes and Mental Health Branch) - March 2010 and September 2010 cohorts, tenure to end September 2013**

Dear Dr Pryjmachuk,

I am writing further to your External Examiner's report for the above programme(s). Your Report has been considered by the School of Healthcare Sciences 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 issue(s) which have been referred for consideration by the School. The following response has been provided on behalf of the School.

***“[1 and 7] the External Examiner's regret that he was unable to take advantage of opportunities to meet students.***

*Unfortunately the date of the September Exam Board fell on a day when the students from all four of the remaining cohorts on the FfP BN and the PGD programme were on annual leave.”*

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;**
- b. **[6] your indication that the “standard of the feedback provided to students on this programme is exceptional” and related comments.**

*“The Mental Health Team greatly appreciates the positive comments about the structure of the programme, academic standards, and assessment and feedback. We have worked hard as a Team to ensure that the feedback that students receive is comprehensive, fair, and balanced. We have taken on board comments made previously by Steven in relation to providing feed forward comments so that students can develop and improve their academic writing and presentations.”*

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.

Mrs Jill Bedford  
Director of Registry and Academic Services

