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Sent by email to [b.goodman-1@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:b.goodman-1@plymouth.ac.uk)

06 March 2017

Dear Mr Goodman,

**Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2015–2016**

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the BN (Adult Nursing).

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. Your indication that you had not been asked to comment on *all* examination papers leading to the final award
2. Detailed observations on the numeracy test for all three years and the 100% pass criterion.

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

1. The Bachelor of Nursing programme has only one written examination and that takes place in year 2. The School records indicate that you were sent all three papers for both the September 2013 and the March 2014 cohorts to approve on the following dates and that you were also provided with a sample of the completed exam scripts to review for both cohorts.

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2. The School thanks you for your comments and will explore the possibility of an alternative means of assessing calculation skills that are within the scope of the NMC standards.

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

1. your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process;
2. comprehensive feedback provided to students, helpful moderation reports and clear annotation of student work by markers.

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.

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