

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE: EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT 2013-2014 - BDS (Intermediate)

Dear Dr Derringer,

I am writing further to your External Examiner's report for the above programme(s). Your Report has been considered by the Cardiff School of Dentistry 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. [4, first para] detailed observations “specific to the orthodontic and paediatric section of the papers” and recommendation “that the questions are standard set to address some of these issues in future”**

The School has been introducing standard setting and has been working to extend and improve this. Questions are standard set and psychometric analysis undertaken post examination, with questions reviewed and modified or deleted. The Assessment and Feedback Committee together with the topic leads will ensure that the specific observations are fully considered in this process.

- 2. [4, second para] the External Examiner's recommendation “that case reports should be verified and signed off by the students' supervisor clarifying what has been carried out by the student”**

The School thanks Dr Derringer for the recommendation. In some areas the number of supervisors make this more difficult, however, it may be possible for a senior member of staff to review Salud to confirm that the work was undertaken by the student. The Lead for the Case Reports will review this.

- 3. [4, third para] detailed comments and suggestions on the possible reduction of case reports and their assessment**

The School welcomes the comments and suggestions with regards to the case reports. This is currently under review and changes are expected to be confirmed shortly.

- 4. [4, final para] the External Examiner's recommendation on the “allocation of marks for the written report and viva”**

This has been adjusted and has been passed to the Assessment and Feedback Committee to oversee the introduction.”

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 commendation of the organisation of the examinations and of the use made by students of evidence based practice in their case reports.

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.

Dr S L Williamson

for Dr C B Turner
Academic Registrar