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**Sent by email to Ms Mary Hockaday**

**20 February 2020**

Dear Ms Hockaday,

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

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's report for the MA/PgDip in Broadcast Journalism and dissertations for the MA in Journalism.

Your report does not appear to raise any specific issues that require a more detailed response therefore the School has not been asked to provide a formal response.

Your report will be considered by the School and will also be used 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 comments regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process.
2. The commitment of the Tutors is hugely impressive. They are rigorous assessors and clear eyed about the strengths and weaknesses of each student and each cohort.
3. Students are given detailed and useful feedback.
4. A good range of dissertation work and stories and it was pleasing to see some excellent story choices which felt journalistically original and relevant.
5. It was a delight to visit the team and students in their new home in June.
6. One of the great strengths of the Cardiff programme is the 'patch' each student chooses – geographical, specialist and so on.
7. Digital working is now fully embedded, shorthand is useful for testing a broad range of skills and students are also embracing podcasting.



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8. This year I was impressed by the range of placements for students, with a broader mix of public service and commercial newsrooms and more digital working too.
9. The course has carefully evolved while preserving the fundamentals.

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'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