

EXTERNAL EXAMINER ANNUAL REPORT FORM

Guidance notes are available to support the completion of this Report and are available at <http://learning.cf.ac.uk/quality/review/external-examiners/reports/>.

	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Dr Elizabeth Mills		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	Keele University		
Programme and / or Subjects Covered by this Report	Pharmacist Independent Prescribing Programme		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	2015/16	Date of Report:	15 th June 2016

For completion by External Examiner in the spaces provided. Please extend spaces where necessary. **Please note this Form will be published online and should not make any reference to any individual students or members of staff.**

1. Programme Structure

The programme is a 40 credit course that provides the professional qualification required to enable pharmacists to apply for annotation of the GPhC register as an Independent Prescriber. The programme is reaccredited every three years by the GPhC. The portfolio that students are required to keep shows their development throughout the duration of the programme and contains a variety of assessments that ensure their competence.

2. Academic Standards

I reviewed a selection of student work from the cohort. The academic standards of this programme are consistent with those in my own institution. All those successfully completing the programme had well exceeded the level to pass.

3. The Assessment Process

The programme employs a variety of assessment methods including a therapeutic framework, a reflective narrative, the portfolio and an OSCE that is assessed by the DMP. Together these assessments ensure that the student has achieved all of the learning outcomes and can demonstrate the competencies in the prescribers' competency framework. The quality assurance of the OSCE is undertaken through the video recording of a formative OSCE. Not only does this provide the QA of the DMP as an assessor but provides an opportunity for feedback to the student. There were plenty of opportunities for formative feedback built into the course to enable the student to develop.

4. Year-on-Year Comments

The previous external examiner commented that the weighting of the various elements of the course needed review as the portfolio only contributes 15% of the mark and yet is arguably the most important element of assessment. I would add that the weighting of the therapeutic framework needs to be brought in line with the weighting of the reflective narrative since this is a large piece of work. The programme team assured me that they are currently looking at the assessment weightings and will be making some changes in time for the next accreditation event with the GPhC.

5. Preparation / Induction Activity (for new External Examiners only)

I was invited by the University to attend an induction session for new external examiners. I was unable to attend but was sent all of the information and presentations to review. The School provided me with all the information I required. I was impressed with the organisation on the day of my visit and had everything I needed to hand.

6. Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement

The opportunities for the student to receive formative feedback are excellent.

7. Comments on the Examination of Master's Dissertations (External Examiners for postgraduate Master's Programmes only, see also 9.23-9.29 below)

8. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only)

9. Annual Report Checklist

Please include appropriate comments within Sections 1-8 above for any answer of 'No'.

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
Programme/Course Information				
9.1	Did you receive sufficient information about the Programme and its contents, learning outcomes and assessments?	y		
9.2	Were you asked to comment on any changes to the assessment of the Programme?		n	
Draft Examination Question Papers				
9.3	Were you asked to approve all examination papers contributing to the final award?			n/a
9.4	Were the nature, spread and level of the questions appropriate?			n/a
9.5	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			n/a
Marking Examination Scripts				
9.6	Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts to be able to assess whether the internal marking and classifications were appropriate and consistent?			n/a
9.7	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?			n/a
9.8	Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?			n/a
9.9	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the internal examiners?			n/a
9.10	In your judgement, did you have the opportunity to examine a sufficient cross-section of candidates' work contributing to the final assessment?			n/a
Coursework and Practical Assessments				
9.11	Was the choice of subjects for coursework and / or practical assessments appropriate?	y		
9.12	Were you afforded access to an appropriate sample of coursework and / or practical assessments?	y		
9.13	Was the method and general standard of assessment appropriate?	y		
9.14	Is sufficient feedback provided to students on their assessed work?	y		
Clinical Examinations (if applicable)				
9.15	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of clinical assessments?	y		
Sampling of Work				
9.16	Were you afforded sufficient time to consider samples of assessed work?	y		
Examining Board Meeting				
9.17	Were you able to attend the Examining Board meeting?	y		
9.18	Was the Examining Board conducted properly, in accordance with established procedures and to your satisfaction?	y		

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
9.19	Cardiff University recognises the productive contribution of External Examiners to the assessment process and, in particular, to the work of the Examining Board. Have you had adequate opportunities to discuss the Programme and any outstanding concerns with the Examining Board or its officers?	y		
Joint Examining Board Meeting (if applicable)				
9.20	Did you attend a Composite Examining Board, i.e. one convened to consider the award of Joint Honours degrees?			n/a
9.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?			n/a
9.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?			n/a
Examination of Master's Dissertations (if applicable)				
9.23	Did you receive a sufficient number of Dissertations to be able to assess whether the internal marking and classifications were appropriate and consistent?			n/a
9.24	Was the sample in accordance with the University's sampling guidelines (guidelines provided below)?			n/a
9.25	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the Internal Examiners?			n/a
9.26	Were you able to attend the Master's Degree (Dissertation) Stage Examining Board?			n/a
9.27	If so, was the Examining Board conducted properly and in accordance with established procedures?			n/a
9.28	Were the schemes for marking and classification correctly applied?			n/a
9.29	Were the standards of the awards recommended appropriate?			n/a

Please return this Report, preferably in a Microsoft Word format, by email to:

ExternalExaminers@cf.ac.uk

Your fee and expenses claim form and receipts, should be sent electronically to the above email address or in hard copy to:

External Examiners, Registry, Cardiff University, McKenzie House, 30-36 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0DE

SAMPLING OF TAUGHT MASTER'S DISSERTATIONS BY EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

External Examiners shall be expected to see prescribed numbers and ranges of Dissertations, but not to mark them, on the following basis:

At least 10% of Dissertations for a postgraduate taught Master's Programme, or a minimum of 10 (whichever is the higher figure) must be seen by the External Examiner(s). Where the total number is less than 10, all Dissertations must be seen by the External Examiner(s) #.

Dissertations seen by External Examiners should include examples from across the whole range of achievement (i.e. Pass with Distinction, Pass, Fail).

External Examiners will retain the right to see other Dissertations at random.

- # Where more than one External Examiner is appointed on a Programme, at least 10% of Dissertations, or a minimum of 10 (whichever is the higher figure), should be seen collectively by the External Examiners.