Sent by email to Mr George Ubakanma   **20 July 2018**

Dear Mr Ubakanma,

Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2017/18

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's report for the Certificate of Higher Education (Computer Studies).

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 standard of assessment marking/moderation is very good and is level appropriate. This year's sample reflects well upon the students and the teaching team, as a very high standard of attainment has been demonstrated across a wide range of modules, supported with good evidence of student submissions meeting learning outcomes.

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3. In terms of assessments many assessments have clearer specifications and feedback comments are clear and specific in-terms of directing students to areas that require improvement.
4. When compared with last year 2016/17, the standard of work produced by students is generally of a higher quality and there has been a clear improvement in the standard of attainment.
5. There is considerable improvement in the samples provided for module "Web Development using CSS and HTML". The course team have made clear steps to address all of the points raised last year regarding this module. Quality of the module assessments, submissions and records of attainment have all been addressed.
6. This year there were examples of good quality work available for sampling and in particular the progression of work in the C++ programming modules Java I and Java II were noteworthy. Some excellent examples of clearly laid out assessments, followed-up with some exemplary student submissions demonstrating the full range of learning outcomes and attaining appropriately high grades.
7. Also worth noting is the Computing Forensics module which although currently is quite small in size of cohort is clearly a module worth promoting. The module resides in an area which will continue to see government and commercial interest/growth as national initiatives for Cyber Security and related aspects of computing increase in demand. Subject coverage within the module is level appropriate and the module needs an active push to reach suitable (commercial) student markets. Enhancing the profile of this module, particular the security aspects could prove commercially advantageous in the long term.

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.

We are most grateful for your comments and for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Simon Wright
Academic Registrar

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