

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE: EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT 2012-2013 - MA/PG Diploma in Journalism (Broadcast option)

Dear Mr Jerney,

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 Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies 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 one issue which has been referred for consideration by the School.

1. [1] your indication that "consideration could be given to ensuring students have a high knowledge about current affairs".

The following response has been provided by the School's new Course Director, on behalf of the School, and confirms changes that are being made to the curriculum.

"There is now a greater emphasis on awareness of news and an increased expectation that students will be consuming news and current affairs. We look for evidence that this is happening through regular in-class editorial meetings and discussions.

Weekly ethical discussion sessions are now led by a new member of staff and the time is used to discuss contemporaneous news and current affairs.

The practical news production day cycle (second semester) is also to be developed, and planned changes include more time spent on journalism research and newsgathering techniques."

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. [5] your confirmation that the "induction process was clear and useful".**

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.

Mrs Jill Bedford
Director of Registry and Academic Services