



EXTERNAL EXAMINER ANNUAL REPORT FORM

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	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Prof Steven Pryjmachuk		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	University of Manchester		
Programme and / or Subjects Covered by this Report:	Bachelor of Nursing (Mental Health Branch)		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	2012-13	Date of Report:	9 Sep 2013

For completion by External Examiner in the spaces provided. Please extend spaces where necessary. **Please note this Form will be published online.**

1. Programme Structure

The programme structure is fine and is in any case necessarily regulated by the Nursing and Midwifery Council as well as by Cardiff University. I am aware that this is an outgoing programme given that the NMC introduced new standards in 2010 and that a new programme commenced in 2012. However, since the School of Nursing and Midwifery appoint external examiners on a cohort basis, I am not the external examiner for this new programme. With new programmes there is always the risk that students on older programmes (such as the one this report has been compiled for) will feel unsupported and/or 'second-rate' but there is absolutely no evidence that this has happened in Cardiff. This suggests that programme staff have made concerted efforts to mitigate against this risk. Unfortunately, I did not have the opportunity to check this with the students (see also my comments in section 7).

2. Academic Standards

The academic standards of the programme are equivalent to those of my institution and the other Russell Group universities I have examined at, and are what I would expect from a university of Cardiff's standing.

3. The Assessment Process

The assessments I examined were appropriately designed and applied for the number of academic credits available. I have examined mainly third year (Level 6) modules this year. All of the modules appropriately tested critical ability in the

students with those students demonstrating synthesis as well as critical analysis scoring the higher marks as I would expect. The internal moderators for the presentations in NR3147 Preparation for Professional Mental Health Practice raised an issue about too much weight being given to presentations skills compared to intellectual and academic skills which I tended to agree with. This was discussed at the Examination Board and I was reassured that steps have been taken to address this.

4. Year-on-Year Comments

This is my final report as external examiner as my three-year tenure has ended. The small number of relatively trivial issues I brought up in last year's report were thoroughly address by the programme team and I received a written reply in which each point was satisfactorily addressed.

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

N/A

6. Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement

The standard of the feedback provided to students on this programme is exceptional and the team should be commended for it. It is more-often-than-not detailed and clear and, importantly, it explains to the student why a particular mark has been awarded. In addition, all referral students are given advice on what they need to do in order to pass on resubmission.

7. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only)

It has been a pleasure externalling this programme at Cardiff. Academic staff and support/administrative staff have made me feel very welcome during my time here. My views have always been taken seriously and I have always received feedback on any constructive comments that I have made, either face-to-face at the Examination Board or via a written reply (email or letter).

I only have one single issue which I think may well have been addressed with the new (2012) programme. The issue is that I did not have the opportunity to meet any students, mainly because the examination boards tended to be held when the students were not present. I was offered the chance to meet students outside of the examination board periods but that would have meant a third lengthy trip from Manchester. I have no doubt that student views are taken seriously in the School but it would have been nice if I had had the opportunity to hear this directly from the students.

8. Annual Report Checklist

Please include appropriate comments within Sections 1-7 above for any answer of 'No'.

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
Programme/Course Information				
8.1	Did you receive sufficient information about the Programme and its contents, learning outcomes and assessments?	X		
8.2	Were you asked to comment on any changes to the assessment of the Programme?			X
Draft Examination Question Papers				
8.3	Were you asked to approve all examination papers contributing to the final award?			X
8.4	Were the nature, spread and level of the questions appropriate?			X
8.5	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			X
Marking Examination Scripts				
8.6	Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts to be able to assess whether the internal marking and classifications were appropriate and consistent?	X		
8.7	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	X		
8.8	Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	X		
8.9	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the internal examiners?	X		
8.10	In your judgement, did you have the opportunity to examine a sufficient cross-section of candidates' work contributing to the final assessment?	X		
Coursework and Practical Assessments				
8.11	Was the choice of subjects for coursework and / or practical assessments appropriate?	X		
8.12	Were you afforded access to an appropriate sample of coursework and / or practical assessments?	X		
8.13	Was the method and general standard of assessment appropriate?	X		
8.14	Is sufficient feedback provided to students on their assessed work?	X		
Clinical Examinations (if applicable)				
8.15	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of clinical assessments?	X		
Sampling of Work				
8.16	Were you afforded sufficient time to consider samples of assessed work?	X		
Examining Board Meeting				

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
8.17	Were you able to attend the Examining Board meeting?	X		
8.18	Was the Examining Board conducted properly, in accordance with established procedures and to your satisfaction?	X		
8.19	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?	X		
Joint Examining Board Meeting (if applicable)				
8.20	Did you attend a Composite Examining Board, i.e. one convened to consider the award of Joint Honours degrees?			X
8.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?			X
8.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?			X

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:

Clive Brown, Registry Officer, Registry & Academic Services, Cardiff University,
McKenzie House, 30-36 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0DE