

Guidance notes are available to support the completion of this Report via the Cardiff University Intranet [here](#) and from [ExternalExaminers@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:ExternalExaminers@cardiff.ac.uk).

**Cardiff University**

McKenzie House  
30-36 Newport Road  
Cardiff CF24 0DE  
Wales UK

Tel please see below  
Fax +44(0)29 2087 4130

[www.cardiff.ac.uk](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk)

**Prifysgol Caerdydd**

Tŷ McKenzie  
30-36 Heol Casnewydd  
Caerdydd CF24 0DE  
Cymru Y Deyrnas Unedig

Ffôn gweler isod  
Ffacs +44(0)29 2087 4130

[www.caerdydd.ac.uk](http://www.caerdydd.ac.uk)

	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Bob Philpott		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	University of Edinburgh		
Programme and / or Modules Covered by this Report	MClinDent in Endodontics		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	2018-19	Date of Report:	10/5/19

Please complete all information in the spaces provided and submit within **six weeks** of the Examining Board.

**Please note this form will be published online and should not make any reference to any individual students or members of staff in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).**

Please extend spaces where necessary.

**1. Programme Structure** (curriculum design, programme structure and level, methods of teaching and learning)

As was the case last year, there are no concerns in relation to programme structure. The programme is well designed, with the structure well mapped to the learning outcomes & assessments.

This is a conjoint UHW/RCSEd programme and the programme structure is appropriate to meet the needs at both university (MClinDent) and specialty exit (RCSEd) levels.

**2. Academic Standards** (comparability with other UK HEIs, achievement of students, any PSRB requirements)

In my experience, the programme compares well with similar programmes in this field. In particular, I was pleased with the progress shown by some of the current third year students since their examination last year. Their level of performance in some areas of the viva examination was excellent.

Of particular note was the students' ability to quote relevant literature in defence of their treatment choices. Having examined specialty exit examinations in the mono-specialty for a number of years, the students examined over the two days compared very favourably in this regard.

Many of the clinical cases presented were also of a high standard, with sound principles of treatment planning evident, along with excellent delivery of the final clinical results.

**3. The Assessment Process** (enabling achievement of aims and learning outcomes; stretch of assessment; comparability of standards between modules of the same level)

The examination was extremely well organised again. Great attention to detail was shown in the creation of cases and question keys. The style of questioning was both fair and robust and very consistent between candidates. Examiners agreed on questioning strategy before each component and adhered to this well.

For the unseen cases, students were given adequate preparation time and the duration of the viva examination allowed for a thorough test of the students' knowledge and understanding.

The presentation of cases on PowerPoint on the day of the viva has been removed and I feel that this is a positive development. It allowed for a more focused examination of the unseen cases, with the emphasis now being on their defence.

The marking scheme for the different components of the examination was discussed. Feedback in terms of possible minor changes to this will be made directly to the examination lead.

**4. Examination of Master's Dissertations** (sample of dissertations received, appropriateness of marking schemes, standard of internal marking, classification of awards)

Several samples of students' work were made available for scrutiny. There was appeared to be adequate intra-observer consistency in the marking. The relevant student work was made available in advance of the viva examinations.

**5. Year-on-Year Comments**

[Previous External Examiner Reports are available from the Cardiff University Website [here](#).]

As aforementioned, the progress of some students was evident. This is obviously a reflection of their hard work and the teaching received during the course of the last 12 months. The removal of the PowerPoint presentations from the day of the viva examination was a positive development. The consistency of questioning by the examiners was also evident again this year. The organisation of the examination was excellent again.

**6. Preparation for the role of External Examiner (for new External Examiners only)** (appropriateness of briefing provided by the programme team and supporting information, visits to School, ability to meet with students, arrangements for accessing work to review)

As this is my second year in the role, this was not applicable. All of the relevant information was provided long in advance of the May examination dates.

**7. Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement** (good and innovative practice in learning, teaching and assessment; opportunities for enhancement of learning opportunities)

The recording of students' case logs using a modified ISCP system was notable and seemed to be an efficient way of recording progress.

As was the case last year, the provision of the students' case work/examinations was all arranged online via Fastfile links. This system lends itself well to the external being involved in the oversight of these processes as the year progresses and makes it a very simple and efficient system to be a part of.

**8. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only)** (significant changes in standards, programme/discipline developments, implementation of recommendations, further areas of work)

## 9. 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)
<b>Programme/Course information</b>				
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?	Y		
<b>Commenting on draft examination question papers</b>				
9.3	Were you asked to approve all examination papers contributing to the final award?	Y		
9.4	Were the nature, spread and level of the questions appropriate?	Y		
9.5	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	Y		
<b>Examination scripts</b>				
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?	Y		
9.7	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	Y		
9.8	Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	Y		
9.9	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the internal examiners?	Y		
9.10	In your judgement, did you have the opportunity to examine a sufficient cross-section of candidates' work contributing to the final assessment?	Y		
<b>Coursework and practical assessments</b>				
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		
<b>Clinical examinations (if applicable)</b>				
9.15	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of clinical assessments?			N/A
<b>Sampling of work</b>				
9.16	Were you afforded sufficient time to consider samples of assessed work?	Y		
<b>Examining board meeting</b>				
9.17	Were you able to attend the Examining Board meeting?		N	

9.18	Was the Examining Board conducted properly, in accordance with established procedures and to your satisfaction?			<b>N/A</b>
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?	<b>Y</b>		
<b>Joint examining board meeting (if applicable)</b>				
9.20	Did you attend a Composite Examining Board, i.e. one convened to consider the award of Joint Honours degrees?		<b>N</b>	
9.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?			<b>N/A</b>
9.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?			<b>N/A</b>

Please return this Report, **in a Microsoft Word format**, by email to:  
[externalexaminers@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:externalexaminers@cardiff.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