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Sent by email to [rhian.davies@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:rhian.davies@sheffield.ac.uk)

**07 February 2020**

Dear Dr Davies,

**Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2018/19**

I am writing further to the receipt of your report for BA Spanish.

Your report has been considered by colleagues in the School and is the basis of this Institutional Response on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor. The School will also use its contents 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 indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process.
2. The programme is wide-ranging, giving students not solely a solid grounding in language skills but enabling them to study topics relating to various aspects of Spanish and Latin American culture, history and literature.
3. The marking continues to be rigorous and the feedback is excellent. It is evident that the tutors in the Department of Hispanic Studies invest a great deal of time in marking all the work they receive carefully and in ensuring that their feedback will be useful in terms of preparing students for future assessments.
4. Worthy of particular commendation (and closely linked to ML0363: Hispanic Cultures at the Margins) is the evident desire to engage students with what could be described as 'an inclusive curriculum', as students in the Department of Hispanic Studies at Cardiff are encouraged to learn about, and reflect on matters relating to topics such as marginality, disability, sexual reform, crime and punishment (ML0359, ML0058 and ML0059), equality and diversity, and so forth.



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## Issues highlighted in your report and response provided by the School:

1. **Year on Year comments:** *The question of electronic marking. It is important to ensure that the technology best serves the needs of staff and students in both the present and the future, and that students' anonymity is preserved throughout the assessment process.*

The advice about anonymity is noted, thank you. This will be discussed at school level.

We hope that you will find this response satisfactory and 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