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Sent by email to Dr Keith Brain

27 July 2018

Dear Dr Brain,

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

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's report for the MPharm (Pharmacology).

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. Pharmacology content is well distributed throughout several different modules, forming the core of two modules.
3. The Pharmacy programme in Cardiff is one of the oldest and most respected Pharmacy degrees in the county.
4. In the controlled drug assessments a very strict fail criterion was enforced, which is fair and consistent with standards elsewhere because of the importance of

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correctly managing controlled drugs; the students we met accept this method of assessment and the reasons for it.

5. Responses to the previous report were timely and appropriate. In particular, the processes involved in marking the dissertation reports have significantly improved, removing some potential sources of unconscious bias.
6. A particular strength is the support for quantitative skills training (through workshops) and the personal support provided for students resitting externally. These are both delivered to a higher standard than in my home institution.

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