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**Sent by email to [d.n.j.ricketts@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:d.n.j.ricketts@dundee.ac.uk)**

**01 July 2016**

Dear Professor Ricketts,

**Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2015– 2016**

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the Masters in Clinical Dentistry (MClinDent) - Prosthodontics.

Your Report has been considered by the School 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.

**Issue(s) Highlighted:**

1. you suggestion that "consideration should be given to giving the candidate a strict number of non-animated slides (e.g. 10) and minimum size font to focus the presentations and limit the time if the presentation of the case to for example 5 – 7 minutes. This would then allow 8 – 10 minutes for questions on each case."
2. in the context of enhancements in the general viva (where the same questions were put to each candidate, notwithstanding logistical challenges), your suggestion that the approach be extended to unseen simulated case for next year.

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**The following response has been provided on behalf of the School:**

1. The programme will update the guidance document that is given to Year 3 students regarding this part of the examination to reflect these suggestions. The students receive these documents in early September and the Programme Lead will send you a draft copy for final approval before release to the Year 3 students.
2. The programme team are happy to adopt your suggestion, and confirm that, given the low number of students involved this, will be feasible. A potential case for next year has already been identified, and a copy will be sent to you for final approval with standardised questions once all the clinical information has been collated.

**The University is pleased to note your positive comments including:**

1. your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process
2. your particular commendation of the use of varied assessment methods, of excellent teaching and of the administration and organisation of the Programme.

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 website and will be available to all students and staff.

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.

Yours sincerely,



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