



EXTERNAL EXAMINER ANNUAL REPORT FORM

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	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Dr Edward McCann		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	Trinity College Dublin		
Programme and / or Subjects Covered by this Report:	Bachelor of Nursing (Hons) Programme <i>BN (Mental Health) (September 2012 & March 2013 cohorts; tenure to end after the final award board for the March 2013 cohort)</i>		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	2015-16	Date of Report:	1 August 2016

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 curriculum appears appropriate to the programme and is consistent with similar programmes nationally and internationally. The theoretical components are neatly embedded within nursing practice. The reflective practice and the professional and personal development aspects are very positive elements of the overall programme.

2. Academic Standards

From the assignments that I reviewed the standard of academic work is similar to that of other Higher Education Institutions. The commitment and support from the module team is good and of a high standard and student have the opportunity to submit summative draft pieces of work for feedback. The academic and practice attainments meet national and professional standards and the awards given are at the appropriate level.

3. The Assessment Process

The assessments offer student the opportunity to link theory with their clinical practice role. Given the challenges in health and social care, the students are learning useful skills related to evidence-based clinical practice that they can develop and use in the future. The modules are well aligned with the learning aims and outcomes of the programme. The standard of the assessments is robust while allowing a level of individual creativity, necessary in a practice-based discipline.

4. Year-on-Year Comments

Overall quality of the submissions that I had the opportunity to review was good, with some of a very high standard. There were some excellent pieces of academic work with clear and strong links to the module learning aims and outcomes and assignment brief, linked to the wider aims of the programme. The assessments are robust and offer students the opportunity to reflect their learning related to evidence sourcing, analysis and application. There was evidence of the inclusion of current and contemporary literature and the assessment has clear links to clinical nursing practice and should enable students in the future to draw on and use their new skills to source, review and critique evidence relevant to their area of practice. Some of the submissions reviewed were of a very high standard and certainly the overall standard is in keeping with those at other Higher Education Institutions.

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

N/A

6. Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement

There was ample evidence of innovative, creative and responsive nursing practices. I particularly liked the service user and carer element contained within the portfolio. Service users and carers are able to comment on the students work and recommend areas for development. Some of the comments are particularly poignant particularly around attitudes, experiences and beliefs of people who use our services.

7. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only)

I have really enjoyed reviewing and commenting on the academic submissions made by the students. The overall quality of work is high and the links between theory and practice is evident. I would like to thank the staff for all their support in my role. The developments within the programme are evident and I wish the programme team all the very best for the future.

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?			
8.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?			
8.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?			

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