

LTC15D146

Title: Report from the meeting of the University Campus Suffolk Joint Academic Committee

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Report from the meeting of the University Campus Suffolk Joint Academic Committee held on 2 March 2016

Issue

Attached at Appendix 1 is a report from the meeting of the University Campus Suffolk Joint Academic Committee held on 2 March 2016.

Recommendation

The Learning and Teaching Committee is invited to approve the below recommendations from the meeting of the University Campus Suffolk Joint Academic Committee held on 2 March 2016

ITEMS FOR DECISION

1 COURSE SUSPENSIONS

Recommended to the Learning and Teaching Committee of the University of East Anglia and the Education Committee of the University of Essex

that the following courses be suspended for 2016/17:

UCS Bury St Edmunds

- FdSc Electronic Engineering

UCS Great Yarmouth

- BSc (Hons) Applied Computing

UCS Ipswich

- BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science with Foundation Year
- MSc Community Leadership and Social Innovation
- MSc Regenerative Medicine

2 COURSE DISCONTINUATIONS

Recommended to the Learning and Teaching Committee of the University of East Anglia and the Education Committee of the University of Essex

that the following courses be discontinued from 2016/17:

UCS Great Yarmouth

- FdA Creative Music
- BA (Hons) Lifelong Learning Practice

UCS Ipswich

- MSc Marketing Management

Resource Implications

None identified.

Risk Implications

None identified.

Equality and Diversity

Not applicable.

Further Information

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Attachments

Appendix 1 - report from the meeting of the University Campus Suffolk Joint Academic Committee held on 2 March 2016.

UNIVERSITY CAMPUS SUFFOLK JOINT ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

REPORT TO UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA LEARNING AND TEACHING
COMMITTEE AND UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Report from the meeting of the University Campus Suffolk Joint Academic
Committee held on 2 March 2016

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ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1 UPDATE ON UCS INDEPENDENCE

Noted

The Privy Council granted Taught Degree Awarding Powers to University Campus Suffolk (UCS) in November 2015. Following this UCS had submitted an application for University title and course designation. The Provost advised that the application had been considered by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and was now with the Department for Business Innovation and Skills. Overall the Provost was optimistic that UCS remained on schedule to receive confirmation of University title and course designation prior to the start of the 2016/17 academic year.

Members were advised that a transition group had been established between the three institutions. This included the Head of Quality Enhancement and the Academic Registrar at UCS, the Head of Quality and Development at the University of Essex (Essex) and the Head of Partnerships at the University of East Anglia (UEA). The group had met twice and would continue to meet on a monthly basis. The areas covered to date included 2016/17 applications, determining by level of study, which students would remain on joint Essex and UEA awards and who would be eligible to opt out and receive a University of Suffolk award. Additionally discussions had taken place about policies and procedures taking account of the changing responsibilities, course validation and re-approval arrangements, External Examiners and Professional Statutory and Regulatory Bodies requirements. The Chair noted that a paper outlining the transition arrangements would be presented to the next meeting of the JAC in June 2016.

2 RISK-BASED MONITORING AND ENHANCEMENT (RiME)

Noted

The annual course monitoring process at UCS is called Risk-based Monitoring and Enhancement (RiME). Members received the RiME reports and actions plans for 2014/15, from all Departments at UCS Ipswich, the Learning Network Centres (LNCs) and the central Professional Services covering Learning Services and Students Services. The process included an ongoing review of activities throughout the year, leading to the production of the annual reports and action plans which were discussed at Department and LNC RiME events, attended by the Universities.

A key aspect of RiME is the Risk Alert process. Risk alerts can be raised by the Head of Quality Enhancement or a Department throughout the year and are triggered in order to highlight to course teams areas to be addressed. This

could include poor student survey results, concern over course achievement levels or areas identified by External Examiners. Members received the annual summary of risk alerts for 2014/15, which included the number of risk alerts raised, actions taken and an evaluation of how effective the process had been. The report identified that 23 risk alerts had been raised during 2014/15, compared to 18 in 2013/14 and 21 in 2012/13.

3 REVIEW OF EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORTS 2014/15

Noted

The External Examiner reports are reviewed each year and an annual report is submitted to the JAC outlining key features or themes identified from the reports. For the 2014/15 academic year UCS had received 107 reports from 84 External Examiners. The course teams had identified actions in response to the recommendations made by the External Examiners and each report and response had been reviewed by a member of the Quality and Enhancement team at UCS and both Universities.

UCS also categorises all of the External Examiner reports each year. For 2014/15 these were reported as 16 reports being excellent (15%), 69 reports being good (64%), 20 reports being satisfactory (19%) and 2 reports with specific issues to be addressed (2%). Members were advised that the results aligned with the previous year and noted that the two reports with specific issues had now been addressed.

4 NEW COURSES APPROVED TO PROCEED TO PUBLICITY AND VALIDATION

Approved

The following new courses were approved to proceed to publicity and validation:

UCS Bury St Edmunds

- FdSc Accounting and Financial Management
- BA (Hons) Early Childhood Studies

UCS Great Yarmouth

- FdA Business Management

UCS Ipswich

- BA (Hons) Screenwriting
- BA (Hons) Screenwriting and Film Studies
- BSc (Hons) Mobile and Web Engineering
- PGCert in Education (Primary) SCITT [Thames Primary SCITT]
- MSc Crime and Community Safety: Evidence Based Practice

5 EXISTING COURSES APPROVED TO PROCEED TO REVALIDATION

Approved The following courses were approved to proceed to revalidation:

UCS Bury St Edmunds

- FdA Hospitality and Event Management
- FdSc Electrical Engineering
- FdSc Electronic Engineering
- FdSc Mechanical Engineering
- BEng (Hons) Engineering

UCS Ipswich

- BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science
- BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science with Foundation Year

6 PROFESSIONAL OR STATUTORY REGULATORY BODY (PSRB) ACTIVITY

Noted *UCS Ipswich*

British Psychological Society (BPS) approval:

- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Criminology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Early Childhood Studies
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology
- BSc (Hons) Psychology and Youth Studies

Rachel Frost
Secretary to the UCS Joint Academic Committee
Senior Academic Standards and Partnerships Manager
University of Essex
April 2016