

**CONFIRMATION OF MODULE MONITORING  
AND COURSE UPDATE (MCM3)**



**Faculty:**

**Academic Year report relates to 2010 / 2011**

**Name of Associate Dean for Learning, Teaching & Quality:  
Helena Gillespie**

**Date report submitted:  
September 2012**

I confirm that the Faculty LTQC has received confirmation that all courses and relevant modules within the Faculty have been reviewed. A list of the modules reviewed in this cycle is attached.

Signed *Helena Gillespie*

**Please comment on the following:**

This report was prepared with reference to the following: School MCM2s External examiner reports and summaries, Good Honours results for AY 10-11, reports and action plans (GH) and student surveys, and the National Student Survey.

Due to the integration of university support services and a focus for schools on the New Academic Model – this report for AY10-11 has been delayed. The aim is to complete the module, course and faculty monitoring much earlier for the AY11/12 – with reports ready for submission to LTC by early Autumn 2012.

- **Summary of issues that have emerged**

A small number of External Examiner reports raised questions about the marking process which should be noted. Firstly, that one felt that a case of **plagiarism** had been missed by the School marker. The implementation of a new policy, and some staff development around this difficult subject are an action for AY12/13. In addition questions were raised about marking and moderation procedures. Both of these aspects are also due for new policies and procedures in AY12/13 when a move towards electronic submission (and possibly marking?) and a new procedures for moderation of marks are to be implemented.

**Improving student performance**, as measured by the number of Students achieving a Good Honours Degree continues to be a major focus for the schools in SSF. Detailed action plans were implemented in AY11/12, and significant improvements were made in many schools, especially those with the lowest Good Honours proportions. Overall the faculty average for Good Honours rose from 61% to about 66% with significant improvements in LAW, ECO and NBS.

The impact that **International Students** have on faculty has been raised by External Examiners and is evident in schools MCM2s and various KIPs. The majority of these students are in NBS and ECO and both schools have robust plans in place to support students in general, diagnosing problems with study and engagement and raising the quality of teaching overall.

The **National Student Survey** continues to produce mixed results across the faculty, with most schools engaging with an action plan to improve scores. For example LAW have developed a number of initiatives around improving student feedback which continues to be an area for development. DEV have increased contact hours to improve the student experience. EDU continues to need to improve NSS scores with results improving but still short of the standards of the rest of the university. SWK reported high levels of student satisfaction with the Psychology programme in particular.

Aspects for the **student experience** that are outside of the control of schools

and the faculty continue to cause problems. SWK in particular have highlighted problems with timetabling arrangements and the quality of rooms. Library provision is improving as are IT resources but this needs to be a continued priority.

**Teaching Leadership and Management** is raised in most schools reports – practice varies from school to school with different support for Directors of Learning and Teaching from teaching committees or UG DoLT. DEV have consolidated provision of support for the DoLT in the AY10/11. SWK have used an ‘away day’ to develop approaches to teaching and learning.

- **Summary of actions taken to maintain and enhance quality**

The Good Honours report from September 2011 deals with many of the issues around student performance and notes where schools will take action, as well as actions at faculty and university levels. This is helpful in maintaining momentum behind this initiative.

Both NBS and ECO have increased the level of support for international students.

The National Student Survey is the subject of action planning in most schools.

Schools are developing useful approaches to the leadership and management

- **Areas of good practice which have been identified**

The faculty continues to monitor the quality of teaching and learning and resulting student performance. Overall improving NSS scores and improving Good Honours Scores are the result of the initiatives outlined above.

- **Whether and how areas of good practice are being disseminated**

The faculty had lead on the development of approaches to Good Honours scores producing a report and action plans for the AY11/12 – which showed some impressive improvements in some schools. The report and action plans have been shared with other ADs.

- **Issues the Faculty LTQC wishes to bring to the attention of LTC**

In this time of unprecedented change and challenge in Higher Education, resourcing schools and faculties appropriately for leadership and management in Teaching and Learning is important.

The quality of timetabling, rooms, library and IT resources require continues focus and resourcing.

