

**The University of Leeds**  
**EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR: 2012– 2013**

**Part A: General Information****Subject area and awards being examined**

Faculty / School of:	School of Health
Subject(s):	<i>Clinical Physiology</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	Cardiology
Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):	BSc

**Completed report**

The completed report should be attached to an e-mail and sent as soon as possible, and no later than six weeks after the relevant meeting of the Board of Examiners, to [exexadmin@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:exexadmin@leeds.ac.uk).

Alternatively you can post your report to: **Head of Academic Quality and Standards**  
Academic Quality and Standards Team  
Room 12:81, EC Stoner Building  
The University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT

**Part B: Comments for the Institution on the Examination Process and Standards****Matters for Urgent Attention**

*If there are any areas which you think require urgent attention before the programme is offered again please note them in this box*

The course is professionally run and administered. I have no comments to make.

**Only applicable in first year of appointment**

*Were you provided with copies of previous relevant External Examiners' reports and the response of the School to these?*

I was issued with all the appropriate handbooks and documentation

**For Examiners completing their term of appointment**

*Please comment on your experience of the programme(s) over the period of your appointment, remarking in particular on changes from year to year and the progressive development and enhancement of the learning and teaching provision, on standards achieved, on marking and assessment and the procedures of the School*

## Standards

**1. Please indicate the extent to which the programme Aims and Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) were commensurate with the level of the award**

- *The appropriateness of the Intended Learning Outcomes for the programme(s)/modules and of the structure and content of the programme(s);*
- *The extent to which standards are appropriate for the award or award element under consideration.*

All the aims and outcomes were commensurate with the level of the award.

**2. Did the Aims and ILOs meet the expectations of the national subject benchmark (where relevant)?**

- *The comparability of the programme(s) with similar programme(s) at other institutions and against national benchmarks and the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.*

The course compares favourably with other courses in the subject area offered across the United Kingdom.

**3. Please comment on the assessment methods and the appropriateness of these to the ILOs**

- *The design and structure of the assessment methods, and the arrangements for the marking of modules and the classification of awards;*
- *The quality of teaching, learning and assessment methods that may be indicated by student performance.*

I have been given to all the assessments set during the academic year. The team use a wide variety of challenging assessment for the students.

I am sent all the completed assessments for review. There is always evidence of second marking and constructive feedback where appropriate.

**4. Were students given adequate opportunity to demonstrate their achievement of the Aims and ILOs?**

- *The academic standards demonstrated by the students and, where possible, their performance in relation to students on comparable courses;*
- *The strengths and weaknesses of the students as a cohort.*

Leeds has been offering this programme for a number of years. This experience is demonstrated by the calibre of the students graduating from the programme. I have had the opportunity to meet a number of students during sites visits. The enthusiasm of the students is very evident. I have employed a Leeds graduate at my hospital and he is credit to your university both clinically and academically.

**5. For Examiners responsible for programmes that include clinical practice components, please comment on the learning and assessment of practice components of the curriculum**

This programme includes 2 integrated clinical practice exams. I am a senior examiner for the professional body and I have never had a course for concern from the students at Leeds. They all demonstrate high level of professionalism.

**6. Please comment on the nature and effectiveness of enhancements to the programme(s) and modules since the previous year**

*It would be particularly helpful if you could also identify areas of good practice which are worthy of wider dissemination.*

This is clinically based programme. One of the key strengths of this programme are the academic staff who have proven clinical backgrounds and bring a lot of experience to there teaching.

**7. Please comment on the influence of research on the curriculum and learning and teaching**

*This may include examples of curriculum design informed by current research in the subject; practice informed by research; students undertaking research.*

This programme is currently on teach out. Therefore there is very little scope for curriculum design. The University is transitioning to the modernising scientific careers Healthcare Science degree.

## For Examiners involved in mentoring arrangements

**8. If you have acted as a mentor to a new External Examiner or have received mentor support please comment here on the arrangements**

N/A

## The Examination/Assessment Process

**9. The University and its Schools provide guidance for External Examiners as to their roles, powers and responsibilities. Please indicate whether this material was sufficient for you to act effectively as an External Examiner.**

- *Whether External Examiners have sufficient access to the material needed to make the required judgements and whether they are encouraged to request additional information.*

I have acted as an external examiner at a number of universities and materials are more than adequate to allow me to reach my judgements. I have a good relationship with the academic team and am in regular contact with the course leader.

**10. Did you receive appropriate documentation relating to the programmes and/or parts of programmes for which you have responsibility, e.g. programme specifications or module handbooks, marking criteria?**

- *The coherence of the policies and procedures relating to External Examiners and whether they match the explicit roles they are asked to perform.*

I have always received appropriate documentation from the academic team.

**11. Were you provided with all draft examination papers/assessments? Was the nature and level of the questions appropriate? If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?**

I am sent all exam papers and assessments and given sufficient time to comment.

**12. Was sufficient assessed / examined work made available to enable you to have confidence in your evaluation of the standard of student work? Were the scripts clearly marked/annotated?**

I am given access to all exam papers and assessments which allows me to make an informed judgment on the standard of student work. All scripts have been clearly annotated with evidence of second marking.

**13. Was the choice of subjects for dissertations appropriate? Was the method and standard of assessment appropriate?**

The dissertations were all appropriate and well assessed by the academic team. I made a comment this year that at least two students produced work that was topical and suitable for publication.

**14. Were the administrative arrangements satisfactory for the whole process, including the operation of the Board of Examiners? Were you able to attend the meeting? Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Board?**

I have attended the exam board and the process was very well administered. I was made to feel very welcome by the chair of the board and my opinions were considered by the chairman.

**15. Were appropriate procedures in place to give due consideration to mitigating circumstances and medical evidence?**

A robust system is in place.

## Other comments

**Please use this box if you wish to make any further comments not covered elsewhere on the form**

This has been a good year for the clinical physiology programme at Leeds. I would strongly commend the professionalism of the academic team and back up admin team. I would personally like to mention 3 people who have been instrumental in making my job as external examiner a real pleasure, please offer my sincere thanks to the whole team and in particular, <>, <> and <>.

Baines Wing  
University of Leeds  
Leeds LS2 9JT



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

6 February 2014

Dear

**Re: External Examiner's Report –2012/2013 – BSc (Hons) Clinical Physiology (Cardiology)**

Thank you for your annual external examiners report for the BSc (Hons) Clinical Physiology (Cardiology) programme. We are pleased that you consider our programme to be professionally run and administered and that it compares favourably with other institutions.

We appreciate your kind comments regarding our students and their professionalism. We spend a considerable amount of time preparing students for practice, as well as supporting them when in practice, to assist them to become both competent and highly professional practitioners; it is therefore reassuring to hear that this continues post qualification.

We are extremely grateful for the amount of support you provide to our assessment process. We understand that this workload can be demanding at times and appreciate the speed with which you provide us with confirmation of marks. We are very pleased with the good working relationship that has been established between yourself and the team and your advice has been invaluable to the team over the last 12 months, particularly on professional body issues.

We are pleased that you have highlighted 2 students final year Research project's for publication. We are pleased to inform you that one of those students presented a poster at the British Society of Echocardiography, and won the poster competition, competing against medics. This was a huge achievement and we are extremely proud of her. We are currently working with the other student to submit her work for publication.

Your kind comments regarding the support provided by both academic and support members of the team have been forwarded to them.

The team looks forward to working with you over the coming academic year, which will include the first year of the new Healthcare Science (Cardiac Physiology) programme.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely