

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

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

<i>Faculty / School of:</i>	Faculty of Medicine and Health, School of Healthcare
<i>Subject(s):</i>	<i>Radiography</i>
<i>Programme(s) / Module(s):</i>	BSc (Hons) Radiography Dental Programme HECS1029 Intro to Role of Health Professional HECS1028 Musculoskeletal Anatomy HECS1073 Medical Imaging Science 1 HECS1074 Professional Practice 1 HECS1075 Diagnostic Radiographic Tech HECS 2146 Research Methods and Evaluation HECS 2148 Professional Practice 2 HECS 2149 Diagnostic Imaging Technique 1 HECS2144 Anatomy, Physiology and Associated diagnostic pattern recognition 1 HECS2145 Anatomy, Physiology and Associated diagnostic pattern recognition 2 HECS2147 Medical Imaging Science 2 HECS3197 Role of the Healthcare Professional: Preparation for Practice HECS3200 Diagnostic Imaging Technique 2 HECS3199 Professional Practice 3 HECS3202 Advanced Medical Imaging Systems HECS3077 Research Project HECS3076 Rad work-based learning HECS3203 Focussed professional practice HECS3201 International work based learning HECS 3198/3078 Pathophysiology and Rad anatomy and diagnostic pattern recognition HECS 5261M
<i>Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):</i>	BSc (Hons)

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.

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

None

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?

n/a

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

n/a

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.*

The aims and intended learning outcomes are appropriate for the award. The programme structure enables students to build on knowledge as they progress through their studies.

This year, due to unforeseen circumstances, I have been the only external examiner. Although this has meant an increase in workload it has been beneficial as I have seen all the modules and can get a real sense of how the programme fits together.

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 programme is equivalent to other programmes I have knowledge of; it also meets national benchmark statements.

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.*

The assessment methods are appropriate. Poster presentations allow the students to be a little more creative, there are a number of essays and exams. The image viewing examinations are a key assessment strategy as you would expect in a Radiography programme. There is evidence of 1st marking and moderation in all the modules. I have had to opportunity to comment on all the work that has been sent to me.

Once again this year, the feedback to students is very comprehensive both on the feedback sheets and also within the text of the essay. One small point, for some examinations, I am not sure how the students receive feedback.

This year I have had to opportunity to look at work on the VLE. I welcome this move to electronic feedback as it has made the process of external examining more efficient. The technical support for this has also been very good.

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.*

I have noticed that there have been some really excellent marks this year. There were also some modules where there were no fails. It is evident that students are given guidance prior to assessment and supported well with resubmissions. There are still some students who have not met the required standard and demonstrate poor writing and referencing but these seems due to non-participation in sessions.

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

As I mentioned last year, the viva examination for clinical practice is complex and I am pleased that the team have reviewed this and made some changes for next year. The students appear to be well supported in practice, I have seen a number of their clinical "diaries" where clinical staff leave useful feedback for the students. The students appear to get all the necessary clinical experiences required.

The work produced by the students studying the International work based module was very interesting in that it gave an insight into radiography in a different country.

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 year, when I was sent a sample of work, I was also sent the module leader's report with a section for the external examiner (previously I was sent a form to fill in). It is really useful to see the module report with the spread of marks, the marker and moderator comments and any other relevant information, I am then able to get a sense of the "whole module".

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.

Students are expected to reference current literature including current professional policies and relevant legislation throughout their programme. In year 3 they carry out an independent study of their choosing which may include an audit. These audits are directly related to practice and may have implications for the clinical setting.

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.

Yes it was sufficient and any questions I have are always answered promptly

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.

Yes. The administrative support has been excellent.

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?

Yes, the papers/assessments were appropriate and any questions or queries I had were answered by the programme team

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?

Most definitely. The scripts and associated paperwork were clear and easy to understand.

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

Yes

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 attended the School Board of Examiners twice, the process was very efficient, the recommendations of the board were appropriate and fair and I was given the opportunity to comment. Prior to those meetings I met with members of the programme team who were welcoming and answered any questions I had.

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

Yes

Other comments

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

School of Healthcare

Baines Wing
University of Leeds
Leeds LS2 9JT



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

24 January 2014

Dear

Re: External Examiner's Report – 2012/2013 - BSc (Hons) Radiography

On behalf of the programme team, I would like to thank you for your support and comments over this past year. The programme team is extremely grateful to you for your commitment and dedication to ensure that all material was reviewed thoroughly and in a timely manner, particularly as this was in the absence of a second external examiner. It is pleasing that you view this positively, as it has allowed you to obtain a greater sense of how the programme is structured.

It is pleasing to note that you have identified numerous positive aspects of the programme and the assistance you received. I note you are supportive of the changes that have been made to processes this academic sessions and proposed changes for the coming academic session.

With regards to your comment on the lack of clarity as to how students receive feedback for examinations, this does vary between modules: some module teams provide written feedback whilst others ask students to request meetings to obtain their feedback. Your comment has raised an important issue and the programme team will discuss a more uniform approach to the provision of examination feedback.

The team appreciates the guidance and support that you have provided during the last academic session and looks forward to working with you in the coming year.

Yours sincerely