

The University of Leeds

EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2013– 2014

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

Faculty / School of:	School of health care
Subject(s):	<i>Nursing</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	Advanced Diploma in Nursing Graduate certificate in Palliative Care
Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):	

Name and home Institution / affiliation of Examiner**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 Quality Assurance**
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

No

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?

NA

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

This has been my final year as an external examiner; I have found the programmes to be consistent in their assessment and quality procedures. The school have responded appropriately to my questions and recommendations. There has been a consistently high standard within the programmes assessment results and the teams should be commended upon this.

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.*

These have been appropriate

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.*

Yes the aims and LO meet the expectations of national benchmarks and are reflective of similar programmes in my own institution

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.*

In both programmes there are a range of assessments which are appropriate, I have had the opportunity to attend assessed presentations for example

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.*

Yes there were opportunities to achieve. The advanced diploma students' work was predominantly weaker than previous cohorts but this is reflective of their circumstance.

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

For the advanced diploma the practice components are assessed appropriately and I have had to opportunity to review these.

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.

The advanced Diploma is coming to a natural end due to the publication of the NMC 2010 standards for education therefore I have not expected any significant changes and this has been reflected in the programme. There has been a new module/programme leader for the Post graduate certificate in Palliative care and I have noted that she had been consistent in her approach, updated practices and adhered to quality mechanisms.

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.*

Evidence based practice is an inherent feature of both programmes.

8. **Where the programme forms part of an Integrated PhD, please comment on the appropriateness of the programme as training for a PhD**

NA

For Examiners involved in mentoring arrangements

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

NA

The Examination/Assessment Process

10. 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 I have received sufficient information

11. 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

12. 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?

NA

13. 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?

yes

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

NA

15. 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?

Yes the administrative and quality arrangements have been satisfactory and I have been able to attend

16. 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

I have enjoyed my term as an external examiner, the programme team work hard to support the student learning experience, and I have been impressed with the quality of work produced by the student and the feedback given by academic staff. I have found all members of the school academic and support staff approachable and responsive to my feedback.

Baines Wing
University of Leeds
Leeds LS2 9JT



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

18 February 2015

Dear

Re: External Examiner's Report 2013-2014 - BSc (Hons) Nursing (Adult), Advanced Diploma in Nursing (Adult) and Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care programme

I should like, on behalf of the programme teams to thank you for your very positive external examiner's report for the 2013-14 session. Your comments regarding our quality and assessment procedures are very much appreciated and have been relayed to the relevant teams. The teams have found it to have been a rewarding experience working with you and have greatly appreciated the diligence with which you have undertaken your role, thus ensuring that our processes remain rigorous and fair.

The change of module and programme leaders for the Graduate Certificate in Palliative Care provision has been successful and your comments on the maintenance of a consistent approach to quality mechanisms and updating practices are most welcome.

I should like to thank you for your constructive support to the three programmes mentioned above and for assisting the School to achieve high quality learning for these students.

I note that this is your final report and should therefore like to thank you for the excellent support and advice you have given to the programme and module teams over the past five years.

Yours sincerely