

The University of Leeds
EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT
ACADEMIC YEAR: 2014– 2015

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

Faculty / School of:	Healthcare
Subject(s):	<i>Pharmacy</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	<i>Pharmaceutical Technology and Quality Assurance</i>
Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):	MSc

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

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

As this course is not enrolling new students, I am continuing as external until the last candidate completes. As such this may or may not be my last term, but is probably the appropriate time to make my comments on this aspect of the course. This course has always been well organised and its contents delivered to a very high standard. The benefits to the students are from access and exposure to experts and opinion leaders in the area. The course consistently kept pace with changes in practice so remained relevant to students. I hope that the delivery of the course at its new home in University of Manchester is as good as it has been in Leeds.

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.*

Entirely 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

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.*

Good use of a range of methods to provide authentic assessment.

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.*

- The assignment documentation is clear and allows students to demonstrate the aims and LOs.
- The calibre of work is generally very high.

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

n/a

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.

(no changes, there are no new enrolments)

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.

The dissertations are research based and dictated by the preferences and expertise of the students. This is a positive thing.

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

n/a

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

I acted as mentor (having received mentor support in previous years). The mentoring system at Leeds is a very good idea and I have recommended it to other institutions.

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

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?

Yes (and my comments were considered)

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 and yes

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

The freedom of choice for the candidates is a very good thing and allows this MSc to be useful as well as academically robust.

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. I did not attend this year.

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

(they were considered at all previous Boards I attended)

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

Direct line: 0113

E-mail:

26 November 2015

Dear

Re External Examiner's Report 2014-2015

I should like on behalf of the programme team to thank you for your work in the capacity of external examiner for the MSc Pharmaceutical Technology and Quality Assurance.

As you have noted in your report, the course has now moved from the University of Leeds to the University of Manchester, and therefore, there are no further actions that require attention.

I would like to thank you on behalf of the PTQA team for your contributions and for your positive comments in relation to the programme and, in particular, the assessment of student achievement. I am very pleased that you have had a positive experience from the Leeds mentoring system and I note that you have recommended it to other institutions.

With my best wishes for the future,

Yours sincerely