

## The University of Leeds

## EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2015– 2016

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

Faculty / School of:	Medicine
Subject(s):	<i>Audiology</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	Healthcare Science (Audiology)
Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):	B Sc

**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](mailto: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*

This has been a very positive experience for me. During my term there were changes to both the programme and the school in which the programme was managed. The staff were extremely efficient and helpful and this meant that the transitions were, from my perspective, very smooth.

There have been many challenges in audiology over the last few years, resulting in major changes to curriculum and programme delivery. The team have coped well with these challenges and have provided support to students throughout these changes. I think the teaching team should be commended for their innovative methods and supportive manner, and the administrative staff for their efficiency and willingness to help. I am sure the next EE will have a very positive experience.

## 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.*

The content of the programme was appropriate for 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 meets the appropriate benchmark and is comparable to other institutions.
  
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.*

A good range of assessments are used and useful feedback is given to students
  
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 this was apparent. There were some weak students in the cohort but they were well supported by staff to help them develop their abilities.
  
5. **For Examiners responsible for programmes that include clinical practice components, please comment on the learning and assessment of practice components of the curriculum**

The practical components were assessed using a portfolio. I was able to look at completed portfolio and found them informative and well documented.
  
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.*

Year on year the team have reflected and developed assessments. The marking schedules and feedback are both examples of good practice
  
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 was apparent throughout the modules
  
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**

N/A

## 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

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?

Yes

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 attended the meeting and was satisfied with the recommendations of the board.

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

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**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

30 August 2016

Dear

**External Examiner's report for Healthcare Science (Audiology) 2015-16**

As the School of Medicine's Director of Classified Undergraduate Studies, I receive all the External Examiners' reports for the subjects offered at undergraduate level leading to the award of classified degrees, certificates and diplomas. First, let me thank you for assembling the 2015-16 report for the programme in Healthcare Science (Audiology). This is your final report for this programme.

I note that there were no urgent matters for attention. You comment that the content of the programme is appropriate for the level of award, meets the appropriate benchmark and is comparable to other institutions.

**Programme Leader's response**

I have enclosed with this letter a response assembled by \_\_\_\_\_, Programme Leader. \_\_\_\_\_ confirms, with gratitude, the valued contributions you have made during your term of office and that there are no negative comments or areas of concern raised in your report.

**Good practice**

You note that marking schedules and feedback are both examples of good practice and commend the team on both their innovative methods and supportive manner. I was glad to learn of the efficiency and willingness to help of both administrative and academic staff.

**Student satisfaction**

In the 2016 National Student Survey of final-year undergraduates at the University of Leeds, ninety percent of students in the Joint Academic Coding System unit for "Aural and Oral Sciences" (under which Healthcare Science (Audiology) reports) confirmed overall satisfaction with their course. This is an excellent achievement at a time when the programme has responded to major changes in both curriculum and programme delivery.

Thank you so much for your positive report as External Examiner. Your contributions to the Healthcare Science (Audiology) programme are much valued.

Enc: 25 August 2016

**Director of Classified Undergraduate Studies**



**School of Medicine**

**Classified Undergraduate Programmes**

**BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science (Audiology)**

**Response to external examiner 2015-16**

The programme team are grateful for the report received from [redacted] This is [redacted] last year as external examiner and we are pleased to note that [redacted] has found this to be a positive experience. We are also pleased to note that [redacted] reports the programme team have coped well with major internal and external changes, and provided commendable support to our students during this time.

We note this is a positive report, indicating our programme compares well with other universities in relation to its aims and learning outcomes, assessment methods, student achievement across theoretical and clinical practice components. No negative comments or areas of concerns were identified. Positive comments are made regarding programme and module enhancements and it is pleasing that our marking schemes and feedback on student work have been identified by [redacted] as examples of good practice.

Finally, we would like to formally acknowledge [redacted] for [redacted] contribution to our programme as external examiner.

Programme Leader