

**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:	Dentistry
Subject(s):	<i>MSc Clinical Dentistry (DPH)</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	DSUR5065M – Research Project DSUR5105M – Principles of Dental Public Health
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](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*

There are no urgent matters that need to be attended to before the programme is offered again.

**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

- 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 learning outcomes of the programme are appropriate to the level and subject under examination.
- 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 aims and ILOs are on a par and similar to other Masters Programmes in Dental Public Health with which I am familiar.

**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 my report last year, the first for this new programme, I commented on the excessive assessment burden caused by multiple small units bearing small numbers of credits. I suggested how these could be combined and how greater credit could be given for the Research Project.

The team have taken these comments on board and this has in my opinion improved the programme and student assessment experience.

Student performance suggests that they have been well taught.

**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 performance of the students was comparable with students on similar courses.

Overall the standard of the students performance was good and significantly so from the first cohort that I observed being examined last session.

**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 exercises set for the students do give experience of the competencies that would be expected in Dental Public Health Practice.

**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 programme has improved since last year particularly in relation to the Research Project. The less ambitious objectives set for the students this year are more in keeping with the time available and the relatively basic skill set students on entry to the programme

**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 taught by experienced and active researchers. The course is very up to date and based in current evidence and practice.

**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 I received the material in good time and it contained all of the information that I required.

- 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, much more so than in the initial intake to this new course.

- 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 arrangements were very good. I did attend the Board of Examiners and I was satisfied with the recommendations.

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

I assume so though these procedures did not need to be tested.

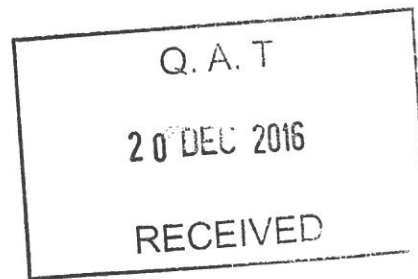
#### Other comments

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

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MSc in DPH -  
Sept 2016



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

19 December 2016

Dear

Thank you once again for your input as External Examiner to our programme and particularly for joining us for the final oral examination of our students' dissertations. We were very grateful to receive your opinion that the programme has improved after the amendments made last year. Your suggestions for changes have worked very well for this cohort of students with respect to their research projects. This coming year we will assess how the altered programme affects the assessment and teaching burden on the new cohort of students.

As our partners at the Nuffield Institute are making changes to their modules which affect our 2017 intake, we will have to consider further changes to the programme in the coming year. We will prevail upon you to consider our proposals and give us your thoughts in due course.

Many thanks for your ongoing expert input to our MSc in Dental Public Health.

Yours sincerely,

**Dean of the School of Dentistry**