

ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2015/16

Appendix 3: External Examiners' report

FdSc/BSc Veterinary Nursing

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from 2014/15 External Exami

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ensure that any actions to be taken in response to these comments have been recorded in your Annual Quality Improvement Report.

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External Examiners' comments	Course Director's response	Update in 2015/16
<p>Having attended the OSPVE resit in January 2015, the extern who attended noted that the same 'critical step' was given different weightings in related Laboratory based OSPVE tasks. This issue was discussed in January with relevant VN staff and again at the current (1st July) Exam Board to highlight the need for consistency in the weighting of critical task steps from station to station.</p>	<p>The OSPVES are to be reviewed during the next academic year to ensure consistency.</p> <p>Action Required: To review the OSPVEs to ensure consistency with weighting</p> <p>Action Deadline: 01-Sep-2016</p> <p>Action assigned to: VN team</p>	<p>A working party was formed in December 2015 to review the entire OSPVE bank of tasks and make these more standardised. One of the difficulties in determining the weighting of steps is the variety of experts involved in this process and their contrasting opinions. To enhance reliability, all OSPVE tasks are routinely piloted in formative exams and feedback on station performance is always requested from assessors. Briefing sessions are also held prior to exams to promote consistent assessment of stations.</p>

BSc in Veterinary Nursing 2015/16 (Cohort 9)

Lead examiner: Dr Elizabeth Mullineaux

Collaborating examiner(s): Miss Victoria Bowes

The Programme

Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:

1.1 Course content

The course content is very satisfactory reflecting the full range of subject knowledge and skills that should be covered in these degree(s) at these levels (Year 3 Fd & BSc and Year 4 BSc). Externs reviewed and sampled 3rd year 'Applied Nursing' and 'Professional Practice', as well as year 4 'Research methods', elective modules and projects (see 2.3) and found the content of all of these to be more than satisfactory. Externs had also been present for OSPVE exams in December and found these to be well organised and of a high standard. Externs also had the opportunity on this occasion to meet with 3 of the Yr 4 BSc students and discuss the course, overall these students expressed great satisfaction with the course structure and content describing it as 'exceptional'.

1.3 Teaching methods

A wide range of teaching methods as appropriate to veterinary nursing education appear to have been employed across the course. Students seem less responsive to online teaching than face to face education and this should be considered moving forwards with the course.

Response from college requested: NO

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

Based up
closely matches the FHEQ.

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Miss Rachel Lumbis

Course Director Response:

Thank you for this feedback.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.4 Standard of marking

Marking is generally of a high standard. Feedback on some written assessments is very detailed and is to be commended. Occasionally however, feedback is variable and more consistency in this respect is required. Double marking and/ or sample marking is in place across all modules, but sometimes the quality of this varies between modules. Where there is discrepancy between first marker's and second marker's results discussion needs to be documented so that there is a full audit trail.

Response from college requested:

3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)

Yes externs are very satisfied with these procedures.

4.1 Comments I have made in previous years have been addressed to my satisfaction

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Comments previously made relating to OSPVE exams seemed to have been taken onboard when the exams were attended in December 2015.

Response from college requested: NO

4.2 An acceptable response has been made

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.3 I approved the papers for the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Comments on papers were generally taken onboard, the only exception was where a model answer had been requested this had not been added to the final paper, this may have just been an oversight.

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Miss Rachel Lumbis

Course Director Response:

Apologies for this oversight. Care will be taken by Module Leaders and the Exams Office to avoid similar errors from occurring in the future.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate
my duties

4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly

4.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

If you have identified any areas of good practice, please comment more fully here. We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:

5.1 Do you have any suggestions for improvements based on experience at other institutes? We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:

No

Response from college requested: NO

5.2 External Examiner comments: For College information only (Responses to External Examiners are remain confidential, if any)

Response from college requested: NO

Collaborative Report

Exam board meeting: 13-Sep-2016

BSc in Veterinary Nursing (Middx), 2015/16 (Cohorts 10-12)

Lead examiner: Dr Elizabeth Mullineaux

Collaborating examiner(s): Miss Victoria Bowes

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

On this occasion only written assessments were reviewed (MCQs, SAQs, written assignments), although practical skills and presentations have been observed in the higher years on other occasions. Overall the externs believe that the combination of these assessment methods fully satisfy and examine the learning objectives and curricula.

Response from college requested: **NO**

Action assigned to:

Exams Office

3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)

Yes externs are very satisfied with these procedures.

4.1 Comments I have made in previous years have been addressed to my satisfaction

Yes

4.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

