

External Examiners Comment	Course Director's response and Action	Course Directors update in 2015/16
3.4 Standard of marking		

Collaborative Report

Exam board meeting: 24-May-2016

Master of Veterinary Medicine, 2015/16

Lead examiner: Dr Mark Bowen

Collaborating examiner(s): Dr Angus Anderson

The Programme

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

Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

Action Required: Ongoing monitoring and implementation of assessment process

Action Deadline: July 2018

Action assigned to: Dr Vicky Lipscomb & Mr John Sanger

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

Work meets the standard expected of a Masters.

3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

Some candidates have high Turnitin Plagiarism scores. Evidence that such high scores have been acted on should be mentioned.

Might want to consider whether students with higher or equivalent qualifications (e.g. PhDs) can use the APL route for some aspects of the core modules

Submission by publication sometimes limits the extent of work and can appear like a very small body of work, especially where pilot work is not available to examine. Guidance and an ongoing review of intentions to submit should be considered by the course director to ensure that candidates do not inadvertently disadvantage themselves by a desire for publication.

Response from college requested: YES

Dr A.A

Agreed

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR POSTGRADUATE TEACHING & LEARNING: Dr Rob Fowkes

Associate Dean for Postgraduate Teaching and Learning Response:

Turnitin has been used extensively at the RVC for several years, partly as a tool to assist in detection of plagiarism, but also as an online coursework marking system. Both staff and students are given guidance and training on how to use Turnitin (for marking, or for submission purposes, respectively). Research conduct, plagiarism use of Turnitin is specifically covered in the taught research courses and will continue to be in the new MVetMed research module. As internal examiners, the Turnitin similarity score is an initial guide, not a sole indicator – concerns as regards to plagiarism are initially raised with the exams office and then followed up with the Course Director and Academic Registrar, if required. There are often very straightforward explanations for a high Turnitin similarity score (so, either the fact that the research project has already been published by the student, or occasionally students will have submitted a draft version through Turnitin and then re-submitted the final version, in which case the score is high - in both cases, these are easier to identify).

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

4.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate sample of students' work and marks to enable me to carry out my duties

No

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Submissions from modules are not made available to examiners. While it would not be sensible to review all of these, access to some samples may be useful especially in understanding borderline scores

Response from college requested: NO

4.9 I have received enough support to carry out my role

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

Dr A.A

Agreed

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

Dr A.A

Agreed

4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

Dr A.A

Agreed

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

Dr A.A

Agreed

Completion

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:

Response from college requested: **NO**

