

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee - Friday 14 November 2008

**Report from the Faculty Quality Assurance & Enhancement
Officers Group on Annual Monitoring for Session 2006-07
(ASC/2008/7)**

Ms H Butcher, Clerk to Committee

This paper provides an update on the following matters arising from the FQAEO Report discussed at the previous meeting of ASC.

Disclosure Scotland: Arrangements for Peer Assisted Learning

Professor Nash (Pro Vice-Principal), has been in dialogue with colleagues in Human Resources who have had contact with Disclosure Scotland through participation in a Disclosure Audit. Discussion so far has revealed that DS have confirmed that they will process correctly completed applications and return them to the University within 14 days.

Human Resources have also agreed to raise the specific issue of PAL with Disclosure Scotland in order to provide guidance for staff on the disclosure process for PAL. They will report back to Professor Nash on the outcome of this discussion in due course.

Standard Facilities for all Central Learning and Teaching Space

The Directors of Estates and Buildings and IT Services have both been advised of the recommended standard facilities agreed at the last meeting of ASC. Action is now being taken to implement these and progress will be reported in February. The Director of Estates and Buildings has indicated that moveable items such as chalk, and a/v remote controls are regularly supplied but tend to be removed from teaching venues.

The request for more flexible teaching space for all levels of study has been notified to the Learning Spaces Group which was set up by the Vice Principal (Learning, Teaching and Internationalisation).

Out of Hours Access to Departments for Students

The Vice Principal (Strategy and Resource), Secretary of Court and the Security and Janitorial Services Manager have been advised of the discussion at ASC and the concern regarding ad hoc arrangements which may be made at local level.

The Secretary of Court has requested that any concerns regarding access be raised directly with Security Manager, who is would be willing to participate in an evaluation of the situation to consider the balance between access and security. In general, the Security Manager notes that the University of Glasgow has a very open access policy allowing public access to many areas, while there have also been, in recent years, a number of initiatives to improve security (e.g. CCTV, security alarms, patrolling staff and access/control systems to some buildings).

It should also be noted that library and computing resources are available to students out of hours in central locations (Library and various computer clusters). The question of the purpose of allowing students access to academic departments at weekends and evenings was not raised in the FQAEO Report to ASC. Further investigation of the issue raised in the Faculty of Arts Annual Monitoring Report indicates that access is needed to departments for specific resources e.g. access to Theatre, Film and Television Studies (TFTS) for rehearsals, and the Learning Resource Room in the same department to screen films for study purposes; and access to the HATII Lab for Multimedia Analysis and Design students where specific software is available. Currently these spaces are restricted to office hours because of the expense of providing out of hours janitorial cover. The report did indicate that TFTS was willing to consider providing access without janitorial cover. A potential solution could therefore be reached after discussion with the Security Manager.

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