

University of Glasgow**Academic Standards Committee – 20 February 2009****Accreditation by Professional and Statutory Bodies –
Sessions 2006-07 and 2007-08****Marjory Wright, Senate Office**

This paper contains a summary report of accreditations undertaken by professional and statutory bodies (PSBs) in Sessions 2006-2007 and 2007-08. Information listed under the heading 'Items of Note arising from the Report' has been taken directly from the accreditation reports. Members of the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) may access the full text of the accreditation reports via the Senate Office.

Session 2006-07**Humanities Advanced Technology & Information Institute (HATII)***Reviewed by*

Society of Archivists (January 2007)

- MSc Information Management and Preservation (Digital)/MSc Information Management and Preservation (Records Management)

Outcome: As this is a new programme, the first period of accreditation is for a period of three years, until 2010. Subsequent accreditations will be for periods of five years.

*Items of Note Arising from the Report**Commendable Aspects*

- We commend the decision to prioritise teaching the strategic knowledge required by an archivist/records manager, while leaving some practical knowledge (e.g. running a records centre or a search room) to be learned in situ. We certainly see this as an essential element in progressing the profession and developing future leaders, and it will be interesting to track the careers of graduates of this programme.
- We particularly commend the innovative teaching style which combines theory and practice throughout all the modules
- We also commend the pragmatic approach adopted throughout and the way students are taught that compromise is sometimes essential
- The way in which the 'softer' personnel and personal skills are taught as an integral part of the modules, which we believe to be the correct approach
- We commend the importance placed on research both in its own right and as a contributor to the programme contents and development

Conditions

None

Humanities Advanced Technology & Information Institute (HATII)

Reviewed by

The Chartered Institute of Library and Information (CILIP) - July 2007

- MSc Information Management and Preservation (Digital)
- MSc Information Management and Preservation (Archives & Records Management)

Outcome: Accreditation for the purposes of admission to the Register of Chartered Members for a period of five years.

Items of Note Arising from the Report

Commendable Aspects

- The Visiting Panel was impressed by the conception, content, delivery and evaluation of the programmes and the marriage between theory and practice. They also felt that that both programmes exhibited hospitality towards, and awareness of, allied disciplinary fields.
- The Chartered Institute of Library and Information would be receptive to any request from HATII to consider for accreditation appropriate undergraduate programmes such as that in Heritage and Cultural Informatics.

Conditions

None

Session 2007-08

Aerospace Engineering

Reviewed by

Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) and Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) – April 2008

- BEng Aeronautical Engineering
Outcome: Awarded accreditation to cover the 2009-2013 intakes as meeting part of the Chartered Engineer (CEng) academic requirements
- MEng Aeronautical Engineering
Outcome: Awarded accreditation to cover the 2009-2013 intakes as fully meeting part of the CEng academic requirements

Items of Note Arising from the Reports

Points for commendation (RAeS)

The panel wished to highlight the following commendable points:

1. The high quality research undertaken within the Department
2. The enthusiasm for the subject of aeronautics demonstrated by the staff

3. The useful work and experience for students in the areas of space, rotorcraft and aeroelasticity
4. Attempts to address Mathematics competence
5. Efforts to improve student retention through the introduction of the mentoring scheme
6. Good, proactive engagement with European exchange programmes
7. Enhancement of lab facilities through acquisition of a high speed wind tunnel

Action Plan (RAeS)

The Department has submitted an Action Plan to the Royal Aeronautical Society which addresses the seven recommendations and three action points arising from the review.

Commendable findings (IMechE)

Commendable findings were interspersed throughout the text of the report.

Action Plan (IMechE)

The Department has submitted an Action Plan to the Institute of Mechanical Engineers which addresses the six recommendations and one action point arising from the review.

Business School

Reviewed by

Association of MBAs - June 2008

- MBA

Outcome: Granted accreditation status for a period of two years to 2010 in the first instance.

Items of Note Arising from the Report

Commendable Aspects

1. The School is commended on its positive response to the findings set out in the Report of 2003, the progress made since the last assessment, and a well produced self-audit document for the present assessment.
2. Reorganisation of the School as a federal arrangement of the Departments of Accounting and Finance, Economic and Social History and Management is serving to create a more coherent identity.
3. The School benefits from excellent facilities, including the library and improved teaching accommodation.
4. The Glasgow MBA benefits from the strong leadership of the MBA Director and this translates into effective pastoral care.
5. Members of the teaching faculty are well qualified. They are capable to helping the School achieve its goal to be internationally

6. The processes for curriculum review are thorough and include many stakeholders.
7. 'Critical Enquiry' is a key concept of the Glasgow MBA. Students appear to understand the nature of 'Critical Enquiry' and how it contributes to a meaningful learning experience.
8. Student dissertations are of a high standard and reflect a high level of competence in research methodology.

Recommendations

The Visiting Panel made nine recommendations, two of which ASC may wish to note:

- The School needs to address the issue of succession planning and leadership of the MBA.
- The School should ensure that all essential elements of the module 'Strategy and Organisational Performance' are thoroughly assessed so as to guarantee the required learning outcomes.

Conditions

1. The School should forward a report to the association in October 2010 on the development of the Glasgow MBA programme. It should report specifically and individually on those items outlined in the 'Recommendations' section of this Report. If the School's report is satisfactory then a further period of accreditation may be awarded. This additional accreditation period could extend for the maximum period of five years permitted under the current accreditation cycle. The period of five years would be counted from the date of the current assessment.
2. Accredited status is subject to the School submitting for assessment details of any additional new MBA programmes that it may introduce between the date of the current exercise and the next scheduled review. [i.e. June 2013]

Computing Science

Reviewed by

The British Computer Society (BCS) – February 2008

- BSc (Hons) Computing Science
- BSc (Hons) Software Engineering
- BSc/BEng (Hons) Electronic and Software Engineering

Outcome: Accredited as fully meeting the educational requirement for Chartered IT Professional (CITP) and partially meeting the educational requirement for Chartered Engineer (CEng) registration for a period of five intakes from the 2008 intake up to and including the 2012 intake. (Condition: Students must pass the individual project at Level 4)

- MSci (Hons) Computing Science (backdated to 2000)
- MSci (Hons) Software Engineering (backdated to 2002)
 - Outcome:** Accredited as fully meeting the educational requirement for CITP and CITP FL registration, and partially meeting the educational requirement for CEng status, in the full time mode, for a period of five intakes from the 2008 intake up to and including the 2012 intake and backdated as indicated. (Condition: Students must pass the individual project at Level 4)
- BSc/MA (Hons) Computing Science (Joint)
 - Outcome:** Accredited as partially meeting the educational requirement for CITP registration for a period of five intakes from the 2008 intake up to and including the 2012 intake. (Conditions: Students must pass the individual project at Level 4; Students must take the module PI4 – Professional Issues at level 4)
- MSc Computing Science
 - Outcome:** Accredited retrospectively for CITP FL, and as partially meeting the educational requirement for CEng registration in the full-time and part-time modes, for a period of two intakes from the first intake 2006 and the 2007 intake.
- MSc Advanced Computing Science
 - Outcome:** Accredited retrospectively for CITP FL, and as partially meeting the educational requirement for Partial CEng registration in the full-time and part-time modes, for a period of four intakes from the first intake 2004 up to and including the 2007 intake.

Items of Note Arising from the Report

Commendable Aspects

The accreditation team noted the following aspects of good practice and wished to commend the programme for:

1. the positive, nurturing learning environment that is provided to trainees;
2. the programme's reputation for excellence in relation to academic and research expertise.

Computing Science

Reviewed by

Institution of Education and Technology (IET) – February 2008

- BSc (Hons) Computing Science
- BSc (Hons) Software Engineering
- BSc/BEng (Hons) Electronic and Software Engineering
- MSci Computing Science
- MSci Software Engineering
- MSc Computing Science

Outcome: Awarded five years accreditation from the 2008 intake to the 2012 intake in partial fulfilment of the educational requirements for CEng. Accreditation for MSci Computing Science also backdated from the 2000 intake to the 2007 intake. Accreditation for MSci Software Engineering also backdated from the 2002 intake to the 2007 intake. Accreditation for MSc Computing Science also backdated from the 2006 intake to the 2007 intake.

- MSc Advanced Computing Science

Outcome: Accreditation to be backdated from the 2004 intake to the 2007 intake in partial fulfilment of the educational requirements for CEng.

- BSc Designated Degree in Computing Science

Outcome: Awarded three years accreditation from the 2006 intake to the 2008 intake in fulfilment of the educational requirements for IEng, subject to the year 3 revised project module, as seen by the Panel, being ratified by the University. Any student who does not take the revised module will be deemed not to have graduated with an accredited programme.

Items of Note Arising from the Report

Commendable Aspects

The Programme

- The Panel commended the Department's close relationship with the industry, and in particular, supporting the local needs. For example, the Department teaches Compiler Writing in order to support the local games industry. It was noted that the Department does not have a structured Industrial Advisory Board, as this was found to be ineffective in providing relevant input into the programmes. The result is a flexible less formal approach which suits both the Department and the industrialists.
- The Panel noted that the Department has an excellent international research reputation which clearly feeds into the programmes.
- The Panel considered the examination papers to be challenging, for all years and noted that the questions set were not primarily descriptive type questions.
- The Panel commended the MSci programme which provided the opportunity for students to develop the skills needed to progress to post-graduate research.

Admission, Progression and Award

- The Panel noted that in years 1 and 2 students must pass all Computer Science modules in order to continue studying on these programmes.

Project

- The Panel considered the standard of projects to be commendable. In particular, the BSc (Hons) in Software Engineering had projects which showed a clear understanding of software engineering in practice.

Staffing

- The Panel noted that the technical competency of staff was at a high level, as was illustrated by the commendable quality of research undertaken in the Department
- The Panel noted students' comments regarding the professional response from the Departmental technicians to any technical faults or issues reported.

Quality Assurance

- The Panel noted that the Department had developed effective quality assurance mechanisms without burdensome bureaucracy.

Recommendations

The recommendations of the Visiting Panel were approved by the IET Academic Accreditation Committee following receipt of an Action Plan from the Department

Psychological Medicine

Reviewed by

The British Psychological Society (Committee on Training in Clinical Psychology) – June 2008

- Doctorate in Clinical Psychology
Outcome: Awarded accreditation for the periods 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/13.

Items of Note Arising from the Report

Commendable Aspects

The accreditation team noted the following aspects of good practice and wished to commend the programme for:

1. the positive, nurturing learning environment that is provided to trainees;
2. the programme's reputation for excellence in relation to academic and research expertise, and the ways in which this is integrated with a strong focus on developing robust clinical skills;
3. the high degree of stakeholder ownership of and engagement with the programme;
4. the projective relationship with the programme team enjoyed by trainees;
5. the programme's reflective practice component, which has been carefully thought through;

6. the fitness for purpose of the programme's graduates, and the value that local service managers and clinical psychologists place upon their identity as robust scientist practitioners;
7. effective partnership working, and the benefits this provides for trainees, the University and local Health Boards.

Conditions

Confirmation of the Department's fulfilment of two conditions was received from the British Psychological Society on 26 January 2009.

Recommendations

The Programme Director is asked to produce a report addressing progress made with the areas requiring attention identified in paragraphs 5.3 to 5.9 [of the report] by 31 March 2009.

Action Requested

ASC is invited to note the outcome of the accreditation visits and the conclusions of the accreditation panels.