

## University of Glasgow

## Academic Standards Committee - Friday 28 May 2010

**Departmental Programmes of Teaching, Learning and Assessment:  
Update on Responses to the Recommendations Arising from the  
Review of Economic and Social History held on 10 March 2008**

Ms Fiona Dick, Senate Office

At the meeting on 29 May 2009, ASC received a report on the progress made with recommendations arising from the above Department's review which had taken place on 10 March 2008. It was noted that the Review Convener was satisfied that the recommendations had been given full and appropriate consideration. However he proposed that a progress report on Recommendation 4 which concerned opportunities for group work among Honours students should be provided to ASC.

ASC agreed that a progress report on Recommendation 4 should be provided in May 2010.

**Recommendation 4:**

The Review Panel recommends that the Department should seek to ensure that students who undertake an Honours dissertation and who do not, therefore, take the course Researching Economic and Social History 2 are afforded other opportunities to develop skills in working co-operatively and maintaining records of personal and group progress. [paragraph 4.4.3]

For the attention of: **the Head of Department**

**Original Response:**

The Department has been very successful in encouraging students to undertake dissertations in the last couple of years and this looks likely to continue. With this increase in numbers there are less students taking Researching Economic and Social History 2 and so the issue raised by the Review Panel has been subsumed into a wider consideration of ensuring that students are able to gain from the opportunity to develop the skills previously gained by students through completion of RESH 2. This review is still ongoing at the moment. In the meantime the Department has arranged sessions for dissertation students to come together to consider their common experiences in completing a dissertation and to reflect on the skills acquired in small groups and to improve their presentation skills.

**Updated Response:**

The Department has revised its Core Honours Teaching to ensure that all Honours students will enjoy an extended experience of group working. From 2010-11 Junior Honours students will take the 20 credit course, Researching Economic and Social History (RESH 1), which will be assessed by Group Project (0.7, including element of Peer and Self Assessment) and Group Presentation (0.3, weighted with greater emphasis on individual performance). Progression will then be in Senior Honours to the 40 credit Dissertation, or the 20 credit course, RESH 2, which will be assessed by individual essay. These changes have been approved by Faculty and take effect from 2010-11.