

**University of Glasgow****Academic Standards Committee - Friday 9 October 2009****Good Practice in Internal Subject Review****Wendy E Muir, Senate Office****1. Introduction**

A good practice report on internal subject review was commissioned by Universities Scotland Teaching Quality Forum, and managed by QAA Scotland, as part of a number of enhancement projects during the interim period between the first and second rounds of ELIR.

I was engaged as the project consultant and produced the good practice report, which was published in June 2009 and is available at:

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/reviews/ELIR/GoodPractice/InternalSubjectELIR.pdf>

This report was informed by:

- a review of existing research and published information on internal subject review
- a survey on institutional approaches to internal subject review
- a Universities Scotland Teaching Quality Forum workshop.

Senate Office staff responded to the survey and participated in the workshop.

As the report identifies the range of approaches to internal subject review operating within Scotland (ie, DPTLA or institutional equivalents), it is intended as a toolkit which institutions can use to:

- reflect on their own approaches to internal subject review, the effectiveness of these approaches and their degree of reliance on one approach or practice
- consider the range of approaches used by other institutions and their appropriateness and/or transferability to their own internal review process
- enhance their internal review process by adopting new approaches and/or adapting their existing practices and processes, if appropriate.

**Enhancements to the DPTLA process**

In reviewing the results of the survey and running the workshop, we have already made some enhancements to the DPTLA process in the light of practices elsewhere sector and suggestions made at the workshop associated with the project. These include:

- the introduction of a new section in the DPTLA guidance notes, strengthening and making more explicit student engagement and participation in developing teaching, learning and assessment practice and the student learning experience;
- the development of a student focused summary report, in addition to the full review report, to be considered at staff-student liaison committees and posted on departmental websites;

- the requirement for departments to detail in their one-year-on progress report on the steps they have taken to feedback to students on the outcomes of the review and the actions taken in to address review recommendations

The above changes were implemented for reviews conducted in Session 2008-9.

I also consider that the University's DPTLA process represents good practice in the sector.

### **Action Requested**

ASC is asked to note:

- i) the availability of the report; and
- ii) that the above enhancements that have been made to the DPTLA process in the light of approaches to internal subject review elsewhere in the Scottish sector and suggestions made at the workshop associated with the project.