

University of Glasgow
Academic Standards Committee – Friday 5 October 2012

**Report on Accreditation by Professional, Statutory and Regulatory
Bodies (PSRB) – Sessions 2010-11 and 2011-12**

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Introduction

This paper contains a summary report of accreditations undertaken by professional statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs) in Session 2010-11 and 2011-12. Information listed under the heading 'Items of Note arising from the Report' has been taken directly from the relevant accreditation report, where a formal report has been provided. Members of ASC may access the full text of the accreditation reports via the Senate Office.

Process Review 2011-12

The University currently highlights the accreditation of degree programmes on the website to prospective students and records the accreditation on a text-field in the Programme Specification.

Following the implementation of the Key Information Sets (KIS), comparable sets of information about full or part time undergraduate courses including information such as student satisfaction, graduate outcomes, learning and teaching activities, assessment methods, tuition fees and student finance, accommodation and professional accreditation, the information on professional accreditation will be much more prominent.

In reviewing the process for collecting the information currently it was noted that there were inconsistencies in reporting by Schools, that the information held on the Programme Specification was not validated and that there was often a delay in reporting new accreditations to the Senate Office.

A review was carried out by the Senate Office in partnership with School Quality Officers to improve the data quality held in the Senate Office PSRB database.

This review will now be carried out annually to ensure that the information reported to the Scottish Funding Council and Academic Standards Committee in Annual Reports is accurate and timely.

Reviews conducted 2010-11

The following disciplines were reviewed during this period:

- Adult and Continuing Education
- Mechanical Engineering

Reviews conducted 2011-12

The following disciplines were reviewed during this period:

- Accounting and Finance
- Business School

Clinical Psychology¹

Educational Studies

Electronics and Electrical Engineering²

Law

Mathematics and Statistics

Medicine

Nursing and Health Care

Urban Studies

¹ Review undertaken. Awaiting outcome.

² Review undertaken. Awaiting outcome.

Session 2010-11

Adult and Continuing Education

Counselling and Psychotherapy in Scotland (COSCA), 14 June 2011

- Certificate in Counselling Skills

Outcome: Re-accredited for a period of 5 years from the July 2011 intake

Mechanical Engineering

Engineering Accreditation Board on behalf of the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS), Institute of Mechanical Engineers (IMEchE) and Institution of Engineering Designers (IED), 9-10 February 2011

- BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering
- MEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering
- MEng (accelerated route) Engineering
- BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering (European Curriculum)
- MEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering (European Curriculum)
- MEng (accelerated route) Engineering (European Curriculum)

Outcome: Accredited by IMechE for the intakes 2011-2015.

- BEng (Hons) Mechanical Design Engineering
- MEng (Hons) Mechanical Design Engineering
- MEng (Hons) (accelerated route) Mechanical Design Engineering
- BEng (Hons) Product Design Engineering
- MEng (Hons) Product Design Engineering
- MEng (Hons) (accelerated route) Product Design Engineering

Outcome: Accredited by IMechE for the intakes 2011-2015, accredited by IED 2009-2013; backdated to 2006 for BEng (Hons) Mechanical Design Engineering and BEng (Hons) Product Design Engineering; backdated to 2005 for MEng (Hons) Mechanical Design Engineering, MEng (Hons) (accelerated route) Mechanical Design Engineering, MEng (Hons) Product Design Engineering, MEng (Hons) (accelerated route) Product Design Engineering.

- BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering with Aeronautics
- MEng Mechanical Engineering with Aeronautics
- MEng (accelerated route) Mechanical Engineering with Aeronautics

Outcome: Accredited by IMechE for the intakes 2011-2015; accredited by RAes for the intakes 2011-2015 and backdated for 2007-2010.

Session 2011-12

Accounting and Finance

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) 20 January 2012

- BAcc (Ordinary/Honours)
- BAcc with Languages
- BAcc with International Accounting
- BAcc and Economics
- BAcc with Finance

Outcome: Accredited by ACCA for the 2012 intake.

Accounting and Finance

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) 13 April 2012

- BAcc (Ordinary/Honours)
- BAcc with Languages
- BAcc with International Accounting
- BAcc and Economics
- BAcc with Finance
- BSc Accountancy and Mathematics
- BSc Accountancy and Applied Mathematics
- BSc Accountancy and Pure Mathematics
- BSc Accountancy and Statistics
- BSc Finance and Mathematics
- BSc Finance and Applied Mathematics
- BSc Finance and Pure Mathematics
- BSc Finance and Statistics

Outcome: Accredited by ICAEW for the 2012 intake. Student exemption from professional examinations dependent upon achievement of 50% in specified courses and award of first or upper-second class degree.

Accounting and Finance

Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland (ICAS) 13th April 2012

- BAcc (Ordinary/Honours)
- BAcc with Languages
- BAcc with International Accounting
- BAcc and Economics
- BAcc with Finance
- BSc Accountancy and Mathematics
- BSc Accountancy and Applied Mathematics

- BSc Accountancy and Pure Mathematics
- BSc Accountancy and Statistics
- BSc Finance and Mathematics
- BSc Finance and Applied Mathematics
- BSc Finance and Pure Mathematics
- BSc Finance and Statistics

Outcome: Accredited by ICAS for the intakes 2012-2015. Student exemption from professional examinations dependent upon achievement of minimum requirements in specified courses.

Items of note from the report:

Conclusions

- The overall learning outcomes for the Financial Accounting modules are appropriate and accreditation requirements for Financial Accounting have been met
- The overall learning outcomes for the Finance modules are appropriate and with the incorporation of the additional content in the Finance 2 modules [see below] the accreditation requirements for Finance have been met.
- The overall learning requirements for Business Law mode are appropriate.
- The accreditation requirements for Business Management have been met
- The overall learning outcomes for the modules are appropriate for Principles of Auditing and Reporting

Changes Required

- The overall learning outcomes of the finance-related modules are appropriate the following additional course material requires to be incorporated into Finance 2 modules from 2013
 - Preparation of project projections
 - Reconciliation of cash flow and profit projections
 [This change has been confirmed by Mr Greg Stoner]
- Include coverage of additional regulatory requirements for public interest entities in relation to financial reporting and audit

Recommendations

- Recommend that there is more depth in substantive testing with tests in fixed assets, cash and bank, payroll, revenue and debtors being covered.

Business School

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) 4th-6th December 2011

- BAcc Accounting
- MA Economics
- MA Economics and Business Economics
- MA Business and Management
- MAcc International Accounting and Financial Management

- MFin International Finance
- MSc International Finance Analysis
- MSc International Corporate Finance
- MSc Banking and Financial Services
- MSc Financial Economics
- MSc Financial Forecasting and Investment
- MSc Financial Risk Management
- MSc International Financial Economics
- MSc International Trade and Finance
- MSc International Banking and Finance
- MSc Quantitative Finance
- MSc Development Studies
- MSc Economic Development
- MSc Environment and Sustainable Development
- MSc Finance and Economic Development
- MSc International Development
- MSc Economic and Financial Sector Policies
- MSc Economics, Banking and Finance
- MSc International Finance and Economic Policy
- Master of Business Administration
- MSc International Business and Entrepreneurship
- MSc Management with International Finance
- MSc Management with International Real Estates
- MSc International Strategic Marketing
- MRes in Accountancy
- MRes in Management
- DPhil (Accounting and Finance)
- DPhil (Economics)
- DPhil (Management)

Outcome: Accredited by AACSB extended for one year. Proposed Sixth Year Review in December 2012 to address highlighted educational quality issues.³

Items of note from the report:

The initial accreditation in 2006 identified two issues that required a progress report as part of the sixth year maintenance:

³ Awaiting confirmation from AACSB on accreditation status of a further 7 MSc Programmes also reviewed in December 2011.

1. Development of a new mission and vision statement, strategic goals and priorities, and strategies and tactics to achieve them.
2. Implement processes on to capture data on diversity at the School level.

The accreditation panel were provided with 'ample evidence' in relation to issue 2 however expressed 'disappoint[ment] in the lack of progress [in relation to issue 1]'.

Commendations

- Student satisfaction appears to be very high, with excellent survey results in national undergraduate and international student surveys. The subject area of Accounting performs particularly well.
- There is strong evidence of a collegial environment in the School, as identified in 2006.
- Support for faculty research appears to be appropriate, and recent hires do not consider teaching loads to be excessive or burdensome. The School is good at integrating new hires into its collegial atmosphere.
- Tactical operational processes appear to be very well organized and managed. The quality of support staff is unquestioned. This has allowed the School to expand rapidly.
- The creation of a Business School, combining the three previously distinct subject areas, is a tremendous opportunity to establish an excellent School within a world-leading University. This requires a clearly articulated implemented strategy that is understood by all stakeholders.

Areas that must be addressed

- The School does not meet Standard 1: Mission Statement and Standard 2: Mission Appropriateness. Prior to the sixth year review the School must develop, in conjunction with all stakeholders, a mission statement and an associated strategic plan that fully articulates the direction of travel and the expected destination.
- The School failed to adequately demonstrate compliance with Standard 9: Staff Sufficiency Standard 10: Academic Staff Qualifications. Prior to the sixth year review the School must develop new definitions for Participating, Academically Qualified and Professionally Qualified.
- The School does not meet Standard 15: Management of Curricula. We would like to see an approach to assessment mapping or similar implemented as part of the existing approach to assessment mapping or similar implemented as part of the existing approaches to quality control.

Education

Standards Council for Community Learning and Development for Scotland (CLD) – August 2011

- BA Childhood Practice

Outcome: Accredited by Standards Council for Community Learning and Development for Scotland (CLD) for intakes 2012-2016

Law

Law Society of Scotland – 12th September 2012

- LLB (Ordinary, Honours and Joint Honours)
- LLB (Fast Track)

Outcome: Accredited by Law Society of Scotland for intakes 2011-2014 subject to the **condition** that 'Glasgow revises their mapping exercise [...] to ensure that the Outcomes which are to be delivered on the programme are accurately reflected in the overarching documentation.' It was confirmed in letter of 14 October 2011 that this **condition had been met.**

Items of note from the report:

Commendations

- The application shows a strong, dynamic law school which currently provides intellectually challenging and stimulating modules to students
- Programme and application includes some excellent examples of practice such as the use of exemplars in providing 'feedforward' feedback to students

Items to monitor going forward

- The report highlighted aspects of the programme provision that the Society should monitor going forward:
 - Mapping of the Law Society of Scotland outcomes
 - Reflective learning
 - Student Feedback
 - E-learning strategy
 - The Advisory Panel
 - Turnitin

Law

Law Society of Scotland – 28th April 2011

- Diploma in Professional Legal Practice

Outcome: Accredited by Law Society of Scotland for intakes 2011-2014.

Items of note from the report:

Commendations

- The Panel noted that [Glasgow Legal 40] appeared to them to be a good scheme which they agreed would be welcomed by the students

Items to monitor going forward

- The report highlighted aspects of the programme provision that the Society should monitor going forward:
 - Lectures – the Panel notes that there is still significant proportion of delivery of the programme through lectures and therefore recommends that Glasgow considers alternative methods of delivery.
 - Student feedback and programme appraisal – the Panel recommends that, given the nature of the course and in particular the diversity and large number of tutors, it was fundamental to seek, in particular, student feedback on individual tutors.
 - Variation in assessment – the Panel recommends that Glasgow is encouraged to share any future proposals for variation in assessment with the Society and that Glasgow actively consider where assessment can be varied throughout their provision.

- Grading scales – the Panel recommends that Glasgow consider their grading scale at the end of year one review with a view to deciding if there is a more appropriate scale for a professional course.
- Tutor training – the Panel agreed that there should be an ongoing requirement in relation to staff development and recommends that, if this is not already present, Glasgow should be invited to consider how ongoing tutor training can be delivered to their tutors.

Mathematics and Statistics

Royal Statistical Society - November 2011

- BSc (Hons) Statistics
- MA (Hons) Statistics
- BSc (Hons) Mathematics and Statistics
- BSc (Hons) Applied Mathematics and Statistics
- MSci Statistics
- MSci Mathematics and Statistics
- MSci Applied Mathematics and Statistics

Outcome: Accredited by Royal Statistical Society⁴

Medicine

Association for Nutrition – 1st December 2011

- MSc (MedSci) Human Nutrition (including specialism)

Outcome: Accredited by Association for Nutrition on an ongoing basis

Nursing

Nursing and Midwifery Council – 11th April 2012

- Bachelor of Nursing (Ordinary and Honours)

Outcome: Accredited by Nursing and Midwifery Council with two conditions and one recommendation.

Items of note from the report:

Conditions

- All University and student facing programme documentation must be revised by April the 3rd. This must include a full review of reading lists including references for learning outcomes and all typographical and factual inaccuracies.
- The Programme team review the practice grade descriptors and identify the specific criteria against which grads are to be awarded.

[Conditions met on 3 April 2012]

Recommendations

- The Acute Placement Advisory Group and the Community Placement Advisory Group will consider how the 40% time allocation from mentor to students is assured when the hub and spoke model is implemented.

⁴ Awaiting confirmation on duration of accreditation

Commendations

- Glasgow University students demonstrate such adaptability and ownership of their learning that the period of preceptorship necessary on qualification has diminished.

Urban Studies

Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors – 11th May 2012

- MSc City Planning and Real Estate Development
- MSc Real Estate
- MSc Real Estate and Regeneration

Outcome: Accredited by threshold review as a Partnership University by Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors for the 2012 intake.

Action Requested

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