

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Tuesday 15 April 2014

Report from the Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and
Christie's Education – 13 February 2014

Ryan Reed, Academic Collaborations Office

For Approval

1. Remit and Membership, 2010-11

The Board had received a paper outlining the current membership and remit. The remit had been annotated with some proposed changes. Points 6 and 7 were additions to the remit of the Joint Board. Some membership details also required correction in terms of job title or name.

The changes to the remit were in response to new QAA requirements and subsequent policy changes at the University. Following consideration of the proposal the Joint Board **resolved to recommend** the changes to its remit and the membership to the Academic Standards Committee (ASC).

The revised remit is attached Appendix 1 and the revised membership is attached at Appendix 2.

For Noting

2. Partnership Review/Revalidation

It would be necessary to organise a separate revalidation event for the MLitt, Graduate Diploma and MA (Hons) programmes; the current period of validation was to 2014. It would be necessary to recommend to ASC that the approved validation period of the MLitt, Graduate Diploma and MA (Hons) Programmes be extended by one year. Subject to ASC approval the revalidation would be undertaken in the academic session 2014-2015.

The Joint Board **resolved to recommend** to ASC that the current validation arrangements with Christie's Education be extended by a period of one year from the date of their expiry.

N.B. This was approved by ASC¹ on 14 February 2014

3. Replacement external examiner for Arts in China (Minute 5)

It was confirmed that Dr Stacey Pierson, Senior Lecturer in Chinese Ceramics, Department of Art and Archaeology, SOAS, had been appointed by the University as a replacement for Mrs Rose Kerr.

4. Staff/Student Forum

Comprehensive student questionnaires were being created and students were being involved in this process. These would provide an opportunity for student feedback on a wide range of issues at a programme and course level. They would also allow for feedback on learning opportunities for students and learning and teaching practices at Christie's Education. Further meetings of the forum had also been held and arrangements were being made to ensure that these continued to take place.

¹ ASC/2013/50

5. Report on MLitt, Graduate Diploma and MA (Hons) Programmes

The Board had received the Annual Report from Christie's Education. The Board's attention was drawn to the following items:

- i. It had been a very positive year for Christie's Education.
- ii. The recent QAA review for Specific Course Designation had been carried out very professionally and sensitively by the Quality Assurance Agency reviewers. All at Christie's Education had found the process to be a valuable one.
- iii. The new MSc in Art, Law and Business had made a very positive start with 66 applications received in response to very little, if any, marketing. Of the 66 applications a total of 11 students were registered on the programme, with 22 being re-interviewed for the MLitt programme. A total of 18 went on to study on the MLitt programme following the rigorous and thorough application and interview process.
- iv. In line with University guidance Christie's Education was no longer participating in clearing, but had used UCAS Extra.
- v. The report emphasised excellent student attainment, demonstrated by the figures in the report which showed strong grades and award designations in comparison to historical figures.
- vi. Destinations for Christie's students were strong, even though some roles detailed in the report appear to be temporary positions.
- vii. The new Annual Report format had allowed for extracts from Annual Monitoring Reports from Course Directors. A detailed example had been included from Arts in China with impressive levels of detail and analysis. Professor Michael acknowledged the efforts of the Course Directors in preparing these and thanked them for their commitment.
- viii. Christie's Education continued to report high levels of passes, merits and distinctions. It was noted that the External Examiners had been extremely complimentary of the quality of student work.
- ix. The Board was assured that the small number of recommendations made by the External Examiners were being addressed appropriately by Christie's Education.

6. Student Report

Ms Wahala reported to the Board and explained that students had, on the whole, been very impressed with their programme.

Mr Belanger gave a comprehensive oral report from the perspective of students on the MSc in Art, Law and Business. This report included information on student perspectives on the programme and structure, including detail of how Christie's Education had responded to any student concerns. In particular Mr Belanger reported on course design feedback, the professional development support available to students and visa concerns. In sharing the views of students, Mr Belanger made the Board aware that:

- Students would welcome the opportunity to participate in a joint session with the Course Director to provide feedback on course design for the benefit of future MSc students.
- Students were of the view that present and future MSc students would benefit from tailored alumni and professional development programmes, given the highly practical nature of the course. Students would welcome Christie's Education support in creating appropriate initiatives.

- Students believed that the current visa situation for non-EU students in a practical, market-oriented programme such as the MSc was not consistent with the aims of the programme. Nearly 50% of students on the MSc course were affected by this and would welcome any initiatives the University and CEDU could take to encourage re-opening of “highly skilled migrant/graduate” visa categories.

7. Visas and Immigration

7.1 QAA Review

The Convener congratulated Christie’s Education on an extremely positive review and explained the University would have been delighted to have received such overwhelmingly positive feedback.

It was confirmed that an action plan was now with the Quality Assurance agency and the support of The University in preparation of this was welcomed.

7.2 Tier 4 and CAS

Discussions on transition arrangements to allow Christie’s Education to issue CAS under its own Highly Trusted Tier 4 licence were ongoing, although some positive progress had been made. Christie’s Education would write to confirm the steps they would be taking to move this forward.

8. External Examiners’ Reports

The new design of the University of Glasgow reports, which allowed for more comment from External Examiners, was welcomed by Christie’s Education.

The Board noted the extremely positive nature of all of the reports.

9. Publications/Publicity Materials

It was explained that all new publicity materials should continue to come to the Academic Collaborations Office and the Board was referred to the paper outlining the requirements of QAA Quality Code Chapter B10. This should take place *before* publication. The purpose was not to approve every publication of already approved material, but to have an opportunity to approve any *new* material. This was particularly important where reference was made to the relationship between the University and Christie’s Education or to the award that students would receive.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 UNISTATS data

It was pointed out that the information on the UNISTATS website did not fully reflect the nature of the MA (Hons) programme in terms of place of study and tuition fees.

The Board agreed that this should be explored further.

Appendix 1

University of Glasgow

Title: Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and Christie's Education, London

Remit:

1. To oversee the following programmes:
 - History of Art & Art-World Practice (MA) (MLitt) (Graduate Diploma)
 - MSc Art, Law and Business Programme
 - Doctor of Philosophy
2. To make recommendations to the Senate of the University and the Executive Committee of Christie's Education, London in respect of the validation of the above programmes.
3. To conduct periodic reviews of the above programmes, and make recommendations to Senate on the basis of their outcomes.
4. To make such recommendations as are appropriate to the Executive Committee of Christie's Education, London.
5. To consider, for transmission to Senate for its approval, all nominations of external examiners to the University Court for programmes in the field of history of art and the decorative arts leading to awards of the University of Glasgow taught wholly or jointly at Christie's Education.
6. To monitor and ensure that the terms and conditions and expectations that were originally approved have been, and continue to be, met.
7. Ongoing risk management and maintenance of a risk register.
8. To consider annually:
 - (a) the recommendations of, and comments contained within, the reports of external examiners and the response of the Executive Committee of Christie's Education, London to the reports;
 - (b) a report on the numbers and qualifications of students admitted to the validated programmes, and on the progress of students within the programmes;
 - (c) the nomination of members of Christie's Education for recognition as teachers of the University.
9. To receive annual reports on, and keep under continuing review, the operation of the University's quality assurance procedures for all programmes overseen by the Joint Board.
10. To encourage collaboration between Christie's Education and the University in the field of the history of art and the decorative arts.

Appendix 2

Joint Board of the University of Glasgow and Christie's Education, London.

Membership - Session 2013-14

Composition

University of Glasgow

Clerk of Senate or nominee	Professor J Briggs
Head of College of Arts (or nominee)	Professor E Moignard
Head of School of Culture and Creative Arts & Richmond Chair of Fine Art	Professor N Pearce
Senior Lecturer (History of Art), School of Culture and Creative Arts	Dr Sally Rush
SRC Representative	Katherine Raison
School of Culture and Creative Arts Administrator	Dr A Boyd
Head of Academic Collaborations Office (or nominee)	Mrs J McCluskey

Christie's Education

Academic Director, All Programmes	Professor M A Michael
Programme Director, MLitt Option A and MA (Hons) Year 1	Dr R Plant
Course Director, MLitt Option B and MA (Hons Year 2)	Mr A Spira
Course Director, MLitt Option C	Ms L Perrotte
Course Director, MLitt Option D	Ms N Cura
Course Director, MLitt programme	Mr G Gasparini
Lecturer/Tutor in Art Law MSc	Ms P Malvas
Managing Director (<i>ex officio</i> member)	Ms Jane Hay
Learning Resources Manager (<i>ex officio</i> member)	Ms N Held
Business Manager (<i>ex officio</i> member)	Ms Natasha Gooden
Student Services Manager	Mrs Fiona Guernaoui
Student representative	Ms Mia Wahala
Student representative	Ms Cecilia Malmberg

In Attendance

Administrator, Academic Collaborations Office (Clerk)	Mr Ryan Reed
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