

**University of Glasgow****Academic Standards Committee – Thursday 21 May 2015****The Glasgow School of Art: Update on Programme Approval and Major Programme Amendment Recommendations from Session 2013/14 for the MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) and MLitt Fine Art Practice**

**Robbie Mulholland, Clerk, Joint Liaison Committee of the University of Glasgow and The Glasgow School of Art**

At Stage 2 of the 2013/14 Programme Approval process, Undergraduate and Postgraduate Committee confirmed that the recommendations made at the meeting of 30 April 2014 should be considered and a report with regard to progress against the recommendation made to the Committee, via Boards of Studies within twelve months.

***MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art)***

The following is an extract from the relevant programme approval report for the MLitt Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) programme:

Recommendation 1

The Programme Team should undertake an Equality Impact Assessment on the programme in session 2014/15.

In line with the above recommendation, in session 2014/15 the MLitt Curatorial Practice Programme Team undertook an Equality Impact Assessment. The Programme Leader attended a briefing session led by GSA's Head of Student Support and Development on March 4<sup>th</sup>. This session was attended by other Programme Leaders, all of whom were also undertaking the assessment and who, as a result of this session, are now sharing experiences and approaches and supporting each other through this process. Following discussions with other colleagues within the MLitt Curatorial Practice Programme Team, which includes colleagues from the University of Glasgow, the Programme Leader subsequently met with GSA's Head of Student Support and Development on April 8<sup>th</sup> to further refine our strategy for writing the document and identify key aspects of the running of the course that need to be addressed within the document. As a result of this, a robust plan and timeline for completing the EAI is in place and the Programme Team is confident that the EIA will be completed prior to the end of session 2014/15.

***MLitt Fine Art Practice***

The following is an extract from the relevant major programme amendment report for the MLitt Fine Art Practice programme:

Recommendation 1

The Programme Team should undertake an Equality Impact Assessment on the programme in session 2014/15.

At its meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014 the Programme Approval Panel of the UPC made the following Conditions and Recommendations in relation to modifications to the pathways of the MLitt in Fine Art Practice programme:

### **Conditions**

5.1 The programme documentation should be update as appropriate to reflect that the IELTS score for entry to the programme is 6.0 with 5.5 or above in each component.

5.2 An appropriate statement or policy should be provided to, and in consultation with, the Head of Student Support and Development, regarding an Equality Impact Assessment.

### **Recommendations**

6.1 In line with 5.2 above, the Programme Team should undertake an Equality Impact Assessment on the programme in session 2014/15.

The comments below relate to Recommendation 1 and the conditions therein:

In relation to the conditions set out above delivered by the Programme Approval Panel of UPC, condition 5.1 is complete. The programme documentation has been updated as appropriate to reflect that the IELTS score for entry to the programme is 6.0 with 5.5 or above in each component.

The Programme Leader has also undertaken initial meetings with the Head of Student Support and Development as advised in relation to conditions 5.2 and 6.1. At this stage the Equality Impact Assessment is incomplete, however it is important to indicate that the Programme Leader is working alongside other PG Programme Leaders (including the Senior Lecturer of the Master of Letters in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art)) to complete the advised assessment, this work will be done alongside support and advice from the Head of Student Support and Development.

As a result of the initial meeting between the Head of Student Support and Development and Master of Letters in Fine Art Programme Leader, and of a subsequent discussion between the Head of Student Support and Development and Academic Registry, it was agreed that on the basis that the PL had agreed to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment of the full programme it made sense for him to work on this with other PLs who are also currently undertaking similar work on their programmes. The plan is for the Programme Leader to meet the condition set in a slightly extended timescale and to work alongside (as indicated) the Senior Lecturer on the Master of Letters in Curatorial Practice (Contemporary Art) with the aim of completion at the same time.

There are certain advantages from extending slightly the timescale within which the Equality Impact Assessment exercise is conducted for this programme and other PG programmes across the School of Fine Art. The School of Fine Art is in the process of establishing a Postgraduate Programme Leaders Team, which incorporates the 4 PG PL's within the School, this is being undertaken due to the growth of PG programmes within the School of Fine Art over the last 12 months and the Equality Impact Assessment exercise is important across each programme. The PG Team will be looking at supporting one another to complete the tasks laid out and completing the EIA as a matter of absolute priority.