

University of Glasgow**Academic Standards Committee – Friday 2 October 2015****Report from Meeting of Academic Regulations Sub-Committee held on 9 September 2015****Professor Bob Hill, Convener of the Sub-Committee****1. Reassessment opportunities for visiting students**

ARSC had been asked to consider the position where students visiting the University of Glasgow included Honours courses on their curriculum and whether they should be offered a reassessment opportunity, given that in the majority of cases staff on Honours courses would not normally prepare reassessment papers. Examples had been noted where visiting students had taken a mix of Honours and level 2 courses, leading to inconsistency in the assessment opportunities available to them.

The committee's view was that visiting students should be made aware at the outset that on Honours courses there was no guarantee that a reassessment opportunity could be made available, and that this arose from the fact that their position was governed by the rules that applied to the University's own students. In the event that a further assessment opportunity was made available (e.g. where a Glasgow Honours student received MV at the first diet) any visiting students who had not achieved the relevant threshold grade should be permitted to take that assessment. However, it was likely that any such opportunity would not be made available until after the student had departed from Glasgow. In that case, it seemed reasonable to offer them the opportunity either to take the assessment in Glasgow or in their home country. An alternative would be that they could complete the assessment (if registered on an exams-only basis) when it was offered again in the following session. In cases where it was unacceptable to the home institution for the student's position to remain unresolved (e.g. because a progression decision was needed), staff at Glasgow should be prepared to submit to the host institution a report on the student's performance, i.e. regarding any completed portion of assessment and, if possible, comment on their attendance/participation. It was inevitable that when dealing with exchange students there would be some mismatch between the assessment schemes at the host and home institutions and the view of the committee was that the University of Glasgow should take reasonable steps to support visiting students in completing their assessment, but this did not mean that reassessment could always be offered.

ASC is asked to endorse this view.**2. Attendance requirements and award of credit**

At its meeting in May 2015 ASC had had further discussion on the issue of the relationship between attendance and the award of credit. Various perspectives had been shared on this. These included the need on professional programmes for a link between minimum attendance requirements and the award of credit. For non-professional programmes the question of how to promote attendance was a challenging one, and ASC had asked ARSC to reflect on this.

ARSC members recalled that the committee had discussed the issue at some length in October 2014 (minute ARSC/2013/25). In the College of Arts the decision had now been taken not to make the award of credit dependent on a minimum level of attendance unless that attendance could be expressed with reference to an ILO.

Education had encountered a problem where students on the Master of Education programme now took courses in parts of the University where attendance was not monitored, and this made it impossible for their own attendance requirement to be enforced.

Members discussed the use of attendance monitoring more generally. In the Sciences attendance monitoring was used primarily as a pastoral tool, with students who were not attending well being contacted. However, a specified level of attendance was required for labs where practical skills were woven into assessment. In Arts the importance of attendance was going to be highlighted in induction.

ARSC concluded that there was nothing further to contribute to this issue from a regulatory point of view. In some situations it was clearly justifiable to link the award of credit with attendance requirements. Otherwise, the committee's view was that this was a learning and teaching issue.

ASC is asked to note the above view.

3. Matters for future reporting to ASC

ARSC will report to the November meeting of ASC regarding:

- Implementation of the single schedule of assessment in 2016-17.
- A review of 'full-time' and 'part-time' student status.