

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Friday 15 April 2016

Proposal from Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) to deliver BA Rural Business Management at SRUC's Ayr Campus

Dr Kenneth Hutton, Academic Collaborations Office, Clerk to the Liaison Committee

Proposal

The Academic Standards Committee is asked to **note** future delivery of the **BA Rural Business Management** at SRUC's Ayr Campus and **reporting** of the Programme through the Annual Report to be submitted to the annual UoG/SRUC Joint Liaison Committee.

Rationale

The **BA Rural Business Management** programme is currently delivered at both the Aberdeen and Edinburgh campuses of SRUC. The programme was last reviewed and revalidated in 2012. There is now a proposal from the Agriculture and Business Department to deliver the programme also at the Ayr campus. In the first instance this is to deliver only Years 3 and 4 of the honours degree for students who would be direct entrants to SRUC entering Year 3 of the programme with an HND in Business Management or equivalent from other colleges. It is planned to introduce this new programme in Ayr at the start of the 2016-17 academic year.

As the programme is already delivered, and therefore approved by UoG, at other SRUC campuses, and since SRUC is an accredited (rather than associated) institution, SRUC should have responsibility for dealing with this internally and then reporting to ASC for information. UoG should expect to see reporting of the programme in the SRUC Annual Report which will be available to the ASC.

The SRUC Education Division Management Team agreed in December 2015 that the concept had merits both educationally and from a business perspective. Consequently, a detailed Planning Document was prepared by the programme team which was scrutinised by a subgroup of four members of SRUC Academic Board, and which recommended that approval should be given to deliver the programme in Ayr, having been satisfied that the academic standards and the quality of the student learning experience in Ayr would have parity with that at Aberdeen and Edinburgh.

This recommendation was then endorsed by the full Academic Board at its meeting on the 17th February 2016.

The following undergraduate degree programmes are already delivered at the Ayr campus:

- BSc Agriculture
- BSc Agricultural Bioscience
- BSc Countryside Management
- BSc Renewables and Environmental Technology
- BA Activity Tourism

- BA Sports Coaching and Development
- BSc Environmental Resource Management (validated by the University of Edinburgh)

The **BA Rural Business Management** would share a number of modules with other programmes. It is likely that 4-6 additional modules will have to be delivered in order to run Years 3 and 4 of the programme (SRUC taught degree programmes consist of 8 modules per year each of 15 SCQF credits).