

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards – Friday 24 May 2019

Report from Translation of Grades from Study Abroad Sub-Committee

Jane McAllister, Clerk to the Committee

Background

The Translation of Grades from Study Abroad Sub-Committee is a sub-committee of ASC, convened by Dr Margaret Martin. It was established in November 2015 as a forum to monitor and develop the mechanisms used by Schools and Colleges for translating grades from study abroad by out-going students and to develop and maintain University-wide policy, guidance and good practice in this area.

Progress to Date

In previous sessions, the Committee oversaw the publication of a set of University tables giving grade conversions for existing partners either by country or by institution. The tables are accompanied by a range of guidance documents for staff and students explaining the full process of converting grades from study abroad to Glasgow grades.

The agreed process, in summary, is for the converted grades indicated by the tables to be considered by Conversion Committees alongside any representations that are made by the returning students. The agreed converted grades are finalised when they have been ratified by the Board of Examiners. Staff then have the opportunity to submit requests to the TGSASC to adjust the tables where there is evidence to indicate the conversions are too lenient or too harsh.

Current Session

The TGSASC has met three times over the last session to consider change requests. At the most recent meeting on 14 March, the final changes prior to publication of the tables to be used in 2019-20 were agreed. The tables were published in April 2019.

The Committee is now turning its attention to the process itself. There are a number of elements that require resource to operate effectively, mainly around the issue of gathering data on returning grades and the conversions that have been agreed. There are differences in the level of resource available to support study abroad in the Colleges that affects the way the process operates. The Committee will meet later in May to continue this discussion.

Composition

Convener	Dr Margaret Martin
College Student Mobility Coordinators (or nominees):	
College of Arts	Dr Claudia Glatz
College of Science & Engineering	Dr Cristina Persano
College of Social Sciences	Prof John Finlay
College of Medicine, Veterinary & Life Sciences	Dr Maureen Griffiths

Representative of Study Abroad and Exchange Team	Ms Céline Reynaud
SRC Student Representative	Ms Emma Hardy
Student Mobility Administrator (College of Social Sciences)	Ms Juliet Westwood
Clerk (member of Senate Office)	Ms Jane McAllister