

## University of Glasgow

## Academic Standards Committee - Friday 25 May 2019

**Further Update on Progress Made Against Recommendation 1  
(Transition) Arising from the Academic Review of Glasgow  
International College (GIC) held on 26 March 2015**

**Douglas Aiton, College Director, Glasgow International College**

***Extract from Recommendation 1 (Transition)***

The Panel **recommends** that GIC and UoG address issues, especially around independent learning, for Foundation students making the transition from the College to the University. Although we are aware that the Transitions Project is running (for students going on to Social Sciences), and that GIC has initiated a mentoring process, we feel that more could be done to address transition issues. Specifically, this recommendation contains the following elements:

3. GIC should embed the mentoring process, perhaps even making it a compulsory activity, in order to ensure that students who currently do not take advantage of it do so in the future. Mentoring is especially relevant for students who are least likely to take it up voluntarily since they are likely to be most in need of help and most likely to benefit from it.

*[Paragraphs 3.1.3/4/7/8/10]*

For the attention of: **GIC Senior Management, CBoS**

For information: **JAMB**

*Response from the Director of Glasgow International College – January 2019*

*The following is a further update on action taken to address the various issues highlighted in Recommendation 1 (Transition) from the Academic Review of Glasgow International College (GIC) held on 26 March 2015.*

The appointment of the International Student Support Officer in the college of Social Sciences has facilitated a structured approach to mentoring sessions that is compulsory and timetabled for all students. Mentoring is embedded for UG Social Sciences students through the sessions run as part of the Transitions Programme, as detailed above. Where other Colleges have not been able to replicate this post exactly, there is support offered for our student mentors who reach out directly to the cohort and provide similar functions. Additionally, all students have access to our Mentoring Scheme and are encouraged to take part. This provision keeps some former students in touch with the college and provides transition information route for mentees.

**Update – May 2019**

*The idea of compulsory mentoring for all Colleges was discussed at Joint Academic Management Board on 3/5/19. Although GIC could support for its current students, it was considered that there was a substantial resource allocation for the Colleges and University that would need to be approved for compulsory mentoring to be instituted. As there are over 1000 enrolled students at GIC (c. 350 progressing to Undergraduate courses), the system would need to be created and maintained where that resource does not currently exist (CoSS employ a dedicated transition support officer).*