

## University of Glasgow

## Academic Standards Committee – Friday 4 October 2019

Audit Report on Programme Approval Activity undertaken by  
Colleges

Mrs R Cole, Senate Office

Under the current process, Colleges have responsibility for considering and approving all programme proposals (new, amend and withdraw). However, Academic Standards Committee is required to audit this approval activity to ensure that the standard of proposal documentation remains high and that Colleges are adhering to the published procedure.

In line with this recommendation, the Senate Office has spot-checked a sample of proposals, for which the full documentation for the proposals have been examined. Issues identified through spot-checking will be reported back to the Colleges.

Proposals approved by Colleges during 2018-19:

<i>Proposal Type</i>	<i>Number of proposals</i>	<i>Number of proposals audited</i>
<b><i>New programme</i></b>	24 (Arts) 20 (MVLS) 16 (Science & Engineering) 17 (Social Sciences) Total: 77	2 (Arts) 2 (MVLS) 2 (Science & Engineering) 2 (Social Sciences) Total: 8
<b><i>Amend programme</i></b>	4 (Arts) 25 (MVLS) 21 (Science & Engineering) 32 (Social Sciences) Total: 46	1 (Arts) 2 (MVLS) 2 (Science & Engineering) 2 (Social Sciences) Total: 7
<b><i>Withdraw programme</i></b>	63 (Arts)* 3 (MVLS) 0 (Science & Engineering) 10 (Social Sciences)	1 (Arts) 0 (MVLS) 0 (Science & Engineering) 2 (Social Sciences)

\*. Includes a large number of MLitt programmes being withdrawn to be renamed MSc.

The following **new programme** proposals were audited:

**MSc Music Industries (School of Culture & Creative Arts/College of Arts)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and it was clear that all appropriate consultations had been completed and considered. Although described as a new programme, it was an amended programme with a new name. The programme had been approved in advance of the deadline date of 31 July 2019. However, no College Board of Studies minute had been uploaded to confirm that approval.

**MLitt English Literature: American Modern Literature (School of Critical Studies/College of Arts)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and it was clear that all appropriate consultations had been completed but no College Board of Studies minutes were available in PIP. The programme was approved in advance of the deadline date.

**MSci Human Biology and Nutrition (School of Life Sciences/College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and it was clear that all appropriate consultations had been completed. There was no College Board of Studies minute but College feedback on the proposal was uploaded with an undated note to indicate that the proposal would be approved. The programme had been approved in PIP in advance of the deadline date.

**MSc Developing & Evaluating Interventions (Research Institute of Health & Wellbeing /College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and it was clear that extensive consultation had been undertaken and feedback considered. The College PGT Scrutiny Group minute was available and the programme had been approved in PIP in advance of the deadline date.

**BSc Materials Chemistry (School of Chemistry/College of Science & Engineering)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and appropriate consultations had been completed. A minute was provided for both School and College meetings at which the proposal was considered. While College had approved the proposal in February 2019 subject to minor amendments, final approval had not been confirmed in PIP until just after the deadline, on 1 August.

**MSc Nuclear & Environmental Physics (School of Physics & Astronomy/College of Science & Engineering)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and all appropriate consultations had been completed and considered. There was evidence that the proposal had received College approval by correspondence over the summer with final approval not being confirmed in PIP until 19 August 2019, i.e. after the deadline date.

**MSc Financial Technology (Adam Smith Business School/College of Social Sciences)**

The programme specification was of the required standard and comprehensive consultation had been undertaken, with evidence of issues raised through consultations having been responded to. The College Board of Studies minute was available and approval was confirmed in PIP in advance of the deadline date.

**MA (Soc Sci) International Relations & Quantitative Methods (School of Social & Political Sciences/College of Social Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and all appropriate consultations had been completed and considered. The College Board of Studies minute was available and the programme was approved in PIP well in advance of the deadline.

The following **amend programme** proposals were audited:

**MA (Hons) Comparative Literature (joint) (School of Modern Languages & Cultures/College of Arts)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and appropriate consultations had been completed. The changes had been approved in advance of the deadline date, though no College Board of Studies minute was provided.

**MSc Computing Science (School of Computing Science/College of Science & Engineering)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and appropriate consultations had been completed. The changes had been approved in advance of the deadline date, though no College Board of Studies minute was provided.

**MSc One Health (School of Veterinary Medicine/College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and appropriate consultations had been completed and considered. The changes had been approved in advance of the deadline date and a record of College Scrutiny was provided.

**MSc in Sport and Exercise Science & Medicine (Institute of Cardiovascular & Medical Sciences/College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and appropriate consultations had been completed and considered. The changes had been approved in advance of the deadline date and a record of College Scrutiny was provided.

**MSc Environmental Statistics (School of Mathematics & Statistics/College of Science & Engineering)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and consultations had been completed. The changes had been approved in advance of the deadline date, though the College Board of Studies minute was not provided.

**International Master Children's Literature, Media & Culture (School of Education/College of Social Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard. Uploaded consultations related to original approval of the programme rather than to the specific changes being introduced. A Board of Studies minute was available and approval had been confirmed in PIP in advance of the deadline.

**MA (Hons) Primary Education with Teaching Qualification (School of Interdisciplinary Studies/College of Social Sciences)**

The Programme Specification was of the required standard and consultations had been completed. A Board of Studies minute was available and the changes had been approved in advance of the deadline.

The following **withdraw programme** proposals were audited:

**MSc Museum Studies (Artefacts & Material Culture) (School of Humanities/College of Arts)**

The only information available was a withdrawal proposal report stating that the programme had not run for two years. Approval was confirmed in PIP in December 2018.

**MSc Banking & Financial Services (Adam Smith Business School/College of Social Sciences)**

Following a review by an external consultancy (the findings of which had been endorsed by the College Marketing and Conversion Manager), the programme had been withdrawn due to similarity to another programme. The College Board of Studies minute was available where it was noted that the consultancy report could be taken in place of standard consultations. The Board of Studies took place in February but the withdrawal was not approved in PIP until May 2019. (The deadline for withdrawal of programmes is 31 January.)

**MA in Religious & Philosophical Education with Secondary Teaching Qualification (School of Education/College of Social Sciences)**

The programme had been withdrawn due to poor recruitment. A full withdrawal plan was appended and the Board of Studies minute showed that the plan for teaching out current students was considered to be appropriate. A number of stakeholder consultations had been carried out and evidence uploaded. The withdrawal had been approved in February 2019.

