School of Simulation and Visualisation

Update on Programme Approval Recommendations (20 Credit Programme Reform)

MSc Visualisation Recommendations:

Recommendation 3 was the only outstanding recommendation; This has now been acted on and completed in time for the first delivery of the 20 credit programme. For completeness, the full set of recommendations and actions is listed below.

Recommendation 1

5.1 The Approval Panel recommended that the programme team review the language used for the ILOs:

• In terms of volume; there too many ILOs across the whole programme.
• The language of the ILOs need to reflect a suitability for SCQF level 11qualifications

Response
Amendments to Programme ILOs drafted for approval at BoS and PACAAG. Language of ILOs has been amended to reflect suitability for SCQF Level 11, and number of ILOs reduced in programme specification.

Recommendation 2

5.2 The Approval Panel recommended that the Programme Leader should review the 'Audio for Games' aspect of the course as referenced by both the student and lead representative.

Response
In response to the recommendation, The Audio for Games elective was reintroduced and approved for delivery under the new 20 credit model. This has been approved for running from 2019-20.

Recommendation 3

5.3 It was requested that a review of the assessment timetable be undertaken to measure the effects of the sequence and timing on student learning experience.

Response
Student feedback incorporated into new assessment timetable, with cross-course planning over the programme to distribute the sequence and timing of assessments. This work has been completed for Semester 1 2019-20

Recommendation 4

5.4 There was a need to review how the aggregate 'pass' mark was calculated and how this was stipulated.

Response

Aggregate pass marks for courses and for the programme are calculated as per the Code of Assessment (7.2 – 7.4). The Handbook includes relevant excerpts from the Code of Assessment and refers students to the current version on the GSA website.

Under the new structure there will be a need to ensure that the weightings of coursework in new courses (which integrate multiple elements from different courses of the current programme) are clearly communicated to students. The weightings are given in the course specifications, and will be given in the handbook and will also be reiterated in coursework briefings, and online via canvas.

The current code of assessment stipulates:

> 7.2 Aggregation to establish a result for a course will require the computation of the mean, rounded to an integer value, of the relevant grade points of the component assessments. Where appropriate the computation will employ weights as specified in the course documentation. In carrying out the aggregation all assessment components which are summative must be included.

> 7.3 The result for the course will be reported as the primary grade and secondary band in Schedule A. The grade points will be carried forward to subsequent aggregation required to determine the programme award. Aggregation of Courses across in Honours Year or for Postgraduate Taught Programmes

> 7.4 (a) A candidate's grade point average over a set of courses is the weighted sum of the grade points achieved by the candidate in these courses. The grade point average will be calculated by taking the product of each course's weight and the candidate's grade points, and dividing the sum of these products by the sum of the courses' weights. The weights will correspond to the courses' credit ratings unless specified otherwise in the relevant programme documentation. The grade point average will be expressed to one decimal place.

Recommendation 5

5.5 The Approval Panel asked that the Programme Leader review the programme content in terms of its specific relation and relevance to each pathway as well as the weighting of this.

Response

The programme team including the Programme Leader, Pathway Leaders (Heritage & Medical Visualisation) and the partner Programme Leader for Human Anatomy at Glasgow University meet regularly for programme and course development issues. Detailed content preparation for the new programme structure is still ongoing, with workshops being scheduled for semesters 2 and 3 of the current academic year. The programme as proposed was agreed by programme and pathway leaders, and no significant changes to weightings of programme elements are expected for the forthcoming academic years.

This will be further reviewed in AY 2019-20 as part of the SimVis Periodic Review.

Recommendation 6

5.6 There was a further request to clarify the assessment arrangements in terms of weighting and how pinch points of assessments for students may occur across the academic session.

Response
This is addressing fundamentally the same issue as Recommendations 3 and 4, and the response there also applies here.