

This appendix contains Course Director's/Year Leader's responses to 2016/17 External Examiners' comments and updates to actions from 2015/16 External Examiners' report (if applicable).

As Year Leader please ensure you reflect on External Examiners' comments in the Course Review section. Please ensure that any actions to be taken in response to these comments have been recorded in your Annual Quality Improvement Report.

For support or advice please contact Ana Filipovic, Academic Quality Officer 'Standards', afilipovic@rvc.ac.uk, 01707666938

Appendix 3 consists of:

a.	Updates to actions from previous years' reports - <i>There were no action points from 2015/16 to be updated for Gateway!</i>
b.	2016/17 Collaborative Annual Report with responses from Course Director/Year Leader

Collaborative Report

Veterinary Gateway Programme, 2016/17

Lead examiner: Dr Lynda Moore

Collaborating examiner(s): Professor William Holt

The Programme

Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:

1.1 Course content

The Gateway course has changed this year to bring it in line with the modular BSc programmes. The modules are exciting and appropriate, giving a good grounding in science alongside Animal Husbandry which is essential for entry to the BVetMed programme. The new structure ensures that the Gateway students are part of a much larger cohort studying the same material, thereby facilitating interaction and peer support. It also provides an exit strategy for those students who either fail to progress to BVetMed or who choose to change from a veterinary to a science pathway.

1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

Response from college requested: **NO**

Student performance

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you

The students are certainly comparable with those at Bristol, Liverpool and Glasgow.

Response from college requested: **NO**

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Lisa Thurston

Course Director Response:

We are reassured that our students are performing at a level comparable with partner institutions.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

bottom of the range

The range of marks within each module showed the expected distribution with most Gateway students showing a sound level of knowledge in the different topics. It was particularly pleasing to note that the Gateway students could not be differentiated from others on the BSc programmes based on their achievements; given the mixed academic background of the Gateway students, they are clearly highly motivated to succeed. The percentage of Gateway students receiving a distinction was approximately the same in 2017 and 2016. However, it is

Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The range of assessments is very good and can be easily mapped to the taught material and learning objectives. This provides all students with the chance to demonstrate their knowledge in a manner that suits them best.

Response from college requested: **NO**

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Lisa Thurston

Course Director Response:

We have designed the examinations so they are comprised of a mix of multiple choice, problem solving and essay questions. In doing this, we hope that the students have been motivated to develop a diverse approach to their learning, being able to apply their knowledge in the form of data interpretation, clinical assessment and essay writing.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

The procedures on the whole are rigorous. Only two minor issues arose:

(i) Where there was a choice, most questions attracted a reasonable number of candidates and a spread of

3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

3.6 Opinion on changes to the assessment procedures from previous years in which you have examined

The modular approach has made a change to the Gateway Year; the overall pass mark of 50% now allows for up to 2 Qualified Fails (40-49%) in individual modules. This is a positive change because it allows for a greater degree of flexibility for the students. The fact that a student automatically fails the Year if they achieve <40% in any one module is also encouraging since it prevents a student from progressing if they are seriously weak in any one area. Overall I believe the changes to be positive for both the students and the standing of the Programme as a whole because it will uphold the standard of those progressing.

Response from college requested: NO

COURSE DIRECTOR: Dr Lisa Thurston

Course Director Response:

Many thanks for your supportive comments. We also agree that these changes are very positive for students progressing onto the 5 year veterinary medicine course.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

Response from college requested: NO

4.7 The standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.8 The standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.9 I have received enough support to carry out my role

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

4.11 Appropriate procedures and prd[4.11 0 0 1 43.2 322.37 Tm0 gBT/F8 9.96 TBT/F6 0.96 Tf1 0 0 1 549.48 34

Completion

If you have identified any area

