

ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2019/20

Appendix 3: External Examiners' report

Pg Dip in Veterinary Clinical Practice

This appendix contains Year Leader's responses to 2019/20 External Examiners' comments and updates to actions from previous External Examiners' reports (if applicable).

As Course Director 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>n/a as there were no actions from previous years</i>)
b.	2019/20 Collaborative Annual Report with responses from Course Director

Individual Report

Exam board meeting: 24-Aug-2020

Pg Dip in Veterinary Clinical Practice , 2019/20

Dr Liz Mossop

The Programme

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

1.1 Course content

This has not altered and is appropriate for the course and level of study

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

1.2 Learning objectives, and the extent to which they were met

As above

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

1.3 Teaching methods

A wide range of in-clinic teaching occurs, this varies between species areas but appears to provide students with the experience they need

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Teaching occurs in different sites and in different hospitals with a range of species which creates different methods though good that it provides the students with what they need.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

1.4 Resources (in so far as they affected the assessment)

Not noted this year

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

none

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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

Adequate

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Some performance might be related to years qualified which can definitely vary between those involved in different species, though it might necessarily be the case.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

2.2 Quality of candidates' knowledge and skills, with particular reference to those at the top, middle or bottom of the range

adequate, good in many places

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Will continue to provide opportunities for candidates to excel.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

2.3 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the students' performance

n/a

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

Appropriate to this level and have evolved to a good level of validity and reliability. They are also very feasible, which is crucial.

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

The goal for the course was to make the assessment methods valid and contextual. Feasible in the clinical environment was paramount.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

good range of marks awarded suggests good rigour and fairness

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Continuing to work with assessors to use the full range of grades where appropriate in assessments.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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

Adequate

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.4 Standard of marking

Always some variation between areas but this is much improved

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

It is good to see that some improvement has been made here, as there has been a drive to improve the standard of marking and this will continue.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)

Good double marking and moderation process in place

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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

Better feedback generally. Less need for moderation as approach beds in

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Good that feedback has been improved, hopefully this will continue as the course continues.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

none

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.1 Comments I have made in previous years have been addressed to my satisfaction

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.2 An acceptable response has been made

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate sample of students' work and marks to enable me to carry out my duties

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Thank you to the team in the examinations office.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.5 I attended the meeting of the Board of Examiners held to approve the results of the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Thank you for attending the meeting and your contributions to the course development.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.9 I have received enough support to carry out my role

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Thank you to the exams office and everyone else to help support the external examiner.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

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:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Thank you to the exams office and everyone else to help support the external examiner.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

4.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

No response required.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

Completion

If you have identified any areas of good practice, please comment more fully here. We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:

5.1 Do you have any suggestions for improvements based on experience at other institutes? We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:

Overall the assessment and teaching approaches are fair and improving. The written feedback is much more detailed and specific for most examiners. Use of the marking grid is also helpful

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

Thank you for your comments, we will continue to give feedback to the assessors and help to those new in their roles. Thank you for your time and help with the PG Dip VCP.

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

5.2 External Examiner comments: For College information only (Responses to External Examiners are published on the College's website. Please only use this box to add any comments that you wish to remain confidential, if any)

n/a

COURSE DIRECTOR: Mr Dominic Barfield

Course Director Response:

N/A

Action Required:

Action Deadline:

Action assigned to:

