

## ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2022/23

### Appendix 3: External Examiners' report

#### BVetMed Year 4

This appendix contains Year Leader's responses to 2022/23 External Examiners' comments and updates to actions from previous External Examiners' reports.

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](mailto:afilipovic@rvc.ac.uk), 01707666938.

Appendix 3 consists of:

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| a. | Updates to actions from previous years' reports  |
| b. | Collaborative report:<br>Lead examiner: Mr Lorenzo Viora<br>Collaborating examiner(s): Dr Veronica Roberts, Dr Gudrun Schoeffmann, Dr Barbara Skelly |

# Collaborative Report

Exam board meeting: 13-Dec-2022

**Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, Year 4, 2022/23**

**Lead examiner: Mr Lorenzo Viora**

**Collaborating examiner(s): Dr Veronica Roberts, Dr Gudrun Schoeffmann, Dr Barbara Skelly**

## The Programme

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

### 1.1 Course content

The 4th year course is of the appropriate depth and breadth.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you/

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

Learning objectives were considered appropriate and they were well met by the assessment.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you.

### 1.3 Teaching methods

The teaching methods were well up to standards and reflected by the students' performance.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you.

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

The resources on LEARN are excellent for this course.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you.

### 1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme

It seems likely that it is the face to face interaction and the in person input of staff that has improved the performance of the cohort in general and this is reflected with fewer failures and higher overall marks. Please refer to the ppt presentation.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

We also think that direct engagement with the course may have led to improvement in performance on the examination. We will monitor if this pattern is sustained as we continue to deliver in-person teaching.

## 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

Students performed very strongly this year and were of similar standard to those on comparable courses at the Universities of Edinburgh, Bristol, Cambridge and Glasgow.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you for that insight and this is very reassuring to note.

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

Overall the students performed well, with fewer students who failed but also fewer students achieved distinction. The overall mark was in line with the one from previous years, with continued improvement in the professional studies question.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you for insight and observations on the performance of our students

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

An overall summary of the student performance in the last 5 years is provided in the ppt presentation. Please refer to it.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you for the insightful analysis of student performance over the past 5 years .

## Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The assessment methods have been further improved this year. The main change introduced was the removal of EMQs and the introduction of Clinical Reasoning MCQs in addition to the Basic Facts MCQs, which better reflects the application of knowledge in clinical practice.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you for your comments.

### 3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

We are again impressed by the rigorous, transparent and professional approach of the College. As external examiners we were given timely access to all the material in a comprehensive fashion.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you.

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

The level of assessment was consistent with the Framework.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you

### 3.4 Standard of marking

The marking was very consistent and the feedback provided by each reviewer allowed us examiners to understand where marks were awarded.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you – those comments are very much appreciated

### 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)

Yes, in our view the procedures for assessment are sound and fairly conducted.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you.

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

As previously mentioned in Section 3.1, the removal of EMQs and the introduction of Clinical Reasoning MCQs in addition to the Basic Facts MCQs, which better reflects the application of knowledge in clinical practice.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

We appreciate the comments in our recent change to this examination.

### 3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

Please see ppt presentation for further comments.

#### YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:

Thank you again for those insightful analysis.

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

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.2 An acceptable response has been made**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.3 I approved the papers for the Examination**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**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:**

**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:**

**4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was 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:**

**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:**

**4.9 I have received enough training and support to carry out my role**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was 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:**

**4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

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

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

## 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:**

We thank the RVC examiner team for the great work during the preparation and correction of the exam. We would like to suggest the creation of a feedback form to be used by each marker to make the comments consistent, of the same high quality and potentially reducing of the workload of the most conscientious examiner.

### **YEAR LEADER'S RESPONSE:**

Thank you for the comments and suggestion and we will consider how we could implement such a system in our online examination platform as it evolves.

