

20/09/2012

The Vice-Chancellor  
c/o Mrs Sally Powell, Academic Policy Support  
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EXTERNAL EXAMINERS REPORT: MSc Integrated immunology 2011\_2012

My experiences of the MSc Integrated Immunology course during the first year of my external examiner duties have been positive, particularly in regard to the academic standards set and achieved. I will comment on each of the examination phases over the 3 terms.

Michaelmas Term

I attended the MT examiners meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December to review the essay and computer based examinations. I reviewed all of the essays and supported the marking process outcomes and reconciliations. As this was the first writing task for many of the International students it was pleasing to note the support offered to those who required additional input from further academic writing tutorials. The viva process was rigorous, confirming the understanding of the student's written work and their ability to appraise its merits. A late submission was received and an appropriate penalty applied for fairness across the class.

Hilary Term

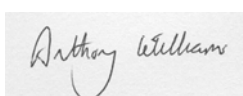
I attended the HT examiners meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March to review the Clinical Case Commentaries and undertake the viva examinations. Again the standards were generally high and where a failure had occurred this was clearly discernable from the marking practice. Those with a distinction submission were noted and 2 were approved. Once again a late submission led to discussions on the penalty. The performance of the candidate in the viva persuaded the examiners to only offer a financial penalty and not an additional academic penalty, allowing the candidate to progress to Trinity term. The marks for the computer examination were reflective of a discriminating level of difficulty.

Trinity Term

I attended the TT examiners meeting in the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September to review the submitted dissertation. I had reviewed all the submissions and was pleased with the quality of the written report and extent of activity from some of the candidates. A recommendation was made for future candidates to describe which aspects of the broader projects were undertaken by the students during their secondments. The improvement in viva performance was evident in the third term and recommendations for one distinction and one failure agreed upon

Overall my experience of this course have been very positive and the engagement with the other examiners very productive in maintaining the high academic standards set and rewarding those who excel. I look forward to examining on the course again in 2012-13.

Yours sincerely,



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Please reply to:

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