

Interim Vice Principal Health's report to Senate

Faculty Leadership

While the appointment of the new Vice Principal Health is being confirmed, Mike Curtis continues to act as the VP.

Mauro Perretti took over from Tom MacDonald in September, placed in a new role combining the Deans for Research and Research Impact. To assist him, Mauro is setting up a Research Deanery pulling in expertise from across the School and with a view to think about how we can increase cross faculty working.

Malta

The International Medical School in Malta gained approval at Finance and Investment Committee and was put forward to the General Medical Council.

The GMC have responded to our request for validation with a number of questions. Among these they have asked, as QMUL colleagues have, whether there are enough clinical opportunities on the islands. We believe there are but will continue to work with the Maltese government to ensure the quality of experience is consistent with that of our London based students.

We are looking to start the course for a 2017 entry which will help us meet these commitments. There should not be financial implications for this approach.

NSS, PRES and PTES

In the National Student Survey Dentistry moved from 93% student satisfaction to 97%. This is within the context of disruption due to the move to the Guttmann centre and evening lessons for some students. Our Medical students rated us highest in London at 96% (up from 94%).

Our PRES results were above the Russell Group average, though the areas where we scored less well relate primarily to issues of central infrastructure such as access to journals and inadequate provision within IT. For PTES the result was mixed, one particular area brought out scores down and we are addressing this directly. More broadly we note the need to improve our feedback mechanisms.

Partner Health Trusts

In parallel to changes in faculty leadership this has been a period of some change for our key partner Trust Bart Health. We will be meeting with Alwen Williams, interim Chief Executive, to discuss how we can improve working across the organisations.

Early Career Researchers

Our Early Career Researchers have had a very positive influence on the School's research activity and were specifically mentioned in our REF feedback.

Partly in preparation for the PAR, we are assessing the performance of our ECRs and considering best how to support them. Tom Macdonald will oversee this task along with Professor Denise Sheer.

This is part of a wider plan to assist all our staff through an "academy" model that considers how colleagues can progress with appropriate support from students through to chairs.

Strategy and Organisational Development

The faculty's 2015 retreat last Summer to consider the Strategy received very positive feedback. The Strategy itself will be submitted onwards following consideration and comments from the new VP Health. We have decided to continue using the format for the retreat more regularly focusing every quarter on a different issue such as the TEF or Performance Standards.