



Senate

<b>Paper title</b>	Education Quality Board 11/11/15 and 17/20/16: Executive Summary
<b>Outcome requested</b>	Senate is asked to <b>note</b> the summary minutes.
<b>Points to note and further information</b>	This paper provides an overview of the issues considered by Education Quality Board on 11 November 2015 and 17 February 2016.
<b>Questions to consider</b>	N/A
<b>Regulatory/statutory reference points</b>	Various (see individual items) – considered by EQB.
<b>Strategy and risk</b>	Various (see individual items) – managed by EQB.
<b>Reporting/consideration route for the paper</b>	N/A
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Education Quality Board  
Executive Summary: 11 November 2015

This paper summarises the main items discussed at Education Quality Board on 11 November 2015. The full papers and confirmed minutes are available at:  
<http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/QMIntranet/governance/advisory-groups/eqb/index.html>

**1. Vice-Principal's Update November 2015**

The update for November 2015 was noted:

<http://www.qmul.ac.uk/VP%20TL/teachandlearnupdateNovember2015.html>

**2. Qualifications involving more than one awarding body characteristics statement**

The Board agreed that QMUL's provision was compliant with a QAA document that gave definitions and expectations for the characteristics of awards involving more than one degree awarding body.

The Board recommended that QMUL should in future permit the development of joint programmes with overseas partners (dual programmes were already in use). Clear procedures and controls needed to be fully developed and approved before QMUL sought to engage in any such venture.

**3. Assessment Governance Review 2015/16**

The Board considered a number of issues related to assessment governance, and agreed:

- a. that despite comments from a minority of PGT SEBs, the new classification and borderline rules had been widely accepted and deemed appropriate, and would not be revisited;
- b. that a progression hurdle (to reach the dissertation/project) specific to MRes programmes would be proposed in the Academic Regulations 2016/17;
- c. that a change to the approval mechanism for first takes would be proposed in the Academic Regulations 2016/17;
- d. that a means of reassessment would be considered for QMUL students who studied overseas at institutions that did not offer reassessment.

**4. QReview Policy**

The Board considered the QReview Policy, and made recommendations for amendment.

**5. Library resources funding**

The Board considered and made recommendations on a Library report that proposed a revised approach to determining the Library resources budget to ensure that QMUL met its strategic goal of matching the Russell Group average spend per FTE student.

**6. Periodic Review of the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film 2015**

The Board considered the report of the 2015 Periodic Review of the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film, and the School's three-month response. The Board was satisfied with the review and its outcomes, and noted that a 12 month response would be considered in due course.

**7. Updates from the Students' Union**

The Board received updates from the Vice-President (Education). Key points included:

- a. the election of course representatives;
- b. a meeting of the Education Zone Committee;
- c. preparations for a session on feedback at the Teaching and Learning Conference;
- d. work to improve study space in the Library and the Hives;
- e. meetings between the SU and schools;
- f. a recent sale of used books for students.

## **8. Reports from groups**

The Board received written updates from the following groups:

- a. Student Experience Advisory Board;
- b. OFFA Access Monitoring Group;
- c. Vice-Principal (Public Engagement & Student Enterprise) Advisory Group;
- d. Engagement, Retention and Success Projects Group;
- e. E-Learning Steering Group;
- f. Staff Development Advisory Group.

## **9. Items to note**

The Board considered the following:

- a. QMUL's response to the BIS inquiry into quality assessment in higher education;
- b. QMUL's response to the Prevent consultation;
- c. an update on the Teaching Recognition Project;
- d. an update on the Teaching & Learning Conference 2016;
- e. a need for a new study abroad working group to consider marking scales and translations, among other issues.

Education Quality Board  
Executive Summary: 17 February 2016

This paper summarises the main items discussed at Education Quality Board on 17 February 2016. The full minutes are available on request from the Secretary, and the papers are available at: <http://www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/QMIntranet/governance/advisory-groups/eqb/index.html>

**1. Vice-Principal's Update February 2016**

The update for February 2016 was noted:

<http://www.qmul.ac.uk/VP%20TL/teachandlearnupdateFebruary2016.html>

**2. SETLA Risk Register**

The Board monitored progress and risks on the SETLA Risk Register, but made no recommendations for new actions.

**3. Student Services Strategy**

The Board endorsed the Student Services Strategy 2016-2020.

**4. Teaching and learning projects**

The Board received updates on the work of the QMUL Model and GPA working groups.

**5. QReview policy**

The Board recommended a number of small amendments to the QReview policy, prior to its presentation to Senate in June 2016.

**6. Module evaluation**

The Board approved a number of amendments to the module evaluation process, including the revision of certain question sets, and the dropping of the quality index.

**7. Quality assurance**

The Board received and considered the following updates and papers on quality assurance processes:

- a. Periodic Review of Mathematical Sciences (2015);
- b. Report of the External Member to the PGT Degree Examination Boards (2014/15);
- c. Annual Programme Review Annual Summary Report 2014/15;
- d. Academic Appeals Annual Summary Report 2014/15;
- e. Non-academic Appeals Annual Summary Report 2014/15;
- f. Assessment Offences Annual Summary Report 2014/15;
- g. Complaints, Disciplinary and Fitness to Practise Annual Summary Report 2014/15.

When considering (b), EQB *recommended* a small amendment to the regulations on PGCert exit awards, for consideration by Senate as part of the Academic Regulations 2016/17 in June 2016.

**8. Updates from the Students' Union**

The Board received updates from the Vice-President (Education). Key points included:

- a. communications with course representatives;
- b. the Student Experience Seminar, which had discussed feedback;
- c. discussions between the Union and the timetabling team, with the aim of increasing the availability of non-booked rooms to students as study spaces;
- d. a student petition for increased library opening hours, and the trial period of extended weekend opening hours from February to April 2016;

- e. the Students' Union's involvement in the Teaching and Learning Conference, including a workshop session on feedback;
- f. a forthcoming student survey on compulsory teaching on Friday afternoons, focused upon faith-based observances.

**9. Reports from groups**

The Board received written updates from the following groups:

- a. Library User Forum;
- b. Staff Development Advisory Group;
- c. E-Learning Steering Group;
- d. Taught Programmes Planning Group;
- e. Student Experience Advisory Group.

**10. Items to note**

The Board considered the following:

- a. an update on the Teaching Recognition project;
- b. the QMUL response to the government's green paper, 'Fulfilling our potential: teaching excellence, social mobility and student choice'.