



Senate

Paper Title	Education Quality & Standards Board, 23 September 2020: Executive Summary
Outcome requested	The Senate is asked to note the summary report.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	A high-level summary of the discussions and decisions of the Education Quality and Standards Board (EQSB) meeting held on 23 September 2020. For fuller details on any of the points mentioned, including full papers and minutes, members are directed to the EQSB QMplus page: https://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6851
Questions for Senate to consider	None
Regulatory/statutory reference points	
Strategy and risk	
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	Senate only.
Sponsor	Professor Stephanie Marshall, Vice-Principal (Education)

**Education Quality and Standards Board
Executive summary of the meeting held on 23 September 2020**

Full papers and minutes for the Education Quality and Standards Board are available in QMplus:
<https://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6851>

1. The Board **endorsed** its 2020-21 terms of reference and membership documents, recommending approval by the Senate.
2. The Board **noted** that Chair's action (following consultation with the Board) had been taken since the previous meeting to endorse changes to the LLB regulations, limited self-certification of extenuating circumstances, and a small change to a regulation on changes to programmes and modules.
3. The Board **noted** a written update from the Vice-Principal (Education), covering Education leadership, coronavirus contingency measures, welcome week, recruitment, NSS results and a new NSS task group, the Education Enabling Plan, and TEF.
4. The Board **considered** proposed changes to the programme approval process, and gave feedback that would inform the continued development of those plans.
5. The Board **considered** proposed changes to the quality review processes. A new programme review would replace both Annual Programme Review and the education aspects of Periodic Review. It would take a whole-programme approach, looking at pedagogy and programme-level learning outcomes. The Board gave feedback on proposed content and timings, which would inform the continued development of those plans.
6. The Board **approved** a [new guide to student discipline and behaviour](#). This was intended to be an accessible guide to the Code of Student Discipline, setting expectations for behaviour and the likely consequences of poor behaviour. The Board also discussed emerging themes on student behaviour in online teaching sessions and noted that work with IT Services to put greater controls in place was underway.
7. The Board **approved** 10 new KPIs for Library Services. Library Services would report to EQSB twice year on those KPIs.
8. The Board **noted** [new requirements for the design of degree algorithms](#) and related processes from the UK Standing Committee for Quality Assessment (UKSCQA). Initial benchmarking had been completed, and the Board would consider that in detail at its next meeting. Some changes to the regulations would be required, particularly on the role of extenuating circumstances in classification.
9. The Board **considered** a number of documents that reflected on Queen Mary's assessment arrangements in 2019-20, including but not limited to the coronavirus contingency measures. These included the report of the External Member to the Degree Examination Boards, which was particularly positive. Feedback indicated that Queen Mary had been successful in balancing the safeguarding of academic quality and standards with the protection of the student experience.
10. The Board **considered** a report on SSLC activity during lockdown, and **approved** new guidance and templates for SSLCs.
11. The Board **approved** semester dates for the new January-start PGT programmes.

12. The Board **approved** the 12-month and final update reports on the 2019 Periodic Reviews of the Schools of Economics and Finance and Politics and International Relations, subject to short meetings taking place to establish how the small number of ongoing actions would be monitored outside of the Periodic Review process.
13. The Board **noted** the final iteration of the 2020 Queen Mary Degree Outcomes Statement, which had been approved by the Council following consideration by the Board and the Senate earlier in the year. The Statement gave statistical data on Queen Mary's degree outcomes and described the mechanisms in place to protect academic standards.
14. The Board **noted** periodic update reports from Library Services.

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