



Senate

Paper Title	Education Quality and Standards Board: Executive Summary
Outcome requested	The Senate is asked to note the summary.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	<p>A high-level summary of the Education Quality and Standards Board (EQSB) meetings held on 30 March and 18 May 2022.</p> <p>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</p>
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 30 March and 18 May 2022**

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

30 March 2022

APPROVED the minutes of the January 2022 meeting without amendment.

NOTED that Chair's action had been taken twice, to approve the final iteration of terms of reference for Education Committees (to include changes specifically agreed by the Board), and to approve an amendment to a previously granted exception to the Academic Credit Framework for the PgCert Intellectual Property (to comply with externally set conditions from the accrediting body).

NOTED an update from the Chair, covering education leadership, teaching, learning and assessment, student surveys, the Queen Mary Academy, the OfS and other regulatory matters, and student engagement.

APPROVED non-standard term dates for the MSc in Applied Data Analytics.

APPROVED a proposal to formally define "significant overlap of study" (preventing a new application for the programme with overlap) in the admissions policies, following minor amendments to the policy made after consideration at the previous meeting.

CONSIDERED the annual reports on student casework (appeals, complaints, academic misconduct, discipline, and fitness to practise). Those were also considered at the March 2022 Senate, including the EQSB commentary.

APPROVED a Learner Engagement Analytics Action Policy, which established a framework for taking actions or interventions with students based on LEA data.

CONSIDERED a short procedure for the sharing and management of accreditation reports from Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs) with the aim of ensuring that the institution could ensure the timely and appropriate resolution of actions and recommendations, given that any failure to do so had implications for the entire institution. The Board agreed to make revisions to the proposal for consideration at the May 2022 meeting.

CONSIDERED the 2020-21 summary of external examiner reports. No items of institutional concern were identified. The Board gave thought to the reconsideration of the nature of the reports, both in terms of content and the format. Separately, the Board noted that the UK Standing Committee for Quality Assessment (UKSCQA) had launched a review of external examining in the UK that could, in time, lead to national changes.

NOTED that the OfS had published revised conditions of registration relating to quality and standards, which took effect from 1 May 2022. This affected conditions B1, B2, B4 and B5. The outcome of the review of condition B3 was still awaited.

NOTED update reports from the QMSU Faculty Vice-Presidents.

NOTED an update report and a report against its KPIs from Library Services. The KPIs showed a strong performance with significant increases in most areas. Only two KPIs were meaningfully below target, and both had significant contextual details. First, the percentage of hard-copy books and resources available to service users within four weeks of ordering had been 54.5 per cent, against a target of 75 per cent. This was

attributed primarily to the pivot to online learning and delivery – the relatively small proportion of non-electronic requests tended to be harder to acquire, often including overseas requests (conversely, the KPI for electronic resources (95 per cent) had been exceeded (98.5 per cent)). Second, the study space to student ratio had been 1:11.7 rather than the KPI of 1:6; this was a known issue, exacerbated by the pandemic, that was being addressed through capital works across all campuses, including a major renovation and expansion of the Mile End Library.

AGREED that the new EQSB Assessment Sub-board, which would begin meeting in 2022-23, would oversee a review of the policies around extenuating circumstances including a review of the new approach of limited self-certification.

18 May 2022

APPROVED the minutes of the March 2022 meeting without amendment.

NOTED an update from the Chair, covering education leadership, teaching, learning and assessment, student surveys, the Queen Mary Academy, the OfS and other regulatory matters, and student engagement.

ENDORSED the Academic Regulations 2022-23.

ENDORSED the PGR Academic Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degree Students 2022-23.

ENDORSED new regulations for the Master by Research (ResM).

ENDORSED the Assessment Handbook 2022-23.

ENDORSED amendments to the Academic Misconduct Policy and gave detailed consideration to amending the threshold at which cases were referred for central consideration. The Board concluded that no change was possible at the present time without significant reconsideration of resourcing and support.

ENDORSED amendments to the Appeal Policy.

ENDORSED amendments to the Student Complaints Policy.

APPROVED non-standard term dates for the CertHE and BSc in Applied Finance.

APPROVED non-standard term dates for the MSc in Physician Associate Studies (standard version and degree apprenticeship version).

ENDORSED the Admissions Policy 2023-24.

NOTED actions taken to mitigate the impact of industrial action on assessment.

NOTED a revised draft of the Degree Outcomes Statement and sought comments in advance of a fuller consideration at the July 2022 EQSB meeting.

CONSIDERED a short procedure for the sharing and management of accreditation reports from Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs) with the aim of ensuring that the institution could ensure the timely and appropriate resolution of actions and recommendations, given that any failure to do so had implications for the entire institution. This had been considered at the March 2022 meeting without reaching agreement, and though the Board supported the amendments made it wished to consider the matter further. It was agreed to refer the matter to ESAT for further consideration before returning to the EQSB for approval.

NOTED update reports from the QMSU Faculty Vice-Presidents.