

SENATE

Title of paper: Report from University Education Committee

Main purpose of the paper: For information

Presenter(s): Professor Ruth Valentine

Date of paper: 12 October 2023

Purpose of the paper

Report on the September 2023 meeting of University Education Committee and a record of the decisions made on behalf of the committee.

Relation to strategy and values

Education strategy

Recommendations:

Senate are asked to note the contents of the report.

Consultation to date (including any previous committee consideration and its outcome):

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

13 September 2023

Minutes

Present: Professor Ruth Valentine (*Chair*), Sandy Alden (*vice Sally Ingram*), Rachel Dearlove, Clair Elliot, Dr Peter Gallagher, Dr Sarah Graham, Professor Andy Husband, Dr David Kennedy, Professor Rene Koglbauer, Dr Chris O'Malley (*vice Sara Marsham*), Naomi Oosman-Watts, Graeme Redshaw-Boxwell, Professor Alison Shaw, Jill Taylor-Roe

Apologies: Lucy Backhurst, Laura Callaghan, Lulu Chen, Justin Cole, Professor Richard Davies, Iain Garfield, Professor Matthew Grenby, Sally Ingram, Chirag Kumar, Dr Sara Marsham

In attendance: Angela McNeill (items 2 and 3), Claire Irving, Janice Trewick (Secretary)

1. Teaching Excellence Framework (closed item)

Received: Document UEC2324-001

Noted that:

1. The University had received the provisional TEF rating, however, the results are currently embargoed. The results will be published on the OfS website on 28 September 2023.
2. The Planning Office had prepared an overview report highlighting areas which had been identified by the assessors as not meeting the threshold. It was clear that there was not a consistent approach and experience across the institution.
3. The committee recorded its thanks to all those involved with the preparations for the submission.

2. Student Protection Plan

Received: Document UEC2324-002

Noted that:

4. The Student Protection Plan had been revised and re-written in an accessible format. The plan is a requirement of the OfS and sets out what students can expect to happen should a course, campus or institution close.
5. It was suggested that the plan should make it clear that it covers all students including those who are studying fully online, given that this is an area for expansion.
6. It was currently proposed that, in the event of the loss of student route licence the institution would support students in transferring to another institution, it was suggested that students could be offered the opportunity to return to their home country and to switch to an online programme to complete their students.
7. The committee felt that the loss of accreditation by a regulatory body, should be given a higher risk level.

Resolved:

- a. That committee approved the plan and amendments, and that the PVC Education would approve the final version prior to submission to the OfS.

3. Additional Regulations for Implementation in an Emergency Situation

Received: Document UEC2324-003

Noted that:

8. In the event of an emergency situation there had in the past been several documents for colleagues to refer to, such as additional regulations, no detriment policy. The proposed regulations had consolidated these documents and would now formally form part of the regulations. These regulations would only be used once Senate declared an emergency situation and would remain in place until the end of the academic year the emergency was declared. The formal regulations would be supplemented by operational guidance for Boards of Examiners.
9. The proposed regulations were presented for comment and had been created by Student Progress Service with contribution from colleagues and sabbatical officers. The approach would bring consistency across the institution.
10. The committee were supportive of the document, and it was noted that some initial feedback from colleagues had been supportive.
11. It was not clear from the regulations that if an emergency situation was to continue across multiple years, in terms of progression, delayed decision status. It was felt that the section 7 needed some further clarification around delays to decisions.
12. Section 9.2 notes that the Board of Examiners use their academic judgement to decide that candidates had achieved the learning outcomes of their programme. It was noted that the current programme specifications would need to be reviewing and where necessary updated.
13. It was agreed that there needed to be a wider understanding of the impact of partial marks can have on a student profile, and it was agreed that further training was required to support colleagues in their understanding of the system and various scenarios academic units may find themselves in.
14. There should be caution around communications, especially to those students where this guidance would not be applicable.

Resolved:

- a. That the comments would be considered, and a final version would be approved by the Pro Vice Chancellor (Education) and would go to Senate for final approval.

4. National Student Survey Report 2023

Received: Document UEC2324-004

Noted that:

15. It was previously agreed by the committee that Schools would not be asked to submit action plans following their NSS results and that they should reflect on the results and update any action plans.

Resolved:

- a. That faculty's reflect on the NSS, PTES, Stage Evaluation reports through the Faculty Education Committee and that schools reflect on the results and where necessary update their plans after consideration of the results and report through usual Faculty routes (may be through FEC or FEB/working group at Faculty level

5. Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey Report 2023

Received: Document UEC2324-005

6. Stage Evaluation Semester 2 2023 Report

Received: Document UEC2324-006

7. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Received: Document UEC2324-007

16. The minutes of the meeting of UEC on 5 July 2023 were approved as a correct record.

8. Action Log

Received: Document UEC2324-008

9. Reports/Minutes from sub-committees of UEC

Received reports from the sub-committees:

- i. Digital Education Sub-Committee: 18 July 2023 [Document UEC2324-009]
- ii. Taught Programme Sub-Committee: 12 July 2023 [Document UEC2324-010]
- iii. Student Mobility Sub-Committee: 27 June 2023 [Document UEC2324-011]
- iv. Student Experience Sub-Committee: 1 July 2023 [Document UEC2324-012]

10. Education Development Fund

Received: Document UEC2324-013

11. Report of Chair's Actions

Received: Document UEC2324-014

Any other business

Noted that:

17. Executive Board had approved changes to the Alumni Tuition Fee discount from 2024 entry, the existing scheme is in place for 2023 entry. From 2024, the scheme will be called Alumni Progression Scholarship Funding and will have two routes: 1) a £1,000 Alumni Progression Scholarship for eligible International and UK Newcastle University alumni (not available for students receiving the 20% Alumni Progression Discount) 2) a 20% Alumni Progression Discount for eligible UK Newcastle University alumni from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Report of Chair's action - September 2023

Faculty	School	Type	Programme(s)	Code	Effective from
CFEC	Lifelong Learning and Apprenticeship Hub	Introduction of new programme (UEC Approval)	Level 5 Apprenticeship in Coaching		With effect from September 2023
FMS	Graduate School	Transfer of ownership	Public Health Suite of Programmes	3028P - 6017P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Graduate School	Transfer of ownership	Oncology Suite of Programmes	3071P - 6041P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Graduate School	Transfer of ownership	Clinical Research Suite of Programmes	3107P - 6053P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Graduate School	Transfer of ownership	MRES Suite of Programmes	4807F - 4873F	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Graduate School	Transfer of ownership	Clinical Sciences Suite	5249P - 3183P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Change to programme title	Master of Medical Education (e-Learning mode)	5445F	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Change to programme title	Master of Medical Education (1 yr accelerated) (e-Learning mode)	5446P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Change to programme title	Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Education (e-Learning mode)	3510P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Change to programme title	Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Education (1 yr accelerated) (e-Learning mode)	3531P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Change to programme title	Postgraduate Certificate in Medical Education (e-Learning mode)	3146P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Introduction of new programme (TPSC Approval)	Postgraduate Certificate in Interventional Nephrology	3188P	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Major revision to existing programme	Master of Pharmacy with Honours	B230	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Medical Education	Major revision to existing programme	MSc Physician Associate Studies	BB96	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Psychology	Introduction of new programme	Extra-Curriculum Credit (FMS)	1858U	With effect from September 2023
FMS	Psychology	Major revision to existing programme	Doctorate in Clinical Psychology	8861F/8824F	With effect from September 2023
HaSS	Business School	Introduction of new programme (Faculty Approval)	MSc Business Analytics	5492F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Business School	Major revision to existing programme (Faculty Approval)	MSc Digital Business (E-Commerce)	5491F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Business School	Major revision to existing programme (Faculty Approval)	MSc Digital Business (E-Commerce) (with Study Abroad)	5494F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Business School	Withdrawal of programme	Operations Management (Dual Award) MSc	4120F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Business School	Withdrawal of programme	Advanced International Business Management and Marketing (Dual Award)	4108F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Education, Communication and Language Sciences	Withdrawal of programme	Primary PGCE School Direct	3062F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Education, Communication and Language Sciences	Withdrawal of programme	Secondary PGCE School Direct	3072F	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	History, Classics and Archaeology	Suspension of programme	MA Classics and Ancient History (full time)	4035F	With effect from September 2023
HaSS	History, Classics and Archaeology	Suspension of programme	MA Classics and Ancient History (part time)	4035P	With effect from September 2023
HaSS	Law School	Introduction of new programme (Faculty Approval)	Bachelor of Laws in Global Legal Studies	M105	With effect from September 2024
HaSS	Modern Languages	Suspension of programme	MA Film: Theory and Practice	4039F/P	With effect from September 2024
SAGe	Engineering	Introduction of a new programme	Master of Engineering with Honours in Electrical and Electronic Engineering with Industrial Project with International Study Year	1856U	With effect from September 2023
SAGe	Engineering	Introduction of new programme	Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Electronics and Computer Engineering with International Study Year	1855U	With effect from September 2023
SAGe	Engineering	Introduction of new programme	Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Electrical and Electronic Engineering with International Study Year	1857U	With effect from September 2023
SAGe	Engineering	Withdrawal of programme	BSc (Hons) Geographic Information Science	F862	With effect from September 2024
SAGe	Engineering	Withdrawal of programme	BSc Honours Geographic Information Science with Year in Industry	1634U	With effect from September 2024
SAGe	Engineering	Withdrawal of programme	BEng (Hons) Geospatial Surveying and Mapping	H245	With effect from September 2024
SAGe	Engineering	Withdrawal of programme	BEng Geospatial Surveying and Mapping with Year in Industry	1636U	With effect from September 2024
SAGe	Engineering	Withdrawal of programme	BSc (Hons) Geographic Information Science with Year in Industry (was replaced with 1634U)	F867	With effect from September 2024
SAGe	Engineering	Withdrawal of programme	BEng Geospatial Surveying and Mapping with Year in Industry (was replaced with 1636U)	H246	With effect from September 2024