

Education & Training Panel – 14 November 2007

Minor/major changes (3)

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The major/minor change process requires education providers to notify the HPC of any major changes to approved programmes. The process aims to recognise changes which may impact significantly on the provision of a programme and on the standards of education and training and standards of proficiency and determine the action that the HPC should take.

Visitors have assessed the changes to the programme listed below, by correspondence. The visitors' report is attached.

The visitors have recommended that the programme has undergone a major change and that an approval visit is required to reconfirm that the programme continues to meet the standards of education & training and that upon successful completion; students continue to meet the standards of proficiency.

| Education Provider | Programme Name | Delivery Mode |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| University of Strathclyde | BSc (Hons) Prosthetics & Orthotics | FT |

Decision

The Panel is asked to accept the recommendation and agree that the above named programme has undergone a major change and that an approval visit is required to reconfirm that the programme continues to meet all the HPC's standards of education and training and that upon successful completion; students continue to meet all the standards of proficiency.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices

Visitors' Report (1)

Date of paper
2 November 2007

| Date | Ver. | Dept/Cmte | Doc Type | Title | Status | Int. Aud. |
|-------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 02-11-2007 | a | EDU | PPR | COVER SHEET minor&major changes 3 - Nov 2007 | Publication DD: None | Public RD: None |

Visitors' Report Major/Minor Change

Section One: Programme details

| | |
|--|--|
| Name of education provider | University of Strathclyde |
| Name of awarding body (if different from above) | |
| Programme title(s) | BSc (Hons) Prosthetics & Orthotics |
| Mode of delivery | Full time Part time Other |
| Name and profession of HPC Visitor(s) | Martin Matthews (Orthotist) Jackie Campbell (Lay) |

Please list the documents submitted by the education provider, in support of the major/minor change form

BSc Honours PO programme specification 2005 (old)
 BSc Honours PO programme specification 2006 (new)
 Module descriptors (14)
 BSc PO UG Framework 2006 Amended version
 Proposal for Amendments to Course Regulations
 Timetables
 Internal monitoring reports and external examiner reports

Please provide a summary of the proposed changes below.

Review and rationalisation of the programme. The programme has altered from 570 credits to 480 credits. (The same as the other UK programme at Salford University)

The process of the programme has taken the University of Strathclyde 2 years following a major review (Policy and Financial Memorandum Review) of their department in 2004 by their funders the Health department of the Scottish Executive. They have planned these changes over a two year period by researching the literature, consulting with stakeholders (staff, students, clinical placement supervisors and with a graduate audit to graduates and their employers at 18 months post graduation).

The revised programme also facilitates the education provider's longer term plans to develop a new 5 year MSci in prosthetics and Orthotics, which the top 10% of the intake will transfer onto.

Section 2: Recommendation of the Visitor(s)

Visitors' are asked to select one of the following recommendations –

- The following documentation is requested before a final recommendation can be made (please list below and include a reason)
- The programme has undergone a minor change & continues to meet the standards of education and training. Upon successful completion, students continue to meet the standards of proficiency.
- The programme has undergone a major change, but continues to meet the Standards of Education and Training, so no approval visit is required. Upon successful completion, students continue to meet the standards of proficiency.

(If you have comments to make, which may be useful when considering future annual monitoring and/or minor/major change submissions, please list these on the following page)

- The programme has undergone a major change and an approval visit is required to consider the following Standards of Education and Training -,
SET 4
SET 6

(Details of the rationale behind this decision and the focus for the suggested visit should be listed on the following page)

Visitors' signatures:

Name: Martin John Anthony Matthews

Signature:

Date: 1/10/2007

Name: Jackie Campbell

Signature:

Date: 1/10/2007

SET1: Level of qualification for entry to the Register.

Reason:

SET 2: Programme admissions

Reason:

SET 3: Programme management and resource standards

Reason

SET 4: Curriculum standards

Reason: Unclear how the standards of proficiency are met in the new programme design. Unclear how continuing students will meet the standards of proficiency, as each year which is running out of the current programme is has been varied. Confirmation and discussion needed over how the new programme design integrates theory and practice and how the curriculum is relevant to current practice. Confirmation and discussion needed over how external stakeholder feedback has been incorporated into the design of the curriculum.

SET 5: Practice placements standards

Reason

SET 6: Assessment standards

Reason: Unclear how the assessment design and procedures ensures students' fitness to practice, particularly the assessment of their practical application of skills.

Confirmation and discussion needed over the rationale and appropriateness of the chosen assessment methods and the input of external examiners/external stakeholder feedback is determining the chosen assessment methods.

Discussion needed over the existing practice of internal and external moderation as supplied external examiners' reports reveal deficits in the current arrangements with external examiners expressing concerns that they had little opportunity to see students' work.

Confirmation and discussion needed over the regulations for progression and achievement as there are some contradictions in the supplied programme specifications and module specifications.