

**Health Professions Council
Education & Training Panel – 1 February 2007**

VISITORS' REPORTS WITH REPRESENTATIONS

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The attached visitors' reports for the following programmes has been sent to the education provider and following a 28 day period the attached representations have been received. The education provider is in the process of meeting the conditions recommended by the HPC Visitors.

Education provider	Programme name	Delivery mode
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	BSc(Hons) Human Nutrition and Dietetics	Full time
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	PG Dip Dietetics	Full time
University of Wales Institute, Cardiff	MSc Dietetics	Full time

Decision

The panel is asked to –

accept the visitors' report for the above named programmes, including the conditions recommended by the visitors.

or

review the visitors' report for the above named programmes, and vary the conditions recommended by the visitors, in the light of information included in the education provider's representations.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

None

Appendices

Visitors reports (2)

Written response from education provider (2)

Date of paper

22 January 2007

Health Professions Council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	University of Wales, Institute Cardiff
Name and titles of programme(s)	BSc(Hons) Human Nutrition and Dietetics
Mode of Delivery (FT/PT)	FT
Date of Visit	8 and 9 November 2006
Proposed date of approval to commence	September 2007
Name of HPC visitors attending (including member type and professional area)	Sylvia Butson (Dietetics) Alex Scott (Dietetics) Catherine Wells (OT Visitor to look at the Education Sections)
HPC Executive officer(s) (in attendance)	Mandy Hargood Daljit Mahoon (Observing)
Joint panel members in attendance (name and delegation):	Paul Thomas CHAIR (Dean of Cardiff School of Education, UWIC) Julie Piacentini School of Education Bethan Gordon Cardiff School of Art & Design, Helen Barker Coventry University

Scope of visit (please tick)

New programme	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major change to existing programme	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visit initiated through Annual Monitoring/Bench Marking	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation of meetings held

	Yes	No	N/A
Senior personnel of provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programme team	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Placements providers and educators	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students (current or past as appropriate)	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation of facilities inspected

	Yes	No	N/A
Library learning centre	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT facilities	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specialist teaching accommodation	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Confirmation that particular requirements/specific instructions (if any) of the Education and Training Committee that have been explored e.g. specific aspects arising from annual monitoring reports.

Requirement (please insert detail)	Yes	No	N/A
1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Proposed student cohort intake number please state	28
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The following summarises the key outcomes of the Approvals event and provides reasons for the decision.

CONDITIONS

SET 3 Programme Management and Resource Standards

3.9 Where students participate as patients or clients in practical and clinical teaching, appropriate protocols must be used to obtain their consent.

Condition: The Programme Team should develop a standard protocol form for student consent when they undertake experiential participation.

Reason: There is currently no protocol in place within the BSc (Hons) Dietetics programme documentation to meet this SET.

SET 4. Curriculum Standards

4.5 The delivery of the programme must assist autonomous and reflective thinking, and evidence based practice.

Condition: The programme Team must develop a clearer assessment criteria to test the learning outcomes for modules DAN 305 and DAN 307 and enhance the definitive reference lists associated with them.

Reason: The visitors felt that there was a lack of clarity in relation to the assessments used to test the learning outcomes for DAN 305 and DAN 307. The references given were very generic.

SET 5. Practice placements standards

5.7.4 the assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of failure;

Condition: There must be commonality of assessment tools in relation to student performance on all practice placements.

Reason: The visitors noted that standardised assessment tools are not currently used.

Deadline for Conditions to be met: 5 February 2007

RECOMMENDATIONS

SET 3. Programme management and resource standards

3.7 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be used effectively.

Recommendation: That the Programme Team continue to review the resources available for books and external lecturers.

Reason: The students commented on the lack of availability of up to date texts and there were concerns around the funding for the external lecturers and the resources needed.

3.11 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Recommendation: The visitors felt that the programme team should continue to keep student attendance under close review to ensure that the students are able to meet the learning outcomes of the programme.

Reason: There was lack of clarity in the documentation relating to the current attendance monitoring system.

SET 4. Curriculum Standards

This recommendation refers to both SET 4.6 and 4.7

4.6 The range of learning and teaching approaches used must be appropriate to the subjects in the curriculum.

Recommendation: The visitors would like to see further developed the use of problem solving case studies and to consider developing interprofessional learning with other AHP students, where practicable.

Reason: The case studies will further enhance integration of key subject areas. The students commented they would welcome additional numbers of case studies prior to placements.

4.7 Where there is inter-professional learning the profession specific skills and knowledge of each professional group are adequately addressed.

Recommendation: The visitors would like to see further developed the use of problem solving case studies and to consider developing interprofessional learning with other AHP students

Reason: The case studies will further enhance integration of key subject areas. The students commented they would welcome additional numbers of case studies prior to placements.

SET 5. Practice placements standards

5.6 The education provider must maintain a thorough and effective system for approving and monitoring all placements.

Recommendation: That the Programme Team consider developing a preplacement questionnaire in conjunction with practice placement educators, for B and C placements. This should contain information relating to student's previous practical experience to inform future learning needs for B and C placements.

Reason: This will facilitate students' individual learning requirements and experience.

5.9 There must be collaboration between the education provider and practice placement providers.

Recommendation: That the practice placement facilitator post continues to be funded externally.

Reason: To continue to support the excellent system currently in place for collaborative working and training.

SET 6. Assessment standards

6.5 There must be effective mechanisms in place to assure appropriate standards in the assessment.

Recommendation: To review the relationship between taught hours credit rating and the assessment procedure to ensure that the learning outcomes are appropriately addressed.

Reason: The decision making for the above relationship is not explicit, and this results in some assessments being worthy of greater or lesser credits which may impact on their value from the student's perspective.

General Recommendation.

That the Programme team reviews the documentation to ensure clarity and accuracy.

The visitors noted for example that there was a reference to the PRET guidelines being attributed to the HPC which is incorrect. Additionally there were references to “state registration” which is no longer accurate.

Commendations

- **The Food Industry Centre was applauded as an excellent development and will greatly enhance the on site facilities for students.**
- **The visitors were impressed by the excellent IT resources on campus.**
- **Students met by the HPC team commented on the excellent support provided by all the academic staff and considered that they were well prepared for employment.**
- **The Programme Team, especially Alison Nicholls, should be commended on the developments around supporting the new system of Welsh placements, including the provision of appropriate practice placement educator training.**

The nature and quality of instruction and facilities meets the Standards of Education and Training.

We recommend to the Education and Training Committee of the HPC that they approve this programme (subject to any conditions being met).

Visitors' signatures:

Sylvia Butson

Alexa Scott

Catherine Wells

Date: 24 January 2007

Health Professions Council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	University of Wales, Institute Cardiff
Name and titles of programme(s)	PG Dip/MSc Dietetics
Mode of Delivery (FT/PT)	FT
Date of Visit	8 and 9 November 2006
Proposed date of approval to commence	September 2007
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Confirmation that particular requirements/specific instructions (if any) of the Education and Training Committee that have been explored e.g. specific aspects arising from annual monitoring reports.

Requirement (please insert detail)	Yes	No	N/A
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Proposed student cohort intake number please state	15
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The following summarises the key outcomes of the Approvals event and provides reasons for the decision.

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SET 3 Programme Management and Resource Standards

3.9 Where students participate as patients or clients in practical and clinical teaching, appropriate protocols must be used to obtain their consent.

Condition: The Programme Team should develop a standard protocol form for student consent when they undertake experiential participation.

Reason: There is currently no protocol in place within the programme documentation to meet this SET.

SET 5. Practice placements standards

5.7.4 the assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of failure;

Condition: There must be commonality of assessment tools in relation to student's performance on all practice placements.

Reason: The visitors noted that standardised assessment tools are not currently used.

Deadline for Conditions to be met: 5 February 2007

RECOMMENDATIONS

SET 3. Programme management and resource standards

3.7 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be used effectively.

Recommendation: That the Programme Team continue to review the resources available for books and external lecturers.

Reason: The students commented on the lack of availability of up to date texts and there were concerns around the funding for the external lecturers and the resources needed.

SET 4. *Curriculum Standards*

This recommendation refers to both SET 4.6 and 4.7

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Recommendation: The visitors would like to see further developed the use of problem solving case studies and to consider developing interprofessional learning with other AHP students where practicable.

Reason: The case studies will further enhance integration of key subject areas. The students commented they would welcome additional numbers of case studies prior to placements.

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Recommendation: The visitors would like to see further developed the use of problem solving case studies and to consider developing interprofessional learning with other AHP students

Reason: The case studies will further enhance integration of key subject areas. The students commented they would welcome additional numbers of case studies prior to placements.

SET 5. *Practice placements standards*

5.6 The education provider must maintain a thorough and effective system for approving and monitoring all placements.

Recommendation: That the Programme Team consider developing a preplacement questionnaire in conjunction with practice placement educators, for B and C placements. This should contain information relating to student's previous practical experience to inform future learning needs for B and C placements.

Reason: This will facilitate students' individual learning requirements and experience.

5.9 There must be collaboration between the education provider and practice placement providers.

Recommendation: That the practice placement facilitator post continues to be funded externally.

Reason: To continue to support the excellent system currently in place for collaborative working and training.

General Recommendation.

That the Programme team reviews the documentation to ensure parity.

The visitors noted for example that there was a reference to the PRET guidelines being attributed to the HPC which is incorrect.

Commendations

- **The Food Industry Centre was applauded as an excellent development and will greatly enhance the on site facilities for students.**
- **The visitors were impressed by the excellent IT resources on campus.**
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- **The Programme Team, especially Alison Nicholls, should be commended on the developments around supporting the new system of Welsh placements, including the provision of appropriate practice placement educator training.**

The nature and quality of instruction and facilities meets the Standards of Education and Training.

We recommend to the Education and Training Committee of the HPC that they approve this programme (subject to any conditions being met).

Visitors' signatures:

Sylvia Butson

Alexa Scott

Catherine Wells

Date: 14th November 2006



Mandy Hargood
Education Officer
Education Department
Health Professions Council
Park House
184 Kennington Park Road
London
SE11 4BU

30 November 2006

Dear Mandy

Re: HPC Visitors' Report 8 & 9 November 2006

Thank you for the report (dated 15 November 2006) on the visit relating to the undergraduate Dietetics programme at UWIC.

I am responding within the 28 day period with comments relating to the report, for consideration by the Approvals Panel.

1. The title of the programme under consideration is BSc (Hons) Human Nutrition and Dietetics, and not BSc (Hons) Dietetics as stated in the report.
2. Comments relating to Condition SET 5 – Placement Practice Standards.

Condition SET 5.7 Practice Placement Standards

- 5.7.4 The assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of failure.

Condition

There must be commonality of assessment tools in relation to student performance on all practice placements.

Comments

This condition appears to be outwith the SET guidelines and as such would be very difficult to achieve.

Reasons

1. The BSc (Hons) Human Nutrition & Dietetics students and Practice Placement educators are fully prepared for placement, they have information and understanding of
 - The learning outcomes to be achieved (5.7.1)
 - Timings and duration of any placement experience (5.7.2)
 - Expectations of professional conduct (5.7.3)
 - Implications and action to be taken in case of failure (5.7.4)
 - Communication and lines of responsibility (5.7.5)
2. A definition of assessment is 'the measurement of how effectively the students have learned, usually measured against stated learning outcomes' (Reece and Walker 2006).

Assessment tools are a means to an end and facilitate the collection of evidence for the portfolio which demonstrates that the learning outcomes have been achieved. There has not been a requirement of the PRET guidelines nor of the SET guidance for education providers (HPC 2004) that the methods of assessments are standardised.

3. Assessment tools have been developed in Wales for the use of practice educators; Gwent Healthcare NHS Trust use a modification of these as they were the first Trust in Wales to use assessment tools. Students going to Gwent are fully aware that there are slight differences.

Practice placement educators may vary the type of evidence collected by students during their placement depending on the situation and the learning need of the student, in accordance with theories of adult learning.

It would be impossible to impose standardisation of tools to be used throughout all placements. Having standardised tools does not guarantee standard assessment.

4. Currently students go outside Wales to train; UWIC has no control over the methods of assessment in other parts of the UK. Even though placement self sufficiency in Wales is the long term goal of UWIC there will be at least one cross border arrangement; currently such an agreement is in place with the North West cluster; there is no jurisdiction of the assessment tools in this region and such a standardisation could lead to the agreement becoming unstable.

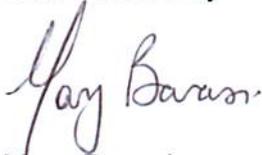
Conclusion

The points made above indicate that such a condition would be very difficult to achieve; a longer term recommendation would be more acceptable. The Academic Placement Lead and Clinical Training Facilitator have an objective of moving towards standard assessment tools for Wales; this is not until the BDA curriculum review has been published.

We hope to receive your response on these points in due course.

We note that a response to the conditions is required by 5 February 2007.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Barasi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mary Barasi
Course Director

Email: mbarasi@uwic.ac.uk
Direct dial: 029 2041 6878

Mandy Hargood
Education Officer
Education Department
Health Professions Council
Park House
184 Kennington Park Road
London
SE11 4BU

RECEIVED 11 DEC 2006

4 December 2006

Dear Mandy

Re: HPC Visitors' Report 8 & 9 November 2006

Thank you for the report (dated 15 November 2006) on the visit relating to the undergraduate Dietetics programme at UWIC.

I am responding within the 28 day period with comments relating to the report, for consideration by the Approvals Panel.

1. Comments relating to Condition SET 5 – Placement Practice Standards.

Condition SET 5.7 Practice Placement Standards

- 5.7.4 The assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of failure.

Condition

There must be commonality of assessment tools in relation to student performance on all practice placements.

Comments

This condition appears to be outwith the SET guidelines and as such would be very difficult to achieve.

Reasons

1. The MSc/PG Diploma in Dietetics students and Practice Placement educators are fully prepared for placement, they have information and understanding of
 - The learning outcomes to be achieved (5.7.1)
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