Health Professions Council

Visitors' Report

Name of education provider	University of Hull
Name and titles of programme(s)	BSc (Hons) Applied Biomedical Science
Date of event	23-24 May 2006
Proposed date of approval to commence	September 2006
Mode of delivery	Part time
Name of HPC visitors attending (including member type and professional area)	Martin Nicholson HPC Visitor David Houliston HPC Visitor
HPC Executive officer(s) (in attendance)	Karen Scott Greg Ross Sampson
Joint panel members in attendance (name and delegation):	Karen Nicholson (University of Hull) C Chowdrey IBMS Peter Ruddy IBMS Nick Kirk IBMS

Scope of visit *(please tick)*

New programme	**X**
Major change to existing programme	☐
Visit initiated through Annual Monitoring	☐

Part 1.

1.1 Confirmation of meetings held

	yes	no	n/a
Senior personnel of provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	**X**	☐	☐
Programme planning team	**X**	☐	☐
Placements providers and educators	**X**	☐	☐

1.2 Confirmation of facilities inspected

	yes	no
Library learning centre	**X**	☐
IT facilities	**X**	☐
Specialist teaching accommodation	**X**	☐

1.3 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.	☐	☐	☐
2.	☐	☐	☐
3.	☐	☐	☐

Proposed student cohort intake number please state	31

The following summarises the key outcomes of the approvals event and provides reasons for the decision.

CONDITIONS

SET 2 *Programme admissions*

The admission procedures must:

2.2 apply selection and entry criteria, including

2.2.1 evidence of a good command of written and spoken English;

> **Condition 1:** The documentation must explicitly state the English language criteria for admission to the programme.
>
> **Reason:** The documentation provided to the panel included the University policy but did not state the requirements for this programme. The programme team stated that the English language requirements for entry to the programme were an IELTS score of 6.5 or a pass in English at GCSE level.

SET 3. *Programme management and resource standards*

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.

Condition 2: The documentation must clearly articulate, in all relevant documents, where attendance for the programme is mandatory.

Reason: The documentation does not clearly state the requirements for attendance.

SET 4. *Curriculum Standards*

4.3 Integration of theory and practice must be central to the curriculum to enable safe and Effective practice.

4.4 The curriculum must remain relevant to current practice.

Condition 3: The Haematology module must contain both theory and practical aspects of ABO blood serology.

Reason: The team noted that there were plans to include this module in the programme. However, the documentation did not include information about this module.

SET 5. *Practice placements standards*

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

Condition 4: The documentation must clearly state the procedures to be taken when a placement does not obtain CPA approval.

Reason: The documentation states that all labs must be CPA accredited or working towards CPA accreditation but does not indicate the consequences for a lab which fails accreditation. While it was clear from discussion that there are procedures in place, these must be clearly documented.

SET 6. Assessment standards

6.7 Assessment regulations clearly specify requirements:

6.7.1 for student progression and achievement within the programme;

Condition 5: The programme team must clearly document the possible exit routes for the M Biomedical Science programme.

Condition 6: The programme team must clearly document which of the Biomedical Science pathways lead to HPC registration.

Reason: This information was not clear in the documentation. Students must be made aware of the pathways for this programme in order to make informed decisions about their progress and career path.

6.7.3 for an aegrotat award not to provide eligibility for admission to the Register;

Condition 7: The programme team must include a policy statement which identifies the procedures surrounding aegrotat awards and clarify that an aegrotat award will not allow eligibility for entry to the HPC Register

Reason: This information was stated in the documentation.

6.7.5 for the appointment of at least one external examiner from the relevant part of the Register.

Condition 8: The programme team must appoint an external examiner who is from the relevant part of the HPC Register

Reason: The current external examiner is not on the HPC register

Deadline for *Conditions* to be met: 12 July 2006
To be submitted to Approvals Committee on: September 2006

RECOMMENDATIONS

SET 2 *Programme admissions*

The admission procedures must:

2.1 give both the applicant and the education provider the information they require to make an Informed choice about whether to make, or take up the offer of a place on a programme

Recommendation: Consider the upgrading of the' Welcome to Biomedical Science at Hull 'document to a full prospectus and include information about entry and progression requirements.

Reason: The information given to students at open days was useful, however a single document for prospective students could be much more comprehensive and specific to Biomedical Science programmes.

6.7 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for:

6.7.2 awards which do not provide eligibility for inclusion to the Register not to contain any reference to an HPC protected title in their title

Recommendation: It is recommended that the programme team reconsider the title of the Biomedical Science programmes which lead to eligibility to apply for HPC Registration, in order to distinguish them from other Biomedical Science programmes offered by the University.

Reason: The programme team currently offers four programmes in Biomedical Science. In order for students make an informed decision about the programme they wish to undertake, and to avoid confusion and ambiguity for graduates applying for HPC Registration, the title should be changed to distinguish them from programmes that do not lead to eligibility to apply for HPC Registration.
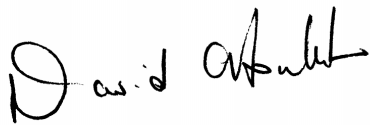
COMMENDATIONS

1) The Memorandum of Agreement with the placement providers is an excellent initiative.

2) The clear collaboration and support between the University and placement providers is to be commended.

3) The training days for all placement providers are an excellent initiative which ensures that providers are fully informed of their responsibilities at all times. It also encourages communication and feedback from which all parties benefit.

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

Visitors' signatures:

Martin Nicholson

David Houliston

Date: 25.05.2006