

## ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2021/22

### Appendix 3: External Examiners' report

#### BVetMed Year 4

This appendix contains Year Leader's responses to 2021/22 External Examiners' comments and updates to actions from previous External Examiners' reports (if applicable).

As Course Director please ensure you reflect on External Examiners' comments in the Course Review section. Please ensure that any actions to be taken in response to these comments have been recorded in your Annual Quality Improvement Report.

For support or advice please contact Ana Filipovic, Academic Quality Officer 'Standards', [afilipovic@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:afilipovic@rvc.ac.uk), 01707666938

Appendix 3 consists of:

a.	Updates to actions from previous years' reports (n/a)
b.	2020/21 Collaborative Annual Report with responses from Course Director

# Collaborative Report

Exam board meeting: 16-Dec-2021

**Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, Year 4, 2021/22**

**Lead examiner: Dr Gudrun Schoeffmann**

**Collaborating examiner(s): Mr Lorenzo Viora, Dr Veronica Roberts, Dr Barbara Skelly**

## The Programme

**Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:**

### **1.1 Course content**

The content of the course was considered to be appropriate for the fourth year of the course.

### **1.2 Learning objectives, and the extent to which they were met**

The Learning objectives covered all areas of teaching on the course and are relevant for future careers in all areas of veterinary medicine.

### **1.3 Teaching methods**

Teaching methods prepared the students well for the examination.

### **1.4 Resources (in so far as they affected the assessment)**

The resources provided for the examination were excellent.

### **1.5 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the Programme**

See specific comments later.

## Student performance

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### **2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you**

Student performance was comparable to those at a similar stage at the Universities of Bristol, Cambridge, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

### **2.2 Quality of candidates' knowledge and skills, with particular reference to those at the top, middle or bottom of the range**

Overall the students performed well, with only a small number of students failing the exam and a good range of results between pass, merit and distinction level.

### **2.3 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the students' performance**

The improvement in student performance observed over the last few years is continuing and surpassing last year's outcome. This was enhanced by the improved legibility of the essays in the online format. We complement teaching staff and students on this achievement.

## Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

### 3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The chosen questions were excellent and represent the learning objectives as well as all relevant areas of the course.

### 3.2 Extent to which assessment procedures are rigorous

The exam was very fair, rigorous and transparent and we thank the exam team for the support, giving the external examiners access to all aspects of the exam process. All queries were dealt with in a timely fashion.

### 3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

Assessment was considered to be consistent with the FHEQ.

### 3.4 Standard of marking

The standard of marking was excellent and consistent across examiners and questions. The model answers provided were detailed and followed in a consistent manner. The quality assurance steps followed in the marking process are rigorous and transparent. The feedback provided on each script is very helpful for students and the detail of feedback is a credit to the markers.

### 3.5 In your view, are the procedures for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted? (e.g. Briefing, Exam administration, marking arrangements, Board of Examiners, participation by External Examiners)

The exam process and procedures are sound and fair at all stages of the examination.

### 3.6 Opinion on changes to the assessment procedures from previous years in which you have examined

Exam procedures are continuously refined and all changes made due to the Covid pandemic have been extremely successful.

### 3.7 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the procedures

The quality and detail of feedback is outstanding.

**4.1 Comments I have made in previous years have been addressed to my satisfaction**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.2 An acceptable response has been made**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.3 I approved the papers for the Examination**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate sample of students' work and marks to enable me to carry out my duties**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.5 I attended the meeting of the Board of Examiners held to approve the results of the Examination**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.7 The standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.8 The standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.9 I have received enough training and support to carry out my role**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

**4.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound**

**Yes**

**Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:**

## Completion

If you have identified any areas of good practice, please comment more fully here. We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:

**5.1 Do you have any suggestions for improvements based on experience at other institutes? We may use information provided in our annual external examining report:**

Compared to the previous year the experience with Learn as exam platform was improved, but further improvements should be considered to support the exam team in their work. Loading pages was considerably faster, but movement between pages would allow some improvement. A search option and access to all pages for selection instead of first, last and next would be advantageous.

**Course Director's response:**

*Thank you for your comments. It will be passed onto the relevant team for information.*

**5.2 External Examiner comments: For College information only (Responses to External Examiners are published on the College's website. Please only use this box to add any comments that you wish to remain confidential, if any)**

