

Director of QAE - School Leadership

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THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Senatus Quality Assurance Committee 20.09.18

Item 1C - School Annual Quality Reports Sub-Group

Education

“The Group commended the School on a reflective report with clear actions and senior management oversight.”

CV

- Edinburgh University since 1998 (Moray House since 1991)
- Programme Director Applied Sport Science 2002-2011
 - 3 Subject Area TPRs (liaison, liaison, led)
- QAA External assessor 2003-2006
- Deputy Head of SPEHS Institute (35 staff, 750 students) 2010-2013
- Head of Institute 2013-2016
- Deputy Head of School (250 staff, 2000 students) 2016-2018
- (Acting) Director of QAE 2015-2018
- UG, PG and PhD External Examiner at approx. 12 UK+EU institutions

How can the role can be integrated into school management and decision making structures?

1. Structures
2. Relationships
3. People
4. Actions

Structures

Committees

- ▶ School QAE - include DUGS, DPGS, UG and PG student reps, dedicated Prof Services staff, Institute (dept) reps.
- ▶ School UGSC and PGSC - DQAE full core member
- ▶ School P&RC - DQAE full core member
- ▶ School Board of Studies
- ▶ School Executive - DQAE was core, now co-opted

How to maximise support but avoid duplication?

Responsibility for student reps

- ▶ Links with Student Support Office and EUSA/School reps

TPR/PPR

- ▶ Crucial role for DQAE

Relationships

- ▶ Direct access to Head of School
- ▶ Must have good working relationships with DUGS and DPGS
- ▶ Good links with Deans of QAE, UGS and PGS
- ▶ Good relationship with DoPS is valuable
- ▶ Good formal and informal relationships with student reps are VERY important.
- ▶ Links with Programme Directors - help, feedback and review
- ▶ Good support from College and University

People

- ▶ Need a DQAE who is committed to student and staff experience.
- ▶ How to cover Quality *and* Enhancement? Is it possible for one Director to do (or want to do) both? What if not?
- ▶ Useful if DQAE has been a Programme Director
- ▶ Valuable if DQAE has experience of other parts of the University
- ▶ Handy if DQAE is good with/likes data analysis (or knows someone who does who can help!)
- ▶ Enthusiasm! QAE is not the most “sexy” topic/role.

BUT..... “It is what we do” as core business of the University

Actions

Meetings

- ▶ Formal and informal (latter more important?)
- ▶ Feedback loop - “you said, we did”
- ▶ Schedule of meetings - in proper sequence!
- ▶ “Unplanned events” - regular, solutions-focussed meetings with HoS

School Dissemination

- ▶ “Best practice” sessions, brainstorming events, invited speakers
- ▶ Web-based materials, videos, social media (?) etc

College and University

- ▶ Get involved with other Schools
- ▶ Volunteer for initiatives

Thanks for your attention –
Questions?



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