UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

ACADEMIC POLICY AND REGULATIONS GROUP (APRG)

MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON 09 SEPTEMBER 2024

Present: Faye Hendry (Chair), Steven Tucker, Miles Rothoerl, Kyra Lamont (Clerk) and Liam Dyker in attendance.

Apologies: Selma Carson

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/001)

1.1   The Chair welcomed those in attendance to the Academic Policy and Regulations Group (APRG). The Group approved the minutes of the previous meeting without need for amendment.

MATTERS ARISING AND ACTION LOG

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/002)

2.1   The Group was informed that all outstanding actions were now complete.

APRG REMIT & COMPOSITION

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/003)

3.1   The Group was advised that membership will be confirmed following the next meeting of the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) on 25 September 2024 and the results of the student elections held in October 2024. Thereafter, the Remit and Composition document will return to the Group for approval.

ANNUAL MONITORING

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/004)

4.1   Annual Course Review Proforma

The Group approved the changes to the ACR proforma subject to the following recommendations/amendments:
(i)   Remove reference(s) to 'half-session' and replace with 'term' as appropriate
(ii)   Address the typo in section e) by changing 'were' to 'where'

4.2   Annual Course Review Proforma (Short)

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/005)

(i)   Remove reference(s) to 'half-session' and replace with 'term' as appropriate
(ii)   Delete 'achieved' in regard to feedback and replace with 'gathered'
(iii)   Amend the note to reflect the guidance on the University webpages with regards to completion of short annual course review reports

RESOLUTION FOR CHANGES IN REGULATIONS 4FOR VARIOUS DEGREES

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/006)

5.1   The Group was informed that the proposed amendment will form part of the February Omnibus which will be considered by Senate. The Group was thereafter content to approve the proposed amendment to Regulation 27 of the General Regulations for Postgraduate Research with the following suggestion:
(i)   Remove 'has [been satisfactory]' on line two of regulation 27 and replace with 'have'

TRANSITION TO THE NEW QAA QUALITY CODE

6.1   The Group heard from the Dean for Quality Assurance and Enhancement regarding the planned transition from the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) 2018 Quality Code to the newly published 2024 Quality Code:

(i)   The Group was informed that the new version of the QAA Quality Code provides greater granularity in terms of the 12 principles and contains a new section on data which will require further consideration.

(ii)   The Group was advised that whilst this may present some challenges in terms of mapping there is an agreement across the sector that this transition will be gradual. Thus, work will continue to map the Quality Code, and the relevant updates, section by section as part of APRG rather than all at once.

QAA QUALITY CODE MAPPING

7.1   Section 2: Assessments of the Quality Code

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/007)

The Group approved the changes made to Section 2 of the Quality Code for onward consideration by the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) without need for further amendment.

7.2   Section 3: Concerns, Complaints and Appeals

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/008)

The Group approved the changes made to Section 3 of the Quality Code for onward consideration by QAC, subject to the following amendments:

(i)   Reference to 'AUSA students' union' should be replaced by 'students' union'

(ii)   Address the typo found in subsection 6, page 7, by deleting 'on' and replacing with 'of' [the School]

7.3   Section 6: External Expertise

(Copy filed as APRG/090924/009)

The Group approved the changes made to Section 6: External Expertise of the Quality Code for onward consideration by the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC), subject to the following amendments:

(i)   Consider adding a statement outlining the way in which External Examiner Reports are being used to close the feedback loop for students (i.e. reports are now uploaded to MyAberdeen)

8.   Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Group will be held on **16 October 2024** at **14:05** via **Microsoft Teams** and **Committee Room 2.**