

Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Internal Assessment Report

2008

Subject: MANUFACTURE - 275

Sector Panel or SSC: ENGINEERING

Date: 06/08/2008

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation, which has taken place within Higher National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications in this subject.

HIGHER NATIONAL UNITS

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the moderation of centres.

Include:

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments:

This year, two Moderators visited four centres for the moderation of HN units. This year the group was asked to concentrate on HN units, as the NQ units had been the focus of moderation for two years previously. The units verified were, DR1W 34 – Engineering Drawing, DT46 34 – Materials Selection, DV01 35 – Strength of Materials: Advanced, DT60 35 – Plant Systems, DR1V 34 – Engineering Skills, D4KV 04 – Product manufacturing Skills, D4FV 04 – Component Manufacturing Skills, D4JF 04 – Materials Selection and testing, DR3M 35 – Design for manufacture. All of the assessment materials and scripts examined were found to be of an appropriate standard. The standards were found to be high, uniformly, across all the centres. The Moderators also found that the centres now have good Internal Verification systems. No problems were reported.

At the group meeting it was queried why the level of activity was so low this year.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

- 1) Most centres now have robust and easily verifiable Internal Verification systems. They hold regular meetings, which are well documented. All the IVs are either properly qualified or working towards their qualifications and these records are maintained to reflect the current state of affairs.
 - 2) Much work has been done by centres on reducing the assessment load by the development and adoption of integrative assessments. These have been achieved by integrating assessments over a number of outcomes in a particular unit or even by integrating outcomes across different units. More can still be done in this area, which would be beneficial in reducing the workload on students and lecturers.
 - 3) It used to be the norm for External Moderators to report their findings to the Principal of the Institution that they were visiting. This does not happen any longer. It would be beneficial if this aspect of good practice was reinstated.
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HIGHER NATIONAL GRADED UNITS

TITLES/LEVELS OF HN GRADED UNITS MODERATED

Insert details below

Three graded units were verified in this session.

Anniesland College and Kilmarnock College, DW13 34 ran the graded unit 1. These were centrally verified.

The DW14 35 graded unit 2 was verified at the University of the West of Scotland (Bell College).

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the moderation of centres.

Include:

- *General comment*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments:

This is the second year of the introduction of graded units. Only two centres ran the graded units 1, this session for their candidates. Both centres requested prior moderation of the graded units. The instruments of assessment and the scripts were of an appropriate standard. The grades awarded by the centres were, in the majority of cases, in agreement with those awarded by the SQA Moderators.

In both cases there were some discrepancies in the adding up of marks by Internal Assessors but these had been spotted and corrected by the Internal Verifiers.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

1. Graded units should be prior verified as a matter of course.
 2. Graded units should be properly internally verified by the colleges before being sent to SQA for prior verification.
 3. The Internal Verifiers are doing a good job but Internal Assessors need to be more careful in checking their own work.
 4. A standardised system of entering marks on the scripts needs to be adopted for the graded unit 1.
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SVQ AWARDS

TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS MODERATED

Insert details below

No SVQ awards were moderated by the group in this session.

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the moderation of centres.

Include:

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments:

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

NATIONAL UNITS

(i.e. Freestanding units which contribute to NPAs or NCs etc.)

TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS MODERATED

Insert details below

No National units were verified by the group.

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

Insert details relating to specific guidance which should be offered to centres based on the moderation of centres.

Include:

- *General comments*
- *Areas of good practice*
- *Areas for further development*

General comments: