



Learning and Teaching Plan 2014 – 15.

Strategic Direction and Context

The College of MVLS offers four undergraduate professional programmes (Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Veterinary Medicine), 20 other undergraduate programmes and 45 postgraduate programmes. The programmes are delivered in four Schools (including Graduate School) and seven Research Institutes.

The Learning and Teaching aims of the College are to continue to provide excellent teaching and support for students across all courses, to encourage innovation, and to share best practice across the College to enhance student learning.

Progress on previous year's objectives.

A. SHARING BEST PRACTICE:

1. Admissions
 - We will develop a policy for use in all of the professional programmes in the College for providing standard feedback to unsuccessful applicants. **ACHIEVED**
 - We will develop a standard process for use across the College in dealing with requests for information. **ACHIEVED**
 - We will develop a standard process for use across the College in dealing with complaints about admission decisions. **ACHIEVED**
 - We will work closely with RIO in developing these processes and in setting admission targets and tariffs for entry to subjects in the College. **ACHIEVED**
2. E-learning
 - Following two large whole College meetings on this topic last year, we will work closely with the Vice Principal for learning and Teaching and the Director of TELT to implement the University e-learning strategy in MVLS. In doing so, we will ensure that the needs of staff and students in the College are met and that innovation is encouraged. **ONGOING**
 - We will engage with the new Director of Operations in MVLS at an early stage to ensure that College support is optimum. **NOT ACHIEVED (DIRECTOR JUST APPOINTED)**
3. Student progression
 - We will arrange a whole College meeting to share best practice in convening School Progress Committees to follow-up two successful workshops held in 2011. **ACHIEVED**
4. Fitness to practice
 - We will convene a meeting with Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and St Andrews Universities to share best practice in making Fitness to Practice decisions across all professional programmes – medicine, dentistry, nursing, veterinary medicine, clinical psychology etc. **ACHIEVED**
5. Supporting teachers in Scholarship
 - We will continue to hold several annual events open to all College staff to encourage and support scholarship e.g. the School of Medicine have arranged a meeting on “Recognising and measuring excellence in teaching” on 4.12.13 which will involve an international speaker, that will be open to the whole College. **ONGOING**
 - We will re-energise the Community for Educational Scholarship. **NOT ACHIEVED**

B. INTERNATIONALIZATION

- We will work with the two new College leads for Internationalization to help them reach the College's aspirations for internationalization. **ONGOING**
- We will arrange an exchange of medical students in fourth year between Glasgow University and Orebro University in Sweden. **ACHIEVED**
- We will arrange a student exchange for vet students in final year with the University of Purdue, USA. **ACHIEVED**

C. GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

- We will work with the College Graduate Attributes Champion to support her in taking forward this agenda with undergraduate students. **ONGOING**

- We will continue to operate the Head of College Scholars List Scheme to encourage those undergraduate students who have the aptitude and desire to pursue an academic/research career.

ACHIEVED

- We will work with the new College Dean for Graduate Studies and the Chair of the Graduate Education Committee to produce a skills matrix for postgraduate taught students that will use a portfolio approach and recognizes that these students will be competing in a global market.

ONGOING

Priorities for the year ahead

The College would like to focus on the following areas: Sharing Best Practice; Recognising, Supporting and Rewarding Teaching; Learning supported by Appropriate Technology (including e-learning and on-line learning); Internationalisation; Work-Related Learning; and Graduate Attributes.

A. SHARING BEST PRACTICE

- We will facilitate agreements across Schools and Institutes to ensure research-led teaching is fully supported.

B. RECOGNISING, SUPPORTING AND REWARDING TEACHING

- We will hold a meeting/workshop on scholarship and impact and Senior Fellowship of the HEA
- We will ensure that all members of staff in the College have teaching related objectives in their P+DR.

C. LEARNING SUPPORTED BY APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY

- We will work with the new Dean for Digital Education to achieve College aspirations for on-line PGT courses. 2014-15 is a development phase and will include delivery of one on-line course.
- We will invite a member of the College TELT group to join College L+T Committee to help that group reach its strategic objectives. The TELT group will feedback where it recognises that more support is required to assist in the provision of services to meet staff needs and possibly provide a centralised resource for staff within the College in an easy to access/navigate website.
- We will assist the College TELT group in identifying requirements of staff to support scholarly activities (research) in TELT areas (advice on what they are trying to achieve), disseminating good practice and encourage, recognise and reward their efforts to develop innovative TELT approaches.
- We will set up a staff-student TELT partnership to focus on the needs of our students, what they expect and value, how we can enhance their learning, teaching and student experience, and how we can support the development of their digital literacy.
- We will identify areas of interest and begin to develop solutions, pilot and evaluate new technologies/techniques with the support of both LTU and College IT services.

D. INTERNATIONALISATION

- We will continue to work with the College leads for Internationalisation to help them reach the College's aspirations for internationalisation.

E. WORK RELATED LEARNING

- We will promote shadowing, internships (between 2nd and 3rd year, potentially with University start-up companies) and the full MSci degree for Life Science students to develop employability via work placed learning in top performing students.
- We will promote employability portfolio development for all Life Science students. Students applying for placements would use their portfolios - but all students can develop them and use them for employability. Topics for inclusion could be: CV development, laboratory experience, ethics and legal issues including Intellectual Property, development of transferable skills.
- We will support/promote numeracy/statistical development for students – see LTDF project.
- We will encourage staff to develop their own awareness of employment, and skills required, in their different fields.
- We will try to facilitate staff discussions about employability with employers and link discussions to curriculum development. Specifically, we will discuss this further with the College Research and Business Development unit.
- We will investigate setting up systems to collect data about students' longterm employment destinations (perhaps by working more closely with DAO)

F. GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES.

- We will support the development of a strand on scientific skills in the revised level three Human Biology course.
- We will support strengthening and developing links with Alumni and employers in Life Sciences
- We will continue to raise awareness about Graduate Attributes among students and staff in the College.
- We will support exploring assessment methods that allow the assessment of different skills development in students

Strategic University-level issues

We require sufficient resource at LTU and University IT level to fully support our aspirations in TELT.