



Accreditation Board Annual Report

September 1st 2013 - August 31st 2014

www.ehtpa.eu

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of accreditation board members I am pleased to present this summary of board activity during the 2013-2014 academic year.

MEETINGS

Meetings were held 4 times during the year: the management of the accreditation process continues to adhere to the established systems in place.

ACCREDITATION AND ANNUAL REVIEW OUTCOMES

CONTINUATION OF ACCREDITATION FOLLOWING SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL REVIEW

Lincoln College with validation by the University of Lincoln

B.Sc. (Hons) Western Herbal Medicine

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2016-17 academic year.

Middlesex University

PG Diploma Professional Practice: Western Herbal Medicine

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2014-2015 academic year.

PG Diploma Professional Practice: Chinese Herbal Medicine.

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2014-2015 academic year.

B.Sc. (Hons) Western Herbal Medicine.

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2017-2018 academic year.

B.Sc. (Hons) Chinese Herbal Medicine

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2017-2018 academic year.

Note that recruitment to the September 2014 intake of the BSc (Hons) H&TM programmes at Middlesex University has been suspended.

Northern College of Acupuncture with validation by Middlesex University

PG Diploma Chinese Herbal Medicine

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2017-2018 academic year.

Westminster University

BSc (Hons) Western Herbal Medicine

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2016-2017 academic year.

Note that the university is restructuring its modular framework and revising approaches to learning and teaching. This may necessitate renewal of accreditation prior to September 2016.

M.Sc. Chinese Herbal Medicine

Renewal of accreditation event: due during 2017-2018 academic year.

University of East London

BSc. (Hons) Western Herbal Medicine. (Closed to new entrants)

Ongoing accreditation confirmed until closure, subject to satisfactory annual review.

2014-2015 SCHEDULE OF ACCREDITATION AND REVIEW EVENTS

One new programme will undergo an accreditation event: Middlesex University PG Diploma Professional Practice: Ayurvedic Herbal Medicine

Two programmes will undergo renewal of accreditation events during the 2014-2015 academic year: Middlesex University PG Diploma Professional Practice: Western Herbal Medicine and PG Diploma Professional Practice: Chinese Herbal Medicine

The seven remaining programmes will undergo Annual Review.

Matters previously referred to Council and/or Education Committee

From the 2012-2013 Report.

“The minimum length of academic/calendar year(s) necessary for achievement of learning outcomes.

Is an educational policy necessary and if so, would evaluation/audit of current programmes provide evidence to inform decision making?”

Resolution awaited. Note: there is not an EHTPA policy about programme duration: only the minimum number of hours allocated to the Core Curriculum is quantified.

Matters referred to Council and/or Education Committee during the current year

(i) Recognition of Prior Learning

Discussion by board members about exemption from the CHM curriculum led to a more general discussion about admission with credit to all EHTPA accredited programmes. Members queried whether there is a need for an EHTPA Recognition of Prior Learning Policy and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Education Committee for consideration.

(ii) Standards of Proficiency

Currently the board accredits against the requirements of the EHTPA Core Curriculum when accrediting programmes whilst PAs admit individual members with reference to the Standards of Proficiency. The HCPC use Standards of Proficiency, not curriculum content when approving programmes of study.

There is a need to:

- confirm that the Core Curriculum Learning Outcomes sufficiently reflect the Standards of Proficiency (SoP)
- determine whether the SoP should be used for the purpose of programme accreditation in line with HCPC programme approval processes.

Other Matters

Fees charged to educational institutions

The policy continues of fees being frozen in order to help protect the viability of H&TM programmes.

MHRA Working Group

There will be a need to identify the implications for accredited university programmes of recommendations in the (yet to be published) MHRA Working Group Report.

Positive developments identified from reports and visits to institutions

- E-learning packages and the use of technology to support teaching and learning
- Positive student feedback re block timetabling being beneficial to their learning
- Student access to on-site dedicated Herb Gardens
- Growth of research activity in line with increases in post graduate provision for H&TM

Accreditation board action points for 2014-15

- Plan, organise and complete accreditation and renewal of accreditation events: receive written panel reports by agreed deadlines.
- Complete the 2014-2015 annual monitoring and review events in the Spring term: receive written panel reports no later than the end of March 2015
- When the implications of the MHRA Working Group Report for accredited university programmes are known, to determine what action to take within specified timescales.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed directly or indirectly to the work of the accreditation board during the past 12 months, your help is greatly appreciated.

Lynn Copcutt.

Appendix One

Summary of developmental points carried forward from earlier board annual reports

Development Areas	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
External Examiners Comments on Clinical Practice	This remains less than satisfactory with many external examiners reports portraying limited examination or comments related to the clinical aspects of programmes.	This remains challenging regardless of the EHTPA panel members reminding institutions of this requirement. Many EE reports have scant detail regarding the clinical aspects of the programme.		
Analysis of Data	Significant improvements compared with previous years. All institutions offering data sets with varying levels of explanation	Data available in all annual reviews. Small numbers of students make interpretations limited. Most annual reports do not do provide analysis comments regarding the data or monitor trends.		
TIs seeking EHTPA accreditation – late notification	Notification remains problematic with many delays in identifying timescales and events	This remains a challenge. TIs are asked to involve EHTPA much earlier in the planning process		
Dispensary Audit	Standards now in place and audits being undertaken and monitored.	Implementation remains an area of ongoing monitoring		
Development of CPD opportunities utilising modular frameworks	CPD opportunities remain in the development phase	More opportunities emerging although progress slow		

Please refer to the EHTPA website for pre 2012-2013 reports.

Appendix Two

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

No changes to membership during the year in question.

ATTENDANCE

Practitioners registered with EHTPA Professional Associations	Attendance at 4 meetings held
Vijayendra Murthy	4/4
Julian Barker	4/4
Terrill Dobson	3/4
Eileen Gibbon	2/4
Emma Farrant	4/4
John Smith	4/4
Two members representative of institutions offering EHTPA accredited programmes	
Celia Bell Ph.D	2/4
Mike Potter	3/4
Independent members	
Lynn Copcutt	4/4
Jennifer Clark	4/4
Ann Henshaw Ph.D	3/4
Prof. Kath Ross	4/4
Harvey Woolf	4/4
One vacancy	
Co-opted member	
Rumana Zahn Herbal Practitioner and Naturopath	4/4