



Leading education
and social research
Institute of Education
University of London

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

University of London

POLICY ON QUALITY ASSURANCE

1. The mission of the Institute of Education is to pursue excellence in education and related areas of social science and professional practice. In undertaking this mission the Institute will adhere to the highest standards of academic rigour in all its work; be guided by a concern for truth and justice; and make a positive contribution to the development of individuals, institutions and societies facing the challenge of change.
2. The Institute is therefore committed to offering high quality, research-informed postgraduate and post-experience learning and teaching programmes, promoting new ideas in policy and professional practice grounded in the Institute's research and teaching expertise, and providing consultancy and other services to support and develop the quality of educational systems and related fields of policy and practice.
3. The Institute is also committed to providing a supportive learning environment to enable all students to achieve the highest possible standards in their chosen programmes of study. In order to achieve this, it recognises the need for appropriate quality assurance and enhancement mechanisms.
4. Quality assurance is defined as the means of ensuring that effective structures and mechanisms are in place to monitor its quality control procedures, and to ensure that these promote the enhancement of existing standards of performance in teaching, learning, administration and student support.
5. The Institute's approach to Quality Assurance is:
 - to develop awareness amongst all its staff of their personal responsibility for ensuring that all activities are of the highest quality, and to provide appropriate staff development to help them achieve this;
 - to take collective responsibility for ensuring that adequate systems for quality assurance and enhancement have been developed and are in place.
6. Overall responsibility for quality assurance and enhancement across all academic provision lies with the Senate of the Institute. However, responsibility for devising appropriate quality assurance procedures and for monitoring their effective implementation lies with the Teaching Committee which is a sub-board of Senate and is chaired by the Assistant Director (Learning and Teaching). The Teaching Committee, together with the Equal Opportunities Committee, develops and

enhances quality processes and procedures through consultation, feedback and dialogue with staff and students.

7. Responsibility for ensuring high quality learning, teaching, research, consultancy and knowledge transfer lies with the Assistant Director for Learning and Teaching, and the Assistant Director for Research, Consultancy and Knowledge Transfer
8. The maintenance of the quality of learning, teaching, student support and research and consultancy on a day-to-day basis is the responsibility of the Deans of Faculty to whom Programme leaders and Research Project Directors report. The Dean of the Doctoral School is responsible for the quality of learning and teaching on the EdD, the DEdPsy, the MRes and the MPhil/PhD research training programme which are cross-Institute courses.
9. Responsibility for ensuring the delivery of high quality support services on a day-to-day basis lies with the Heads of Support Departments who are line managed by three Deputy Secretaries who report to the Institute's Director of Administration.
10. Assistant Directors, Deans, Heads of Faculty Administration, the Director of Administration and Deputy Secretaries are members of the senior management team and are therefore involved in discussions of strategy and policy including quality assurance and enhancement issues.

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