Hartpury College is an Associate Faculty of the University of the West of England. Foundation, Bachelors and Masters degrees are awarded in three main subject areas: Animal & Land Sciences, Equine Science and Sports Science.

Students are encouraged to feedback at a module and programme level through various routes. Module and programme leaders use these comments to enable them to make informed changes to module and programme specifications.

### Module Changes

All students complete a survey at the end of each module run asking questions about the content and teaching. Module leaders use these comments to make changes to the module specification, such as changes to learning outcomes or assessment. For example, all level 3 10 credit module exams are now 90 minutes following student comments that 60 minutes was not long enough for them to show the depth of their knowledge. Changes to modules must first be taken to the field review committee which includes student representatives, module leaders and senior staff. Student representatives can also take comments about modules to programme review meetings. Two of these meetings are held each semester and are attended by student representatives, modules leaders and the programme leader. There are two student representatives from each level of each programme.

### Programme Changes

Programme leaders use module survey and programme review comments when writing their annual programme report. This will highlight action points for the future year. Proposed programme changes are taken to field review for the committee, including student representatives, to comment on.

### Subject Review

Student comments are used extensively, along with employer comments and QAA guidelines, during five-yearly subject reviews, when programme specifications, including modules that contribute to the awards, are scrutinised. In this way we are able to ensure that our programmes are meeting the needs of students and employers.

Six Animal Science programmes underwent a subject review in 2008/9: BSc (Hons) and FdSc Animal Behaviour & Welfare; BSc (Hons) and FdSc Animal Sciences; BSc (Hons) and FdSc Bioveterinary Science.

The most changes were made to BSc (Hons) and FdSc Animal Behaviour & Welfare. Many students had commented that they wished to pursue a career as a pet behaviour counsellor. The programme management team therefore ensured that the programme contained all the syllabus requirements for pre-certification as a pet behaviour counsellor. Several animal welfare science modules were also added to enhance the employability of students into the animal welfare industry and to reflect the growth in this subject area. Applications for these programmes continue to rise, reflecting the success of the changes to the programmes.

Student comments are therefore exceedingly valuable to ensure programmes remain current. We must therefore encourage students to use their feedback opportunities and have an impact on their learning.

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