What works?

Sharing insights from School Annual Quality Reports

Dr Shereen Benjamin, Professor Tina Harrison, Nichola Kett
Annual monitoring, review and reporting

Course monitoring → Programme monitoring report → School quality report
2016/17 School reports areas of good practice themes

- Assessment and feedback
- Academic community
- Innovative learning and teaching and curriculum development
- Enhancing and management of teaching
- Student support
- Support for PGR students
- Employability
Assessment and feedback

- Literatures, Languages and Cultures: traffic light system of feedback on coursework
- Law: innovative assessment types
- Physics and Astronomy: coordinating deadlines to avoid pile ups of coursework assessments
- Vets: small, frequent, low stakes MCQs with feedback
- GeoSciences: courses have a Learn folder with clear marking criteria for each assessment
Academic Community

- Edinburgh College of Art: collaborative projects involving UG and PG students at all levels [http://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk/?p=2938](http://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk/?p=2938) (also employability)
- Law: dedicated events for Graduate LLB students
- Social and Political Science: PGR mentoring scheme of PGT students
Innovative L&T and curriculum development

• Centre for Open Learning: use of PebblePad, MediaHopper, Box of Broadcasts and Top Hat in the classroom and Collaborate for group communication

• Maths: collaborative learning in pre-hons years has improved UG student attainment (alongside learning support via Piazza, MathsPals and MathsBase drop ins)

• Education: PGT cohort feedback and feedforward

http://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk/?p=2461
Enhancing and Management of Teaching

- Biomedical Sciences: Learning and Teaching Forum is an excellent way to keep staff informed about current developments and new ideas
- Edinburgh College of Art: development of a new School-wide QA network providing oversight of teaching
- Physics and Astronomy: online system for recording all Peer Observation of Teaching instances
Student Support

• Maths: Student Learning Advisor [http://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk/?p=1497](http://www.teaching-matters-blog.ed.ac.uk/?p=1497)

• Business: dedicated Student Experience Team involved in assessing mid-course feedback, student learning and achievement, and developing external collaborations and skills matrices to enhance employability

• Health in Social Science: mandatory annual training for Personal Tutors
Support for PGR Students

- GeoSciences: changes made to tutoring and demonstrating (streamlined and transparent processes)
- Engineering: graduate buddy system for new students
- Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences: Support and Professional Development Portfolio for PG Tutors supported by Teaching Coordinator in Philosophy
- History, Classics and Archaeology: induction events for PGR students covering research ethics, managing your supervisor and academic networking
Employability

- History, Classics and Archaeology: established a dedicated Career Board to enhance employability
- Economics: asked major employers to commission PGT dissertations
- Social and Political Science: Q-step UG programme providing enhanced courses and training in quantitative data collection and analysis had work placement opportunities with top local employers
Please see also the College posters
Further information:

nichola.kett@ed.ac.uk
edin.ac/2EsifIq