

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

LEARNING AND TEACHING BOARD

**Consultation between Schools on programmes with related titles**

*The Board endorsed (on 19 February 2002) the following amendments to the approval process for programmes that include in their title descriptors that are more usually associated with the provision of another School.*

There has recently been an increase in the number of programmes coming forward for approval that include in their title a descriptor that would usually be associated with another School. The following concerns have been raised about such programmes:

- the potential for confusion and difficulty for students and other stakeholders which may arise when the University offers programmes with similar titles but which are intended for entirely different student constituencies;
- the need to protect the research environment in which programmes, particularly those at Masters level, are taught;
- the development of internal competition for students;
- the protection of any possible external 'branding' of a discipline within the University;
- specialists within the field from outside the University assuming that such a programme is provided by one School rather than another;
- that the programme may need to be returned within any publishable data for a School, or be subjected to external review, other than the true 'parent';
- ensuring that programmes which include reference to particular subjects within their title are able to meet the appropriate QAA Benchmark Statements.

Whilst recognising these concerns it would, without a change of University policy, be unacceptable to allow any School to assert proprietorial rights over the teaching of a particular discipline. This was agreed earlier in relation to the service teaching of Maths modules. However, the situation may be regarded as somewhat different where the nature of an entire programme is concerned.

It is therefore proposed that the following arrangements are formalised:

- i) responsibility for the titles of modules should continue to reside with the 'parent' School Learning and Teaching Committee;
- ii) a School wishing to propose a programme that includes within its title reference to subject matter usually associated with another School must provide evidence that it has consulted the other School during the development process and has taken account of any comments arising. Where satisfactory resolution of issues cannot be achieved by local discussions these should be brought to the Learning and Teaching Board whose decision will be final;
- iii) any irreconcilable issues in respect of programme names will be determined by Learning and Teaching Board.

Reviewed (AQST): August 2011

Please note the following changes to nomenclature from 1 August 2011:

Learning and Teaching Board (LTB) is now Taught Student Education Board (TSEB)

School Learning and Teaching Committee (SLTC) is now School Taught Student Education Committee (STSEC)