

Scottish Cluster Dietetic Placements



Glasgow Caledonian
University
University for the Common Good



Queen Margaret University
EDINBURGH



www.rgu.ac.uk/dietetic-placements-scotland

Dietetic Practice Education Update

Sharing developments and best
practice with those involved in
Scottish dietetic education

A shorter newsletter for you to read this time round due to several changes within the HEI's which you will hear more about. Read on to also hear about student progression, placement demand forecasting and practice education dates.

Student progression

The universities now collect data on student progression through practice placements. Data below relates to the 2018 placement cycle

Placement A

For placement A in the 2018 cycle, 68 students proceeded to and completed the placement.

Placement B

Of the 72 students who were allocated a B placement one student decided to transfer to an alternative programme prior to the start of her placement and all other students successfully passes their 12 week placement.

Placement C

Of the 73 students who proceeded to placement C, five students failed to successfully meet the learning within the 12 weeks allocation and will require extended weeks. These additional weeks will be allocated within the 2019 cycle.

HEI's news roundup

GCU

As you may be aware the Postgraduate Diploma in Dietetics programme at GCU has been withdrawn, with the final cohort of PG students due to graduate this year. GCU continues to offer the undergraduate BSc (hons) Human Nutrition and Dietetics programme. GCU will still recruit a total of 25 students (+/- 10%) to level one of the programme rather than split numbers across the two programmes.

There have also been some staff changes with Drs Pamela Smith and Jennie Jackson both retiring from GCU (Pam in December 2017 and Jennie in July 2018). We welcome Marian Cunningham who has moved from 0.4 to 0.9WTE. She is currently joint Undergraduate Programme Lead with Emma Kinrade and will take over Emma's role in the Operational Group. We very much welcome Marian to our group and look forward to working with her.

QMU

As part of the 5 year revalidation process at QMU the dietetic programmes were revalidated by QMU and the revised programmes were approved by the HCPC and BDA subject to completion of minor conditions. QMU will continue to deliver an UG and a PG programme. The UG programme has been revalidated as a 4 year UG masters programme (Master of Dietetics, MDiet) and the pre-registration programme will continue as a 2 year PG programme. Admission numbers to the programmes remain consistent with current intakes i.e. 12 – 15 on the UG programme and 10 – 12 on the PG programme.

There have been some staffing changes at QMU with Dr. Sara Smith taking on the role of Deputy Head of Division which has resulted in the appointment of Alison Lyles to support the dietetic teaching. We are delighted to welcome Alison to the QMU teaching team as she is an experienced RD who continues to have an honorary contract with NHS Lothian.

RGU

Many of you will have heard that Susan Lennie has moved to pastures new taking up an exciting new opportunity in Newcastle University to develop a dietetic programme. We all wish Susan well in her new position and thank her for the contribution she made at RGU and within the cluster. With Susan's departure, there have been some staffing changes. Heather will be the course leader for Masters of Dietetics (MDiet) and BSc (Hons) Nutrition and Dietetics and we have Julia Clark joining the team fulltime in July 2019. Julia has a vast amount of experience as a clinical dietitian as well as having a research portfolio having had research positions at the Rowett and Aberdeen University.

You will also be aware that RGU was validated in 2018 to run a Masters of Dietetics (MDiet) which is an undergraduate integrated masters programme. Our annual student intake remains the same (25 undergraduate places (+/- 10%)) and the first intake was in September 2018. The BSc (Hons) Nutrition and Dietetics ceased taking new applicants in September 2018 and will run out with the current student cohorts finishing June 2021. If you would like to find out more about our MDiet and/or would like to visit us in Aberdeen, please get in touch with Heather to make arrangements (h.donald3@rgu.ac.uk).

Placement demand forecasting for the 2020 cycle (as of June 2019)

Placement type	Weeks	Comments
A placements	152	Includes 4 weeks for 2 x students not progressing as expected (deferred studies).
B placements	828	Includes 60 weeks for 5 x students who are not progressing as expected (deferred studies/extenuating circumstances)
C placements	888	Includes 36 weeks for 3 x students who are not progressing as expected (deferred studies/extenuating circumstances) and 60 weeks for 5 x students requiring extended weeks
TOTAL	1868	Decrease from 2019 forecasting figure of 2024 weeks

Thank you to everyone for the ongoing commitment to provide sufficient practice placement supply in an equitable manner.

Practice Placement supply requests, have been sent to Lead Practice Educators with a request that supply offers be returned to Pamela Knox, Scottish Dietetic Placement Administrator, by the 9th of August 2019.

Please note that for 2019, Health Boards have again been given a steer on the number and type of placements required and the timing that placements are required. It is hoped that by doing this, fewer requests will be made to Health Boards to change the timing of the offers made.

Lead Practice Educators will be informed of all 2020 allocations by the beginning of November 2019 at the latest.

AHP Practice Educator Preparation & Update Sessions Across Scotland: 2019

The three universities provide both full-day introductory sessions (for new practice educators) and half-day update sessions (those that are planning to provide student placements again after a break). Introductory sessions provide initial preparation to support practice educators to feel confident in providing a student placement. Updates provide on-going CPD to experienced educators on specific topics. Please see the tables below to find a local session for you to attend. You are welcome to attend any session so long as you book in advance.

Organiser	Date	Contact
GCU	16 th December 2019	Info will be circulated by PELs nearer to the time.
QMU	22 nd August 2019	www.qmu.ac.uk-pbl or PET@qmu.ac.uk
RGU	21 st August 2019 - Aberdeen 21 st August 2019 - Oban 13 th November 2019 - Perth	healthcpd@rgu.ac.uk

Please remember that the website contains all up-to-date placement documents, including the revised placement portfolios for 2019/20. We still hear from time to time that staff are not aware of the website so please share this with your colleagues.

www.rgu.ac.uk/dietetic-placements-scotland



University Operational Group: Who are we?

Many of you will be familiar with some of the dietetic staff at the Universities. Below you will find out about who sits on the University Operational Group and what roles we undertake within this committee.



Heather Donald is Course Leader at Robert Gordon University. She is responsible for the website and keeping it up-to-date.



Jacklyn Jones is the Postgraduate Programme Leader at Queen Margaret University. She takes the lead role for Approval and Monitoring of placements.



Marian Cunningham is joint Programme Lead and lecturer at Glasgow Caledonian University.



Sara Smith is the Undergraduate Programme Leader at Queen Margaret University. She liaises with the allocation officer and links with the BDA on issues such as the Curriculum.



Christine Monaghan is the Practice Education Lead for Dietetics at Glasgow Caledonian University. She takes the lead role for pre- and post placement paperwork.



Pamela Knox is the Scottish Dietetic Placements Allocation Officer, based at Queen Margaret University.

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