



REPORT OF THE RECOGNITION VISIT BY THE GCC VISITING PANEL TO THE ANGLO-EUROPEAN COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

2 and 3 JULY 2015

Panel

Barry Mitchell (Lay member of the GCC Education Committee) – Chair

Mark Webster (Registrant member of the GCC Education Committee)

Cliff Hancock (Quality Assurance in HE adviser to the GCC) – Secretary

Observers

Carl Stychin (Lay member of the GCC Council)

Anouska Annan (Education Manager, GCC)

Penny Bance (Director of Education, Registration and Standards, GCC) – 3 July only

Introduction

The General Chiropractic Council (GCC) had received a submission from the Anglo-European College of Chiropractic (AECC) for recognition of a programme leading to a registerable qualification. The programme is formulated as an integrated, undergraduate Masters (MChiro (Hons) Master of Chiropractic) consisting of four years of full-time study preceded by a full-time one year 'Year 0' with entry to either Year 0 or Year 1 depending on entry qualifications.

After receipt of documentation in February 2015 setting out how the programmes would be delivered the GCC Education Committee assembled a panel for a visit and asked AECC to provide supplementary information prior to the recognition visit. This further documentation was provided in April 2015. On the basis of all of this information provided the formal recognition visit took place on 2 and 3 July 2015.

The visit process and result

The panel met with a wide range of staff, students and patients from AECC and also colleagues from Bournemouth University (BU). BU is the institution that validates the programmes delivered by AECC. There was full and open interaction between the panel and all groups that it met including staff (at all levels and employment status – full/part time), students from all years of the current programme, patients from the student clinic and senior staff of AECC.

Interactions during the visit were all of a high quality and gave the panel a real insight into the way that the current chiropractic programme operates and how the proposed programme will operate.

On the basis of its examination of the documentation and the exploration of detail in a range of meetings held during the visit, the Panel recommends to the GCC Education Committee that the proposed AECC integrated undergraduate Masters (MChiro (Hons) Master of Chiropractic) programme (four year full time) be recognised by the GCC. This proposed recognition is not subject to any conditions. The panel also made several commendations and recommendations to AECC.

Conclusion

At the end of the visit the Chair thanked all concerned at AECC for their hospitality, the huge amount of work they had put into the development of the programmes, the documentation and their patience and flexibility during the visit.

The panel recommends to the Education Committee recognition of the proposed AECC integrated undergraduate Masters (MChiro (Hons) Master of Chiropractic) programme for a period of five years starting with the 2015 intake to the programme (i.e. for entrants to the programme from September 2015 – September 2019 inclusive for the four year programme, without condition.

The panel made the following **commendations**:

1. The shared strategic vision for the future of the College and its academic programmes that was manifest across all staff groups.
2. Staff engagement with the full range of the work of the College was very positive. Across all groups there was a palpable enthusiasm and spirit of being forward looking.
3. The enhanced educational experience that is being provided for the students arising from multi-disciplinary and inter-professional learning opportunities.
4. The estates planning and the facilities enrichment that enhance student learning.

The panel made the following **recommendations**:

1. The College should reflect on the way that the research project is developing and how this will help equip the chiropractic profession for the future.
2. To continue to build on and enhance the new public and patient involvement initiatives.
3. To encourage the College to develop and operationalise policies and plans to help achieve best practice in respect of equality and diversity issues.

The GCC would wish the College to report to it on the issues raised in these three recommendations through the annual monitoring process.