
To	Te Poari Whai Kounga Quality Alignment Board	From	[Kerry Francis] [Te Kura Hoahoanga ARCHITECTURE]
Title	PAQC Chair's Quarterly Report #1 2021	Due Date	2021/02/25

1. Overview

The 2020 PAQC met:

1. Full in person meeting: 19 February
2. E-meeting: 24 February [PEP review]
3. Full in person meeting: 16 July
4. Special zoom meeting: 10 September [PEP review for both the MARCP and the BAS]
5. Full in person meeting: 17 September
6. Full in person meeting: 30 November

General Committee Health Check

What worked well?

Members now have a greater understanding of their individual roles and the role of the PACQ through performance during 2020.

Samuel Holloway (Creative Industries) continued as a representative from another discipline. Mid-year we were also joined by request by Dua Alshadli (Building Construction).

We recognised the PAQC minutes as a good place to record important academic information.

What improvements have been/will be made for 2021?

New student representative will required with the graduation of Alex Anderson. Melissa Knight has been approached. LC (Loren-Crystal) Pitt will continue in the role.

Renata Jadresin-Milic replaces Magda Garbarczyk as BAS DL and takes her place on the PAQC.

What support is required (actions required) to achieve these improvements?

Support required for employment and training of the new student representative.

What issues (if any) need to be escalated to Quality Alignment Board | Te Poari Whai Kounga?

There is a need for support around MCD/Course Descriptors. There seems to be a historical legacy of un-recorded changes and recorded changes by persons outside of the School. There are variations and changes that do not align with our understanding of what these documents should contain. This leaves us in a vulnerable position in a year when we are up for our 5 yearly accreditation visit.

Progress against 3 (max.) key actions

BAS

The work on clarifying roles within the School /BAS leadership was significantly advanced by those in the roles in 2020 and will be on-going during 2021 with the introduction of a new Discipline Leader, Renata Jadresin Milic for the BAS.

MARCP

Industry training discussions are ongoing with two significant Auckland practices. This includes discussion about mentorship, scholarship contributions and Adjunct Professorships.

There has been useful staff training provided by the APM and TTK for Sharepoint and CEP.

The DL MARCP [Annabel Pretty] has provided training for the new iPad technology that will be used in studio.

Risk management

Process

The PAQC receives a verbal Risk Report at each meeting from the APM.

The summary in the minutes records that information and reinforces the communication of any issues.

Outcomes

The greatest current risk is the uncertainty of enrolment numbers. It is difficult for staff to plan a programme of learning.

COVID will continue to have an impact. Student financial status and constant threat of a new lock down are factors that we have minimal control over. We can and do provide support within Te Kura Hoahoanga to sustain student well-being. (See below)

We do not, currently, know the status of the LOP. This service [and in particular the person Grace Zhang] was of immense value to us during 2020.

The closure of our workshop in Building 108 and its relocation to smaller premises behind B76 will provide difficulties. The PACQ is assured that there are early and continuing discussions with workshop staff to mitigate any issues.

2. Student support and achievement

Priority Group Strategies

Process

The PAQC is confident that extensive and committed work is going on in the School to address the needs of the Priority Groups.

The Ngā Ia Vai initiative within the school has developed this past year as a vaka/waka to further the aspirations of both Māori and Pacific students. A significant action this year is to bring back the marae noho for all first year students in the BAS and all other students new to the BAS and MARCP programmes. This has been integrated with the orientation powhiri.

CEP training provided by TTK has been completed by all staff. This will enable them to more easily access, process and reflect upon the data from their courses.

Outcomes

We would expect to see improved student engagement, performance and achievement during 2021.

We have now spent a full academic year in the new building and understand the constraints and opportunities that it provides. Both staff and students will be more settled.

The Nga ia Vai initiative begins its second year and has developed its strategies considerably.

CEP training has been completed by all staff.

The PAQC will monitor these expectations during the course of the year.

[We are assuming that the influence of COVID will diminish during the course of 2021]

Student Feedback

Student BAS NPS rose from -045 to +24 from Sem 2 2019 (25% response rate)

MARCP NPS -5 very similar to 2019 (small response rate 25%)

COVID handled well by School but the students keen to be back on site. One of the identified shortcomings of COVID was the lack of collegial sharing.

Workshop use difficulty due to reduced space and facilities was already identified anecdotally by students at the end of 2020.

Outcomes of issues and improvement plans

This report comes at a time of project/course planning.

The student feedback issues are being discussed as part of the pre-moderation process.

These issues will be reviewed at the first PAQC Meeting 17 March.

3. Academic quality outcomes

Moderation

Moderation plans

The Architecture programme has an up to date moderation plan recorded on Sharepoint.

Moderation outcomes

The PAQC is assured that the moderation plans are implemented.

There is documentation on Share point to record this activity.

We have been assured by our annual external examiners that they are happy with our moderation processes.

Research

Confident

Both BAS and MARCP are green lit.

4. Programme design, delivery and review

Course Evaluation and Planning

Process

Most staff [85%] attended a CEP staff training session with TTK. The remaining staff will be trained by the APM over the next week.

Current Architecture completion rate for Sem 1 2020 was 48.9% and in Sem 2 rose to 56% due to the record including courses that did not exist and doubling up of courses.

Training above and a much simplified CEP recording process will remedy this situation for 2021.

Outcomes

The PAQC is confident that the above measures will succeed.

Programme Evaluation and Planning (PEP)

Process

Coming up

The PAQC is confident both courses BAS and MARCPs within the Architecture programme will be effectively evaluated

Degree Monitoring

Process

[See Professional Accreditation below]

The External Examiners visit takes place each year and is a time for rich discussion and reflection with the panel. Whilst the content is shared with us at the time we do not have a final record document.

Outcomes

See above

Consistency Review

Process

There are no consistency reviews planned for 2021

Professional Accreditation/Other

Process

See degree monitoring notes above.

Stakeholder Engagement

Process

End of year visit from EE as reported under Degree Monitoring.

This External Examiners Panel contains one Australian academic and two local practitioners.

HOS attends monthly NZIA Branch meetings.

Eternal Contributors [local Architect practitioners are present at the end of all project reviews.

These External Contributors are all logged by the BA

Outcomes

The PAQC is confident that that the level of external engagement contributes significantly to the both the learning within the school but equally importantly the character of the school.

Programme Review

Process

Not applicable

Graduate Outcomes

Process

Small response in the surveys does not give a clear picture.

Outcomes

But we do know from our constant engagement with architectural practice that there are fewer conventional design opportunities for this cohort.

However, one of the great strengths of the Architecture programme is that it equips graduates with a wide range of skills in design and construction. If graduates are prepared to diversify their ambitions there are diverse areas of practice; movie and set design, commercial design, product design that are available.

Dashboard shows that 80% of our graduates are in full time work and 20% in part time work.

Most (75%) gained work within three months.

Outcomes

The PAQC is confident that graduates get jobs and that a high percentage work in the design and construction industry using skills that they have gained at Unitec.

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Reference:

[PAQC Terms of Reference](#)