

SOCIAL WORKERS REGISTRATION BOARD

Notes of the 63rd Meeting of the Committee on Qualification Assessment and Registration

Date: 1 December 2017
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, 26/F Eastern Commercial Centre, 83 Nam On Street, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong.
Present: Mr. SHIU Ka-chun (Convener)
Dr. CHU Cheong-hay
Dr. KWOK Ngai-kuen, Alvin
Mr. IP Kim Ching
Dr. LEUNG Chuen-suen
Mr. LUN Chi-wai
Apology: Mr. KWAN Wing-shing, Vincent
Ms. LAW Yee-ming
Ms. LUK Ka-mei
Secretary: Mr. LEE Wing-po, Eric, Registrar and
Ms. FAN Lai-yee, Veronica, Assistant Registrar

Confirmation of the notes of the 62nd meeting

1. The notes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

Matters arising from the previous meetings

Business information deleted

2. Business information deleted

Qualification Recognition Review

(Dr. Chu Cheong-hay declared his conflict of interest and abstained from this agenda item)

Business information deleted

3. Business information deleted

Business information deleted

4. Business information deleted

5. Business information deleted

6. Business information deleted

7. Business information deleted

Review of the PCS

8. Further to the 61st meeting, members' comments were incorporated into the revised PCS for further discussion.

Paragraph 4.2.1

9. The Secretary highlighted the modified requirement that TIs should always have employed at least three full-time academic staff members per each programme. This revision was to clarify the requirement and was made after the recent qualification assessment exercise of a self-financed TI. The concerned TI only had two academic staff at the time of on-campus visit but the third one would report duty when the programme commenced. The Committee had the view that it was necessary to clearly specify when such requirement should be complied.

10. A member had concern that such changes would have financial implications on TIs particularly the self-financed TIs. After discussion, the Committee agreed that it would be reasonable to request the TIs to comply with the requirement at and after on-campus visit and it was reasonable to request the three academic staff be ready to answer questions raised during the on-campus visit. The Secretary would further revise the related paragraph.

Paragraph 4.2.2 Academic Staff of Diploma Programme being offered

11. In paragraph (a), the requirement should apply to all academic staff and it was not necessary to specify full-time or part-time staff. The same changes also applied to 4.2.3 and 4.2.4.

Paragraph 4.2.3 Academic Staff of Degree Programme being offered

12. In paragraph 4.2.3 (a)(ii), it should be revised to "postgraduate degree in social work or related discipline" and it would replace paragraph 4.2.3(c).

Paragraph 4.2.4 (b)

13. It should be reverted back to the original wordings as shown in the current PCS paragraph 2.3.3(B).

Paragraph 4.3 Individual Attention to Students

14. The Secretary walked through the proposed changes in which views from TIs were considered. In current practice, the calculation of SSR was based on full-time equivalent on programme basis but excluding input from fieldwork and administrative work. There was no standardized calculation of full-time equivalent among TIs as some were calculated by teaching hours, contact hours, course hours, or number of courses. The proposed changes tried to minimize arguments arising from the calculation. As the ultimate purpose was to

ensure ample individual attention to students, it was proposed to adopt the concept of full-time staff headcount on institutional basis, and same ratio would be for diploma and degree programmes.

15. Members had the following comments and observations:

- (a) Many self-financed TIs had employed part-time for teaching and fieldwork coordinator. It would be unfair if excluding input from part-time staff.
- (b) TIs might push full-time staff to increase the number of courses to be taught.
- (c) Teaching resources contributed to diploma, degree and master programmes were different and the required ratio should not be the same. There were financial implications to TIs if using same ratio.
- (d) Administrative work of staff should not be counted.
- (e) If it was calculated on institutional basis, TI with multiple social work programmes would be easier to meet the requirement.

16. The Secretary would further revise the document.

Any other business

Business information deleted

17. Business information deleted

Business information deleted

18. Business information deleted

Business information deleted

19. Business information deleted

Date of next meeting

20. Members agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled on 12 February 2018 at 7:30 pm.
(*Post meeting note: the meeting was rescheduled to 13 February 2018.*)

21. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

13 December 2017