

Committee Title	Student Voice					
Date of Meeting	25 th March 2019					
Item Number and Title/Subject	Enhancement Led Institutional Review					
Paper Presenter	Rachel Simpson					
Brief Summary of Issues/Topic	<p>For the upcoming ELIR in 2019 -20, the institution carries out a holistic evaluation of its strategy, policy and practice in relation to quality assurance and enhancement. Through a process of self-evaluation we will produce a Reflective Analysis (RA) document to showcase our achievements in relation to the student learning experience and identify our priority areas for development and/or enhancement. The RA is used to identify themes for discussion with GCU staff and students during the review visits.</p> <p>The paper provides information on ELIR and opportunities for students to be involved in the ELIR process</p>					
Recommendation(s)	Information		Discussion	X	Approval	
Who have you consulted when developing the paper?						
Staff/Student Protocol	Yes		No	X	N/A	
Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?						
Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?	No					
If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.						

Enhancement-Led Institutional Review (ELIR)

Briefing Paper for Student Voice

What is ELIR?

The Quality Enhancement Framework (QEF) is the enhancement-led approach to quality in Scotland. It supports higher education institutions in managing the quality of the student learning experience. It also provides public confidence in academic standards and the quality of the student experience.

ELIR is one of five key elements of the QEF and is an evidence-based method of peer review. The institution carries out a holistic evaluation of its strategy, policy and practice in relation to quality assurance and enhancement. Through a process of self-evaluation we will produce a Reflective Analysis (RA) document to showcase our achievements in relation to the student learning experience and identify our priority areas for development and/or enhancement. The RA is used to identify themes for discussion with GCU staff and students during the review visits.

ELIR results in a judgement and a set of commendations and recommendations relating to the way we secure academic standards and enhance the student experience. More information on ELIR can be found [here](#).

Who carries out the Review?

[The Quality Assurance Agency](#) (QAA) Scotland carries out all Enhancement-Led Institutional Reviews (ELIR) at Scottish higher education institutions. The review is undertaken by a team of reviewers comprising staff and students from other institutions.

How often does ELIR take place?

Reviews take place on a five year cycle and ELIR is now in its fourth cycle (ELIR4). At the last ELIR, which took place in March 2015, GCU achieved an 'effective' threshold outcome which is the highest level of ELIR threshold outcome available.

When will ELIR4 take place?

Work has already commenced on preparing for ELIR4. This will continue over the remainder of session 2018-19 and into Trimester A of 2019-20, culminating in the formal submission of the RA and supporting documentation in November 2019. This will be followed by a one-day planning visit and a five-day review visit from the ELIR Panel. The key dates for ELIR4 are:

Key Review Dates	
28 th November 2019	Submission of Reflective Analysis (RA) and Advanced Information Set (AIS) to QAA
6 th February 2020	Planning Visit by ELIR Panel
WB 23 rd March 2020 (5 days)	Review Visit by ELIR Panel

How can I contribute to ELIR4?

We need a wide range of students and staff to input into the development of the RA to ensure it genuinely represents the GCU student learning experience. We have identified a schedule of activity to take place over Trimester B to consult with students across the University. This includes:

- Focus groups (open to all students) on:
 - Monday 25th March: 11am or 3pm
 - Friday 5th April: 11am or 2pm
- Pop-up consultation events around campus from the 20th March to the 17th April
- Consultation at SAGE, Student Rep Gatherings and other Committees
- Feedback from students via email

The sessions will be very informal and you won't be under pressure to participate in any particular way. We will have a few questions for discussion and will be aiming to capture:

- What makes GCU distinctive?
- What are our strengths in relation to the student experience?
- What could we enhance?

Student Voice members are encouraged to attend one of the focus groups to feed in to this key strategic activity and ensure that the student voice is strongly represented in the GCU RA. We would also ask you to encourage the students you represent to attend a focus group, talk to the team at pop-up events around campus, and/or send us your views by email (elir@gcu.ac.uk).

For more information

For more information, please contact Jennifer Dunlop, ELIR Project Manager at elir@gcu.ac.uk, or speak to one of your Full Time Officers.