

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
<b>Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music &amp; Drama</b>	19/11/2018
<b>Subject:</b> Academic Assurances	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Principal	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Secretary and Dean of Students, Guildhall School	

### Summary

As part of the 2018 Annual Accountability Return, the Board of Governors will be required to make the following assurance statements to OfS:

- The governing body has received and discussed a report and accompanying action plan relating to the continuous improvement of the student academic experience and student outcomes. This included evidence from the provider's own periodic review processes, which fully involve students and include embedded external peer or professional review.
- The methodologies used as a basis to improve the student academic experience and student outcomes are, to the best of our knowledge, robust and appropriate.
- The governing body has received a report that confirms that the provider continues to meet the standards of Part 1 of the European Standards and Guidelines (2015).

For self-validated provision (ie the School's taught degree programmes and associated awards):

- The standards of awards for which we are responsible have been appropriately set and maintained.

For the Doctoral programme validated by City, University of London:

- The standards of awards for which we are responsible have been appropriately maintained.

The Board has received a number of items during the academic year 2017-18 that supports the assurance statements, including the attached Academic Board annual report and an update during the year on actions highlighted in the previous Academic Board annual report. Additionally, the Academic Assurance Working Group was expected to meet prior to the November Board meeting to consider a wider range of academic assurance documentation. Unfortunately, due to the perfect storm of a vacant quality assurance post in Registry and three weeks of unexpected sickness of their manager in October, it was not possible to schedule a meeting nor catch up in time on the manager's return to work. The Academic Board's November meeting has also been postponed for the same reason.

Over the next couple of weeks, members of the Academic Assurance Working Group will be asked to review documentation and submit comments/questions to the Secretary & Dean of Students who will form a report to inform delegated action by 1 December 2018.

The Board can be reassured, that arrival of the new Head of Registry Services (on 12 November 2018) will significantly aid to the future robustness of the quality assurance team in the School, and the School and the Board should not be placed in this position again.

**Recommendations:**

- To note the contents of Academic Board annual report for 2017/18
- To delegate to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chair and the Deputy Chair of the Board of Governors, the authority to confirm that the academic assurance statement can be made (following advice received from members of the Academic Assurance Working Group).

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Secretary & Dean of Students  
November 2018

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