

Committee: Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama	Date: 25/11/2019
Subject: Report of the Academic Assurance Working Group	Public
Report of: Lynne Williams, Principal	For Decision
Report author: Katharine Lewis, Secretary & Dean of Students	

Summary

Since 2017 the Board of Governors has been asked to consider whether it felt confident that the Principal should sign-off specific academic assurances on its behalf, and appointed a working group to consider the matter in detail and make recommendation to the main Board.

The Academic Assurance Working Group met on 22 October 2019 and its recommendation on assurances is attached in the main report. It also recommends that the Board of Governors considers on a regular basis more thematic, in-depth, reports on academic matters relating to the student experience, teaching or assessment.

After the meeting, it has become no longer clear whether the Office for Students will be requiring these assurances, or whether it will be requiring them in this format. However, these assurances are linked to the ongoing conditions of registration with the Office for Students, B1 to B5 particularly, and there remains value in this process.

It is proposed, therefore, if going forward the Office for Students does not require the assurances in the same way, that the Academic Assurance Working Group continues to meet but that the assurances it considers are reframed to map to the relevant ongoing conditions of registration related to the student experience, teaching, assessment and standards.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- (1) Authorise the Principal to sign off the academic assurances on behalf of the Board based on the evidence presented, should these be required by the Office for Students
- (2) Agree that the Board of Governors should receive themed in-depth reports on academic matters on a regular basis
- (3) Agree to the Academic Assurance Working Group reframing its future report to map to relevant ongoing conditions of registration.

Katharine Lewis

Secretary & Dean of Students

E: katharine.lewis@gsmd.ac.uk