

A Agency for Higher Education

REF 26/4/99

A Consultation Paper on Qualifications Frameworks: Postgraduate Qualifications

15 APR 1999

Written by Jim Longhurst

18. Should a differentiation of level be drawn between masters awards and lower postgraduate awards (eg postgraduate certificates and diplomas)?

Yes No

19. Should all masters awards be differentiated from doctoral awards by level?

Yes No

Please comment on the reasons for your choices here:

D.

20. The credit volume of a notional year of fulltime equivalent postgraduate study should be: 180 if other

21. Postgraduate qualifications should be based only on credit awarded at postgraduate level(s): Yes No

If No, what is the maximum proportion of credit assessed at undergraduate level allowable within a postgraduate award at level

22. PG1 10% 25% other

23. PG2 10% 25% other

24. PG3 10% 25% other

Please comment on the reasons for your choices here:

E. Undergraduate credit is permissible/desirable in a PG1 and 2 award but can not be judged acceptable in a PG3 award.

If you wish to make proposals for improving the consistency of nomenclature between generic- and discipline-specific postgraduate qualifications please do so here:

F. Note that 2 year MSc awards that integrate professional practice with academic study do not fit easily into any of the Models proposed. An example award is a 2 year accredited MSc Environmental Health.

4. Other points may be raised here

G. Extended degrees must not carry a Master's title.

It would be helpful for the analysis of results to have the following information. This response is sent from:

- HE Institution FE Institution Professional Body
- Statutory Body Subject Association National Training Organisation
- Funding Body Examining or awarding body Research Council
- Government Department Employer or Employers' Organisation

Other (Please specify)

in England Wales Northern Ireland Scotland

Please return your responses by 26 April 1999 to:

Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
Development Directorate (CPGF)
Southgate House
Southgate Street
Gloucester GL1 1UB

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Responses to Consultation Paper

1. The Principles

Please indicate agreement or otherwise with the group B Principles that arise as a consequence of the development of the agreed principles:

- | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Principle I (Definition of postgraduate qualification) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Principle IV (Module credit at one level) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Principle VI (Differentiation of intermediate awards) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Principle XI (Consistent nomenclature is required) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Principle XII (Qualifications with the same title) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Principle XIV (Restricted use of masters title) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please comment here, if you wish, on the reasons for your choices:

A.

Please indicate agreement or otherwise with the group C Principles that are proposed to aid implementation of specific features of the frameworks:

- | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 7. Principle III (Character of study, and levels) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Principle VIII (180 credits per full time equivalent year) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Principle XV (Restricted use of PhD title) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Principle XVI (Titles of doctoral awards) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Principle XVIII (Honorary titles) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. Principle XIX (No award by default) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Principle XX (25% maximum to mix of u/g with p/g) | agreed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | not agreed <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please comment here, if you wish, on the reasons for your choices:

B.

2. The Models

The Framework Development Groups have identified a number of models for the postgraduate sections of the national qualifications frameworks.

14. Which is your preferred model? Model.....1..... None of the examples

If you wish to comment on the reasons for your choice of model please do so here:

c. Model 1 is marginally preferable to Model 2 but the inclusion of B.Phil in each is unacceptable. Model 3 is not acceptable as a Doctorate and single Masters can not be considered equal in effort required.

3. Levels, Credit and Nomenclature within the framework
15. How many postgraduate levels are required? 2 3 4 other (please specify) ...3 or 4
16. How many levels are required to differentiate only masters awards? 1 (2) other (please specify).....
17. If more than one level is required for masters, should they be differentiated by
 level of outcomes Yes No and or mode of study* Yes No

(* mode: based mainly on taught, or research or reflective outcomes) if other please specify