

EXTENSION OF APPROVAL

COVER SHEET

Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment

Units:

- 4A1i – Environment, Planning and Property
- 4A2 – Civil and Safety Engineering
- 4A3 – Construction and Surveying
- 4A4 – Energy
- 4A – Fire Safety Engineering [new unit; previously part of 4A2]
- 4H – Energy and Building Services Engineering

*Presenter: Dr M Keenan*

To consider a proposal for a one-year extension to the period of approval for all units, except unit 4A2.

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

4 June 2020

**UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER**

**REQUEST TO EXTEND APPROVAL AND POSTPONE REVALIDATION**

**Form CA6b)**

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**SECTION A: FACULTY REQUEST**

FACULTY:

**Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment**

SCHOOL:

**Belfast School of Architecture and the Built Environment**

REVALIDATION UNIT NUMBER AND NAME:

- **4A1i – Environment, Planning and Property**
- **4A2 – Civil and Safety Engineering**
- **4A3 – Construction and Surveying**
- **4A4 – Energy**
- **4A?? – Fire Safety Engineering [new unit; previously part of 4A2]**
- **4H – Energy and Building Services Engineering**

MONTH/YEAR CURRENTLY SCHEDULED:

- **4A1i – Environment, Planning and Property, September 2020**
- **4A2 – Civil and Safety Engineering, January 2021**
- **4A3 – Construction and Surveying, February 2021**
- **4A4 – Energy, February 2021**
- **4H – Energy and Building Services Engineering, April 2021**

PERIOD OF EXTENSION REQUESTED:

(eg one year to include the September 2018 intake)

Extension request to move all units from AY 2020-21 to AY 2021-22, apart from unit 4A2. Proposed revised schedule as follows:

**AY 2020-21**

**4A2 – Civil and Safety Engineering**

- Note: JBM visit 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021; courses must be revalidated prior to submission of accreditation documentation
  - Note: move of MSc Fire Safety Engineering to unit 4A?? [new unit]
  - Request revalidation event in April 2021 (see rationale below)
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## **AY 2021-22**

### **4A1i -- Environment, Planning and Property**

- Note: anticipating Belfast campus move in September 2021 hence this unit is proposed as the first of three in this academic year
- Request revalidation event in January 2022

### **4A3 -- Construction and Surveying**

- Request revalidation event in April 2022

### **4A4 -- Energy**

- Note: anticipating Belfast campus move in September 2021 and need to ensure labs are operational
- Request revalidation event in May 2022

### **4A?? -- Fire Safety Engineering**

- Note: creation of a new revalidation unit to accommodate MSc Fire Safety Engineering, previously linked to unit 4A2. No requirement for this programme to be revalidated with Civil Engineering in April 2021 as the programme is not accredited by the JBM.
- Request revalidation event in May 2022

### **4H -- Energy and Building Services Engineering, HKU SPACE**

- Note: this unit cannot be revalidated until after revalidation of unit 4A4 is complete
- Request revalidation event in late spring / early summer 2022, following revalidation of Energy in May 2022

COURSE(S):

(Identify specific courses unless the whole unit)

See details above. Note the change in composition of units 4A2 and 4A4.

REASON FOR REQUEST:

Changes to working arrangements and move to off-campus working as a consequence of COVID-19 pandemic. This has constrained the progression of revalidation discussions a significant proportion of which would take place on a school-wide basis due to the nature and composition of programmes and module structures particularly in the first year and into year two. Activities linked to preparation for revalidation of the above units has been paused as teaching staff have focused on ensuring continuity of learning through online delivery of teaching and assessment for Semester 2 modules. Furthermore, it is anticipated that teaching in AY 2020-21 will commence in 'hybrid' mode from September 2020. Teaching staff will therefore be required to make arrangements for this change in delivery as a strategic priority to assure consistent delivery of the existing programmes.

The request is therefore made on the basis of a) managing staff wellbeing and workload during this exceptional period; and b) ensuring the highest quality programme development to be presented to the revalidation panels. It is also important

to note that the School has made a significant number of changes to its provision over, and in particular, the last two years in terms of programme refresh and also in the strategic review of first year which was carried out in 2018-19. This review assured the rewriting of the first year for all undergraduate programmes with delivery of this new suite of modules a number of which are school wide commencing in September 2019.

In making this request we would also note that the Academic Excellence associated metrics for the school have seen significant improvement with exceptional NSS results being returned by programmes as evidenced by 9 of 10 programmes achieving 90%+ overall satisfaction (5 of these achieved 100%).

Due to the accreditation visit by the JBM scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021, it will be necessary for one unit to revalidate in AY 2020-21. To maximise preparation time whilst also ensuring the availability of students on campus to meet with the JBM panel, it is requested that the revalidation of unit 4A2 is held in April 2021, utilising the slot previously allocated to unit 4H (HKU SPACE).

**CURRENCY AND VALIDITY:**

(Please confirm that the curriculum remains current and valid and provide evidence of this (eg extract from most recent external examiner reports and those of relevant professional, statutory and regulatory body)

Confirmed. Several courses report annually to PSRBs, including the RTPPI (annual partnership board) and RICS (annual report). In addition, all Jordanstown-based undergraduate programmes in BSABE reviewed and revised Level 4 provision in AY 2018-19, with delivery commencing in AY 2019-20. External Examiners and PSRBs were consulted on these changes to ensure currency of provision.

**STANDARDS AND QUALITY:**

(Please confirm that quality is high and there are no concerns. Provide evidence of this through external examiner reports and annual monitoring datasets and reports)

All courses continue to be delivered to a high quality standard. Confirmed that no concerns have been raised during recent quality assurance cycles (via External Examiner reports and PSRB visits) relating to the above programmes.

**PSRB (if applicable):**

(Please confirm that any deferral will be accommodated by the PSRB and that accreditation will be ongoing for the full duration of the deferral)

Confirmed.

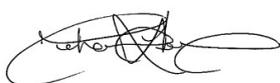
**DEMAND:**



Associate Head of School, Belfast School of Architecture and the Built Environment,  
14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

FACULTY PARTNERSHIP MANAGER'S ASSESSMENT (for partner institutions only):

**FACULTY CONFIRMATION:**

SIGNED:  \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 18.05.2020  
Associate Dean (Education)

The completed form should be returned to the Academic Office, Room J410, Tower Building, Coleraine.

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**SECTION B: ACADEMIC OFFICE COMMENTS:**

The course provision involved in this request represented all courses in the former School of the Built Environment due to its participation in a pilot school-based revalidation methodology therefore all its revalidations are now due in 2020/21. This request proposes that all provision except for Civil Engineering is granted an extension of approval to 2021/22. The Academic Office recognised that such a concentration of revalidation events may be was onerous for the school and encouraged the Faculty to consider a reschedule of events. The Office therefore welcomes the proposed schedule adjustments. The Faculty's proposed adjustments to revalidation units will need further discussion as will the request that all the 2021/22 events be scheduled in semester 2 (the rationale provided could also apply to other provision in that year, the needs of other faculties need to be considered and the University needs to maintain capacity in semester 2 for evaluations/introduction of new courses).

The latest year of external examiner reports for each unit were reviewed:

Environment, Planning and Property

External examiners noted the changes to modules and level 4 of programmes. Whilst some quality issues and staffing levels raised there were no fundamental issues identified in terms of quality and standards.

Construction and Surveying

It is plain from the external examiner comments that staff are addressing performance issues in the dissertation module for Building Surveying. The Construction Engineering and Management and Quantity Surveying externals also identified staffing levels as an issue and also the bunching of classifications at 2.1 and first levels. Overall the external examiners reports indicate a positive ongoing engagement with staff and that there are no fundamental risks to quality and standards.

Energy

The external examiner reports indicated that there were no fundamental issues identified in terms of quality and standards.

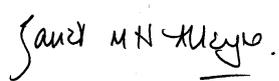
Fire Safety Engineering

The external examiner report indicated that there were no fundamental issues identified in terms of quality and standards.

SIGNED:  \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 20 May 2020  
Academic Policy and Standards Manager

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**SECTION C: QUALITY ENHANCEMENT ASSESSMENT (reflecting annual monitoring data)**

SIGNED:  \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: 19 May 2020  
Head of Quality Enhancement

**SECTION D: ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE  
(delegated authority from Senate)**

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING:

DECISION: Approve (Yes/No)

Late requests (in-year and no imminent Committee meeting) (actioned by Chair on behalf of ASQEC)

DECISION: Approve (Yes/No)

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair ASQEC

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE REPORTED TO ASQEC:

Academic Office July 2019
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BSABE Unit Number	Course	Previous Unit Number	New unit number	Subject Unit Coordinator	Original Month / Year of Revalidation Event	Revised Month / Year of Revalidation Event	May 2020 Update with requested months
<b>Environment, Planning and Property</b>							
1	BSc Hons Environmental Health (with CertHE and AB exit awards)	4A1	4A1i	TBC	Sep-20	Move to Jan-21; in place of unit 4F	Jan-22
	BSc Hons Real Estate (with AB exit award)	4A1	4A1i		Sep-20	Move to Jan-21; in place of unit 4F	
	MSci Hons Planning, Regeneration and Development (with BSc Hons exit award)	4A1	4A1i		Sep-20	Move to Jan-21; in place of unit 4F	
	PgCert/PgDip/MSc Global Strategies in Environmental Health Sustainability	4A1	4A1i		Sep-20	Move to Jan-21; in place of unit 4F	
	PgCert/PgDip/MSc Real Estate	4A1	4A1i		Sep-20	Move to Jan-21; in place of unit 4F	
	PgCert/PgDip/MSc Planning and City Resilience	4A1	4A1i		Sep-20	Move to Jan-21; in place of unit 4F	
	<del>PgDip/MSc Community Planning and Governance (with PgCert exit award + PgCert/PgDip/MSc (RT))</del>	<del>4A1</del>		<del>N/a</del>	<del>Sep-20</del>	<del>Not required</del>	
<b>Civil and Safety Engineering</b>							
2	BEng Hons/MEng Hons Civil Engineering (with AB and BEng Hons exit awards)	4A4	4A2	Robert Eadie	Nov-20	Jan-21; combined with unit 4A3	Apr-21
	BSc Hons Civil Engineering (with AB exit award)	4A4	4A2		Nov-20	Jan-21; combined with unit 4A3	
	PgDip/MSc Civil and Infrastructure Engineering (with PgCert exit award)	4A4	4A2		Nov-20	Jan-21; combined with unit 4A3	
	BEng Hons Safety Engineering (with AB exit award)	4A3	4A2	Robert Eadie	Jan-21	Jan-21; combined with unit 4A4	
	MEng Hons Safety Engineering (with AB and BEng Hons exit awards)	4A3	4A2		Jan-21	Jan-21; combined with unit 4A4	
	<del>PgDip/MSc Fire Safety Engineering (with PgCert exit award)</del>	<del>4A3</del>	<del>Moved</del>		Jan-21	Jan-21; combined with unit 4A4	
<del>EdEng Civil Engineering (with CertHE exit award) --- Strand Road --- N/A/SC</del>	<del>4F</del>		<del>N/a</del>	<del>Jan-21</del>	<del>Not required</del>		
<b>Construction and Surveying</b>							
3	BSc Hons Building Surveying (with AB exit award)	4A2	4A3	Philip Griffiths	Feb-21	No change: Feb-21	Apr-22
	BSc Hons Construction Engineering and Management (with AB exit award)	4A2	4A3		Feb-21	No change: Feb-21	
	BSc Hons Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management (with AB exit award)	4A2	4A3		Feb-21	No change: Feb-21	
	PgCert/PgDip/MSc Construction Business and Leadership (with Specialisms)	4A2	4A3		Feb-21	No change: Feb-21	
<b>Energy</b>							
4	PgDip/MSc Renewable Energy & Energy Management (with PgCert exit award)	4A5	4A4	Philip Griffiths	Feb-21	Early Feb-21	May-22
	BSc Hons Energy (with AB exit award)	4A5	4A4		Feb-21	Early Feb-21	
	BEng Hons Architectural Engineering (with AB exit award)	4A5	4A4		Feb-21	Early Feb-21	
	MSc Energy Storage (with PgCert and PgDip exit awards)	4A5	4A4		Feb-21	Early Feb-21	
<b>Fire Safety Engineering</b>							
5	PgDip/MSc Fire Safety Engineering (with PgCert exit award)	4A3	4A??	Karen Boyce			May-22
<b>Energy - Hong Kong University, SPACE</b>							
6	<del>BEng Hons Energy and Building Services Engineering (Level 5/60 credits &amp; Level 6/120 credits) professional software fire safety --- HKU SPACE</del>	<del>4H</del>	<del>4H</del>	Philip Griffiths	Apr-21	Apr-21; location: Hong Kong	After 4A4 is complete (i.e. after May 2022)
	JEM - Calendar year 2021 -- possibly autumn or early winter 2021						
	CIBSE - Energy Institute: AY 2020/21 -- need students to attend meeting						