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| Title of Examination(s): | | Mathematics Part B, Mathematics and Computer Science Part B |
| External Examiner Details | Title: | Prof |
| | Name: | Desmond Higham |
| | Position: | 1966 Professor of Numerical Analysis |
| | Home Institution: | University of Strathclyde |

Please complete both Parts A and B.

| Part A | | | | |
|---|---|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| <i>Please (✓) as applicable*</i> | | Yes | No | N/A / Other |
| A1. | Did you receive sufficient information and evidence in a timely manner to be able to carry out the role of External Examiner effectively? | x | | |
| A2. | Are the academic standards and the achievements of students comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which you have experience? | x | | |
| A3. | Do the threshold standards for the programme appropriately reflect the frameworks for higher education qualifications and any applicable subject benchmark statement? <i>[Please refer to paragraph 3(b) of the Guidelines for External Examiner Reports].</i> | x | | |
| A4. | Does the assessment process measure student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s)? | x | | |
| A5. | Is the assessment process conducted in line with the University's policies and regulations? | x | | |
| A6. | Did you receive a written response to your previous report? | x | | |
| A7. | Are you satisfied that comments in your previous report have been properly considered, and where applicable, acted upon? | x | | |
| * If you answer "No" to any question, please provide further comments in Part B. Further comments may also be given in Part B, if desired, if you answer "Yes" or "N/A / Other". | | | | |

Part B

B1. Academic standards

- a. *How do academic standards achieved by the students compare with those achieved by students at other higher education institutions of which you have experience?*
- b. *Please comment on student performance and achievement across the relevant programmes or parts of programmes (those examining in joint schools are particularly asked to comment on their subject in relation to the whole award).*

Academic standards achieved by the students are at least as high as the standards achieved by students at other higher education institutions of which I have experience. The joint degree students are treated fairly, and performances are measured appropriately.

B2. Rigour and conduct of the assessment process

Please comment on the rigour and conduct of the assessment process, including whether it ensures equity of treatment for students, and whether it has been conducted fairly and within the University's regulations and guidance.

The assessment process treats students fairly and applies the regulations with rigour.

B3. Issues

Are there any issues which you feel should be brought to the attention of supervising committees in the faculty/department, division or wider University?

No

B4. Good practice and enhancement opportunities

*Please comment/provide recommendations on any **good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment**, and any **opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities** provided to students that should be noted and disseminated more widely as appropriate.*

B5. Any other comments

Please provide any other comments you may have about any aspect of the examination process. Please also use this space to address any issues specifically required by any applicable professional body. If your term of office is now concluded, please provide an overview here.

As I mentioned in my report last year, I have concerns about the suitability of the USM system for students in mathematical sciences (where a wide spread of marks is both typical and informative). I believe that the institute is operating as fairly and effectively as it can within the constraints imposed by the University.

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| Signature: | DJH |
| Date: | Aug 22, 2016 |
| <p>Please email your completed form (preferably as a word document attachment) to: external-examiners@admin.ox.ac.uk and copied to the applicable divisional contact.</p> <p>Alternatively, please return a copy by post to: The Vice-Chancellor c/o Catherine Whalley, Head of Education Planning & Quality Review, Education Policy Support, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD.</p> | |