

MEMO 5.2022

To: Executive Deans, Deputy Deans TL, Deputy Deans RI, School Directors, Faculty Administrative Managers, Executive Director CTL, Directors SI and Quality Enhancement

From: Ms Sharon Paulse (Director: Q&APP) & Prof Robert Balfour (DVC: T-L)

Date: 11 February 2022

Re: PQM Review

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings and my trust that this Memo finds you well. Please share this information at the next TL Committee, and Faculty Board.

Background to the matter

The UMC approved the PQM review project plan on 10 November last year and I am attaching an updated version of the project plan to this Memorandum for distribution to all academics and lecturers. The PQM review of qualifications, programmes, curricula and modules will be a coordinated, quantitative and qualitative review of the NWU academic offering informed by a critical evaluation by Faculties of all their academic offerings. The purpose of the project is two-fold:

- To reduce the size of the PQM to use and obtain information that will inform decisions regarding the future size and shape of the PQM, as espoused in the NWU Strategy and TL Strategy.
- To optimise resources, most notably academic capacity and venues.

The review will guide how Faculties can move towards a more equitable workload distribution on the one hand; and a PQM that is agile, responsive, relevant and competitive, on the other.

Phased-in approach over three years

These are broadly defined foci for each year, and the context and nature of each faculty will guide the proposed foci.

In Year 1 (2022) we will focus on the undergraduate offerings, analyse, use findings to draft recommendations that will lead to action plus, taking into account the impact the changes will have on resources. In Year 2 the focus will be on the bachelor honours degrees, postgraduate diplomas and coursework master's degrees. Year 2024 will deal with the research master's degrees and doctoral degrees. The SCTL will be used for approvals of an operational nature while project progress reports will serve quarterly at the SCAS meetings. SCAS will also process yearbook and other changes as resulting from the review. The Faculty TL Committees will be used for regular updates and consultations.

Faculties are free to work at their own pace, provided that the entire Faculty PQM has been reviewed by 2024.

Year 1 (2022)

Q&APP, together with Strategic Intelligence, CTL and the Quality Enhancement Office will embark on visits with Faculties where we would ideally meet with the Faculty, School and Programme leadership as per the following timeline:

First visit (Analysis 1): February-March

Second visit (Findings, further analysis, progress, challenges): August

Third visit: (Wrapping up the undergraduate offerings with action plans): October

For the first visit we propose the following 2-hour times:

Education	16 February	14:00
Law	21 February	14:00

Natural and Agricultural Sciences	23 February	08:30
Economic and Management Sciences	25 February	11:00
Health Sciences	01 March	09:00
Humanities	03 March	09:00
Engineering	07 March	09:00
Theology	09 March	14:00

Kindly note that these dates can be changed and that additional meetings can be scheduled as and when necessary. Kindly contact Mrs Jacobie Fourie in this regard.

Kindly refer to the attached project outline and plan for more detail regarding the PQM review.

Please be in touch with Ms Sharon Paulse or Dr Andre Bechuke with any queries relating to the PQM review.

Kind regards, Robert