

**Approvals Committee
(17th May 2005)**

Department of Education & Policy

Queen Margaret University College

Executive Summary and Recommendations

1. Introduction

A validation event for the Postgraduate Diploma and MSc in Occupational Therapy (Pre-registration) took place at Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh on the 7th and 8th April 2005.

The following courses were approved by HPC:

PgDip in Occupational Therapy (pre reg) – Full Time
MSc in Occupational Therapy (Pre reg) – Full Time

Another option was offered for validation but was not approved by the University, COT or HPC.

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Occupational Therapy, register with HPC and enrol part-time on the Master's programme. Once the Master's modules had been completed students would hand back their Postgraduate Diploma and would be awarded a Master's degree (pre-reg) in Occupational Therapy.

The issues that have arisen from this event are:

- If a student exits Queen Margaret University College (QMUC) with a PgDip in OT, registers with HPC, then returns to QMUC part time to complete the MSc component, they are required (under QMUC academic regulations) to relinquish the award of PgDip OT for the MSc in OT.
- The title of this potential MSc award is important. If a student gives up the award of PgDip in OT to gain the MSc in OT, the award needs to reflect that it carries a licence to practice which is important in the perceptions of employers, the profession and the general public. This is the reason we wanted to recommend an MSc in Occupational Therapy (pre registration). What is the HPC position on this statement?

2. Decision

The Committee is asked to advise:

What is the position of HPC about individuals being on the HPC register and no longer holding the original qualification they registered with?

3. Background information

4. Resource implications

There are no resource implications.

5. Financial implications

There are no financial implications.

6. Background papers

None

7. Appendices

None