

Proposed New Criteria for Degree Awarding Powers and University Title

Consultation Response Form

The closing date for this consultation is 12 December 2003

Note when completing Electronically Use:

- **Mouse** to access hyperlinks and input boxes;
- **scroll bar** to navigate the form;

The information you send us may need to be passed to colleagues within the Department for Education and Skills and/or published in a summary of responses received in response to this consultation. We will assume that you are content for us to do this, and that if you are replying by e-mail, your consent overrides any confidentiality disclaimer that is generated by your organisation's IT system, unless you specifically include a request to the contrary in the main text of your submission to us.

The Department may, in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, make available on public request, individual consultation responses. This will extend to your comments unless you inform us that you wish them to remain confidential.

Please insert 'X' if you want us to keep your response confidential

Name

Organisation (if applicable)

Address

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact: Felix Blackburn:

Telephone:

0207 925 6932

Fax:

0207 925 6664

Email:

DegreePowers.Consultation@dfes.gsi.gov.uk

If you have a query relating to the consultation process you can contact:

Telephone:

01928 794888

Fax:

01928 794311

Email:

Consultation.Unit@dfes.gsi.gov.uk

Please insert 'X' in **one** of the following boxes that best describes you as a respondent.

University

HE College

FE College

Other educational institution

Other (please specify) ▶

Consultation Questions on Proposed Criteria for Degree Awarding Powers

1. The detailed proposed criteria for the granting of degree awarding powers are set out at Annex A of the main document.

Question 1 (Overall framework for revisions to DAP criteria: paragraph 3.1 of main document)

Do you have any comments on the overall framework for the proposed criteria on the granting of taught and research degree awarding powers?

Comments:

Do you have any comments on the detailed criteria on the granting of taught degree awarding powers? (Taught DAP criteria: paragraph 3.2 of the main document)

Question 2a

Criterion A: Governance and Academic Management

Comments:

Question 2b

Criterion B: Academic Standards and Quality Assurance

Comments:

Question 2c

Criterion C: Scholarship and the Pedagogical Effectiveness of Academic Staff

Comments:

Question 2d

Criterion D: The Environment Supporting the Delivery of Programmes

Comments:

Question 3 (Taught DAP criteria: paragraph 3.2 of the main document)

Are the proposed criteria for taught degree awarding powers clearer than the current criteria?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

Question 4 (Taught DAP criteria: paragraph 3.2 of the main document)

Do the proposed criteria strengthen the requirements for the granting of taught degree awarding powers?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

Question 5 (Research DAP criteria: paragraph 3.3 of the main document)

Do you have any comments on the detailed criteria on the granting of research degree awarding powers?

Comments:

Question 6 (Granting of DAP for renewable terms: paragraphs 3.4 – 3.6 of the main document)

Do you agree that, in future, degree awarding powers should be issued on a renewable basis, subject to a satisfactory external audit?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

Question 7 (Granting of DAP for renewable terms: paragraphs 3.4 – 3.6 of the main document)

If you agree with fixed terms for the awarding of degree awarding powers, is six years an appropriate term?

Yes

Too short

Too long

Not sure

Comments:

Consultation Questions on Proposed Criteria for University Title

2. The detailed proposed criteria for the granting of university title are set out in Section 4 of Annex A with commentary in section 4 of the main document. We were grateful for the views of respondents to the principle of granting university title on the basis of taught degree awarding powers, as set out in the White Paper, *The Future of Higher Education*. The views expressed were mixed on the merits of the proposal. We have noted those views but if you wish to make further comments please do so in the box on the next page. Questions 8 and 9 below seek views on the detailed criteria for the granting of university title.

Question 8: (Granting of university title: paragraphs 4.1 - 4.2 of the main document)

We have removed the requirement for organisations seeking university title to have students in five subject areas. Do you think that organisations specialising in one subject area should be eligible for university title?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

Question 9 (Granting of university title: paragraphs 4.1 – 4.2 of the main document)

Do you think maintaining the current student numbers required for eligibility for university title is right, or that the numbers required are too high or low?

Yes

Too high

Too low

Not sure

Comments:

Do you have any other comments that might aid the consultation process as a whole?

Please use this space for any general comments that you may have.

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you tick the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply

The Department for Education and Skills undertakes research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, would you allow us please to contact you again from time to time for the purposes of research or to send consultation documents?

Yes

No

Code of Practice on written consultation

The following seven standards from the Cabinet Office Code of Practice on written consultation should be reproduced in all consultation documents. This is binding on Departments. Ministers' reasons for any departures should be explained.

All UK national public consultations are required to conform to the following standards:

1. Timing of consultation should be built into the planning process for a policy (including legislation) or service from the start, so that it has the best prospect of improving the proposals concerned, and so that sufficient time is left at each stage.
2. It should be clear who is being consulted, about what questions, in what timescale and for what purpose.
3. A consultation document should be as simple and concise as possible. It should include a summary, in two pages at most, of the main questions it seeks views on. It should make it as easy as possible for readers to respond, make contact or complain.
4. Documents should be made widely available, with the fullest use of electronic means (though not to the exclusion of others), and effectively drawn to the attention of all interested groups and individuals.
5. Sufficient time should be allowed for considered responses from all groups with an interest. Twelve weeks should be the standard minimum period for a consultation.
6. Responses should be carefully and open-mindedly analysed, and the results made widely available, with an account of the views expressed, and the reasons for decisions finally taken.
7. Departments should monitor and evaluate consultations, designating a consultation Co-ordinator who will ensure the lessons are disseminated.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this consultation.

Completed questionnaires and other responses, should be sent to the address shown below by **12 December 2003**

Send by post to: Felix Blackburn, Department for Education and Skills, Area 1D, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London. SW1P 3BT

Send by e-mail: Once you have completed the questionnaire, save it on your hard drive and then open an e-mail to: DegreePowers.Consultation@dfes.gsi.gov.uk attach the completed questionnaire file and send the e-mail.