

## QEF2 – The proposed response

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## Presentation Outline

- The QEF in a changing world
- Where are we in the development of QEF2?
- Continuity from QEF1
- Key significant development from QEF1
- Schedule for QEF2 development and implementation

## The changing environment

- The changing Icelandic context
- The changing international context

## Continuity in the QEF

- Fundamental principles and approach
- Public accountability
- Respect for autonomy
- Cornerstone of peer-review
- Institutional ownership of subject reviews
- Cycle of external institutional review
- Annual meetings

## Key developments-QEF benchmarking

- European and International guidelines
- Feedback from international experts
- Development goal – eligibility for membership of European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and the European Register

## Information and transparency

- Revised style high-level Handbook
- Handbook for students in Icelandic
- Practical Guide to QEF2 under leadership of the Quality Council
- Possible move towards an Icelandic Code of Practice led by the Quality Council
- Increased transparency

### Quality Board & Quality Council

- Board to be more independent of review operations
- Systematic refreshing of Board membership
- Appoint student as full Board member
- Regular Board/MESC meetings and MoU
- Possible extended role for Council with support from QEF Secretariat
- Executive responsibilities of QEF Manager

### Enhancing student engagement

- Systemic meetings with students (and Rectors)
- Supporting key elements of student engagement: students feeling part of supportive institutions; students engaging in their own learning; student working with their institutions in shaping direction of learning; formal mechanisms for quality & Governance
- Influencing student experience at national level

### Institution-wide Reviews (IWRs)

- Fit with institutional strategic planning cycles
- Clearer guidance on Reflective Analysis (RA)
- Common data set to be agreed with MESC and institutions
- Emphasis in RA on follow-up to Subject-level reviews and previous IWR
- Emphasis on Action Planning in RA and review
- Standard (but not rigid) framework for reports

### Institution-wide Reviews (2)

- Cadre of senior peers to chair IWR Teams
- Teams entirely composed of trained senior international peers plus student member
- Clearer criteria for judgements and follow-up
- 3 separate judgements: effectiveness of management of research; effectiveness of management of standards of awards; effectiveness of management of research

### Research in Subject-level Review

- Inclusion within SLRs of the effectiveness of the management of research
- The term research to be interpreted broadly to reflect broad aims and purposes of research in Iceland
- Management of research to incorporate: research strategy; scientific quality of research outputs; external support; and impact

### Subject-level Review (2)

- Incorporation of national CRIS system
- In addition, an optional and voluntary model for reviewing the international competitiveness of research outputs in a subject area to be developed/piloted collaboratively in very limited number of cases
- A research Evaluation sub-committee of Board
- Annual meetings agendas – one focus on SLRs

### Subject-level Review (3)

- SLRs remain institutional responsibility
- Appointment of externals institutional responsibility
- Clearer guidance on the role of externals
- Clearer guidance on SLR reports

### Monitoring, evaluation, complaints and appeals

- Board to formalise its ongoing monitoring and evaluation of all its processes
- Formal complaints procedure to be introduced against any aspect of Board activity
- Formal appeals procedure to be introduced against any failing judgement in an IWR Report.

### Next steps

- Agree with stakeholders the detailed arrangements for QEF2
- Finalise the timescale for implementation
- One possible timescale would for example be:
- Spring/summer 2016: establish Research Evaluation Sub-committee; finalise detailed arrangements for QEF2 (before Easter); work on various QEF2 Guidelines

### Next steps (2)

- Summer: 2016 Publication of 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of QEF Handbook
- End of 2016 Publication of Student Handbook
- September 2017 Start of new cycle of SLRs including research
- September 2017 Start of new cycle of IWRs

### Thanks

- Thanks for excellent collaboration and discussions
- Look forward to continuing the journey in the same collaborative manner
- Please keep in touch – Siggi or myself (or any Board member)
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