QAA HER Action Plan April 2021 (Updated September 2021)

The Higher Education Review conducted in January 2021 provided a helpful opportunity to ensure that the structures and procedures at ETS meet the expectations of the Quality Code for Higher Education in the provision of theological education.

There are four main areas on which the review is focused:

1. The maintenance of the academic standards of awards offered on behalf of degree-awarding bodies.
2. The quality of student learning experience.
3. The quality of the information about learning opportunities.
4. The enhancement of student learning opportunities.

In all of the above areas ETS met the expectations.

Key findings

Judgements

The QAA review team formed the following judgements about the higher education provision.

• The maintenance of the academic standards of awards offered on behalf of the degree-awarding body meets UK expectations.
• The quality of student learning opportunities meets UK expectations.

Good practice

The QAA review team identified the following features of good practice.

• The comprehensive pastoral and personal community which fosters a supportive learning environment and encourages excellent relations with staff. (Q9)

ETS Action: Continue to ensure that the comprehensive pastoral and personal community fosters a supportive learning and teaching environment through annual review at the Programme Delivery and Assessment Subgroup of the Senate.

Recommendations

The QAA review team makes the following recommendations.

• Ensure that all continuing professional development activities for staff are recorded and evaluated.
ETS Action: Give sustained consideration to professional development within the annual Seminary Board review process and report to the Board with action items by September 2021. These must be minuted and followed up by the Chairman of the Board via the Principal.

This has now been actioned and approved by the Seminary Board. (17th Sep 2021)

- Provide an updated policy for remote teaching, learning and assessment that reflects changes to practice due to the global pandemic.

ETS Action: The Principal to write a policy for remote teaching and assessment that reflects changes to practice due to the global pandemic. Policy to be approved by the Senate and Seminary Board by September 2021.

This has now been completed.