

# Update for TEIs

26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

## Contents

1. [Module marks for continuing students](#)
2. [Curriculum development](#)
3. [Student elections](#)
4. [2018 Seedcorn Grants](#)
5. [Student conference](#)
6. [Staff conference](#)
7. [PER: sharing good practice](#)
8. [Changes to programme specifications](#)
9. [Staffing update](#)

---

## Module marks for continuing students

We would like to remind TEIs that the deadline to submit the confirmed module marks **from 2016-17** for any continuing students has now passed. If you haven't already done so, please ensure that the marks are presented and returned securely on [the spreadsheet template](#) as soon as possible.

Please note that where students have withdrawn or have suspended their studies: if the student has completed a module then we need to receive the confirmed module marks for these modules in order to add them to the student's Banner record, so that we are able to produce a transcript for them if necessary.

## Curriculum development

The deadline for the submission of curriculum development proposals is **Tuesday 31st January 2018**. TEIs are asked to submit proposals for: (i) any programmes that are new to the TEI; (ii) any programmes that are new to a specific centre within a TEI; (iii) withdrawing a Common Awards programme.

TEIs are reminded that they can find information about [curriculum development](#) in the online [TEI Handbook](#).

*Please note that the deadline for other curriculum changes (e.g. programme and module changes) is not until the end of May 2018. If TEIs wish to submit these changes sooner, they are welcome to do so.*

## Student Elections

We would like to remind TEIs that the deadline for students to nominate themselves for the role of student representative on the Common Awards Management Board is **31<sup>st</sup> January 2018**. We would be grateful if TEIs could remind students of this deadline if they have not done so already.

The proposed timeline for the 2017/18 election process is:

**31.01.18:** Candidates nominate themselves by this date

**05.02.18:** Candidate information is published on Durham's Common Awards website and the election opens

**28.02.18:** The election closes. Each TEI counts its students' votes

**09.03.18:** Each TEI returns its results to Durham's Common Awards team

**23.03.18:** Durham's Common Awards team announces the results of the election

**01.05.18:** Student Representatives attend their first Common Awards Management Board

## 2018 Seedcorn Grants

We are pleased to announce that the first part of the 5th round of the Seedcorn funding grant is now open and accepting applications!

Please note that the Seedcorn Grant scheme is different this year.

1. **There will be three tranches of grants available.** At this point, we are issuing an open call for Common Awards Seedcorn Grant projects on any relevant topic, and Christopher Southgate's call for proposals related to 'Liturgy in Response to Trauma'. **The deadline for applications is 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018.** Later in the year, in April or May, we will issue a further, thematic call for Common Awards Seedcorn Grant proposals related to the theme of 'receptivity'. Further information about the Trauma and Receptivity competitions is given below.
2. **We are removing the size restriction on individual grants** for the Common Awards Seedcorn Grants, both the present open call and the thematic call. For each of those two calls, we have a pot of £6,000 available, and proposals can be for projects of any size up to that total. Note, however, that the judges will only award grants over £2,000 where they are particularly impressed with the scope, likely fruitfulness, and breadth of collaboration involved in a project.

Please visit [our website](#) for more information.

## Student Conference

This year's Common Awards Student Conference will be held at [St Aidan's College](#), Durham from 16-18 July 2018.

### **The theme for the conference is 'The Ministry and Mission of Prayer'**

Evelyn Underhill once said that Christian ministry is about living a life 'soaked in prayer'. The practice of prayer stands at the centre of Christian ministry – ordained and lay. In this conference we will be thinking about the theme of prayer in the context of Christian theology, ministry and mission. Our speakers will lead us in explorations of historical and contemporary expressions of prayer, the political dimensions of prayer, and the relation between prayer, formation and academic study. The conference aims to think in new ways about this everyday practice of Christian discipleship, equipping you with deep thinking to share with others about the role of prayer in the life of the church.

The conference is open to all students on Common Awards courses. Accommodation for the Tuesday and Wednesday nights, all meals and the conference sessions are free. A travel bursary of £75 is available for each student attending. More details to follow on the [conference website](#). Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: [@CommonAwards](#)

## Staff Conference

The 2018 Annual Conference for Theological Educators will be held at [High Leigh Conference Centre, Hertfordshire](#) from Mon 23 – Wed 25 July, lunchtime to lunchtime.

### **The theme for the conference is 'Formation for an Engaged Church: Theological Education and the Resourcing of Discipleship'**

How does the theological education and training that we provide relate to the diversity of Christian discipleship in the world – to the wide range of vocations and forms of ministry, service and witness to which Christians are called in their homes, workplaces, communities and the public sphere? How well do we train ministers who will enable and resource the full breadth of Christian discipleship? Will it take a culture change for our churches to take this variety with full seriousness – and, if so, what role might theological education play in that? In what ways can we as theological educators better serve a church fully engaged in the world?

As in 2017, this will be a joint meeting of the Common Awards Staff Conference, the [Theological Educators' Network \(formerly CAEIMT\) conference](#), and the [Ministry Development network](#).

Please note that, because of the way that our funding works, the conference is free for Common Awards staff (all core and associate staff who are or expect to be involved in teaching, assessing or administering Common Awards programmes in the designated Common Awards TEIs). For other attendees, including members of TEN and the Ministry Development networks who do not teach, assess or administer Common Awards programmes, there will be a charge for board and lodging.

Further information will be available on [our website](#) soon.

## PER: sharing good practice

TEIs are asked to note that an anonymous overview of commendations identified as part of the PER process have been added to the TEI Handbook on the [Common Awards website](#)

## Changes to programme specifications

The programme specifications for the Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and the MA have been updated to clarify the use of APL in admissions requirements.

The updated programme specifications have been uploaded to the [Programmes](#) page of the Common Awards website. The amendments are as follows:

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Previous text</b>	<b>Updated text</b>
<b>Graduate Certificate in Theology, Ministry and Mission (V60421)</b>  Section 13. Typical Admissions Requirements	<i>"There is no provision for applying for APL for this programme".</i>	<i>"In general, up to a maximum of 20 credits of accredited prior learning may be granted to students who have evidence of, or can demonstrate learning that fulfils, the relevant learning outcomes of the Graduate Certificate programme (by completing a portfolio of work, for example)".</i>
<b>Graduate Diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission (V60422)</b>  Section 13. Typical Admissions Requirements	No information currently included within the Programme Specification	<i>"In general, up to a maximum of 40 credits of accredited prior learning may be granted to students who have evidence of, or can demonstrate learning that fulfils, the relevant learning outcomes of the Graduate Diploma programme (by completing a portfolio of work, for example)".</i>
<b>Postgraduate Certificate in Theology, Ministry and Mission (V60414)</b>  Section 14. Typical Admissions Requirements	No information currently included within the Programme Specification	<i>"In general, up to a maximum of 20 credits of accredited prior learning may be granted to students who have evidence of, or can demonstrate learning that fulfils, the relevant learning outcomes of the Postgraduate Certificate programme (by completing a portfolio of work, for example)".</i>
<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission (V60412)</b>  Section 14. Typical Admissions Requirements	No information currently included within the Programme Specification	<i>"In general, up to a maximum of 40 credits of accredited prior learning may be granted to students who have evidence of, or can demonstrate learning that fulfils, the relevant learning outcomes of the Postgraduate</i>

		<i>Diploma programme (by completing a portfolio of work, for example)”.</i>
<b>MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission (V60407)</b>  Section 14. Typical Admissions Requirements	No information currently included within the Programme Specification	<i>“In general, up to a maximum of 60 credits of accredited prior learning may be granted to students who have evidence of, or can demonstrate learning that fulfils, the relevant learning outcomes of the Masters programme (by completing a portfolio of work, for example)”.</i>

## Common Awards Staffing Update

TEIs are asked to note the following changes to the Common Awards team:

- Ms Rhianne Jones has been appointed to the maternity cover post for Mrs Emma Harrington, and joined the Common Awards team as the Common Awards Officer on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018
- Mrs Suzanne Bradley, who had recently joined the team as the Common Awards Assistant, has taken up another post at the South-East Northumberland Ecumenical Area. The recruitment process is underway and we hope to have a replacement in post soon.

## Further information

If you have any questions relating to the Common Awards, please contact the team:

[common.awards@durham.ac.uk](mailto:common.awards@durham.ac.uk)

Rhianne Jones  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2018