



Australian Dental Council report of an evaluation of the University of Queensland's Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) program

June 2019

Summary Report

Program provider	University of Queensland
Program/qualification name	Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours)
Program/qualification abbreviation	BDS (Hons)
Program/qualification code	2367
Head office address, including State	288 Herston Road, Herston QLD 4006
Campus	Herston
Program length	5 Years
Registration division	Dentist
Registration specialty	NA
Qualification type	HE
Australian Qualifications Framework level	Level 8
Accreditation standards version	Accreditation Standards for Dental Practitioner Programs (Approved Dec 2014)
Date of site evaluation	5 - 6 June 2019
Date of ADC decision	9 August 2019
Type of accreditation	Monitoring
Accreditation start date	1 January 2017
Accreditation end date	31 December 2023

Background

On 31 May 2016 and 1 June 2016, a site visit was undertaken to evaluate the University of Queensland's Bachelor of Dental Science and Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) programs. The Bachelor of Dental Science program is now closed with all students having graduated.

The Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) program was accredited without conditions until 31 December 2023. It was determined that as a monitoring requirement a site visit be undertaken in 2019 once the first cohort of students have reached the final year of the revised curriculum to ensure that the revised program is rolling out as intended and that it continues to meet the Accreditation Standards.

Overview of evaluation

An ADC Site Evaluation Team (SET) conducted a site visit on 5-6 June 2019 to the University of Queensland. The SET reviewed the University of Queensland's 2016 site visit report and submission, 2019 site visit submission and appendices and additional information requested following the SET's teleconference of 24 April 2019. The site visit took place concurrently with a monitoring visit to the Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Needs Dentistry program.

The education provider's submission provided an update about changes and developments since the last site visit under each of the five accreditation standards. As the purpose of the monitoring visit was to check that the program was rolling out as intended, the SET focused its assessment on standards 3, 4 and 5 of the Accreditation Standards. In the course of its evaluation, the SET also gathered evidence leading to a recommendation against another standard and this is outlined overleaf.

During the visit the SET interviewed a range of individuals, including the following.

- School Management Team including the Head of School
- Support staff
- Representatives of Metro North Health
- Program co-ordinators
- Students
- Graduates
- Teaching staff
- Clinical supervisors

The SET also toured the facilities at the Stafford Dental Clinic.

During the visit the SET was provided with a sample of completed clinical logbooks

Key findings

The evidence gathered by the SET indicates that the University of Queensland's Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) program has rolled out as intended and continues to meet the Accreditation Standards, producing graduates that are competent to practice.

The School's student-centred approach was evident throughout the site visit in areas including governance, support service design and innovations in education experience.

The SET identified a small number of areas for continuous improvement. There was evidence of variability of student clinical experiences and the School should consider how it might ensure equitable clinical experiences. The School should consider additional mechanisms to ensure that clinical supervisors have consistent expectations of students' clinical skills commensurate with their stage of progression through the program. A research project is completed in the final year of the program when some students are on external placements for an extended period. The School might consider opportunities to commence the research component of the program earlier. The School should also seek further experiences for students to work with other members of the dental team.

ADC accreditation decision

The ADC has determined the site visit satisfies the monitoring requirement for the University of Queensland's Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) program as imposed on 12 August 2016. The Bachelor of Dental Science (Honours) program remains accredited until **31 December 2023**.