

# LONDON MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY

## Revised LMS Submission to QAA on the draft Annex to the MSOR benchmark statement

---

**From:** Antony Bastiani  
**Sent:** 24 November 2008 11:41  
**To:** 'benchmarking@qaa.ac.uk'  
**Cc:** Peter Cooper; 'C.M.Goldie@sussex.ac.uk'; Chris Budd; Martin Smith; Antony Bastiani  
**Subject:** Re: Annex to Mathematics, Statistics and Operational Research to cover Integrated Masters

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wrote on 27 October on behalf of the London Mathematical Society to confirm the Society's overall support for the draft Annex to the MSOR benchmark statement.

On reflection, the amendment to paragraph A.12 proposed in my email was not phrased entirely clearly.

The last sentence of the paragraph currently reads: "However, it should always be possible for a learner registered on the MMath programme to choose to graduate instead with the corresponding bachelor's degree at the end of the third year or subsequently."

Two changes were suggested in my email:

**(i) Altering 'the corresponding bachelor's degree' to 'a bachelor's degree'.**

Some institutions require that an extended piece of writing is completed before graduation. A student who had originally intended to complete this during his or her fourth year - but subsequently decided to graduate with a bachelor's degree - might not necessarily be permitted to graduate with the 'corresponding' bachelor's degree according to university regulations, but the annex should permit graduation with a bachelor's degree nonetheless.

**(ii) Removal of 'or subsequently'**

The Society believes that once a student has started his or her fourth year it should be completed; it would not be appropriate for a student to be able to wait for fourth year module results before deciding to revert back to graduating with a bachelor's degree simply to retain a higher grade average.

The proposed amendments would leave:

"However, it should always be possible for a learner registered on the MMath programme to choose to graduate instead with a bachelor's degree at the end of the third year."

I hope this note improves the clarity of the Society's response; please do not hesitate to get in touch if any of this is unclear.

Yours faithfully,

Antony Bastiani  
Administrative Officer  
London Mathematical Society