

Conference Speakers

Our conference speakers are experts in SQA HND design and delivery. They bring a wealth of practical experience and understanding to support your delivery of this qualification. Here is a brief description of their areas of expertise.

Martin Kelly, SQA International External Verifier

Martin was Head of the Faculty of Humanities of a large FE college in Glasgow. He has worked abroad assessing English language skills of sophomore students in China, India and Bangladesh. Martin left college to start his own management consultancy where he advises companies in leadership and management techniques. He was recently appointed a Senior Verifier with SQA and has extensive experience in writing, vetting and verifying English and communication ASPs and guides.

Matthew McCullagh, Quality Manager

Matthew McCullagh has 20 years' experience of delivering and quality assuring SQA's HND qualifications. For 10 years he worked in a college as a lecturer, assessor, internal verifier and course team leader. He then joined SQA as a full time external verifier before taking full responsibility for the quality assurance of all SQA's qualifications. Matthew has visited China several times in his role as Quality Manager and has visited many of the Universities that deliver SQA's HNDs.

Sharon McDowall, Qualifications Manager

Sharon has worked in the public sector for more than 30 years and has specialised in training and education. She joined SQA in 2001 and has carried out various roles relating to qualifications development and has held her current post as Qualifications Manager for 7 years. She is responsible for managing and developing a wide range of SQA qualifications including the suite of HND subjects currently offered in China. Her role as Qualifications Manager includes managing and updating qualifications, defining assessment standards and developing support mechanisms for SQA centres. Sharon holds an MBA.

Dr. Margot McKerrell, Head of Higher National and Vocational Qualifications

Margot has recently taken up the post of Head of Service for Higher National and Vocational Qualifications in SQA, having previously worked in the organisation as a Qualifications Manager. Margot has extensive knowledge and experience of the quality assurance processes associated with the development, delivery, assessment and verification of HND and degree qualifications. This has been gained through working for 17 years in the College and University sectors and 8 years in SQA. Before moving into the field of education, Margot worked as a medical research scientist.

Robert Quinn, Head of Humanities, Arts and Business

In his current role Robert leads the development and maintenance of SQA qualifications. Previously, Robert held responsibility for guiding Scottish Colleges through the HN modernisation process. He also spent 10 years as a lecturer and senior lecturer in business education. Robert also has some experience in the private sector in Recruitment and Management Consultancy. Robert's main outside interest is endurance running. He has been racing for nearly 30 years and has won a number of National titles.

Janet Strain, Subject Implementation Manager

Janet is an experienced tutor of IT and Business-related qualifications at HND level and helped to develop the current HN qualifications. She has also led college-wide curriculum and quality systems projects. She has a BA in Business Administration and worked in both the private and public sectors before moving to further education 20 years ago. Janet has been an SQA External Verifier for 8 years and is skilled at supporting centres during development visits.

Kim Tree, SQA External Verifier for Accounting

Before working in education Kim worked in the private sector for around ten years in various Accountancy roles and graduated with a BA in Business Studies and Diploma in Marketing in 1984. Kim has been tutoring Accounting and Business subjects at two large Scottish colleges for the past 16 years. She was appointed as the SQA Senior External verifier for HN and SVQ Accounting in 2003. Kim plays an extensive role in the development of Accounting qualifications for SQA including writing Assessment Exemplars (AEs) and Assessment Support Packs (ASPs), reviewing standards, producing guidance materials and supporting centres in the UK and in China. She is also an External Verifier for the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT) and she uses this experience to ensure a high quality and consistent standard within SQA's Accounting qualifications. Kim is also leading a project on introducing International Accounting Standards in SQA's HN qualifications.

Iain Walker, SQA External Verifier for Business and Economics

Iain has tutored in Business, Economics and Management at the University of Highlands and Islands for 27 years. He is the SQA Senior External Verifier for HN Business, Economics and the Business Graded Units and has held this post for 9 years. Iain's extensive subject knowledge and teaching and assessment experience at HND and degree level has been fully utilised by SQA especially in developing support for SQA centres in Scotland and in China. He has been involved in the development of a range of HN qualifications. This work includes writing Unit specifications, the production of Assessment Exemplars (AEs) and Assessment Support Packs (ASPs), guidance materials and prior verification of ASPs. He is extensively involved in developing training sessions for centre staff in China.



**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE CHINA 2015**



Conference Programme

Conference Day 1 – Tuesday 25th August 2015	
TIME	SESSION INFORMATION
08:45 - 09:30	Registration
09:30	Welcome and opening remarks • Dr. Janet Brown • Mr Che
	2014-2015 QA Activity Trends and Patterns
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Quality Assurance 2015-2018 – Quality Criteria and Impact
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH
	Internal Verification Toolkit
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Security of Assessment Instruments
16:30 - 17:00	Question and Answer Panel

Conference Day 2 – Wednesday 26th August 2015	
TIME	SESSION INFORMATION
08:45 - 09:30	Registration
09:30	Welcome Introduction and overview of next 3 days
	Preparing for Success: Quality Enhancement Plan – Strategic Overview Preparing for Success: Quality Enhancement Plan – Additional Support
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Subject Implementation Manager: Update English Language Skills in the HND Programme
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH
	Workshops – to run twice
	HND Programme: Planning and Delivery Developing an Effective Lesson Plan
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Resources: Sourcing Teaching Materials
16:30 - 17:00	Question and Answer Panel

Conference Day 3 – Thursday 27th August 2015	
TIME	SESSION INFORMATION
08:45 - 09:30	Registration
09:30	Welcome Re-cap of Day 2 and overview of Day 3
	Communication Skills: Why are they important in an HND Programme?
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Workshops Understanding Standards: Re-assessment and Re-do Communications: Using the Tutor Guide
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH
	Workshops Understanding Standards: Re-assessment and Re-do Communications: Using the Tutor Guide
	Role and Responsibilities of a Tutor
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Accounting FRS 102: Update
16:30 - 17:00	Question and Answer Panel

Conference Day 4 – Friday 28th August 2015	
TIME	SESSION INFORMATION
08:45 - 09:30	Registration
09:30	Welcome Re-cap of day 3 and overview of day 4
	Graded Units: practical exercise
	BREAK – TEA & COFFEE
	Integration SQA Update
	LUNCH
	Internal Verification and Cross Marking: good practice
14:00 - 14:30	Question and Answer Panel
14:30 - 14:45	Conference Summary



Preparing for Success

The Scottish Qualifications Authority welcomes you to the Professional Development Conference China 2015.

This year the focus is on 'Preparing for Success'. The varied and wide ranging programme will cover:

- centre management of HND programmes
- development of quality teaching practices – planning and delivery
- development of assessment practices – approaches, techniques and standardisation
- promotion of Understanding Standards across all centres

We hope you enjoy the conference and leave feeling you have the right support and information to help you to 'Prepare for Success' once back in your own centre.