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8th June 2011

Professor Adrian Eddleston
Chair of General Osteopathic Council
General Osteopathic Council
Osteopathy House
176 Tower Bridge Road
London SE1 3LU

Dear Professor Eddleston

**Section 14 of the Osteopaths Act 1993 - Recognised Qualifications
Initial recognition of a Master of Osteopathic Medicine and the renewal
of the BSc (Hons) Osteopathic Medicine for the Surrey Institute of
Osteopathic Medicine**

This is to confirm that the Privy Council has considered the request from the General Osteopathic Council ("the General Council") regarding the recognition of the qualifications Master of Osteopathic Medicine during the period 1 November 2010 to 31 October 2013 and the renewal of the BSc (Hons) Osteopathy during the period 1 January 2012 to 31 October 2013 awarded by the Surrey Institute of Osteopathic Medicine ("SIOM").

The Privy Council, in exercise of its powers under sections 14(2) and 15(6) of the Osteopaths Act 1993 (c. 21) and having regard to the information made available by the General Council in accordance with section 14(7) of that Act in its letter to the Clerk to the Privy Council dated 28 April 2011, together with the enclosures to that letter, by this letter approves those qualifications awarded during the periods stated above, and approves the imposition of conditions by the General Council as set out in the following table:

CONDITIONS	
a.	The SIOM must fill the permanent position of Head of SIOM at the earliest opportunity, and no later than 1 September 2011

b.	The SIOM must provide to the General Council an action plan by 31 July 2011 detailing how it will address the limited engagement of SIOM staff in the development and monitoring of the provision of, and raise awareness among staff and students of the relationship and differences between, the BSc (Hons) Osteopathic Medicine and Masters of Osteopathic Medicine.
c.	An updated risk analysis, based upon detailed evidence and with appropriate contingency plans must be undertaken and submitted to the General Council by 31 July 2011
d.	Intended learning outcomes must be rewritten by 31 July 2011 for Clinical Practice 1 to reflect more accurately the module aims and content and, for the "M-level" dissertation, to reflect fully a Master's level qualification
e.	Student handbooks must be amended by 31 July 2011 to remove reference to the outdated GOsC Code of Practice 'Pursuing Excellence'
f.	A review of the Clinical Practice 3 module must be undertaken by 31 July 2011 to ensure that students are not required to demonstrate competence in specialist areas of practice such as cranial and visceral osteopathic techniques, before these are taught formally
g.	To ensure consistency, the assessment information provided in the 2008 module guide and in handbooks must be revised by 31 July 2011
h.	A review of the low first-attempt progression rates from Year 1 to 2, and an action plan to address this must be submitted to the General Council by 31 July 2011
i.	Detailed plans of how the SIOM will ensure that sufficient appropriately qualified staff will be available to teach, supervise dissertations and assess at Masters level must be provided by 31 July 2011.
j.	An updated clinic marketing plan together with projected patient numbers, to ensure sufficient number and variety of patients, must be completed and submitted to the General Council by 31 July 2011
k.	The SIOM must employ sufficient additional administrative support for SIOM by 1 September 2011
l.	The SIOM must submit an Annual Report to the Education Committee of the General Council.
m.	The SIOM must inform the Education Committee of the General Council as soon as reasonably practicable, of any change or proposed substantial change likely to influence the quality of the course leading to the qualification and its delivery, including but not limited to:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) substantial changes in finance ii) substantial changes in management iii) changes to the title of the qualification iv) changes to the level of the qualification v) introduction or changes to franchise agreements vi) changes to validation agreements vii) changes to the length of the course and the mode of its delivery viii) substantial changes in clinical provision ix) changes in teaching personnel x) changes in assessment programmes xi) changes in student entry requirements xii) changes in student numbers. xiv) changes in patient numbers passing through the student clinic xv) changes in teaching accommodation xvi) changes in IT, library and other learning resource provision
n.	<p>The SIOM must comply with the General Council's requirements for the assessment of the osteopathic clinical performance of students and its requirements for monitoring the quality and ensuring the standards of this assessment. These are outlined in the publication: ISBN 978 1 84482 734 3 <i>Subject benchmark statement for Osteopathy, 2007</i>, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education. The participation of real patients in a real clinical setting must be included in this assessment. Any changes in these requirements will be communicated in writing by The General Council to the SIOM giving not less than 9 months' notice.</p>

Yours sincerely



Judith Simpson
Clerk of the Privy Council