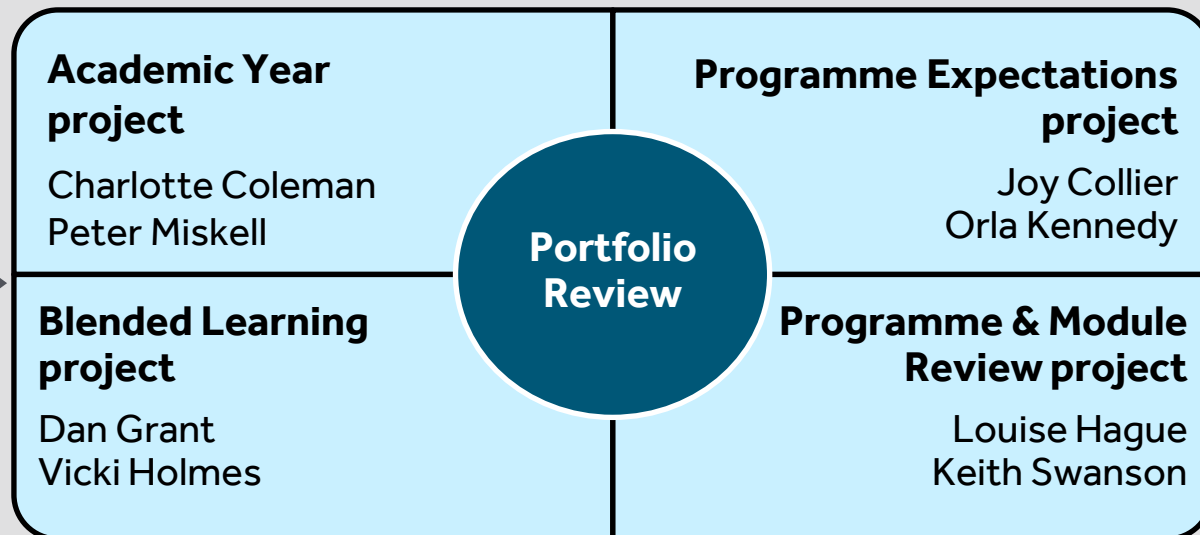
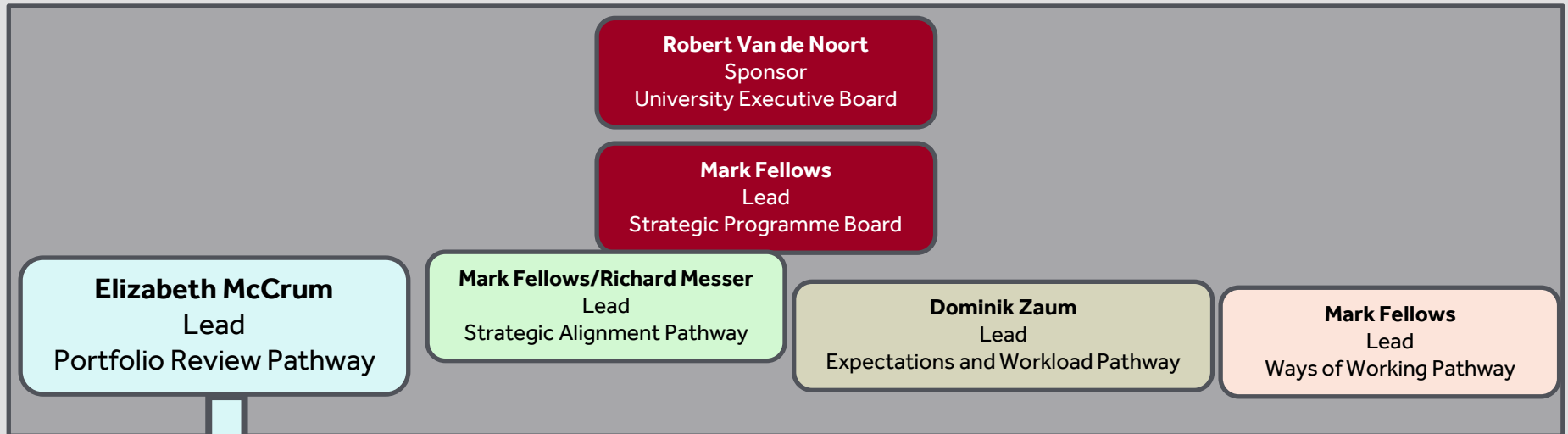


# Portfolio Review Pathway



**Professor Elizabeth McCrum**  
**Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Student Experience)**

# Context



The Pathway  
comprises four  
inter-related  
projects

# Benefits

Opportunity to look strategically at the programmes and modules we offer, with the view to:

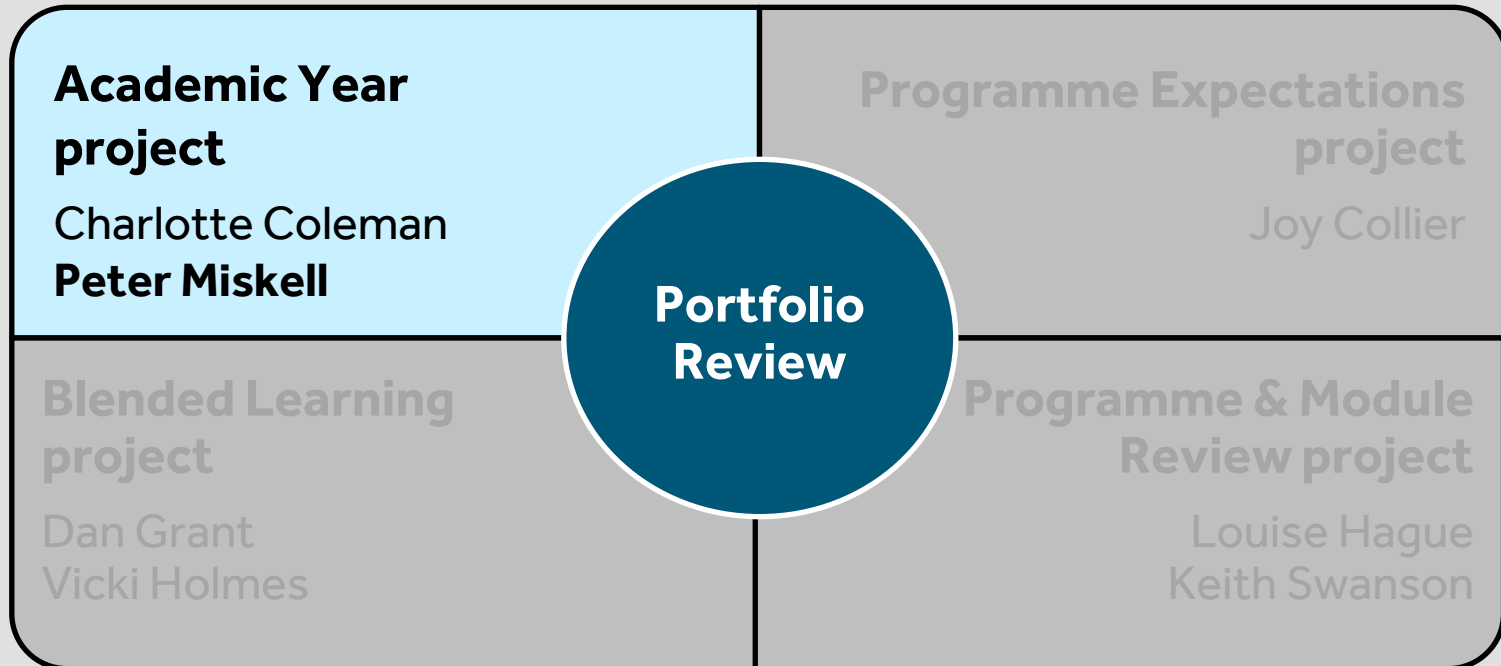
- Improve academic and professional services staff workloads
- Reduce the volume and complexity of the current portfolio of programmes and modules
- Offer a more coherent portfolio to prospective students
- Improve the quality of student experience
- Make better use of our resources

# Consultation & Engagement

A key element of the Portfolio Review has been on-going partnership with stakeholders

## Engagement activities have included:

- Multiple Project consultations with Key stakeholders (e.g. Academic colleagues, Student Services and Operations, Estates, DTS, Legal Services, CQSD)
- Consultation Workshops across the pathway
- Regular breakfast briefings
- Engagement with Communities of Practice
- Online surveys (e.g. Academic year and Assessment type)
- Engagement with RUSU, Student Panel focus groups and Student Reps



# Academic Year

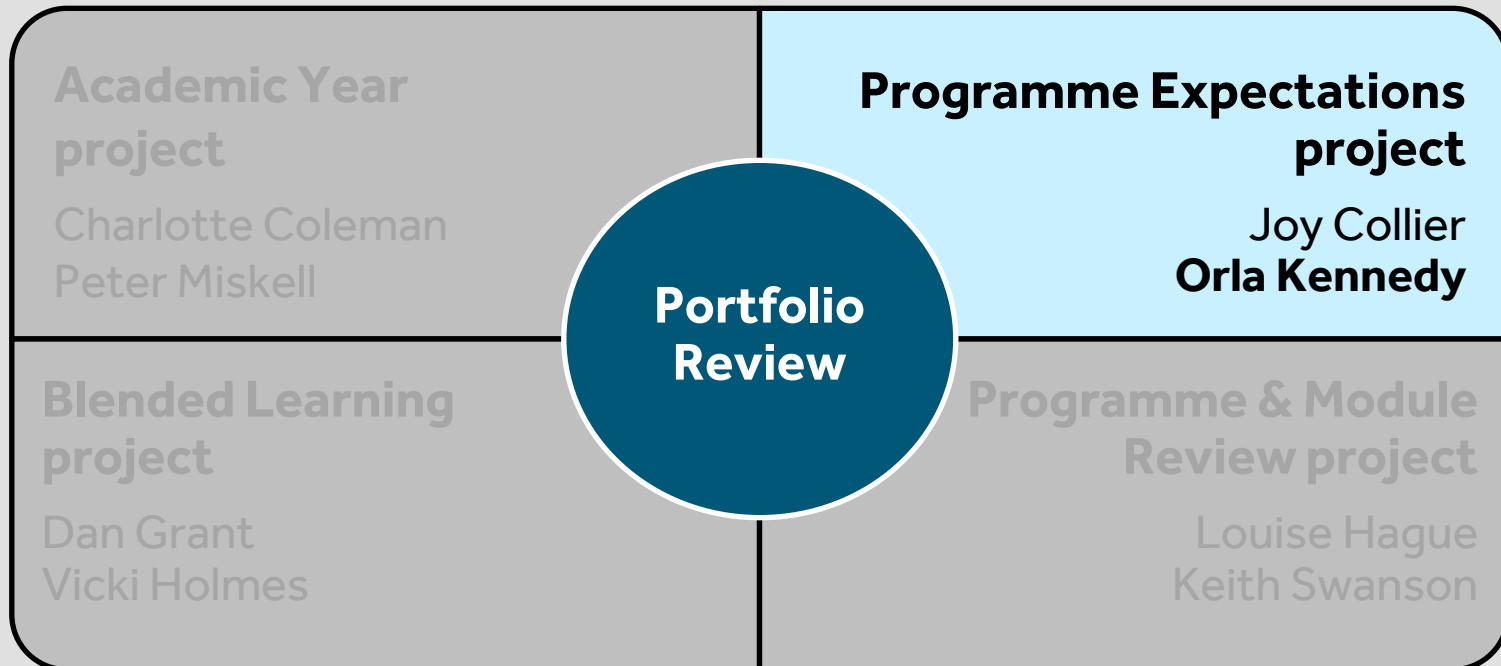
## Aims

To provide a platform to create a more sustainable T&L Framework that:

- Improves student experience in relation to T&L.
- Provides opportunities for future growth and innovation.
- Reduces assessment load.
- Supports professional services teams.

## Recommendations and next steps

- **30 week semester system** to be implemented from 2024/25
- January/February 2022: Commence work with implementation group to adopt semester system



# Programme Expectations

## Aims

The project aims to support the design, delivery and enhancement of new and existing programmes and modules by:

- Refreshing and revising the Curriculum Framework to reflect the aims of the University Strategy;
- Establishing expectations to reduce assessment load and facilitate more effective, engaging, proportionate and evenly distributed assessment; and
- Developing proposals for simplified and more consistent programme and module structures and delivery, including progression rules.



# Programme Expectations

## Recommendations and next steps

- **Programme Level approach**
  - Designed according to revised Curriculum Framework
  - Defined Programme Learning Outcomes, mapped to modules
  - Teaching and assessment strategies aligned at programme level
- **Module Size & Shape**
  - E.g. 20 credits minimum or multiples of 20
- **Optionality and module allocation**
  - Ensure realistic option choices from baskets
- **Assessment volume & distribution**
  - Recommendation of 2 (no more than 3) summative assessments per 20 credits
  - Assessment completed in semester studied
- **Assessment Type & Variety**
  - 'Authentic', reduced reliance on traditional examinations
- **Progression**
  - Revised standard University progression requirements for Part 1 UG programmes
- **Preparing to support implementation through training and guidance**



# Blended Learning

## Aims

### Reflect on our blended learning approach during the Covid pandemic

- Designed specifically to enable continuation of teaching and learning during the pandemic.
- Combined face-to-face and online learning experiences in a way which would also allow a rapid switch from to **fully online learning** as necessary.

### A blended learning approach for the future

- Look **beyond** the pandemic, learning from the pandemic experiences.
- Develop an informed and evidence-based approach for blended learning, suitable for our context.
- No one, single approach to blended learning: our future approach can differ from the blended approach used during the pandemic.

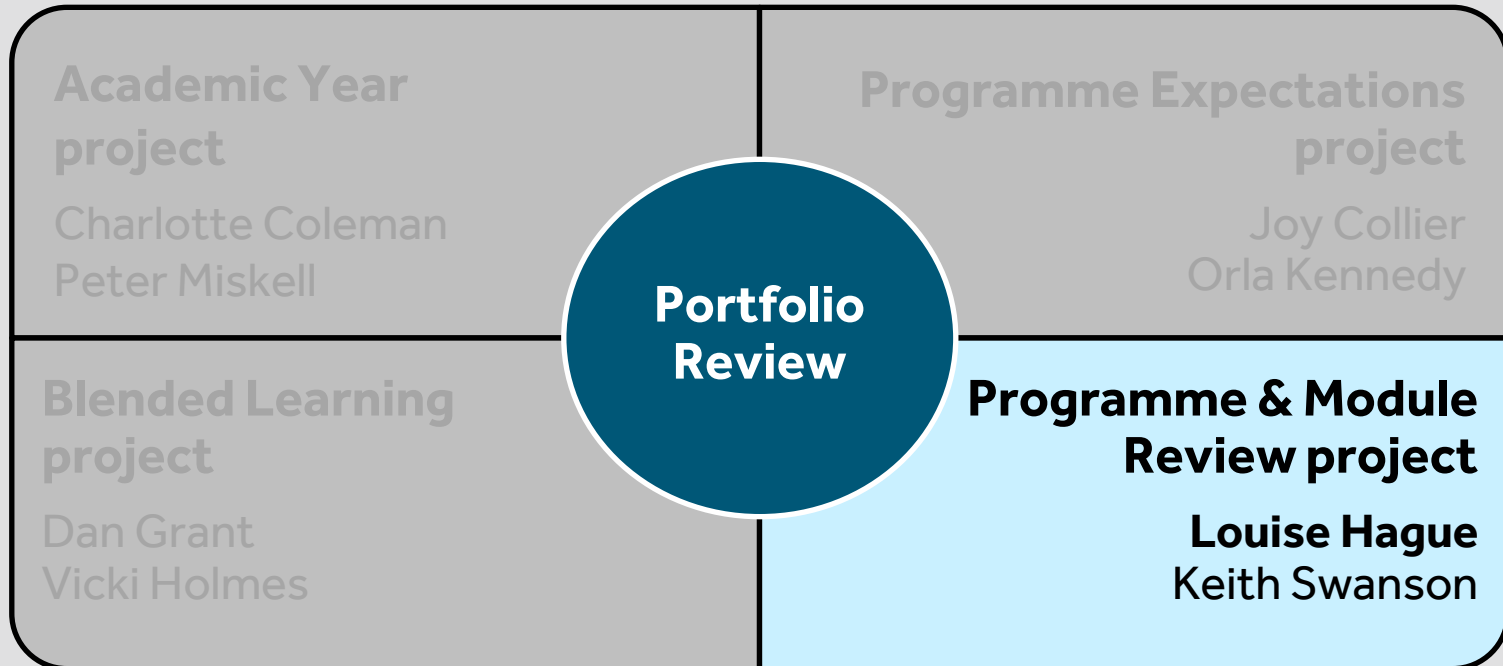
# Blended Learning

## Recommendations

- Every programme will be blended - importance of both face-to-face and online learning
- The majority of a programme's contact time will be face-to-face
- Programme-level design essential
- Within a programme, the ratio of online and face-to-face contact hours can vary between modules
- Primacy of the discipline; choice of which elements will be face-to-face and which will be online

## Next steps

- Schools should continue to include appropriate online teaching activities
- Implementation planning and preparation of information and guidance for Schools, Services and Functions is underway



# Programme & Module Review

## Aims

### **Institutional:**

- Reduce staff workloads associated with delivery and administration of teaching.
- Ensure our portfolio is distinctive, coherent, reflective of student demand and sustainable.
- Reduce the volume of our portfolio by around a third.

### **School:**

- Review UG and PGT programmes with fewer than 30 students enrolled in 2020/21.
- Review UG and PGT modules alongside and aligned with the recommendations from the other Pathway Projects
- Make recommendations about what to withdraw, reconfigure or retain to support the achievement of the Institutional aims and target.

# Programme and Module Review

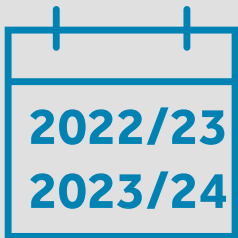
## Progress, recommendations and next steps

- At an institutional level we have so far reduced the programme portfolio by 23%. Further programme withdrawals are anticipated as part of the Portfolio Review implementation
- Module review activity will be implemented alongside and aligned with the recommendations from the other Pathway Projects
- Schools will be expected to develop programmes with sustainable modules choices
- Updated policies and processes will ensure we continue to maintain a distinctive, coherent and sustainable portfolio, reflective of student demand

# Implementation



- Engage with pathway implementation workshops, training tools and guidance
- Commence redesign of programmes, policies and processes to facilitate changes



- Status updates with Schools & Support functions
- Scenario modelling & review of changes
- Finalise portfolio changes in line with pathway recommendations



- Programme and module changes complete
- Semester based Academic Year commences

Regular check-in points and opportunities for communication, such as Q&A sessions, will be a priority throughout the implementation.



# Portfolio Review Pathway



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