

GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDIES BOARD

MINUTES

Thursday 29 October 2020

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Zoom Meeting

Present: Ms Lisa Buckley, Ms Isabelle Caulfield, Prof. David Collings, Prof. Edel Conway, Dr Maura Coulter, Prof. Turlough Downes, Ms Karen Keating, Ms Rachel Keegan (Secretary), Dr Gillian Lake, Dr Pascal Landais, Dr Jennifer McManus, Prof. Sharon O'Brien, Prof Joseph Stokes (Chair), Ms Jennifer Yore

Apologies: Dr Tim McCormac, Ms Christina O'Keeffe, Dr Sally Smith

The Chair opened the first meeting of 2020-21 and welcomed the following new members:

- Prof. Turlough Downes, Acting Associate Dean for Research, Faculty of Science and Health
- Dr Jennifer McManis, Representative for the Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning

SECTION A: MINUTES AND RELATED ISSUES

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to:

- The inclusion of two late items, 12.24 and 12.25
- The correction to item 10.10 to reflect the award of MEng

2. Minutes of the meeting of 31 August 2020

The minutes of the meeting of 31 August 2020 were approved. It was noted that formal minutes would be signed once on-campus activity resumes.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 31 August 2020

- 3.1 It was noted that work on guidelines on recital performance and related capacity building is ongoing (item 3.1).
- 3.2 It was noted that a PGR4 for a student in the School of Communications, for which the nomination of an alternative external examiner is required, is on the agenda (item 7.25) of today's meeting (item 7.8).

- 3.3 It was noted that follow-up with respect to a PGR4 for a student in the DCU Institute of Education, which was approved subject to the nomination of an alternative external examiner, is complete (item 7.23).
- 3.4 It was noted that follow-up with respect to a PGR4 for a student in the School of Law and Government, which was approved subject to the nomination of an alternative external examiner, is complete (item 7.25).
- 3.5 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR14 for a student in the DCU Business School, which was approved subject to the form being completed by the supervisor, is complete (item 9.7).
- 3.6 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR14 for a student in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, which was approved subject to the form being completed by the supervisor, is ongoing (item 9.27).
- 3.7 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Communications, which was approved subject to the submission of a more detailed report under section B(ii), is complete (item 6.7).
- 3.8 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Communications, which was approved subject to the submission of a more detailed report under section B(ii), is complete (item 6.8).
- 3.9 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Computing, which was approved subject to the submission of a more detailed report under section B(ii), is complete (item 6.11).
- 3.10 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Health and Human Performance, which was approved subject to clarification that the report was joint written by the supervisor and examiner *and* subject to the removal of references to “I” from the report, is complete (item 6.16).
- 3.11 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Arts Education and Movement, which was approved subject to confirmation of the thesis title *and* subject to the completion of section B(i), part c, is complete (item 6.20).
- 3.12 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, which was approved subject to the completion of section B(i), part c, is complete (item 6.26).
- 3.13 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, which was approved subject to confirmation that the student has signed the form, is complete (item 6.27).
- 3.14 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Physical Sciences, which was approved subject to the completion of section B(i), part c, is complete (item 6.29).

- 3.15 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 for a student in the School of Physical Sciences, which was approved subject to the completion of section C, is complete (item 6.30).
- 3.16 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 for a student in the School of Communications, which was approved subject to the nomination of an alternative external examiner, is complete (item 7.11).
- 3.17 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 for a student in the School of Law and Government, which was approved subject to the nomination of an alternative internal examiner, is complete (item 7.26).
- 3.18 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 for a student in the School of Law and Government, which was approved subject to the nomination of an alternative internal examiner, is complete (item 7.44).
- 3.19 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR14 for a student in the DCU Institute of Education, which was approved subject to the form being completed by the supervisor *and* subject to the agreement of the examiners to a revised correction deadline, is complete (item 9.11).
- 3.20 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR14 for a student in the School of Law and Government, which was approved subject to the form being completed by the supervisor, is complete (item 9.13).
- 3.21 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR14 for a student in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, which was approved subject to the form being completed by the supervisor, is complete (item 9.18).

SECTION B: Policy and strategy issues

4. Graduate researcher development

There were no items for discussion.

5. COVID-19: Continuity arrangements

- 5.1 The Chair drew attention to recent funding from the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science to cover costed extensions for certain research activities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chair informed the Board that the Research Support Office has issued its first call, targeting research students in their final year who have not yet submitted their thesis for examination. This initial call is for full-time funded students and will provide funding in the form of additional stipend payments to a maximum of four months. It is anticipated that further rounds will target other cohorts and will include self-funded students.

The Board welcomed this funding, however, concerns were expressed that the criteria for what constitutes a final-year student are unclear. Clarity was also sought on whether

unsuccessful applicants can apply to subsequent rounds of this call. The short turnaround time for faculties to complete the panel reviews was also raised as a concern. These issues were noted and it was agreed that it would be useful for the Dean of Graduate Studies to meet with the Associate Deans for Research after the panel review meetings have taken place.

- 5.2 The Chair informed the Board that an email will be issued to research students shortly, outlining the extension to COVID-19 arrangements.

6. Report on GRSB Activities 2019-20

The report was noted.

7. Dundalk Institute of Technology, Annual Report to DCU GRSB

The report was noted.

8. Membership of GRSB Standing Committee to Consider Research Student Appeals

The membership of the GRSB Standing Committee to consider research student appeals was noted. It was noted that the student representative's Faculty was incorrect and that this will be corrected after the meeting.

SECTION C: Individual student issues

9. Applications for transfer to the PhD Register or confirmation on the PhD Register (PGR3)

- 9.1 GRSB2020/A7/9.1, DCU Business School
Approved
- 9.2 GRSB2020/A7/9.2, School of Arts Education and Movement
Approved
- 9.3 GRSB2020/A7/9.3, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved
- 9.4 GRSB2020/A7/9.4, School of Communications
Approved
- 9.5 GRSB2020/A7/9.5, School of Communications
Approved
- 9.6 GRSB2020/A7/9.6, School of Computing
Approved
- 9.7 GRSB2020/A7/9.7, School of Computing
Approved

- 9.8 GRSB2020/A7/9.8, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved
- 9.9 GRSB2020/A7/9.9, School of Inclusive and Special Education
Approved
- 9.10 GRSB2020/A7/9.10, School of Law and Government
Approved
- 9.11 GRSB2020/A7/9.11, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Approved
- 9.12 GRSB2020/A7/9.12, School of Nursing, Psychology and Community Health
Approved. It was noted that Registry will seek clarification on the anticipated thesis format.
- 9.13 GRSB2020/A7/9.13, School of Policy and Practice
Approved subject to a more detailed report being provided for section B(ii).
- 9.14 GRSB2020/A7/9.14, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music
Approved subject to a more detailed report being provided for section B(i) and B(ii).
- 9.15 GRSB2020/A7/9.15, School of Health and Science, DkIT
Approved

10. Appointment of internal and external examiners (PGR4)

- 10.1 GRSB2020/A7/10.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
Approved
- 10.2 GRSB2020/A7/10.2, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved
- 10.3 GRSB2020/A7/10.3, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved
- 10.4 GRSB2020/A7/10.4, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved. It was noted that a non-disclosure agreement is required.
- 10.5 GRSB2020/A7/10.5, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved
- 10.6 GRSB2020/A7/10.6, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved
- 10.7 GRSB2020/A7/10.7, PhD, School of Computing
Approved

- 10.8 GRSB2020/A7/10.8, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission. It was noted that the requirement for gender-mix has not been met but that this was justified in the previous PGR4.
- 10.9 GRSB2020/A7/10.9, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 10.10 GRSB2020/A7/10.10, MEng, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved
- 10.11 GRSB2020/A7/10.11, PhD, School of Mathematical Sciences
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 10.12 GRSB2020/A7/10.12, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Approved
- 10.13 GRSB2020/A7/10.13, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Approved
- 10.14 GRSB2020/A7/10.14, PhD, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health
Approved
- 10.15 GRSB2020/A7/10.15, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved
- 10.16 GRSB2020/A7/10.16, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 10.17 GRSB2020/A7/10.17, PhD, School of Psychology
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 10.18 GRSB2020/A7/10.18, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music
Approved
- 10.19 GRSB2020/A7/10.19, PhD, School of Health and Science, DkIT
Approved subject to the appointment of an alternative Chairperson. It was noted that the nominated Chairperson is also the Independent Panel Member.
- 10.20 GRSB2020/A7/10.20, MA, School of Informatics and Creative Arts, DkIT
Approved
- 10.21 GRSB2020/A7/10.21, PhD, School of Health and Science, DkIT
Approved
- 10.22 GRSB2020/A7/10.22, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved by Chairs Action on 22 Sep 2020

10.23 GRSB2020/A7/10.23, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved by Chairs Action on 9 Sep 2020

10.24 GRSB2020/A7/10.24, EdD, DCU Institute of Education
Approved by Chairs Action on 19 Oct 2020

10.25 GRSB2020/A7/10.25, PhD, School of Communications
Approved

11. Notice of Intention to Reside/Carry out Research Abroad (PGR13)

11.1 GRSB2020/A7/11.1, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
Approved

11.2 GRSB2020/A7/11.2, School of Computing
Approved

11.3 GRSB2020/A7/11.3, School of Language, Literacy and Early Childhood Education
Approved

11.4 GRSB2020/A7/11.4, School of Law and Government
Approved by Chairs Action on 22 Sep 2020

12. Request for Extension to Maximum Registration Period OR Re-admission to the Research Programme (PGR14)

12.1 GRSB2020/A7/12.1, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved for readmission into year 4. It was noted that Registry would confirm that the PGR2 for year 3 was completed.

12.2 GRSB2020/A7/12.2, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Approved for 2020/21

12.3 GRSB2020/A7/12.3, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Approved for 2020/21

12.4 GRSB2020/A7/12.4, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 1 Oct 2020

12.5 GRSB2020/A7/12.5, Masters, DCU Business School
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 1 Oct 2020

12.6 GRSB2020/A7/12.6, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 1 Oct 2020

12.7 GRSB2020/A7/12.7, PhD, School of Communications

- Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 6 Oct 2020
- 12.8 GRSB2020/A7/12.8, PhD, School of Computing
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 9 Sep 2020
- 12.9 GRSB2020/A7/12.9, PhD, Fiontar
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 22 Sep 2020
- 12.10 GRSB2020/A7/12.10, EdD, DCU Institute of Education
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 6 Oct 2020
- 12.11 GRSB2020/A7/12.11, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 1 Oct 2020
- 12.12 GRSB2020/A7/12.12, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 1 Oct 2020
- 12.13 GRSB2020/A7/12.13, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 6 Oct 2020
- 12.14 GRSB2020/A7/12.14, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 9 Sep 2020
- 12.15 GRSB2020/A7/12.15, PhD, School of Policy and Practice
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 6 Oct 2020
- 12.16 GRSB2020/A7/12.16, PhD, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 22 Sep 2020
- 12.17 GRSB2020/A7/12.17, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 1 Oct 2020
- 12.18 GRSB2020/A7/12.18, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 19 Oct 2020
- 12.19 GRSB2020/A7/12.19, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 19 Oct 2020
- 12.20 GRSB2020/A7/12.20, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 19 Oct 2020
- 12.21 GRSB2020/A7/12.21, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 19 Oct 2020
- 12.22 GRSB2020/A7/12.22, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 19 Oct 2020
- 12.23 GRSB2020/A7/12.23, PhD, DCU Business School

Approved for 2020/21

12.24 GRSB2020/A7/12.24, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 28 Oct 2020

12.25 GRSB2020/A7/12.25, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved for 2020/21 by Chairs Action on 28 Oct 2020

The chair drew attention to the high number of PGR14 forms which were approved by Chairs Action. These were considered in light of COVID-19 related difficulties and were progressed by Chairs Action to allow students to continue registration.

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date of next meeting

Thursday 10 December 2020

at 9.30 a.m.

Zoom meeting