

## GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDIES BOARD

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### MINUTES

Monday, 30 August 2021

9:30 a.m. – 12:15 a.m.  
Zoom Meeting

**Present:** Ms Isabelle Caulfield, Prof. David Collings, Prof. Edel Conway, Dr Maura Coulter, Ms Karen Keating, Ms Rachel Keegan (Secretary), Dr Gillian Lake, Dr Pascal Landis, Prof. Christine Loscher, Dr Tim McCormac, Ms Niamh McMahon, Ms Siúin McManus, Prof. Sharon O’Brien, Ms Christina O’Keeffe and Prof. Joseph Stokes (Chair)

**Apologies:** Dr Sally Smith and Dr Jennifer McManis

**In attendance:** Ms Grainne Curran

The Chair welcomed Ms Siúin McManus to GRSB as the new FAPG representative.

### SECTION A: MINUTES AND RELATED ISSUES

#### 1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

#### 2. Minutes of the meeting of 17 June 2021

The minutes of the meeting of 17 June 2021 were approved.

#### 3. Matters arising from the minutes

3.1 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 form for a student in the School of Electronic Engineering, which was not approved due to the nominated internal examiner being the independent panel member, is ongoing (item 7.9).

3.2 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Creative Arts, DkIT, which was approved subject to receipt of the student’s signature, is now complete (item 8.15).

3.3 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR15 form for an applicant to the School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies, which was not approved, is ongoing (item 10.3).

- 3.4 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, for which a decision was deferred pending confirmation that the external examiner meets the requirements, is now complete (item 3.1) (original ref. 9.40, 8 April 2021).
- 3.5 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR3 form for a student in the School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, where it was requested that any previous PGR3 forms be submitted for approval, is now complete (item 7.12).
- 3.6 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health, which was not approved as the external examiner does not meet the requirements, is now complete (item 8.7).
- 3.7 It was noted that follow up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies, which was not approved as the external examiner does not meet the requirements, is now complete (item 8.10).

## **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 informed members that it is expected that research students would be encouraged to return to campus in September, and many may already have returned as part of the phased return over the summer.
- 5.2 It was noted that *Viva Voce* examinations are continuing online for the most part, with a small number of hybrid arrangements being facilitated over the summer. The Chair informed members that he expects that the hybrid model will become more prevalent over the coming weeks. It was noted that a Head of School can sign off on a *Viva Voce* where the External Examiner is joining remotely but that approval from the Dean of Graduate Studies is required where a student is attending remotely.
- 5.3 It was noted that the process for the submission of paperwork and theses to Registry will be reviewed before the end of September.

### **6. GRSB Standing Committee to Consider Research Appeals**

#### **6.1 GRSB Standing Committee Membership, 2021-22**

The membership was noted.

## **6.2 Standard operating procedures for management of appeals by research students**

The Chair drew attention to a proposed revision to the standard operating procedures, to allow for the student representative to be replaced with an alternative, should there be a perceived conflict of interest. It was agreed that the change was appropriate and the revised SOP was noted. It was noted that this text has also been included in the membership document for consideration at the next meeting of Academic Council.

## **7. Proposed amendment to the PGR6 form for 2021-22**

A proposal to amend the PGR6 form to reflect regulation 11.4.5 was put forward by Registry. Members discussed the implications of highlighting a timeframe for corrections. It was agreed that any timeframe should be indicative and should not suggest a hard deadline to students. It was agreed that setting out an indicative timeframe is useful for students in providing some guidance on how much work is required. It was agreed that section D1 of the form be updated to include the following text after the first bullet point: ‘...including an indicative timeframe for these changes’.

## **SECTION C: INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ISSUES**

### **8. Applications for transfer to the PhD Register or confirmation on the PhD Register (PGR3)**

8.1 GRSB2021/A6/8.1, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

Approved

8.2 GRSB2021/A6/8.2, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

Approved

8.3 GRSB2021/A6/8.3, School of Biotechnology

Approved

8.4 GRSB2021/A6/8.4, DCU Business School

Approved

8.5 GRSB2021/A6/8.5, School of Chemical Sciences

Approved

8.6 GRSB2021/A6/8.6, School of Communications

Approved

8.7 GRSB2021/A6/8.7, School of Communications

Approved

8.8 GRSB2021/A6/8.8, School of Computing

Approved

8.9 GRSB2021/A6/8.9, School of Computing

Approved

- 8.10 GRSB2021/A6/8.10, School of Computing  
Approved
- 8.11 GRSB2021/A6/8.11, School of English  
Decision deferred. It was noted that section B of the report should be amended to reflect that it is a joint report from both the internal examiner and principal supervisor.
- 8.12 GRSB2021/A6/8.12, School of English  
Approved
- 8.13 GRSB2021/A6/8.13, Fiontar agus Scoil Na Gaeilge  
Approved
- 8.14 GRSB2021/A6/8.14, School of Health and Human Performance  
Decision deferred. It was noted that section B of the report should be amended to reflect that it is a joint report from both the internal examiner and principal supervisor.
- 8.15 GRSB2021/A6/8.15, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved
- 8.16 GRSB2021/A6/8.16, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved
- 8.17 GRSB2021/A6/8.17, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 8.18 GRSB2021/A6/8.18, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 8.19 GRSB2021/A6/8.19, School of Law and Government  
Approved subject to a fully legible copy of the form being submitted.
- 8.20 GRSB2021/A6/8.20, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 8.21 GRSB2021/A6/8.21, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 8.22 GRSB2021/A6/8.22, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 8.23 GRSB2021/A6/8.23, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering  
Approved
- 8.24 GRSB2021/A6/8.24, School of Policy and Practice  
Approved
- 8.25 GRSB2021/A6/8.25, School of Policy and Practice  
Approved

- 8.26 GRSB2021/A6/8.26, School of Psychology  
Approved
- 8.27 GRSB2021/A6/8.27, School of Psychology  
Approved
- 8.28 GRSB2021/A6/8.28, School of Psychology  
Approved
- 8.29 GRSB2021/A6/8.29, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies  
Approved
- 8.30 GRSB2021/A6/8.30, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies  
Approved
- 8.31 GRSB2021/A6/8.31, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved
- 8.32 GRSB2021/A6/8.32, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Decision deferred. It was noted that section B of the report should be amended to reflect that it is a joint report from both the internal examiner and principal supervisor.
- 8.33 GRSB2021/A6/8.33, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved
- 8.34 GRSB2021/A6/8.34, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.

**9. Appointment of internal and external examiners (PGR4)**

- 9.1 GRSB2021/A6/9.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved
- 9.2 GRSB2021/A6/9.2, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved
- 9.3 GRSB2021/A6/9.3, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved
- 9.4 GRSB2021/A6/9.4, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved
- 9.5 GRSB2021/A6/9.5, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved
- 9.6 GRSB2021/A6/9.6, MSc, School of Biotechnology  
Approved
- 9.7 GRSB2021/A6/9.7, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved

- 9.8 GRSB2021/A6/9.8, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved
- 9.9 GRSB2021/A6/9.9, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved
- 9.10 GRSB2021/A6/9.10, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved
- 9.11 GRSB2021/A6/9.11, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved
- 9.12 GRSB2021/A6/9.12, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.13 GRSB2021/A6/9.13, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.14 GRSB2021/A6/9.14, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved subject to clarification that the nominated Chairperson is a member of staff.
- 9.15 GRSB2021/A6/9.15, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.16 GRSB2021/A6/9.16, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.17 GRSB2021/A6/9.17, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.18 GRSB2021/A6/9.18, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.19 GRSB2021/A6/9.19, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved
- 9.20 GRSB2021/A6/9.20, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved
- 9.21 GRSB2021/A6/9.21, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 9.22 GRSB2021/A6/9.22, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved
- 9.23 GRSB2021/A6/9.23, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved

- 9.24 GRSB2021/A6/9.24, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved. It was noted that that thesis format is a monograph. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 9.25 GRSB2021/A6/9.25, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved
- 9.26 GRSB2021/A6/9.26, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved
- 9.27 GRSB2021/A6/9.27, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved
- 9.28 GRSB2021/A6/9.28, PhD, School of English  
Approved
- 9.29 GRSB2021/A6/9.29, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved subject to clarification as to why submission is being sought so soon after the transfer examination.
- 9.30 GRSB2021/A6/9.30, PhD, School of History and Geography  
Approved
- 9.31 GRSB2021/A6/9.31, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Decision deferred. It was noted that the nominated external examiner does not meet the requirements as per regulation 10.2.9.
- 9.32 GRSB2021/A6/9.32, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 9.33 GRSB2021/A6/9.33, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved subject to clarification as to why submission is being sought so soon after the transfer examination.
- 9.34 GRSB2021/A6/9.34, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 9.35 GRSB2021/A6/9.35, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 9.36 GRSB2021/A6/9.36, MSc, School of Mathematical Sciences  
Approved subject to full citations being provided in the external examiner publications list.
- 9.37 GRSB2021/A6/9.37, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering  
Approved
- 9.38 GRSB2021/A6/9.38, PhD, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health  
Approved
- 9.39 GRSB2021/A6/9.39, PhD, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health  
Approved

- 9.40 GRSB2021/A6/9.40, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.41 GRSB2021/A6/9.41, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved
- 9.42 GRSB2021/A6/9.42, PhD, School of Policy and Practice  
Not Approved. It was noted that the notification of intention to submit is outside of the permitted time period. It was noted that any early submission request would require a justification and support of the supervisor and independent panel member before it could be considered by GRSB.
- 9.43 GRSB2021/A6/9.43, PhD, School of Policy and Practice  
Approved
- 9.44 GRSB2021/A6/9.44, PhD, School of Psychology  
Approved
- 9.45 GRSB2021/A6/9.45, PhD, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies  
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission.
- 9.46 GRSB2021/A6/9.46, MA, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved subject to full citations being provided in the external examiner publications list.
- 9.47 GRSB2021/A6/9.47, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved
- 9.48 GRSB2021/A6/9.48, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved subject to full citations being provided in the external examiner publications list.
- 9.49 GRSB2021/A6/9.49, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.
- 9.50 GRSB2021/A6/9.50, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.
- 9.51 GRSB2021/A6/9.51, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.
- 9.52 GRSB2021/A6/9.52, DPsych, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.
- 9.53 GRSB2021/A6/9.53, DPsych, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.
- 9.54 GRSB2021/A6/9.54, PhD, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.
- 9.55 GRSB2021/A6/9.55, PhD, DCU Business School  
Noted. Approved by chairs action.



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

10.1 GRSB2021/A6/10.1, School of Communications  
Approved

10.2 GRSB2021/A6/10.2, School of Computing  
Approved

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

11.1 GRSB2021/A6/11.1, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.2 GRSB2021/A6/11.2, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.3 GRSB2021/A6/11.3, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.4 GRSB2021/A6/11.4, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.5 GRSB2021/A6/11.5, MSc, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.6 GRSB2021/A6/11.6, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Decision deferred. It was noted that Section C must be completed by the principal supervisor.

11.7 GRSB2021/A6/11.7, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.8 GRSB2021/A6/11.8, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.9 GRSB2021/A6/11.9, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.10 GRSB2021/A6/11.10, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22.

11.11 GRSB2021/A6/11.11, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22.

- 11.12 GRSB2021/A6/11.12, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.13 GRSB2021/A6/11.13, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22
- 11.14 GRSB2021/A6/11.14, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.15 GRSB2021/A6/11.15, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.16 GRSB2021/A6/11.16, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.17 GRSB2021/A6/11.17, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.18 GRSB2021/A6/11.18, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.19 GRSB2021/A6/11.19, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.20 GRSB2021/A6/11.20, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.21 GRSB2021/A6/11.21, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.22 GRSB2021/A6/11.22, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.23 GRSB2021/A6/11.23, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.24 GRSB2021/A6/11.24, EdD, Institute of Education  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.25 GRSB2021/A6/11.25, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.26 GRSB2021/A6/11.26, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.27 GRSB2021/A6/11.27, PhD, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health  
Decision deferred. It was noted that Section C must be completed by the principal supervisor.
- 11.28 GRSB2021/A6/11.28, DPsych, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health  
Approved for 2021/22.

- 11.29 GRSB2021/A6/11.29, PhD, School of Policy and Practice  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.30 GRSB2021/A6/11.30, PhD, School of Policy and Practice  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.31 GRSB2021/A6/11.31, PhD, School of STEM Education, Innovation & Global Studies  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.32 GRSB2021/A6/11.32, PhD, School of STEM Education, Innovation & Global Studies  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.33 GRSB2021/A6/11.33, MA, School of Computing  
Approved for 2021/22.
- 11.34 GRSB2021/A6/11.34, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved for 2021/22.

**12. Any other business**

- 12.1 The Chair briefed members on matters related to the 'Tell it Straight' competition.
- 12.2 Professor S. O'Brien informed members that a query was raised at Faculty level regarding regulation 9.4.3. It was noted that the regulation does not permit the use of external professionals or organisations for proof-reading or copy-editing. It was noted that National Academic Integrity Network (NAIN) will be launching new guidance and a lexicon next week. It was noted that proof-reading and copy-editing services may become part of a wider conversion regarding research integrity. It was agreed that this regulation would be kept under review as work in this space progresses.
- 12.3 Ms N. McMahon informed members that the FABRD draft schedule will be issued to Faculties shortly. It is expected that all FABRD meetings will be completed on 29 and 30 September.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of next meeting**

Thursday 21 October

at 9.30 a.m.

Zoom meeting