GRADUATE STUDIES BOARD

MINUTES

Thursday 6 May 2010

9.00-11.10 a.m. in A204

Present:	Professor Gary Murphy (Chair), Ms Gillian Barry, Dr Françoise Blin, Dr Dermot Brabazon, Dr Pat Brereton, Professor John Costello, Ms Claudine Devereux, Ms Hannah Dyas, Dr Gabriel Flynn, Ms Mairéad Guinan, Ms Louise McDermott (Secretary), Ms Patricia Moore, Dr Declan Raftery, Dr Mary Shine Thompson
In attendance:	Dr Siobhain McGovern
Apologies:	Ms Tanya Keogh, Professor David Jacobson, Dr Christine Loscher

The Chair welcomed Ms Gillian Barry, Student Awards Manager, Registry, and Ms Mairéad Guinan, Assistant Awards Officer, Registry, to their first meeting of the Graduate Studies Board.

SECTION A: MINUTES AND RELATED ISSUES

1.   Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the inclusion of two additional submissions under Item 5 and one additional submission under Item 6.

2.   Minutes of the meeting of 4 March 2010

Confirmed, and signed by the Chair.

3.   Matters arising from the minutes

3.1   Noted that it was hoped to have the PAC system in place for research applications from 2010/11, that the current manual system and PAC would not be used concurrently, i.e. the current system would be withdrawn prior to the introduction of PAC, and that in all instances applicants would be required to contact the relevant School to discuss their proposal before applying through PAC, i.e. the system would not accept applications from those who had not done this. A full report on PAC is to be made to the 1 July 2010 meeting of the GSB. (Item 3.1 from the meeting of 5 November 2009.)

3.2   Noted that a report on the provision of academic writing skills for research students would be made to the 1 July 2010 meeting of the GSB. (Item 3.1)

3.3   Noted that the Daniel O'Hare research scholarships would be advertised shortly, a short delay having been built in to allow time for students currently registered on DCU programmes to have their examination results to hand when applying. (Item 3.2)

3.4   Noted that two requests for changes to supervisory arrangements had been discussed by the Chair and relevant staff members, and agreement had been reached. (Item 3.4)

3.5   Noted that Ms Claudine Devereux had been appointed Registry project manager for Graduate Training Elements. (Item 3.6)

3.6   Noted that all relevant staff members had been contacted by the Chair to let them know that handwritten forms would no longer be considered by the GSB, that the relevant forms had been modified to state this and that discussions were ongoing with ISS with a view to ensuring the provision of web-based forms once the new *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* (see Item 8 below) had been finalised and approved. (Item 3.9)

3.7   Noted, in the case of a student who intended to submit for examination, that an alternative internal examiner had been nominated. (Item 3.10)

3.8   Noted, in the case of a student who had presented for confirmation on the PhD register, that the Chair was in discussion with the School Research Convenor about the wording of the report on the programme of research and that the matter would be discussed at the 1 July 2010 meeting of the GSB. (Item 4.1)

3.9   Noted, in the case of a student who had presented for confirmation on the PhD register, that a typewritten form, to replace the original handwritten one, was awaited. Agreed that the relevant Associate Dean for Research would remind the School that this should be done. (Item 4.14)

3.10   Noted, in the case of a student who had presented for confirmation on the PhD register, that clarification had been made available as to who had acted as internal examiner. (Item 4.19)

3.11   Noted, in the case of a student who intended to submit for examination, that a typographical error in the title of the abstract had been corrected. (Item 5.7)

3.12   Noted, in the case of a PhD student who intended to submit for examination, that the length of the thesis had been confirmed as being not more than 90,000 words. (Item 5.11)

3.13   Noted, in the case of two EdD students who intended to submit for examination, that the length of the theses had been confirmed as being not more than 45,000 words. (Items 5.15 and 5.16)

3.14   Noted, in the case of a request to change supervisor, that the nominee who had been approved replaced the previous supervisors. (Item 6.4)

3.15   Noted that a modification had been made to the PGR3 form to accommodate requests for transfer from a professional/taught doctoral programme to a PhD programme. (Item 7.3)

3.16   The approval route for taught modules for research students, prior to their being submitted for approval by the GSB, was discussed in detail. Various issues were noted, including the current discussions in Faculties about ways in which teaching and research might be integrated and the fact that approval practices for taught modules varied somewhat across Faculties. It was agreed that modules should be approved by the Faculty Research Committee, noted (at the same time or somewhat later, depending on meeting schedules) by the Faculty Teaching and Learning/Education Committee and submitted for final approval to the GSB. It was noted that modules which do not originate in Faculties would be sent for approval to the Graduate Research Office prior to being submitted for final approval to the GSB. It was noted that, although Coursebuilder is now the accepted system to use in drawing up module descriptors, some Schools still require some time and training so as to become accustomed to it. (Item 8.2)

3.17   Noted that, at its meeting of 1 July 2010, the GSB would consider for approval a module on research ethics being prepared by the Institute of Ethics. (Item 8.2)

SECTION B: INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ISSUES

4.   **Applications for transfer to the PhD register or confirmation on the PhD register**

4.1   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.1, School of Biotechnology
       Approved.
4.2   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.2, School of Biotechnology/NICB
       Decision deferred pending further discussion.
4.3   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.3, School of Biotechnology/NICB
       Decision deferred pending further discussion.
4.4   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.4, School of Bioetchnology/NICB
       Approved.
4.5   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.5, School of Biotechnology/NICB
       Decision deferred pending further discussion.
4.6   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.6, School of Biotechnology/NICB
       Decision deferred pending further discussion.
4.7   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.7, School of Biotechnology/NICB
       Decision deferred pending further discussion.
4.8   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.8, School of Chemical Sciences
       Approved.
4.9   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.9, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.10   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.10, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.11   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.11, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.12   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.12, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.13   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.13, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.14   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.14, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.15   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.15, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.16   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.16, School of Computing
       Approved.
4.17   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.17, School of Education Studies
       Approved.
4.18   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.18, School of Electronic Engineering
       Approved.

4.19 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.19, School of Health and Human Performance
      Approved. Noted that an additional examiner had been present at the
      confirmation presentation and that this individual would therefore be
      ineligible to act as external examiner when the student submitted for
      examination.

4.20 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.20, School of Mathematical Sciences
      Approved.

4.21 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.21, School of Mathematical Sciences
      Approved.

4.22 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.22, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing
      Engineering
      Approved.

4.23 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.23, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing
      Engineering
      Approved.

4.24 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.24, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing
      Engineering
      Approved.

4.25 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.25, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing
      Engineering
      Approved.

4.26 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.26, School of Nursing
      Approved.

4.27 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.27, School of Nursing
      Approved.

4.28 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.28, School of Physical Sciences
      Approved.

4.29 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.29, School of Physical Sciences
      Approved.

4.30 Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/4.30, School of Chemical Sciences
      Approved.

Agreed that it would be desirable to include in the revised *Academic Regulations
for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* a stipulation that the current
status/role of the internal examiner and supervisor should be clearly indicated to the
GSB and that the PGR3 form (application for transfer to the PhD register or
confirmation on the PhD register) should be modified accordingly.

Agreed, in the case of a School which had submitted a number of PGR3 forms, all
containing only very brief comments, that the Chair would discuss the forms with
the Head of School with a view to ensuring that future forms are completed in more
detail and with comments more specifically tailored to each individual student.

5.   Appointment of external examiners

5.1   Professor Eckart Koch, University of Applied Sciences, Munich
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and
Intercultural Studies
Approved.

5.2   Dr Jean Andrews, University of Nottingham
Dr M. Cinta Ramblado Minero, University of Limerick
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.2, PhD, School of Applied Language and
Intercultural Studies
Approved.

5.3   Dr Rebecca Chiyoko King-O'Riain, National University of Ireland,
Maynooth
Student ref. GSB/20106/A3/5.3, MA, School of Applied Language and
Intercultural Studies
Approved. Noted that the student is deemed by the Head of School not to
be a staff member.

5.4   Professor Seán Callanan, University College Dublin
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.4, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

5.5   Professor Ron Neufeld, Queen's University, Ontario, Canada
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.5, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved. Agreed that the Chair would draw the attention of the Head of
School to the fact that it would have been desirable for the list of the
external examiner's publications to be completed more fully.

5.6   Dr Jens Nielsen, University College Dublin
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.6, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

5.7   Dr Simon Morley, University of Sussex
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.7, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Decision deferred pending further discussion.

5.8   Professor Michael Clemens, University of Sussex
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.8, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Decision deferred pending further discussion.

5.9   Professor Geoffrey Pilkington, King's College Hospital, London
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.9, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Decision deferred pending further discussion.

5.10   Professor John Richard Masters, University College London
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.10, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Decision deferred pending further discussion.

5.11   Professor Jonas Bergh, Paterson Institute for Cancer Research, Manchester
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.11, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Approved.

.   5.12   Professor Wladimir Bodrow, University of Applied Sciences, Berlin
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.12, PhD, School of Computing
                Decision deferred pending further discussion.
        5.13   Professor Phil Bartlett, University of Southampton
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.13, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
                Approved.
        5.14   Dr Edmond Magner, University of Limerick
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.14, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
                Approved.
        5.15   Professor Mike Ward, University of Sheffield
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.15, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
                Approved.
        5.16   Dr Steven Bell, Queen's University Belfast
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.16, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
                Approved.
        5.17   Professor Kevin B Nolan, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.17, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
                Approved.
        5.18   Dr Eoin Whelan, University of Limerick
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.18, MSc, School of Computing
                Approved. Noted that the award being sought is Master of Science.
        5.19   Professor Reiko Heckel, University of Leicester
                Student ref. GSB/20106/A3/5.19, PhD, School of Computing
                Approved.
        5.20   Dr Tim Murphy, Leeds Metropolitan University
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.20,
                Doctorate in Education, School of Education Studies
                Approved. Noted that the award being sought is Doctor of Education.
        5.21   Dr Linda Brody, Johns Hopkins University
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.21, Doctorate in Education,
                School of Education Studies
                Decision deferred pending the nomination of a second external examiner.
                Noted that the award being sought is Doctor of Education.
        5.22   Dr Aidan Seery, University College Dublin
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.22, MA, School of Education Studies
                Decision deferred pending the nomination of a second external examiner.
        5.23   Professor Máirtín Ó Fathaigh, University College Cork
                Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.23,
                Doctorate in Education, School of Education Studies
                Approved. Noted that the award being sought is Doctor of Education.

5.24   Dr Maura Dowling, National University of Ireland, Galway
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.24, Doctorate in Education,
School of Education Studies
<u>Approved.</u> <u>Noted</u> that the award being sought is Doctor of Education.

5.25   Professor Paul Prucnal, Princeton University
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.25, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
<u>Approved.</u>

5.26   Professor Craig Sharp, Brunel University/University of Limerick
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.26, PhD, School of Health and Human
Performance
<u>Approved.</u>

5.27   Professor Eamonn Murphy, University of Limerick
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.27, PhD, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u>

.   5.28   Professor Michael D Gilchrist, University College Dublin
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.28, PhD, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u>

5.29   Dr Amr Arisha, Dublin Institute of Technology
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.29, MEng, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u> <u>Noted</u> that the award being sought is Master of Engineering.

5.30   Professor Henry Rice, Trinity College Dublin
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.30, PhD, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u> <u>Agreed</u> that the Chair would raise with the supervisor the
fact that a second external examiner, who would appear not to be required in
this instance, had also been nominated.

5.31   Professor David Fitzpatrick, University College Dublin
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.31, PhD, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u>

5.32   Dr John Ryan, Dublin Institute of Technology
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.32, MEng, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u> <u>Noted</u> that the award being sought is Master of Engineering.
<u>Noted</u> that a change of internal examiner had taken place.

5.33   Dr David MacManus, Cranfield University
Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.33, PhD, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u>

5.34   Professor James Lindesay, University of Leicester
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.34, PhD, School of Nursing
        Approved.

5.35   Professor Kenneth Grattan, City University, London
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.35, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
        Approved.

.   5.36   Dr Mine Dogantan Dack, Middlesex University
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.36, DMusPerf, Royal Irish Academy of Music,
        Approved. (See also Item 7.2 below.)

5.37   Professor Norma Clarke, Kingston University
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.37, PhD, English Department,
        St Patrick's College
        Approved.

5.38   Professor Christopher Murray, University College Dublin
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.38, PhD, English Department,
        St Patrick's College
        Approved.

5.39   Professor Ian Ruthven, University of Strathclyde
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.39, PhD, School of Computing
        Approved.

5.40   Dr Frank Nack, University of Amsterdam
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.40, PhD, School of Computing
        Decision deferred pending further discussion.

5.41   Dr Jean McNiff, St Mary's University College, Twickenham
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.41, PhD, School of Education Studies
        Approved.

5.42   Dr Ian Robert Stevens, University of Birmingham
        Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/5.42
        Approved.

It was noted that there might be scope for reviewing the current arrangements about approving internal examiners (i.e. the arrangements whereby they are approved at School level only).

6.   Requests for changes to supervisory arrangements

6.1   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/6.1, School of Biotechnology
       Approved.

6.2   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/6.2, School of Education Studies
       Decision deferred pending further discussion.

6.3   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/6.3, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
<u>Approved.</u>

6.4   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/6.4, School of Nursing
<u>Approved</u> subject to clarification of whether the nominee is a replacement or an additional supervisor.

6.5   Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/6.5, School of Chemical Sciences
<u>Approved.</u>

<u>Noted</u> that the introduction of the incentivised early retirement scheme for staff might, in due course, lead to an increase in requests to nominate additional supervisors.

7.   OTHER STUDENT ISSUES

7.1   Application for special-case admission to the Master's register

Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/7.1, School of Health and Human Performance
<u>Approved.</u>

7.2   Application for early completion of taught doctorate (DMusPerf)

Student ref. GSB/2010/A3/7.2, Royal Irish Academy of Music
<u>Approved.</u> However, concern was expressed at the fact that both this student and a previous student, the only two to date to submit for examination for this programme, had requested an early submission. <u>Agreed</u> that the Chair would discuss this matter with the Deputy President/Registrar and the RIAM.
(See also Item 5.36 above.)

SECTION C: POLICY AND STRATEGY ISSUES

8.   Consideration of revised draft *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* following discussion in Faculties

Deferred to a single-issue meeting of the GSB, to be scheduled as soon as possible.

9.   Discussion and approval of the academic structure for Graduate Training Elements

9.1   The proposed process map was <u>approved</u> subject to a stipulation that the submission date for module descriptors for 2009/10 and 2010/11 for approval by the GSB at its meeting of 1 July 2010 is 18 June 2010. <u>Agreed</u> that it would be extremely important for the academic structures for the GTEs to be made available on line in time for student registration for 2010/11. The Chair is to issue a reminder about this matter to relevant staff members. <u>Noted</u> that, in Summer 2010, the priority would be to ensure structures were correct and students were registered and that, subsequently, the associated administrative systems would be refined with a view to making them faster to implement.

9.2   <u>Noted</u> that the active contribution module would be included on the academic structure to enable students to register for it in 2010/11, although currently no students are taking it. <u>Noted</u> that students would require training in how to maintain an active contribution portfolio.

10.   Any other business

None.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 1 July 2010
9.00 a.m. in A204

Signed: _____   Date: _____
          Chair

<u>**APPENDIX**</u>

GRADUATE STUDIES BOARD

SINGLE-ISSUE MEETING TO DISCUSSS THE DRAFT REVISED
ACADEMIC REGULATIONS FOR POSTGRADUATE DEGREES
BY RESEARCH AND THESIS

DRAFT MINUTES

Monday 24 May 2010

9.30-10.45 a.m. in CG35

Present:	Professor Gary Murphy (Chair), Ms Gillian Barry, Dr Françoise Blin, Dr Dermot Brabazon, Dr Pat Brereton, Professor John Costello, Dr Gabriel Flynn, Ms Mairéad Guinan, Ms Tanya Keogh, Dr Christine Loscher, Ms Louise McDermott (Secretary), Dr Declan Raftery, Dr Mary Shine Thompson
Apologies:	Ms Hannah Dyas, Ms Patricia Moore
In attendance:	Ms Goretti Daughton

1.   **Feedback received**

The Chair <u>noted</u> that extensive feedback about the draft regulations had now been received from across the university, including the linked colleges, and that therefore it was not intended to seek further feedback at this point. Rather, the present meeting would be requested to make recommendations on a number of significant issues of principle (raised in previous discussion) with a view to reaching conclusions on them which can be integrated into the final draft.

2.   Recommendations on significant issues

2.1   Supervisory panels

Agreed to maintain the principle of the supervisory panel but to rewrite point 1 under Section 1.1 to allow for flexibility as to how the panel operates.

2.2   Credits for taught doctorates

Noted that consideration should be given to using the term *professional* doctorate rather than *taught* doctorate (both on the basis that this request had been made within the university and that the term professional is used in the IUQB's *Good Practice in the Organisation of PhD Programmes in Irish Higher Education*.

Noted that only the most recently-accredited of the university's five professional doctorates, i.e. the Doctorate in Psychotherapy, had the standard university credit structure for such doctorates attached to it, as the other four had been accredited prior to the development of this structure. Agreed that an exercise should be undertaken, with regard to each of these four, to apply the credit structure retrospectively.

Noted that it was likely that, in future, additional kinds of new doctoral structure would come into existence and that, already, the concept of a doctorate in creative production existed in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

2.3   Ethics

Agreed that, in Section 2.6, there should be a link to the university's *Guidelines on Best Practice in Research Ethics* and a statement that students are obliged to adhere to them.

2.4   Transfer report

Agreed to delete the reference in Section 3.3 to the indicative word length of a transfer/confirmation report and to replace it by a reference to 'a significant written report'.

Agreed to stipulate that the report should be submitted not later than twenty-one months from the date of initial registration, for full-time students, and *pro rata* for part-time students.

Agreed to reword the last sentence in Section 3.3 to indicate that, in the event of failure at the transfer/confirmation point, a student will normally be invited to complete research leading to the award of a Master's degree but that, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the examiner(s), the student may be permitted a second attempt to submit for transfer/confirmation.

2.5   Appeals

Agreed that a separate section on Appeals was required and that it should include the following:
- appeals are permitted following the outcomes of the annual progression process, the transfer/confirmation process and the final examination
- following the outcomes of the annual progression process and the transfer/confirmation process, the appeal should be dealt with by the Faculty Research Committee, and referred to the GSB only if not resolved by the FRC
- following the final examination, the appeal should be made directly to the GSB
- all appeals should be made within 14 days of the written notification of the outcome/result
- all appeals should be dealt with by staff members who were not involved in the original decision.

2.6   Possibility of student submission without supervisory approval

Agreed, following discussion, to maintain the existing wording of Section 7.5 and to add a stipulation that, in cases of difficulty, the matter is to be referred for resolution to the Head of School. Agreed that it would be important also to ensure that changes/additions to wording should not compromise the existing regulation whereby submission must, all instances, be undertaken through the supervisor and the Registry.

2.7   Thesis format for Master's award

Agreed to include reference to Master's by Research in Section 8.1, i.e. to specify the thesis format for this award.

2.8   PhD by papers

Agreed that it should be stated, in the case of the PhD by papers and of all other types of doctorate, that the examination takes place in the normal manner, i.e. by means of scrutiny of the thesis followed by oral examination. Agreed to ensure

that the description of all types of doctorate includes a statement indicating commitment to quality.

2.9   Word count

Agreed to delete the reference, in Section 8.5, to the GSB needing to take appropriate action, as it is not required.

Agreed to make it explicit that the maximum word count includes footnotes and the bibliography and excludes appendices.

Agreed that the PGR4 form needs to include maximum word length for the thesis pertaining to a professional doctorate. Since there are different norms across the five such doctorates accredited to date, agreed to ascertain which was the longest of these and set the maximum word length accordingly.

2.10   Appointment of examiners

Agreed to make it clear in Section 7.8 that the locus of decision-making with regard to whether or not two external examiners are required (in the case of students having held part-time or short-term contracts of employment with the university) is the School, with the decision being signed off on by the Head of School.

Agreed, with regard to Section 10.1, to stipulate that a member of staff who has been involved with a student in writing a paper cannot act as an internal examiner for that student.

2.11   Independent Chair

Agreed to amend the reference to 'senior academic staff' in Section 10.12 so that it reads 'experienced academic staff'.

2.12   Reports from examiners

Agreed to let the wording of Section 10.5 stand as it is. Noted that a report submitted in advance could be modified on the day in the light of the experience afforded the examiners by the oral examination.

2.13   PhD: originality issue

Agreed that it should be stipulated in the descriptions of all the types of doctorate that original work is required (and agreed, more broadly, that there should be alignment across all the subsections in Section 1).

2.14   Role of the research convenor in signing off forms

Agreed that the issues relating to the responsibilities of School research convenors could be addressed by referring in the regulations, where appropriate, to 'Head of School or appropriate nominee'.

2.15   Deferral

Agreed to include a reference in Section 12.1 to the fact that deferral will always be permitted where requested as an equivalent to maternity leave.

2.16   Copyright

A number of issues relating to copyright were discussed. A company called Rightslink (www.rightslink.com) was mentioned as a possible route to addressing issues relating to third-party copyright where theses are available on line.

3.   Next steps

3.1   Agreed that the Chair would seek the advice of the Deputy President/Registrar as to the desirability of seeking a legal opinion on the regulations, once in final draft form.

3.2   Agreed that, in view of the extensive feedback received and the need to devote sufficient time to ensuring that it had all been dealt with adequately, it would be preferable to submit the final draft to the 1 October 2010 rather than (as had previously been agreed) the 3 June 2010 meeting of the University Standards Committee. (This would entail circulating the final draft to the GSB in August/September 2010.) The Chair undertook to raise this possibility with the Deputy President/Registrar. If this were to be the case and if the final draft were approved at the 1 October USC meeting, consideration could be given to submitting it for approval by Academic Council at its meeting of 14 October 2010 with a view to promulgation and implementation as soon as possible after that.

Signed: _____   Date: _____
                Chair