

## **GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDIES BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

**Thursday, 17 October 2024**

**10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**A204, Glasnevin Campus**

**Present:** Dr Conor Brennan, Ms Fiona Brennan, Ms Lisa Buckley, Ms Isabelle Caulfield, Ms Nuala Clancy, Dr Maura Coulter, Prof. Yseult Freeney, Prof. Timo Gans, Dr Alan Gorman, Prof. Theo Lynn, Dr David Mc Carthy (Secretary), Prof. Sharon O'Brien (Chair), Dr Lisa Van der Werff and Dr Gëzim Visoka

**Apologies:** Ms Karen Keating

### **SECTION A: MINUTES AND RELATED ISSUES**

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

**2. Minutes of the meeting of 15 August May 2024**

The minutes of the meeting of 15 August 2024 were approved.

### 3. Matters arising from the minutes

Matters arising from the meeting of 15 August 2024 were **noted** as follows:

	<i>Item no. from 15 August 2024</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Details of decision/actions</i>	<i>Status</i>
3.1	3.1 (Original Ref. Item 7.10, 25 April 2024)	PGR4, DCU Institute of Education	The Chair provided an update on Item 3.1, setting out the rationale provided regarding the reciprocal arrangement query raised with the Head of School, which was considered by the Board. The PGR4 was not approved. It was noted that an alternative External Examiner is required and the revised PGR4 may be considered by Chairs Action.	Ongoing  Registry awaiting submission of revised PGR4 by Principal Supervisor.
3.2	9.11	PGR3, School of Communications	<u>Approved</u> subject to Chair confirming the Joint Award agreement for this candidate with the Principal Supervisor.	Ongoing  Registry awaiting response from Principal Supervisor regarding the Joint Award agreement for this candidate
3.3	9.14	PGR3, School of Computing	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that confirmation is required that the Internal Examiner is experienced in supervising research students. If the Internal Examiner has not supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or completed all elements of professional development for examiners (AR 10.1), an alternative Internal Examiner will be required and the revised PGR3 submitted to GRSB.	Ongoing  Confirmation provided by Principal Supervisor that the Internal Examiner is experienced in supervising research students.

3.4	9.39	PGR3, School of Law and Government	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that confirmation is required that the Internal Examiner is experienced in supervising research students. If the Internal Examiner has not supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or completed all elements of professional development for examiners (AR 10.1), an alternative Internal Examiner will be required and the revised PGR3 submitted to GRSB.	Ongoing  Confirmation provided by Head of School that the Internal Examiner has completed the necessary professional development for examiners.
3.5	9.42	PGR3, School of Law and Government	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that confirmation is required that the Internal Examiner is experienced in supervising research students. If the Internal Examiner has not supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or completed all elements of professional development for examiners (AR 10.1), an alternative Internal Examiner will be required and the revised PGR3 submitted to GRSB.	Ongoing  Registry awaiting response from Principal Supervisor/Head of School.
3.6	9.50	PGR3, School of Physical Sciences	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that Section C should be completed jointly by Principal Supervisor(s) and Internal Examiner(s). The revised PGR3 must be submitted to GRSB.	Ongoing  Awaiting submission of revised PGR3 from Principal Supervisor.
3.7	3.2 (Original Ref. Item 5, 30 May 2024)	Thesis Submission Procedure	Further consultation with Faculty Research Committees, postgraduate research students and DCU alumni was approved to determine if there is appetite for changing the thesis submission procedure to require only an electronic version and ensure that the views of all relevant stakeholders	Complete  Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 9.

			are duly considered before any further decisions are made.	
3.8	3.3 (Original Ref. Item 9.2, 30 May 2024)	PGR14, School of Communications	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that a timeline to submission should be provided, which includes a schedule of meetings, key milestones and agreed deliverables. The revised PGR14 may be considered by Chairs Action.	Complete Approved by Chairs Action on 22 August 2024.
3.9	5	Guidelines on PhD by Publication and PhD/Masters by Artefact or Creative Performance/Practice	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that further revisions would be made to these guidelines following feedback from Registry and specific requests from members of the Board. The revised guidelines will be considered for approval electronically to allow for publication in time for the commencement of the new academic year.	Complete Approved by GRSB on 30 August 2024.
3.10	9.25	PGR3, Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaeilge	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that confirmation is required that the Internal Examiner is experienced in supervising research students. If the Internal Examiner has not supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or completed all elements of professional development for examiners (AR 10.1), an alternative Internal Examiner will be required and the revised PGR3 submitted to GRSB. It was further noted that the examination took place online, which does not reflect best practice.	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 10.14.

3.11	9.31	PGR3, School of Language, Literacy and ECE	<p><u>Decision Deferred.</u> It was <u>noted</u> that Section C should be completed jointly by Principal Supervisor(s) and Internal Examiner(s). The revised PGR3 must be submitted to GRSB. It was further noted that the candidate has exceeded the expected time to undergo the procedure for confirmation on the PhD Register (see Academic Regulation 8.2.1) and no explanation was provided by the Principal Supervisor(s).</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 10.17.</p>
3.12	9.38	PGR3, School of Law and Government	<p><u>Not Approved.</u> It was <u>noted</u> that the Internal Examiner is not experienced in supervising research students as required by the academic regulations, "supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or has completed all elements of professional development for examiners" (AR 10.1). An alternative Internal Examiner is required and the revised PGR3 submitted to GRSB. It was further noted that GRSB queried the candidate's full-time enrolment given their teaching responsibilities.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 10.18.</p>
3.13	9.41	PGR3, School of Law and Government	<p><u>Decision Deferred.</u> It was <u>noted</u> that confirmation is required that the Internal Examiner is experienced in supervising research students. If the Internal Examiner has not supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or completed all elements of professional development for examiners (AR 10.1), an alternative Internal Examiner will be required and the revised PGR3 submitted to GRSB. It was further noted that the student</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 10.20.</p>

			should not be involved in choosing the External Examiner for their PhD examination.	
3.14	9.49	PGR3, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that insufficient detail was provided in Section B(i) and that Section B(ii) should be completed jointly by Principal Supervisor(s) and Internal Examiner(s). The revised PGR3 must be submitted to GRSB.	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 10.22.
3.15	10.12	PGR4, School of Communications	<u>Not Approved</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that the External Examiner does not meet the requirements as per Academic Regulation 10.2.9, "experience in supervising research students to completion at the level of the award being sought". An alternative External Examiner is required and the revised PGR4 must be submitted to GRSB for consideration. It was further noted that there is no record of the Independent Chairperson having completed the required training. They should complete the necessary training for chairing a viva voce examination if they have not already done so.	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 11.3.
3.16	10.19	PGR4, School of Computing	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that confirmation is required that there is no potential conflict of interest between the Principal Supervisor and the External Examiner and reasons for an early submission of the thesis should be provided. It was further noted that the status of the student should be confirmed and if they are a member of staff, a second External Examiner is required. The revised	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 11.8.

			PGR4 must be submitted to GSRB for consideration.	
3.17	10.31	PGR4, DCU Institute of Education	<u>Not Approved</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that the External Examiner does not meet the requirements as per Academic Regulation 10.2.9, "experience in supervising research students to completion at the level of the award being sought" and "experience in the examination process of such students at the level of the award being sought". An alternative External Examiner is required and the revised PGR4 must be submitted to GRSB for consideration. It was further noted that there is no record of the Independent Chairperson having completed the required training. They should complete the necessary training for chairing a viva voce examination if they have not already done so.	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 11.13.
3.18	10.32	PGR4, DCU Institute of Education	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that Section D(i) is incomplete. Confirmation is required that the Internal Examiner has supervised three candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or completed all elements of professional development for examiners. The revised PGR3 must be submitted to GRSB.	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB on 17 October 2024, Item 11.14.
3.19	10.53	PGR4, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies	<u>Not Approved</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that the External Examiner does not meet the requirements as per Academic Regulation 10.2.9, "experience in supervising research students to	Complete Included on Agenda for meeting of GRSB

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			completion at the level of the award being sought" and "experience in the examination process of such students at the level of the award being sought". An alternative External Examiner is required and the revised PGR4 must be submitted to GRSB for consideration.	on 17 October 2024, Item 11.22.
3.20	12.30	PGR14, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health	<u>Decision Deferred</u> . It was <u>noted</u> that the reasons for seeking a further extension and a detailed plan for submission are required. The revised PGR14 may be considered by Chairs Action.	Complete Approved by Chair's Action on 2 September 2024.

The Secretary provided an update on Item 3.3. The Principal Supervisor confirmed that the Internal Examiner has the required experience as per Academic Regulation 10.1. The PGR3 is **approved**.

The Secretary provided an update on Item 3.4. The Head of School confirmed that the Internal Examiner has completed training equivalent to the three DCU training modules for doctoral supervision, examination and chairing in his previous position. The PGR3 is **not approved** on the grounds that the Internal Examiner does not meet Academic Regulation 10.1: "supervised 3 candidates from early stage through the confirmation/transfer stage and/or has completed all elements of professional development for examiners course and where applicable exam shadowing with reflection. Newly appointed staff who are being nominated as Internal Examiners will normally be expected to complete all elements of professional development for examiners course and where applicable exam shadowing". An alternative Internal Examiner, who meets the requirements as per Academic Regulation 10.1, should be appointed. The evaluation should be undertaken again involving the new Internal Examiner and the corresponding PGR3 submitted to GRSB for approval.

## SECTION B: POLICY AND STRATEGY ISSUES

### 4. Graduate researcher development

#### 4.1 Graduate Skills Sessions, October – November 2024

The Graduate Studies Office provided a list of the Graduate Skills Sessions that will be delivered in October and November 2024. The Chair requested the Associate Deans for Research (ADRs) to promote these sessions in their respective faculties.

#### Noted

### 5. Report on Activities of Graduate Research Studies Board (2023/24)

The Secretary introduced the report on the activities of Graduate Research Studies Board (GRSB) for the 2023/24 academic year and called particular attention to:

- The main changes to the *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* relate to the different thesis formats. Minimum wordcounts have been removed from the academic regulations and references to separate guidelines included instead.
- Two major pieces of work relating to processes and guidelines were completed: the revised process for the development, approval and review of GTE Modules and Structured Doctoral Pathways and revisions to the guidelines for PhD by publication and PhD/MRes by Artefact of Creative/Performance Practice.
- It was agreed that a student's signature should no longer be recorded in the electronic version of the thesis. In lieu of an e-signature in the e-thesis, the thesis declaration has been added to Section B of the PGR12 Form, which also requires the student and principal supervisor(s) to confirm that only typed signatures appear in the e-thesis.
- One new GTE Module was approved, 'Becoming a Researcher' from DCU Institute of Education.
- 463 PGR Forms were considered by GRSB in 2023/24, which is a slight decrease on the previous academic year.

- There was a decrease in the number of PGR14 forms submitted to GRSB for the first time in the last four years. Since 2020/21, over 90 forms were submitted each year, while 77 were submitted last year, which suggests that the impact of Covid restrictions is becoming less of a factor in students' time to completion.

Report on Activities of Graduate Research Studies Board (2023/24) was **noted**.

#### 6. Graduate Studies Office (GSO) Activities Report (2023/24)

The Chair introduced the activities report for the Graduate Studies Office (GSO) for the 2023/24 academic year and called particular attention to:

- Registrations on postgraduate research programmes continue to increase year on year, while Irish Research Council scholarships have been stable over the last three years.
- GSO has coordinated the delivery of seventy transversal skills training sessions. The issue of non-attendance is an ongoing concern and GSO has introduced a no-show policy to address this.
- The completion rate for mandatory research training is 100% across all five Faculties.

Graduate Studies Office (GSO) Activities Report (2023/24) was **noted**.

#### 7. Template Letter for Appointment of External Supervisor

The Chair informed the Board that, at present, no formal notification is issued to Secondary External Supervisors upon their appointment and discussed with the Associate Deans for Research (ADRSs) the need for a standardised practice to be introduced across the University. The template letter will provide Secondary External Supervisors with access to the academic regulations and guidelines relating to postgraduate research degrees and inform them of key processes, including the Annual Progress Review (PGR2) and Confirmation/Transfer Examination (PGR3).

**Approved** subject to replacing all references to "Loop" in the template letter with "online tool". The template letter will be shared with ADRs, who are asked to discuss this item at their respective Faculty Research Committees to agree who should sign and distribute the letter to Secondary External Supervisors and ensure consistency of practice within each faculty.

## **8. Research Supervision and Awards in Collaboration with Other Institutions**

The Chair set out the context for why DCU's position with respect to research supervision and awards made in collaboration with other institutions needs to be formally articulated. There is increasing interest in collaborative doctoral awards and EU funding is encouraging this through, for example, Marie Skłodowska Curie doctoral networks. This has resulted in an increase in requests made to the Graduate Studies Office, which often involve requests to establish collaborative arrangements for a single student and these are not always feasible from a resourcing perspective.

The Chair informed the Board that 'Position on Research Supervision and Awards in Collaboration with Other Institutions' and 'Implementation for the Position on Research Supervision and Awards in Collaboration with Other Institutions' were developed in consultation with Professor Lisa Looney, Vice-President for Academic Affairs/Registrar, and Professor John Doyle, Vice-President for Research. These documents provide guiding principles for collaborative arrangements with other institutions and clearly differentiate between the different types of arrangements, ranging from informal agreements involving external supervisors to formal agreements involving joint awards and academic due diligence.

The Chair emphasised the urgency attached to approving these documents so colleagues know what is feasible and what will be prioritised, for example, joint awards with other institutions from existing strategic partnerships, and where there is a record of prior collaborations beyond co-authoring.

The Chair confirmed that the preference is for Joint Awards rather than Double and Dual Awards, which is in keeping with the position of the Irish Universities Association (IUA). While this does not rule out Double and Dual Awards, it is DCU's position that they should be executed in the same spirit as Joint Awards, i.e. involving meaningful engagement with DCU through genuine collaboration, including shared supervision and student attendance on campus for a minimum 12-month period for full-time students.

It was queried whether the minimum period of student attendance would impact the flexibility of doctoral network applications and pose a logistical challenge. The Chair explained that the minimum period is driven by the need for DCU to be able to stand over a joint award from an academic quality assurance perspective and that the proposed 12-month period would be a meaningful level of engagement with both awarding partners. It was agreed by the Board that the articulation of the minimum period of attendance requires further consideration and alternative wording will be drafted. The Chair reiterated the urgent need for guidance in this area and acknowledged that any guiding principles will be revisited and improved over time due to the dynamic landscape.

**Decision Deferred** – It was noted that revisions will be made to ‘Position on Research Supervision and Awards in Collaboration with Other Institutions’ and ‘Implementation for the Position on Research Supervision and Awards in Collaboration with Other Institutions’ following feedback from members of the Board. The revised documents will be considered for electronic approval to allow for submission to Academic Council for noting at its meeting on 27 November 2024.

## **9. Thesis Submission Procedure**

The Chair informed the Board that the Graduate Studies Office surveyed current postgraduate research students and alumni in July to determine their support for requiring only an electronic version of the thesis for submission. The data was presented to GRSB at its meeting on 15 August 2024, where it was decided to run the survey again in September due to the low response rate from alumni. The Associate Deans for Research (ADRs) were also asked to discuss the proposal to require only an electronic version of the thesis for submission with their respective Faculty Research Committee and relevant colleagues involved in the supervision of postgraduate research students.

The Chair explained that John Mc Donough, DCU University Librarian, confirmed that the electronic repository of theses is backed-up every 24 hours and has proposed that a data download would be completed biannually. This would ensure the security of the repository if only electronic versions of theses are submitted by students and maintained as part of official University records.

The Chair informed the Board that 82% of survey respondents preferred requiring only an electronic version of the thesis for submission. The reasons for this preference cited by students include the costs associated with printing hardcopies of the thesis, sustainability, reflecting the general movement toward electronic versions of resources rather than hardcopies, and logistics for international PGR students, who have often returned home by the time a hardcopy submission is required.

The ADRs informed the Board that the preference in each Faculty is for only an electronic version of the thesis to be required for submission, although they acknowledged that the significance attached to submitting a hardcopy of the thesis upon completion of the examination process was raised by a number of colleagues. It was noted that the proposal to require only an electronic copy of the thesis for submission will not preclude an arrangement between the student and their supervisors to produce a hardcopy of the thesis, although this version will not be part of the final submission upon completion of the examination process and the electronic version uploaded to Doras, the institutional repository, is the version of record..

The proposal to change the thesis submission procedure for postgraduate research students to require only an electronic version of the thesis to be submitted for assessment and upon completion of the examination process was **approved**.

It was noted that the thesis formatting guidelines set out in *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* will continue to apply. It was further noted that the change to the thesis submission procedure will be implemented in the 2025/26 academic year and that students should continue to submit both hardcopy and electronic versions of their thesis for the current academic year.

## SECTION C: INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ISSUES

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

- 10.1 GRSB2024/A7/10.1, School of Biotechnology  
**Approved** – It was noted that the candidate has exceeded the expected time to undergo the procedure for confirmation on the PhD Register (see Academic Regulation 8.2.1) and no explanation was provided.

- 10.2 GRSB2024/A7/10.2, DCU Business School  
**Approved**
- 10.3 GRSB2024/A7/10.3, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 10.4 GRSB2024/A7/10.4, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 10.5 GRSB2024/A7/10.5, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 10.6 GRSB2024/A7/10.6, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 10.7 GRSB2024/A7/10.7, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 10.8 GRSB2024/A7/10.8, DkIT School of Health & Science  
**Approved**
- 10.9 GRSB2024/A7/10.9, DkIT School of Health & Science  
**Approved** – It was noted that the candidate has exceeded the expected time to undergo the procedure for confirmation on the PhD Register (see Academic Regulation 8.2.1) and no explanation was provided.
- 10.10 GRSB2024/A7/10.10, DkIT School of Health & Science  
**Approved**
- 10.11 GRSB2024/A7/10.11, DkIT School of Informatics & Creative Arts  
**Approved** – It was noted that there was a significant delay in submitting the PGR3 following completion of the oral examination.
- 10.12 GRSB2024/A7/10.12, DkIT School of Informatics & Creative Arts  
**Approved**
- 10.13 GRSB2024/A7/10.13, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge  
**Approved**

- 10.14 GRSB2024/A7/10.14, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge  
**Approved**
- 10.15 GRSB2024/A7/10.15, School of Health & Human Performance  
**Decision Deferred** – It was noted that the student is not currently registered. The PGR3 should be resubmitted to GRSB once the student has registered for the current academic year.
- 10.16 GRSB2024/A7/10.16, School of History & Geography  
**Approved**
- 10.17 GRSB2024/A7/10.17, School of Language, Literacy & ECE  
**Approved**
- 10.18 GRSB2024/A7/10.18, School of Law & Government  
**Approved**
- 10.19 GRSB2024/A7/10.19, School of Law & Government  
**Approved**
- 10.20 GRSB2024/A7/10.20, School of Law & Government  
**Not Approved** – It was noted that an alternative Internal Examiner, who meets the requirements as per Academic Regulation 10.1, should be appointed. The evaluation should be undertaken again involving the new Internal Examiner and the corresponding PGR3 submitted to GRSB for approval.
- 10.21 GRSB2024/A7/10.21, School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering  
**Approved**
- 10.22 GRSB2024/A7/10.22, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health  
**Approved**
- 10.23 GRSB2024/A7/10.23, School of Theology, Philosophy & Music  
**Approved**

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

- 11.1 GRSB2024/A7/11.1, PhD, School of Applied Languages & Intercultural Studies  
**Approved**
- 11.2 GRSB2024/A7/11.2, PhD, DCU Business School  
**Approved**
- 11.3 GRSB2024/A7/11.3, PhD, School of Communications  
**Approved**
- 11.4 GRSB2024/A7/11.4, PhD, School of Communications  
**Approved**
- 11.5 GRSB2024/A7/11.5, PhD, School of Communications  
**Approved**
- 11.6 GRSB2024/A7/11.6, PhD, School of Computing  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 23 September 2024.
- 11.7 GRSB2024/A7/11.7, PhD, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 11.8 GRSB2024/A7/11.8, PhD, School of Computing  
**Approved**
- 11.9 GRSB2024/A7/11.9, PhD, DkIT School of Engineering  
**Approved**
- 11.10 GRSB2024/A7/11.10, PhD, DkIT School of Health & Science  
**Approved**
- 11.11 GRSB2024/A7/11.11, MA, DkIT School of Informatics & Creative Arts  
**Approved**
- 11.12 GRSB2024/A7/11.12, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering  
**Approved** – It was noted that due process was not adhered to in this instance as the thesis was submitted before notice of intention to submit for examination, and thereby the appointment of the External Examiner, was approved by GRSB.

- 11.13 GRSB2024/A7/11.13, EdD, DCU Institute of Education  
**Approved** – It was noted that there is no record of the Independent Chairperson having completed the required training. They should complete the necessary training for chairing a viva voce examination if they have not already done so.
- 11.14 GRSB2024/A7/11.14, EdD, DCU Institute of Education  
**Approved**
- 11.15 GRSB2024/A7/11.15, PhD, School of Language, Literacy and ECE  
**Approved**
- 11.16 GRSB2024/A7/11.16, PhD, School of Law & Government  
**Approved** – It was noted that due process was not adhered to in this instance as the thesis was submitted before notice of intention to submit for examination, and thereby the appointment of the External Examiner, was approved by GRSB.
- 11.17 GRSB2024/A7/11.17, PhD, School of Law & Government  
**Approved**
- 11.18 GRSB2024/A7/11.18, PhD, School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering  
**Approved**
- 11.19 GRSB2024/A7/11.19, PhD, School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering  
**Decision Deferred** – It was noted that the student is not currently registered. The PGR4 should be resubmitted to GRSB once the student has registered for the current academic year.
- 11.20 GRSB2024/A7/11.20, PhD, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health  
**Decision Deferred** – It was noted that there is an outstanding reciprocal arrangement query regarding the nominated External Examiner. As per Regulation 10.2.6, "a year should elapse between appointments involving the same Schools/Departments". Justification for this nomination must be provided or an alternative External Examiner nominated. The revised PGR4 must be submitted to GRSB for consideration.
- 11.21 GRSB2024/A7/11.21, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
**Approved**

11.22 GRSB2024/A7/11.22, PhD, STEM Education Innovation and Global Studies  
**Approved**

11.23 GRSB2024/A7/11.22, PhD, Chemical Sciences  
**Approved** – It was noted that due process was not adhered to in this instance as the thesis was submitted before notice of intention to submit for examination, and thereby the appointment of the External Examiner, was approved by GRSB.

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

12.1 GRSB2024/A7/12.1, School of Applied Language & Intercultural Studies  
**Approved**

12.2 GRSB2024/A7/12.2, DCU Business School  
**Approved**

12.3 GRSB2024/A7/12.3, DCU Business School  
**Approved**

12.4 GRSB2024/A7/12.4, DCU Business School  
**Approved**

12.5 GRSB2024/A7/12.5, DCU Business School  
**Approved**

12.6 GRSB2024/A7/12.6, DCU Business School  
**Approved**

12.7 GRSB2024/A7/12.7, DCU Business School  
**Approved**

12.8 GRSB2024/A7/12.8, School of Mathematical Sciences  
**Approved** subject to Section B being completed by the Principal Supervisor, which should be verified by the Chair.

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

- 13.1 GRSB2024/A7/13.1, DCU Business School  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024. It was noted that the extension is granted on condition that the revised thesis is submitted no later than 20 December 2024.
- 13.2 GRSB2024/A7/13.2, DCU Business School  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024. It was noted that the extension is granted on condition that the revised thesis is submitted no later than 27 March 2025.
- 13.3 GRSB2024/A7/13.3, School of Computing  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024.
- 13.4 GRSB2024/A7/13.4, School of Computing  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 24 September 2024.
- 13.5 GRSB2024/A7/13.5, School of Computing  
**Approved** – It was noted that the supervisory panel is advised to discuss the publication plan with the candidate to ensure they will meet the requirements for a PhD by publication and to consider PhD by monograph if the former is not viable at this stage.
- 13.6 GRSB2024/A7/13.6, School of English  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024.
- 13.7 GRSB2024/A7/13.7, DCU Institute of Education  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024.
- 13.8 GRSB2024/A7/13.8, DCU Institute of Education  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024.
- 13.9 GRSB2024/A7/13.9, School of Language, Literacy & ECE  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 4 October 2024.
- 13.10 GRSB2024/A7/13.10, School of Language, Literacy & ECE  
**Approved**

- 13.11 GRSB2024/A7/13.11. School of Law & Government  
**Approved** – It was noted that this final extension is granted on condition that the examination process is completed and the final version of the thesis submitted no later than 8 January 2025.
- 13.12 GRSB2024/A7/13.12, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Community Health  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 2 September 2024.
- 13.13 GRSB2024/A7/13.13, School of Physical Sciences  
**Approved** – It was noted that this final extension is granted on condition that the examination process is completed and the final version of the thesis submitted no later than 8 January 2025.
- 13.14 GRSB2024/A7/13.14, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
**Noted** – Approved by Chair’s Action on 24 September 2024.
- 13.15 GRSB2024/A7/13.15, School of Physical Sciences  
**Approved** – It was noted that the extension is granted on condition that the examination process is completed and the final version of the thesis submitted no later than 8 January 2025.
- 14. Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Application**
- 14.1 GRSB2024/A7/14.1, School of School of Arts Education and Movement  
**Noted**
- 15. Any other business**
- 15.1 The Chair informed the Board that the GRSB Appeals Standing Committee will meet on 6 November 2024. There was one research appeal submitted to the Secretary.
- 15.2 The Chair reminded members that the November meeting of GRSB will take place on St. Pat’s campus.

15.3 The Associate Deans for Research (ADRs) gathered feedback from their respective Faculties regarding the pre-application process for postgraduate research students on CRM. The issues of duplication of work and lack of communication as to the purpose and benefits of the system were raised as ongoing concerns. Dr Maura Coulter, ADR for DCU Institute of Education, informed the Board that her faculty is working on a standard operating procedure for postgraduate research applications and agreed to share this with fellow ADRs once it is complete. Feedback from the ADRs will be provided directly to the Chair following the meeting, who will discuss it with the Vice-President for Academic Affairs/Registrar.

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

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

**Date of next meeting**  
Thursday, 28 November 2024  
10.00 a.m.  
F327, St. Pat's Campus