

GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDIES BOARD

MINUTES

Thursday 20 April 2017

9.40 – 13.05 am in A204

Present: Dr Joseph Stokes (Chair), Professor David Collings, Ms Carol Grehan, Dr Charlotte Holland, Ms Margaret Irwin-Bannon (Secretary), Ms R. Keegan, Ms Roisin Morris-Drennan, Dr Caroline McMullan, Professor Eugene McNulty, Dr Mark Roantree, Mr Allan Stevenson, Dr Mary Rose Sweeney, Dr Ana Terrés, Dr Blánaid White

Apologies: Ms Michelle Brennan

SECTION A: MINUTES AND RELATED ISSUES

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the addition of the following items:

- 10.14: PGR3, School of Law and Government
- 11.59: PGR4, School of Law and Government
- 11.60: PGR4, School of Health and Human Performance

2. Minutes of the meeting of 2 March 2017

The minutes of the meeting of 2 March 2017, were approved and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 2 March 2017

- 3.1** It was noted that the Research Abroad Guidelines document would be the subject of discussion of a sub-group of GRSB which the Chair intended to convene over the coming weeks (Item 6).

- 3.2** It was noted that discussions are ongoing with respect to a Joint Supervision Agreement with the University of Southampton (Item 3.2).
- 3.3** It was noted that feedback on the Residing Abroad Guidelines from the Faculties of Science and Health and Engineering and Computing will be provided at the sub-group of GRBSB (see item 3.1 above) (Item 6).
- 3.4** It was noted that feedback had been provided by the Faculty of Engineering and Computing with respect to new supervisors being required to take the Research Integrity module and clarification with respect to existing staff was yet to be provided (Item 6).
- 3.5** It was noted that an investigation of mechanisms for the awarding of credits to students for the completion of the research integrity module is ongoing (Item 6).
- 3.6** It was noted that a revised application for confirmation on the PhD Register (PGR3) form, containing a full-text of the report on the written submission and confirmation of the supervisory panel, is awaited from the School of Physical Sciences (Item 8.10).
- 3.7** It was noted that a revised application for confirmation on the PhD Register (PGR3) form has been submitted by the School of Physical Sciences and is on the agenda (item 10.11) of this meeting (Item 8.11).
- 3.8** It was noted that further discussions, related to the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis, are to take place with respect to a student in the School of Informatics and Creative Arts, DkIT who is registered to pursue a performance-based MA by Research.
- 3.9** It was noted that the relevant section in the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis is being amended to address any issues which may arise in the sign-off on corrections of a PhD thesis following completion of the examination (Item 12.4).
- 3.10** It was noted that the draft document on Guidance for Resolving Student/supervisor Issues is on the agenda of this meeting. A related document on the role of the Independent examiner is also on the agenda of this meeting (Item 7).
- 3.11** It was noted that a revised application for confirmation on the PhD Register (PGR3) form has been submitted by the School of Biotechnology for the consideration of GRBSB and is on the agenda (item 10.2) of this meeting (Item 8.6).

- 3.12** It was noted that the School of Physical Sciences has re-submitted a notification of intention to submit form (PGR4) for the consideration of GRSB and it is on the agenda (item 11.50) of this meeting (Item 9.15).
- 3.13** It was noted that the Research RPL application, considered at the 2 March 2017 meeting is on the agenda (item 14.1) of this meeting (Item 11.1)
- 3.14** It was noted that clarification required with respect to the Doctorate of Education Programme Regulations has been provided and the approval of the revised regulations is on the agenda of this meeting (Item 12.1).
- 3.15** It was noted that the Academic Regulation for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis is on the agenda of this meeting (Item 12.3).
- 3.16** It was noted that DCU and MUT have agreed a dual parchment with respect to research students who are subject to a joint supervision agreement (Item 3.2).
- 3.17** It was noted that the method of registration of students over a two-year period for the module GS611 has been agreed between the Faculty and Registry (Item 3.3).
- 3.18** It was noted that a notification of intention to submit form (PGR4) for a candidate in the School of Informatics and Creative Arts, DkIT has been finalised following confirmation of the supervisory panel membership (Item 9.9).
- 3.19** It was noted that a notification of intention to submit form (PGR4) for a candidate in the School of Electronic Engineering has been finalised following confirmation of the supervisory panel membership (Item 9.11).
- 3.20** It was noted that for a candidate whose notice of intention to submit form (PGR4) was considered and approved, the School of Physical Sciences had been asked, if possible to address gender representation for the examining panel through the appointment of a female Independent Chairperson (Item 9.14).

SECTION B: Policy and strategy issues

4. Graduate Researcher Development

Members were reminded that any GTE modules currently under development should be submitted for the consideration of the June 2017 meeting of GRSB.

The Chair tabled a document containing information on upcoming training events for research students, supervisors and chairpersons of examining panels. He requested that

Associate Deans encourage colleagues and students to attend and indicated he would circulate the information electronically to faculties.

5. Recognition of Prior Learning Policy (RPL) for Research Students

It was noted that following consideration of an RPL application at the 2 March 2017 meeting of GRSB a discrepancy between the RPL policy itself and the related section in the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis was highlighted. The following amendments were suggested to the policy

- Deletion of PhD track from the list of research programmes to which RPL applies
- Change to the following sentence ‘The admission of candidates not holding a prior degree or equivalent’

It was noted that the RPL Policy would be considered by a sub-group of GRSB and the outcome of discussions would be referred to GRSB.

It was agreed that the sub-group would be made up of the following members of GRSB: the Chair and Secretary, the Associate Deans for Research, a member of the Graduate Studies Office, Registry representatives and the student representative.

6. Doctorate in Education, Programme Regulations

The programme regulations for the Doctorate in Education were noted.

Following a brief discussion it was noted that:

- The exit award title MPhil (Education) should be added to the list of degree titles listed in Marks and Standards
- The requirement for approval in another forum would be clarified.

7. Draft Guidance Document for Resolution of Student/ supervisor Issues

It was noted that discussion on the Draft Guidance Document for Resolution of Student/supervisor Issues would be considered by the sub-group of GRSB and the outcome of discussions would be referred to GRSB.

8. Guidance on the Role of the Independent Panel Member

It was noted that discussion on the Guidance on the Role of the Independent Panel Member would be considered by a sub-group of GR SB and the outcome of discussions would be referred to GR SB.

9. Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis 2017-2018

The changes proposed to date to the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis 2017-2018 were agreed subject to the following:

- Renumbering subsections in Section 1
- Add in 'or equivalent' under paragraph 3.6
- Add 'where applicable' to paragraph 4.2
- Amendment to footnote (paragraph 7.1) reflecting the supervisory panel exemption applying to students transferring from the former linked college, St. Patrick's College Drumcondra and registered before 2 March 2016
- Amendment to paragraph 7.1.4 to provide clarity that a 'new' principal supervisor is an academic member of staff who has not yet brought two PhD students to conclusion. It was requested and agreed that this definition would also apply when considering those who are required to attend Research Integrity training.
- To ascertain if it is appropriate to use the word 'mix' in the context of gender representation.

It was agreed to include a justification of gender representation of examining panels on the PGR4 form.

It was noted that additional changes to the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis 2017-2018 would be expected, arising from the following:

- Consideration by a sub-group of GR SB of the documents Draft Guidance Document for Resolution of Student/ supervisor Issues and Guidance on the Role of Independent Panel Member and Research Abroad Principles
- Consideration of feedback provided by Registry.

The Chair indicated that the final version of the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis would be considered by the sub-group of GR SB and referred to the 18 May 2017 meeting of GR SB for final approval. It was also noted that the Academic Regulations would be submitted for the approval of University Standards Committee on 25 May 2017.

SECTION C: Individual student issues

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

10.1 GRSB2017/A3/10.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
Approved

10.2 GRSB2017/A3/10.2, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved (original submission GRSB2017/A2/8.6)

10.3 GRSB2017/A3/10.3, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved

10.4 GRSB2017/A3/10.4, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved

10.5 GRSB2017/A3/10.5, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved

10.6 GRSB2017/A3/10.6, PhD, School of Communications
Approved

10.7 GRSB2017/A3/10.7, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved

10.8 GRSB2017/A3/10.8, PhD, School of Health and Science, DkIT
Approved

10.9 GRSB2017/A3/10.9, PhD, School of Policy and Practice
Approved

10.10 GRSB2017/A3/10.10, Master's, School of Informatics and Creative Arts, DkIT
Approved

10.11 GRSB2017/A3/10.11, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved (original submission GRSB2017/A2/8.11)

10.12 GRSB2017/A3/10.12, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved

10.13 GRSB2017/A3/10.13, PhD, School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies
Approved

10.14 GRSB2017/A3/10.14, PGR3, PhD, School of Law and Government (It was noted that the notification of intention to submit form (PGR4—GRSB2017/A3/11.40) was also submitted for this candidate, however, it was confirmed that the examination for confirmation of the candidate on the PhD Register was held in June 2016).

11. Appointment of internal and external examiners (PGR4)

11.1 GRSB2017/A3/11.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
Dr Joanna Haynes, Plymouth University
Approved

11.2 GRSB2017/A3/11.2, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
Dr Randall Sadler, University of Illinois
Approved, subject to confirmation from the School that an examiner from a closer geographical proximity cannot be appointed

11.3 GRSB2017/A3/11.3, EdD, Institute of Education
Dr Michael Flannery, Institute of Education, Marino College
Approved

11.4 GRSB2017/A3/11.4, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Professor Des Higgins, University College Dublin
Approved

11.5 GRSB2017/A3/11.5, PhD, School of Biotechnology / (NICB)
Professor Christopher Mark Smales, University of Kent
Approved

Dr Gerard Cagney, University College Dublin
Approved

Note: a case was made for this candidate for an early submission of the thesis and was approved because of the exceptional circumstances presented.

11.6 GRSB2017/A3/11.6, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Professor Gary Walsh, University of Limerick
Approved

11.7 GRSB2017/A3/11.7, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Dr Heidi Goenaga-Infante, LGC Limited, UK
Approved The School is to be requested, if possible to address gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a male Independent Chair.

- 11.8 GRSB2017/A3/11.8, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Professor Albert Schenning, Eindhoven University of Technology
Approved, subject to confirmation of the supervisory panel
- 11.9 GRSB2017/A3/11.9, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Professor Yurii Goun'ko, Trinity College Dublin
The external examiner was approved. A new Internal Examiner is to be nominated and approved by Chair's action.
- 11.10 GRSB2017/A3/11.10, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Professor Gianluca Farinola, University of Bari, Italy
Approved
- 11.11 GRSB2017/A3/11.11, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Professor Ingo Klimant, Graz University of Technology
Approved
- 11.12 GRSB2017/A3/11.12, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Professor Brian Caulfield, University College Dublin
Approved
- 11.13 GRSB2017/A3/11.13, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Dr Brendan Duffy, Dublin Institute of Technology
The external examiner was approved. It was requested that a new Internal Examiner is nominated, and clarified that the nomination will be considered by Chair's action.
- 11.14 GRSB2017/A3/11.14, PhD, School of Communications
Professor Thomas Potthast, University of Tübingen, Germany
Approved
- 11.15 GRSB2017/A3/11.15, PhD, School of Computing
Dr Alexander M. Fraser, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU Munich)
Approved
- 11.16 GRSB2017/A3/11.16, PhD, School of Computing
Professor Frantisek Hunka, University of Ostrava, Czech Republic
Approved
- 11.17 GRSB2017/A3/11.17, PhD, School of Computing
Professor Marie-Francine Moens, University of Leuven, Belgium
Approved

- 11.18 GR SB2017/A3/11.18, PhD, School of Computing
Professor Timothy Baldwin, University of Melbourne
Approved
- 11.19 GR SB2017/A3/11.19, PhD, School of Computing
Dr Monojit Choudhury, Microsoft Research Lab India
Approved The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a female Independent Chair.
- 11.20 GR SB2017/A3/11.20, PhD, School of Computing
Professor Kristiina Jokinen, University of Helsinki
Approved
- 11.21 GR SB2017/A3/11.21, PhD, School of Computing
Dr John D. Kelliher, Dublin Institute of Technology
Approved
- 11.22 GR SB2017/A3/11.22, PhD, School of Computing
Dr Michel Simard, National Research Council Canada
Not approved. The nominee did not meet the stipulated requirements for appointment as an external examiner.
- 11.23 GR SB2017/A3/11.23, MSc, School of Computing
Dr Brian McNamee, University College Dublin
Approved The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a female Internal Examiner.
- 11.24 GR SB2017/A3/11.24, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Dr Josephine Sullivan, KTH, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden
Approved
- 11.25 GR SB2017/A3/11.25, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Dr Barry Ryan, Dublin Institute of Technology
Approved
- 11.26 GR SB2017/A3/11.26, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Dr Francois Pitie, Trinity College Dublin
Approved It was noted that the School is aware of gender representation issues on its appointed examining panels and has requested assistance in arranging reciprocal arrangements with other Schools/Faculties to address this.
- 11.27 GR SB2017/A3/11.27, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Professor Camille Bres, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)
Approved

- 11.28 GR SB2017/A3/11.28, MEng, School of Electronic Engineering
Professor John Murphy, University College Dublin
Approved It was noted that the School is aware of gender representation issues on its appointed examining panels and has requested assistance in arranging reciprocal arrangements with other Schools/Faculties to address this.
- 11.29 GR SB2017/A3/11.29, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Professor Jean Frédéric Wagen, University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Western Switzerland
Approved It was noted that the School is aware of gender representation issues on its appointed examining panels and has requested assistance in arranging reciprocal arrangements with other Schools/Faculties to address this.
- 11.30 GR SB2017/A3/11.30, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Professor Matti Pietikäinen, University of Oulu, Finland
Approved It was noted that the School is aware of gender representation issues on its appointed examining panels and has requested assistance in arranging reciprocal arrangements with other Schools/Faculties to address this.
- 11.31 GR SB2017/A3/11.31, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Professor Rachid Jennane, University of Orleans, France
Approved It was noted that the School is aware of gender representation issues on their appointed examining panels and have requested assistance in arranging reciprocal arrangements with other Schools/Faculties to address this.
- 11.32 GR SB2017/A3/11.32, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance
Professor Richard Schmidt, College of the Holy Cross, Massachusetts
Decision deferred Clarification is to be requested from the School that the form was completed by the principal supervisor. The School is also to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation through the appointment of a female Independent Chair. It was noted that once clarified the form can be considered by Chair's action.
- 11.33 GR SB2017/A3/11.33, MSc, School of Health and Human Performance
Dr Liam Glynn, National University of Ireland Galway
The external examiner was approved. The composition of the examination panel is to be clarified with the School and gender representation is to be addressed, if possible, through the appointment of a female Internal Examiner.
- 11.34 GR SB2017/A3/11.34, MSc, School of Health and Human Performance
Dr Tara Coppinger, Cork Institute of Technology
Not approved as the notification of intention to submit is outside the minimum period stipulated in the regulations. The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a female Internal Examiner.

- 11.35 GR SB2017/A3/11.35, PhD, School of History & Geography/Theology,
Philosophy & Music
Dr Eugene Duffy, Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick
Approved The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on
the examining panel by the appointment of a female Independent Chair.
- 11.36 GR SB2017/A3/11.36, EdD, Institute of Education
Dr Karen Guldborg, University of Birmingham
Approved
- 11.37 GR SB2017/A3/11.37, PhD, School of Law and Government
Professor Patrick Paul Walsh, University College Dublin
Approved
- 11.38 GR SB2017/A3/11.38, PhD, School of Law and Government
Dr Edward Lahiff, University College Cork
Approved
- 11.39 GR SB2017/A3/11.39, PhD, School of Law and Government
Professor Rick Fawn, St Andrews University, Scotland
Approved
- 11.40 GR SB2017/A3/11.40, PhD, School of Law and Government
Professor Gerard Toal, Virginia Tech, Washington DC
Approved subject to confirmation from the School that an examiner from a closer
geographical proximity cannot be appointed (see also PGR3, 10.14)
- 11.41 GR SB2017/A3/11.41, PhD, School of Mathematical Sciences
Professor Christopher Baker, University of Chester
Approved
- 11.42 GR SB2017/A3/11.42, PhD, School of Mathematical Sciences
Professor Martin Bridson, University of Oxford
Approved
- 11.43 GR SB2017/A3/11.43, PhD, School of Mathematical Sciences
Professor Chenggui Yuan, Swansea University
Approved
- 11.44 GR SB2017/A3/11.44, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Dr Chiara Mandolfino, Genoa University
Not approved as the notification of intention to submit is outside the minimum period
stipulated in the regulations.

- 11.45 GR SB2017/A3/11.45, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Professor Amos Ng, University of Skövde, Sweden
Approved The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a female Independent Chair.
- 11.46 GR SB2017/A3/11.46, PhD, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Professor Fraser Buchanan, Queen's University Belfast
Approved
- 11.47 GR SB2017/A3/11.47, MSc, School of Nursing and Human Sciences
Professor Cecily Kelleher, University College Dublin
Approved The School is to be requested, if possible to address gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a male Independent Chair.
- 11.48 GR SB2017/A3/11.48, PhD, School of Nursing and Human Sciences
Dr Renee Flacking, Dalarna University, Sweden
Approved
- 11.49 GR SB2017/A3/11.49, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Professor Hugh Byrne, Dublin Institute of Technology
Approved
- 11.50 GR SB2017/A3/11.50, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Professor Timo Gans, University of York
Approved The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a female Independent Chair.
- 11.51 GR SB2017/A3/11.51, MSc, School of Physical Sciences
Dr Daniel Dundas, Queen's University Belfast
Approved The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the examining panel by the appointment of a female Internal Examiner
- 11.52 GR SB2017/A3/11.52, EdD, Institute of Education
Professor Jonathan Drennan, University College Cork
Approved
Dr Pauline Joyce, Royal College of Surgeons Ireland (RCSI)
Approved
- 11.53 GR SB2017/A3/11.53, EdD, Institute of Education
Professor Pat O'Connor, University of Limerick
Approved

- 11.54 GRSB2017/A3/11.54, EdD, Institute of Education
Dr Maura Dowling, National University of Ireland Galway
Approved
- 11.55 GRSB2017/A3/11.55, EdD, Institute of Education
Dr Mary Richardson, University College London
Approved
- 11.56 GRSB2017/A3/11.56, EdD, Institute of Education
Professor Kathy Hall, University College Cork
Approved
- 11.57 GRSB2017/A3/11.57, EdD, Institute of Education
Professor Kathy Hall, University College Cork
Approved
- 11.58 GRSB2017/A3/11.58, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music
Dr Erik De Jongh, Vrije University Amsterdam
Approved
- 11.59 GRSB2017/A3/11.59, PGR4, PhD, School of Law and Government
The School is to be requested, to address, if possible, gender representation on the
examining panel by the appointment of a female Independent Chair.
- 11.60 GRSB2017/A3/11.60, PGR4, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance
The School is to be requested to address, if possible, gender representation on the
examining panel by the appointment of a female Independent Chair.

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

- 12.1 GRSB2017/A3/12.1, PhD, DCU Business School
Noted

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

- 13.1 GRSB2017/A3/13.1, PPPD, School of Policy and Practice
Approved
- 13.2 GRSB2017/A3/13.2, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved

¹ As one of the applications involved a member of the Committee, the relevant member recused himself for that item.

- 13.3 GRSB2017/A3/13.3, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved
- 13.4 GRSB2017/A3/13.4, HDPD, School of Human Development
Approved
- 13.5 GRSB2017/A3/13.5, MA, School of Human Development
Approved
- 13.6 GRSB2017/A3/13.6, MSc, School of Nursing and Human Sciences
Approved
- 13.7 GRSB2017/A3/13.7, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance
Approved, subject to re-submission of form completed by the principal supervisor

14. Other student issues

- 14.1 Resubmission: admission by RPL of applicant to MSc by Research, School of Biotechnology, GRSB2017/A3/14.1
Approved
- 14.2 Transfer from Professional Doctoral Programme to PhD, GRSB2017/A3/14.2
Approved
- 14.3 Special case admission, GRSB2017/A3/14.3
Approved

15. Any other business

There were no items of business.

Signed: _____
Chair

Date: _____

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 18 May 2017

at 9.30 a.m. in A204