

GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDIES BOARD

Minutes

Thursday 18 June 2020

9:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Zoom Meeting

Present: Ms Lisa Buckley, Ms Isabelle Caulfield, Prof Edel Conway, Dr Maura Coulter, Ms Rachel Keegan (Secretary), Dr Pascal Landais, Prof Christine Loscher, Prof Eugene McNulty, Ms Christina O’Keeffe, Dr Sally Smith, Dr Joseph Stokes (Chair)

In attendance: Ms Grainne Curran

Apologies: Prof David Collings, Ms Karen Keating, Dr Gillian Lake, Dr Tim McCormac, Dr Kenneth McDonagh, Ms Jennifer Yore

The Chair opened the meeting and noted his thanks to the outgoing Associate Dean for Research, Prof Eugene McNulty for his valuable contributions to GRSB.

SECTION A: MINUTES AND RELATED ISSUES

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 14 May 2020

The minutes of the meeting of 14 May 2020 were approved. It was noted that formal minutes would be signed once on-campus activity resumes.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 14 May 2020

3.1 It was noted that work on guidelines on recital performance and related capacity building is ongoing (item 3.1).

- 3.2 It was noted that follow-up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies, is on the agenda (item 8.1) of today's meeting (item 3.4) (original ref. 10.1, 16 April 2020).
- 3.3 It was noted that follow-up with respect to a PGR3 form for a student in the School of Electronic Engineering, for which a decision was deferred pending further clarification on the rationale for the examiners' recommendation in sections B(i) and B(ii), is complete (item 3.3) (original ref. 9.5, 27 February 2020).
- 3.4 It was noted that follow-up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the Institute of Education, which was approved subject to the gender balance of the examination panel being addressed, is complete (item 7.8).
- 3.5 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 due to the nomination of two external examiners from the same department with the past twelve months, is complete (item 7.11).

SECTION B: Policy and strategy issues

4. Graduate researcher development

- 4.1 GTE Faculty of Science and Health – Module: Intersex Training
Approved
- 4.2 Faculty of Science and Health Pathways 2020-21
- 4.2.1 School of Biotechnology Pathway
Noted
- 4.2.2 School of Chemical Sciences Pathway
Noted
- 4.2.3 School of Health and Human Performance Pathway
Noted
- 4.2.4 School of Mathematical Science Pathway
Noted
- 4.2.5 School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health Pathway
Noted. It was noted that there is an obsolete reference to the portal pages which should be removed.

- 4.2.6 School of Physical Sciences Pathway
Noted. It was noted that there is an obsolete reference to the portal pages which should be removed.
- 4.2.7 School of Psychology Pathway
Noted

5. COVID-19: Continuity arrangements

The Chair informed the Board that an email has been sent to all PGR students confirming that the card fee submission date has now been extended to the end of June 2021.

Prof. Loscher provided a brief summary of the operational procedures which have been put in place to facilitate final year research students returning to campus for laboratory work this week. Prof. Loscher indicated that the process is working well. The Faculty of Engineering and Computing will commence with a similar approach in the coming days.

The Chair provided the Board with an update of the weekly online sessions with PGR candidates. The first session was well attended and focused on issues around motivation. This was also attended by Dr. Alana James who provided students with an overview of supports available through the Doctor!Net site. The second session focused on maintaining contact with supervisors and the third, due to take place this Friday, will focus on support systems. Other session topics will be informed by ongoing feedback from candidates.

6. English language derogation for research students

The Chair informed the Board that the English language derogation reports were presented at USC on 21 May 2020. The continuation of the derogation was approved with a report to USC every two years. The Chair highlighted two points raised at the meeting of USC in regard to the report from the Faculty of Engineering and Computing. Firstly, prior approval must be sought from the Faculty before a candidate commences their studies under the derogation. Secondly, only appropriate language supports are to be used. The Chair recommended that the guidance documentation be re-circulated at faculty level.

SECTION C: Individual student issues

7. Applications for transfer to the PhD Register or confirmation on the PhD Register (PGR3)
- 7.1 GRSB2020/A5/7.1, School of Computing
Approved

- 7.2 GRSB2020/A5/7.2, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge
Approved
- 7.3 GRSB2020/A5/7.3, School of Language, Literacy and Early Childhood Education
Approved subject to confirmation that the evaluation was completed jointly by the supervisor and examiner.
- 7.4 GRSB2020/A5/7.4, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health
Approved subject to the completion of section B(i), part C.
- 7.5 GRSB2020/A5/7.5, School of Health & Science, DkIT
Approved
- 7.6 GRSB2020/A5/7.6, School of Health & Science, DkIT
Approved
- 7.7 GRSB2020/A5/7.7, School of Health & Science, DkIT
Approved
- 8. Appointment of internal and external examiners (PGR4)**
- 8.1 GRSB2020/A5/8.1, PhD, School of Applied Language & Intercultural Studies
Approved
- 8.2 GRSB2020/A5/8.2, PhD, DCU Business School
Approved
- 8.3 GRSB2020/A5/8.3, MPhil, Fiontar & Scoil na Gaeilge
Approved
- 8.4 GRSB2020/A5/8.4, PhD, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy & Community Health
Approved
- 8.5 GRSB2020/A5/8.5, PhD, School of Policy & Practice
Approved
- 8.6 GRSB2020/A5/8.6, School of Informatics & Creative Arts, DkIT
Approved
- 8.7 GRSB2020/A5/8.7, School of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering
Item deferred
- 8.8 GRSB2020/A5/8.8, School of Policy & Practice
Approved

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

9.1 GRSB2020/A5/9.1, DCU Business School
Approved

9.2 GRSB2020/A5/9.2, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved

9.3 GRSB2020/A5/9.3, School of Health & Human Performance
Approved

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

10.1 GRSB2020/A5/10.1, DCU Business School
Approved

10.2 GRSB2020/A5/10.2, DCU Business School
Approved

10.3 GRSB2020/A5/10.3, DCU Business School
Approved

11. Application to Transfer/Advanced Entry to Postgraduate Research Programme (PGR15)

11.1 GRSB2020/A5/11.1, School of Health & Human Performance
Approved for entry into year 4.

11.2 GRSB2020/A5/11.2, DCU Institute of Education
Decision deferred pending further clarification of the most appropriate programme and entry point for the applicant.

12. Application for Recognition of Prior Learning

12.1 GRSB2020/A5/12.1, EdD, DCU Institute of Education
Approved

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date of next meeting

Thursday 31 August 2020

at 9.30 a.m.

Location TBC