

## **GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDIES BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

Thursday 20 June 2019

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in A204

**Present:** Ms Lisa Buckley, Professor David Collings, Dr Yseult Freeney, Ms Rachel Keegan (Secretary), Professor Eugene McNulty, Ms Sabrina Smart, Dr Sally Smith, Dr Joseph Stokes

**Apologies:** Ms Michelle Brennan, Dr Charlotte Holland, Professor Christine Loscher, Dr Tim McCormac, Dr Mark Roantree, Dr Blánaid White

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

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted subject to the addition of four late items (7.20, 8.20, 8.21 and 9.13) and subject to the correction of item 7.12 which should reference the School of Engineering, Dundalk IT.

#### **2. Minutes of the meeting of 16 May 2019**

The minutes of the meeting of 16 May 2019 were approved subject to a correction of item 10 (AOB): replacing '17 July 2019' with '19 July 2019'.

#### **3. Matters arising from the minutes of 16 May 2019**

3.1 It was noted that work on guidelines on recital/performance, and related capacity building, is ongoing (item 3.3).

3.2 It was noted that follow-up with respect to a PGR3 form for a student in the School of Computing, which was approved subject to provision of more detail in section B(i) and B(ii) of the form, is ongoing (item 3.4), (original ref. 9.7, 25 October 2018).

- 3.3 It was noted that the follow-up with respect to a PGR3 form for a student in the School of Health and Human Performance, which was approved subject to a new internal examiner nomination, is ongoing (item 3.8), (original ref. 9.28, 18 April 2019).
- 3.4 It was noted that requested changes to module descriptor LG609 were completed (item 3.5), (original ref. 4.1, 18 April 2019).
- 3.5 It was noted that requested changes to module descriptor LC603 were completed (item 3.6), (original ref. 4.2, 18 April 2019).
- 3.6 It was noted that the follow-up with respect to a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Electronic Engineering, where a decision was deferred pending justification as to why an appropriate examiner at closer proximity cannot be identified, was completed (item 8.7).
- 3.7 It was noted that guidelines for candidates, supervisors and examiners on the PhD by Publication format is on the agenda (item 5) of this meeting (item 5).
- 3.8 It was noted that a minimum registration submission timelines memo is on the agenda (item 6) of this meeting (item 6).
- 3.9 It was noted that a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Computing, which was not approved due to the External Examiner not meeting the requirements in regards to the *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis*, is on the agenda (item 8.1) of this meeting (item 8.1).
- 3.10 It was noted that a PGR4 form for a student in the School of Computing, for which the decision was deferred due to nominations from the same external department, is on the agenda (item 8.7) of this meeting (item 8.6).

## **SECTION B: Policy and strategy issues**

### **4. Graduate Researcher Development**

#### **4.1 Structured Doctoral/Research Pathways**

The following pathways were submitted to the GRSB for noting. It was noted that the Faculty of Science and Health are currently undergoing a comprehensive review of GTE offerings and revised pathways will be submitted for the September meeting. It was noted that new pathways for the funded SFI-Centres for Research Training Programmes will also be submitted for the September meeting.

**4.1.1 DCU Business School**

Noted

**4.1.2 Faculty of Engineering and Computing**

4.1.2.1 School of Computing

Noted

4.1.2.2 School of Electronic Engineering

Noted

4.1.2.3 School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Noted

**4.1.3 Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

4.1.3.1 School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

Noted

4.1.3.2 School of Communications

Noted

4.1.3.3 School of English

Noted

4.1.3.4 Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaeilge

Noted

4.1.3.5 School of History and Geography

Noted

4.1.3.6 School of Law and Government

Noted

4.1.3.7 School of Theology, Philosophy and Music

Noted

**4.1.4 DCU Institute of Education (PhD/Masters by Research Pathway)**

Noted

## **5 Guidelines for candidates, supervisors and examiners on the ‘PhD by Publication’ format (verbal update)**

The Dean provided the GRSB with a verbal update on the draft PhD by Publication guidelines. The guidelines were circulated to faculties following the May meeting of the GRSB. There were no further suggested amendments to the document at this time, however, ongoing feedback is welcomed and the guidelines may be revised in light of their effectiveness in practice. It was noted that these guidelines are complete and will be published on the GSO website.

There was a brief discussion around the regulations in regards to presenting a PhD by Publication. It was noted in particular that the requirement for papers to be published/accepted for publication are particular preventative in some disciplines. It was agreed that there is merit in exploring PhDs by Publication in the coming academic year.

## **6 Minimum registration submission timelines**

It was noted that the guidelines on the minimum registration submission timelines have been updated to reflect submission timelines for professional doctorates.

It was noted that the Masters by Research timelines have remained unchanged but will require consideration in the coming academic year.

## **SECTION C: Individual student issues**

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

7.1 GRSB2019/A5/7.1, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved

7.2 GRSB2019/A5/7.2, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved

7.3 GRSB2019/A5/7.3, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved

7.4 GRSB2019/A5/7.4, DCU Business School  
Approved

7.5 GRSB2019/A5/7.5, DCU Business School  
Approved

- 7.6 GRSB2019/A5/7.6, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 7.7 GRSB2019/A5/7.7, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 7.8 GRSB2019/A5/7.8, School of Communications  
Approved
- 7.9 GRSB2019/A5/7.9, School of Communications  
Approved
- 7.10 GRSB2019/A5/7.10, School of Computing  
Approved
- 7.11 GRSB2019/A5/7.11, School of Computing  
Approved
- 7.12 GRSB2019/A5/7.12, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved
- 7.13 GRSB2019/A5/7.13, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved subject to confirmation of the date of the oral examination.
- 7.14 GRSB2019/A5/7.14, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved
- 7.15 GRSB2019/A5/7.15, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved
- 7.16 GRSB2019/A5/7.16, School of English  
Approved
- 7.17 GRSB2019/A5/7.17, School of English  
Approved
- 7.18 GRSB2019/A5/7.18, School of English  
Approved
- 7.19 GRSB2019/A5/7.19, Fiontar agus Scoil na Gaeilge  
Approved
- 7.20 GRSB2019/A5/7.20, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved

- 7.21 GRSB2019/A5/7.21, School of History and Geography  
Approved
- 7.22 GRSB2019/A5/7.22, School of Law and Government  
It was noted that an earlier PGR3 was not submitted to GRSB for consideration.  
Decision deferred pending submission of the previous PGR3 form.
- 7.23 GRSB2019/A5/7.23, School of Law and Government  
It was noted that the recommendations section is missing from the PGR3 form and that the report has not been updated to reflect the comments of the new internal examiner. Decision deferred pending submission of an updated form.
- 7.24 GRSB2019/A5/7.24, School of Law and Government  
Approved
- 7.25 GRSB2019/A5/7.25, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering  
Approved
- 7.26 GRSB2019/A5/7.26, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering  
Approved
- 7.27 GRSB2019/A5/7.27, School of Nursing and Human Sciences  
Approved
- 7.28 GRSB2019/A5/7.28, STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies  
Approved
- 7.29 GRSB2019/A5/7.29, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved subject to submission of a more detailed report under section B(i) and B(ii) which should be jointly written by the supervisor and examiner.
- 7.30 GRSB2019/A5/7.30, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved subject to correction of the date of the PGR2 examination and amendment of point 1 to ‘...is withdrawn...’
- 8. Appointment of internal and external examiners (PGR4)**
- 8.1 GRSB2019/A5/8.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies  
Approved

- 8.2 GRSB2019/A5/8.2, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Decision deferred. It was noted that there may be a conflict of interest in the examiner nominations.
- 8.3 GRSB2019/A5/8.3, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Decision deferred. It was noted that the external examiner had two previous appointments within the last four years.
- 8.4 GRSB2019/A5/8.4, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved
- 8.5 GRSB2019/A5/8.5, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved
- 8.6 GRSB2019/A5/8.6, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved
- 8.7 GRSB2019/A5/8.7, PhD, School of Computing  
Approved
- 8.8 GRSB2019/A5/8.8, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved
- 8.9 GRSB2019/A5/8.9, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved. It was noted that this is an approval of a new internal examiner only. The external examiner was approved at the meeting of 18 April 2019.
- 8.10 GRSB2019/A5/8.10, EdD, Institute of Education  
Approved. It was noted that this is a resubmission of an expired PGR4 form.
- 8.11 GRSB2019/A5/8.11, EdD, Institute of Education  
Approved. It was noted that this is an approval of a new second external examiner only. The internal examiner and first external examiner were approved at the meeting of 15 November 2018.
- 8.12 GRSB2019/A5/8.12, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved subject to receipt by DCU of the joint award agreement relating to this student.
- 8.13 GRSB2019/A5/8.13, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved subject to receipt by DCU of the joint award agreement relating to this student.

- 8.14 GRSB2019/A5/8.14, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved
- 8.15 GRSB2019/A5/8.15, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved
- 8.16 GRSB2019/A5/8.16, PhD, School of Human Health, DkIT  
Approved
- 8.17 GRSB2019/A5/8.17, PhD, School of Human Health, DkIT  
Approved
- 8.18 GRSB2019/A5/8.18, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Decision deferred. It was noted that the School had nominated another external examiner from the same external department within the last twelve months. It was also noted that the PGR4 submission is too early and outside of the regulations.
- 8.19 GRSB2019/A5/8.19, PhD, School of Health and Human Performance  
Decision deferred. It was noted that the submission of the PGR4 is too early and outside of the regulations.
- 8.20 GRSB2019/A5/8.20, PhD, School of Nursing and Human Sciences  
Approved subject to receipt of the supervisor signature and a counter-signature for the Head of School declaration.
- 8.21 GRSB2019/A5/8.21, PhD, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved
- 9. Request for Extension to Maximum Registration Period OR Re-admission to the Research Programme (PGR14)**
- 9.1 GRSB2019/A5/9.1, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.2 GRSB2019/A5/9.2, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.3 GRSB2019/A5/9.3, PhD, School of English  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.



- 9.4 GRSB2019/A5/9.4, MSc, School of Health and Human Performance  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year subject to the form being typed.
- 9.5 GRSB2019/A5/9.5, EdD, Institute of Education  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year subject to receipt of the student signature.
- 9.6 GRSB2019/A5/9.6, EdD, Institute of Education  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.7 GRSB2019/A5/9.7, PhD, School of Law and Government  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.8 GRSB2019/A5/9.8, PhD, School of Mechanical Engineering  
Not approved. It was noted that the student and supervisor signatures are not included in the paperwork. It was noted that a new principal supervisor is required. It was noted that the student appears to have only registered for one academic year.
- 9.9 GRSB2019/A5/9.9, PhD, School of Theology, Philosophy and Music  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.10 GRSB2019/A5/9.10, DMusPerf, Royal Irish Academy of Music  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.11 GRSB2019/A5/9.11, DMusPerf, Royal Irish Academy of Music  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.12 GRSB2019/A5/9.12, DMusPerf, Royal Irish Academy of Music  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.
- 9.13 GRSB2019/A5/913, PhD, School of Nursing and Human Sciences  
Approved for the 2019/20 academic year.

**10. Any other business**

There was no other business.

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

**Date of next meeting**

Monday 2 September 2019

at 9.30 a.m. in A204