**FITNESS TO STUDY POLICY – V2.0**

**APPENDIX E**

**TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

Where it appears in the opinion of the Vice-President, Academic Affairs/Registrar that there are grounds for concerns about a student’s Fitness to Continue in Study prior to a Fitness to Study Panel Review taking place, then he/she, having sought such advice as he/she deems appropriate, shall be entitled to suspend a student on the following basis:

E1 That suspension is temporary and necessary to protect the University community and that, on balance, the Vice-President, Academic Affairs/Registrar is of the view that the duty of care owed to others is overriding in the particular circumstances.

E2 A suspension may be verbal and to take effect as the Vice-President, Academic Affairs/Registrar deems appropriate and shall be confirmed in writing as soon as is practicable.

E3 That suspension shall not be regarded as an indication as to whether or not the grounds for concern are proven.

E4 That suspension may be limited to certain premises, placements or University activities or modules of studies.

E5 That every reasonable effort is made to continue to support the student’s academic studies so that, in so far as possible, the student is not disadvantaged academically. In the case of suspension due to mental health, continuation of support for the student’s academic studies during the temporary suspension may not be possible.

E6 That suspension shall be for no longer than the time necessary for a matter to have been considered and decided upon under this Fitness to Continue in Study policy or for an appeal to have been heard and decided upon.

E7 In cases of suspension due to mental health issues, the suspension may be for a longer period and in such cases should be reviewed by the Vice-President, Academic Affairs/Registrar.

E8 That this power shall be exercised with caution and with due regard to natural justice and fair procedures.

E9 Where the Vice-President, Academic Affairs/Registrar exercises the power of suspension, he/she shall, as soon as practicable, notify the Head of School and/or the Director of Student Support & Development and shall call a formal meeting of the Fitness to Continue in Study Panel Review as soon as practicable from the date of the suspension.