

SUMMARY OF ACADEMIC POLICY DECISIONS – SUMMER 2006

This information note refers to decisions made at the following meetings:

ASC – 31 May 2006

Senate – 14 June 2006

Minute numbers are given to indicate the source of the information set out below. Where extracts of minutes are included verbatim, this is indicated by speech marks.

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FOR INFORMATION

1. **Research Degree Programme Review** (ASC.MM.126-127/06)

‘Noted The Code of Practice on Research Degree Programmes was introduced in October 2005. As had previously been reported to the Committee, it was necessary to introduce measures to monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the Code. Proposals for the introduction of new review arrangements for postgraduate research degrees and for the inclusion of PGR provision in postgraduate periodic reviews were therefore presented to the Committee for approval.

Resolved that, from 2006/07:

- i) a process of Research Degree Programme Review should be introduced;
- ii) Postgraduate Periodic Reviews should cover both taught and research degree programmes.’

2. **Undergraduate Rules of Assessment** (S.MM.165-166-167/06)

‘Noted With the introduction of compulsory resit opportunities for second year students departments would be entitled to seek approval for alternative re-assessment arrangements. However, it was essential that such alternative re-assessment opportunities were as rigorous as unseen examinations, in order to ensure the maintenance of academic standards.

Resolved that the proposed new undergraduate rules of assessment, as set out in the report of the Working Party attached as Appendix 1 to the report of Academic Standards Committee (31.5.06), be approved for implementation in 2007/08.’

[See Appendix 1 attached.](#)

3. **Postgraduate Credit Framework and Rules of Assessment** (S.MM.171-172/06)

‘Resolved (i) that the Graduate School Credit Framework, as set out in Appendix 2 to the report of Academic Standards Committee (31.5.06), be approved for implementation in 2007/08;

[See Appendix 2 attached.](#)

(ii) that the Rules of Assessment for Taught Postgraduate Schemes, as set out in Appendix 3 to the report of Academic Standards Committee (31.5.06), be approved for implementation in 2007/08, subject to any amendments agreed by the Senate during 2006/07 in respect of the exercise of discretion by Boards of Examiners.

[See Appendix 3 attached.](#)

4. **External Examiners: Criteria for Nomination and Roles and Responsibilities** (S.MM.173-174/06)

‘Resolved (i) that the revised policy for External Examiner Roles and Responsibilities, as set out in Appendix 4 to the report of Academic Standards Committee (31.5.06), be approved with effect from 2006/07;’

[See Appendix 4 attached.](#)

(ii) that the Criteria for Nomination of External Examiners be revised as set out in Appendix 5 to the report to Academic Standards Committee (31.5.06), with immediate effect.’

[See Appendix 5 attached.](#)

5. **Code of Practice on Professional Doctorates** (S.M.176/06)

‘Resolved that the revised Rules of Assessment for Professional Doctorates and the Code of Practice on Professional Doctorates, as set out in Appendix 6 to the report of Academic Standards Committee (31.5.06), be approved for implementation from 2006/07.’

This document can be found on the Calendar and Regulations website at:

www.essex.ac.uk/academic/docs/regs/profdocs.shtml

www.essex.ac.uk/academic/docs/regs/profdoccode.doc (word version)

6. **Progress and Appeals Procedures for Taught Courses** (Chair’s Action)

The Progress and Appeals Procedures for Taught Courses have been amended to reflect the new arrangements for monitoring first year students’ attendance and program. [See Appendix 6 attached.](#)

7. **Student Welfare Policies** (S.MM.199-200/06)

The Senate has approved the following student welfare policies

(a) Policy for the Protection of Under-18’s and Vulnerable Adults) [See Appendix 7 attached.](#)

(b) Mental Health Crisis Intervention Policy. [See Appendix 8 attached.](#)

Joanne Tallentire
Senior Assistant Registrar
10 August 2006

CIRCULATION

FOR INFORMATION:

Vice-Chancellor
Pro-Vice-Chancellors
Deans
Academic Registrar
Academic Section Administrators