University of St Andrews Postgraduate Senate Regulations Amendments taking effect from 2011-2012

Postgraduate Senate Regulations

1. Staff Fees

Reason for amendment: Amend point of contact for approval concessionary staff rate from Academic Registrar to University Fees Officer.

2. A. REGULATIONS FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS AND APPOINTMENT OF RESEARCH FELLOWS II Admission

Employees of the University who claim the concessionary staff rate may not simultaneously hold University scholarships or UK Research Council Scholarships for fees or living costs, and must have the permission of the head of their employing unit, and the Head of the School in which they will undertake the study, to apply for the concessionary fee. Eligibility will be assessed by the Academic Registrar University Fees Officer. alone.

Postgraduate Senate Regulations

2. Portfolio of Published Work

Reason for amendment: The motivation for doing this is a case which has arisen recently of a portfolio with 4 or 5 authors on each paper; the lead author regards the word "senior" as giving him the right to decide which (if any) of the other authors should have to make even a brief comment about the weight of his contribution. The use of the word "senior" creates a grey area that would be better removed.

- D. DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.). VIII Portfolio of Published Work
- 3. The application shall be accompanied by the following documents:
- A. An abstract in English of the published work.
- B. Details of the published work included in the portfolio.
- C. Approval from the holder(s) of copyrights if required.
- D. In the event of the inclusion of works by multiple authors a statement by the senior the major author(s) of publications indicating the candidate's contribution to the work in the three critical areas of conception, execution and writing.
- E. Where a third party has been utilised to correct the written language in the thesis, a statement indicating that such assistance has been used.

Postgraduate Senate Regulations

3. Examination of PGT Dissertations

Reason for amendment: The PGT Policy currently states:-

10. EXAMINING COMMITTEES & THEIR OPERATION: TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

iv. Schools should decide, in consultation with the relevant external examiner(s), the process by which dissertations and projects are to be assessed. Arrangements will depend on the number and nature of the projects involved. **The University's baseline expectation is that dissertations**

or projects should be marked by someone in addition to the supervisor (that is, double-marked), and some Schools may choose to use two examiners other than the supervisor. External examiners should not act as second markers. The primary function of external examiners is to serve as a moderator of assessment. In some subjects it is common practice for External Examiners to be present for oral assessments of project work. The undernoted Senate Regulation however wrongly suggests that the external examiner should mark the dissertation. The Senate Regulation has been amended accordingly.

- B. POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES OF MASTER OF LETTERS, MASTER OF SCIENCE, MASTER OF RESEARCH AND MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY VIII Dissertation for M.Litt., M.Sc. and M.Res.
- 5. The dissertation shall be examined by at least two examiners one of whom shall be an external examiner appointed by the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Committee.

Postgraduate Senate Regulations

1. Reassessment opportunity for students on the new European Master of Science in Photonics.

Reason for amendment:

Following approval of the new European Master of Science in Photonics, an amendment to the Regulations is required to allow students on this programme to undertake reassessment. All of the European partners for this programme allow resits in their Regulations; in the interest of a harmonised programme and the joint degree, St Andrews needs to do the same. This however does not however set a precedent that allows reassessment in other Masters' programmes.

- B. POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES OF MASTER OF LETTERS, MASTER OF SCIENCE, MASTER OF RESEARCH AND MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY
 VII Examinations
- 4. Where a student fails the assessment for a module, the Board of Examiners may offer a reassessment, the exact form of which must be approved by the External Examiner. Reassessed work will be marked either pass or fail. It will not be graded on the 20-point scale. A student who achieves a Pass may be eligible for the Certificate or Diploma but not the Masters. The only exception to this Regulation is the European Master of Science in Photonics which allows students to undertake reassessment and have the work graded on the 20-point scale.

Approval Authority

Various amendments made to the Senate Regulations to take account of new levels of approval authority put in place as a result of the Senate Efficiency Review which was undertaken in July/August 2011. In most cases this has a resulted in a change of approval authority from the Faculty Business Committees (now disbanded) to the relevant Dean of Faculty.

Mrs Nicola Milton Executive Officer to the Proctor September 2011