

Academic Policy & Regulations Committee

There will be a meeting of the Academic Policy & Regulations Committee at **10.00 am** on **Thursday 9 October 2008**, in Committee Room 1 (G32, Aston Webb).

Apologies for absence should be addressed to Yvonne Binning, Academic and Student Administration, Academic Services (tel. 46381 email: y.j.binning@bham.ac.uk).

Clare McCauley
Secretary

AGENDA

1. Proposed Terms of Reference and Membership

To consider:

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| (a) The proposed terms of reference and membership of the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee for 2008/09. | APRC.08.10.01
(Enclosed) |
| (b) The proposed terms of reference and membership of the Progress and Awards Board for 2008/09 and of the Research Progress and Awards Sub-Group (a Sub-Panel of the Progress and Awards Board) during 2008/09. | APRC.08.10.01a
(Enclosed) |

2. Minutes

APRC.08.10.02
(Enclosed)

To approve:

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2008.

3. Matters arising on the minutes not addressed elsewhere on the agenda

- (a) Code of Practice on the Teaching and Academic Support of Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught Students by Postgraduate Teaching Assistants and Undergraduates (Minute 08/38 refers)

To note:

That the revised Code of Practice, which distinguishes between teaching, academic support, formative assessment and summative assessment, to more accurately reflect the current involvement of students in these activities, was considered and approved by the Senate at its meeting on 18 June 2008. A thematic review to be led by Professor Stephen Shute will be conducted during autumn 2008 and, if appropriate, further changes will be made to the Code in 2009/10.

(b) Student Complaints Procedure (Minute 08/40 refers)

To note:

That due to the introduction of a new statute in January 2009, a revised Student Complaints Procedure will be circulated to members for comment by correspondence. This Procedure will require approval before the next meeting of APRC in February 2009.

4. Revised Code of Practice on Split Location Study APRC.08.10.03
(Enclosed)

To consider:

The revised Code of Practice and an accompanying paper.

5. Exemptions to Regulations

To consider:

- (a) A request for an exemption in respect of the classification of degrees for the Intercolated BMedSc programmes in Clinical Science and Medicine in Society. APRC.08.10.04
(Enclosed)

- (b) A request for exemption from Regulations concerning the number of credits in a module for the MA in Learning and Teaching in Vocational Subjects, delivered at University College, Birmingham, and the related Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma. APRC.08.10.05
(Enclosed)

6. Registered Students undertaking Additional Credit-Bearing Modules APRC.08.10.06
(Enclosed)

To consider:

A paper seeking approval of the general principle that all undergraduate students be allowed to undertake up to 20 credits of personal development modules.

7. Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies APRC.08.10.07
(Enclosed)

To consider:

A proposed Policy, endorsed by U-QAEC on 25th September 2008.

8. QAA Guidance Documentation

To consider:

Papers setting out the implications in respect of:

- (a) The Higher Education Credit Framework for England: Guidance on Academic Credit Arrangements in Higher Education in England, August 2008. APRC.08.10.08
(Enclosed)

- (b) The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, August 2008. APRC.08.10.09
(Enclosed)

9. Chair's Action

To report:

That Chair's Action was taken between May and September 2008, in relation to:

(a) Approval of the following Codes of Practice:

- (i) The Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Bachelors Degrees.
- (ii) The Code of Practice on Student Support and Development in Principal Academic Units.
- (iii) The Code of Practice on the External Examining System for Taught Programmes.

(b) Approval of the following amendments to legislation:

- (i) To Regulations and the Code of Practice on the Assessment of Research Degree Theses, to correct an anomaly whereby examiners could recommend further minor changes in such a way as to deviate from normal procedures.
- (ii) To Regulations, the Code of Practice on the Assessment and Award of Higher Doctorates, and the Code of Practice on the Admission of Research Students, to ensure that the MD and DDS, which are research degrees and not higher doctorates, are placed alongside other research degrees in legislation.
- (iii) To Regulations, with respect to student fees, to ensure that the University meets current practice, and to remove areas of legislation that are no longer current.
- (iv) To Regulations, to rectify an omission with respect to student property rights over inventions/discoveries during the course of their studies.

(c) Approval of the following Exemptions:

- (i) A request from the Business School in respect of a suite of programmes being delivered through the Singapore Institute of Management, to split the year abroad into two 60 credit modules taken at Stages 2 and 3 respectively.
- (ii) A request from the Medical School in respect of the frequency of assessment of the MSc in Clinical Biochemistry.
- (iii) A request from the Dental School in respect of an exemption from modularisation of the BDS until completion of the School's internal review of the programme.
- (iv) A request from the School of Social Policy to allow the MA in Counselling and the Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling to be awarded without merit or distinction.
- (v) A request from the Medical School, in respect of the PhD with Integrated Study in Immunology, for one year in the first instance, to allow the award of a masters degree and a PhD where students have completed the requisite credits.
- (vi) A request from the School of Chemistry, in respect of the PhD with Integrated Study in the Physical Science of Imagery in the Biomedical Sciences, for one year in the first instance, to allow the award of a masters degree and a PhD where students have completed the requisite credits.
- (vii) A request from APOD, in respect of the PGCert in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, for one year in the first instance, to allow a maximum registration period of five years.

10. Date of Meetings for the Academic Year 2008/09

To note:

That meetings of APRC will be held in Committee Room 1 (G32, Aston Webb) on:

- Thursday 5th February 2009 at 10.30 am* (To be re-arranged)
- Thursday 21st May 2009 at 2.30 pm