UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

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**Transitional Credit Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees**

As agreed by Academic Board on 3rd March 2005, the transitional arrangements, for cohorts graduating in 2002/3, 2003/4, 2004/5 and 2005/6 are set out below. The transitional period has been established to allow for widespread consultation regarding procedures for assessment and standards for degree awarding arrangements for the University of Birmingham to ensure consistency across all Schools.

Each School was asked to decide whether or not it wished to put forward recommendations on this basis or in accordance with the standard University regulations. Under the transitional arrangements recommendations should be as follows:

1. Degrees should be awarded to students who have achieved 300 credits, provided at least 100 credits have been achieved at level H (* see below for credit requirements), are notwithstanding regulations, these results may be provisionally released to students prior to confirmation by the Progress Board.
2. Boards of Examiners may also continue to make recommendations notwithstanding regulations where mitigation exists. These recommendations will be considered, by the Progress Board, on a case by case basis. These recommendations should not be released to students until the Progress Board has made a decision. This is in accordance with paragraph 5.3 of the Undergraduate Assessment Protocols.
3. The Transitional Arrangements for 2004/5 and 2005/6 permit Boards of Examiners to make recommendations to the Undergraduate Progress Board that a student be awarded an Honours degree or classified Undergraduate Master's degree 'notwithstanding regulations' where a candidate has failed to achieve the credit requirements set out in the current Transitional Arrangements (*), provided that the following criteria are satisfied:

(a) the candidate has achieved the stated learning outcomes of the programme as a whole; and
(b) the external examiners unanimously agree that an Honours degree or classified undergraduate Master's degree is an appropriate award, bearing in mind the standards applicable across the sector;
(c) the student has achieved a threshold level of achievement.
In relation to (c), the Committee recommends that the threshold be based on the weighted mean mark so that a student would be eligible for the award of an Honours degree only if he obtains a WMM of at least 40%.

*** Transitional Arrangements:**

Schools that have opted to operate the transitional arrangements may put forward recommendations “notwithstanding regulations” where students meet the requirements in (1) to (5) below. Recommendations must be applied on a consistent basis to all the students, in a single cohort based on year of entry, and incidences where recommendations have been made “notwithstanding regulations” should be reported to the Undergraduate Progress Board.

1) For the award of a Bachelors (Hons) degree following 3 years of study - 300 credits with at least 100 credits at level H.

2) For the award of a Bachelors (Hons) degree following 4 years of study (usually language programmes with an additional year of study abroad at level I after 2nd year) - 400 credits with at least 100 credits at level H.

3) For the award of an Undergraduate Masters degree following 4 years of study - 420 credits, with at least 200 credits in stage 3, of which 100 credits should be at level M.

4) For the award of an Undergraduate Masters degree following 5 years of study (where an additional year is taken for language or industrial placement) - 520 credits, with at least 100 credits at level M.

5) For the award of a pass degree - 280 credits or which at least 80 credits should be at level H.
The Undergraduate Progress Board will continue to consider exceptional recommendations, ie cases with extenuating circumstances, falling just outside the extended credit criteria above. They will also consider recommendations from Schools operating the standard University regulations. These will include any case, where exceptional circumstances apply, for a student who has obtained a total of less than 320 credits or with less that 100 at levels C, I or H.

SCHOOLS OPERATING TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

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| 2002/3 | Biosciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering; Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences; Mathematics and Statistics; Physics and Astronomy |
| 2003/4 | Biosciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering; Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences (programme exceptions apply); Mathematics and Statistics; Medicine (BMedSc); Physics and Astronomy |
| 2004/5 | Biosciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering; Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences; Mathematics and Statistics; Medicine (BMedSc); Physics and Astronomy |
| 2005/6 | Biosciences; Chemistry; Computer Science; Engineering; Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences; Humanities; Law; Mathematics and Statistics; Medicine (BMedSc); Physics and Astronomy |

SCHOOLS APPLYING THE STANDARD UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS IN RELATION TO CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES - SEE 4.2.12.

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| 2002/3 | Business; Centre for Lifelong Learning; Dentistry (programme requirements apply); Education; Health Sciences (programme requirements apply); Historical Studies; Humanities; Law; Medicine (programme requirements apply); Psychology; Public Policy; Social Sciences; Sport and Exercise Sciences. |
| 2003/4 | Business; Centre for Lifelong Learning; Dentistry (programme requirements apply); Education; Health Sciences (programme requirements apply); Historical Studies; Humanities; Law (to be confirmed); Medicine (MBChB programme requirements apply); Psychology; Public Policy; Social Sciences; Sport and Exercise Sciences. |
| 2004/5 | Business; Centre for Lifelong Learning; Dentistry (programme requirements apply); Education; Health Sciences (programme requirements apply); Historical Studies; Humanities; Law (to be confirmed); Medicine (MBChB programme requirements apply); Psychology; Public Policy; Social Sciences; Sport and Exercise Sciences. |
| 2005/6 | Business; Centre for Lifelong Learning; Dentistry (programme requirements apply); Education; Health Sciences (programme requirements apply); Historical Studies; Medicine (MBChB programme requirements apply); Psychology; Public Policy; Social Sciences; Sport and Exercise Sciences. |