

University of Birmingham

Proposed Amendment to the Code of Practice on Senate Review

Purpose of the Paper

1. APRC is requested to **approve** an amendment to the Code of Practice on Senate Review for effect in 2009/10 in order to include the revised criteria for enabling a Registered Student to grieve to the Council.

Proposal(s)/Recommendation(s)

2. That clause 6.7 of the Code of Practice on Senate Review be amended as follows (additions underlined, deletions struck through):

6.7 *In the event that the case is dismissed, the appellant ~~shall be informed of the right to submit a complaint to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator and will be issued with a Completion of Procedures letter~~ may raise a grievance concerning an issue or issues which, in the opinion of the Registrar and Secretary, concerns matters of University governance, if all other internal dispute resolution procedures have been resolved.*

Consultation

3. This proposal has originated from discussions with the Student Conduct and Appeal Team and Legal Services, and arises because the current clause 6.7 is now incorrect and should be amended to reflect the decision of the Council, endorsed by the Privy Council, to allow Registered Students a limited right to grieve to Council.
4. The proposed amendment of Clause 6.7 has been approved by the Student Conduct and Appeals Manager and Legal Services, and has been further consulted upon within Academic and Student Administration.

Arguments in Support of Proposal

5. When Council approved changes to the procedure for consideration of grievances submitted to Council in July 2006, it agreed that the provision in Statutes allowing all members of the University to grieve to Council should be reviewed (CO.06.07.13).
6. The number of grievances to Council has increased in recent years and the vast majority have been submitted by students as a final stage after submission of an academic appeal or complaint.

7. The Legislative Review Reference Group recommended that rather than completely remove the right for Registered Students to grieve to Council, there should still be provision for very serious issues that relate to the principles of governance to be referred to the Council for review, after other internal dispute resolution procedures have been exhausted.
8. The right of Registered Students to grieve to Council with a limited criterion, was approved by the Privy Council in December 2008.
9. The proposed amendment to clause 6.7 of the Code of Practice on Senate Review has been Equality Impact Assessed during preparation.

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