



Senate

Paper Title	Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board Executive Summary March – May 2019
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the executive summary of business considered by the Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board (RDPEB).
Points for Senate members to note and further information	This paper summarises business considered by RDPEB at meetings held in March – May 2019, concerning: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• proposals for changes to the Academic Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degrees in 2019-20. The details are in separate papers on the Senate agenda;• UK Quality Code – Advice and Guidance for Research Degrees; and• new field of study and award title in Chemical Engineering in SEMS.
Questions for Senate to consider	Senate is asked to note the report.
Regulatory/statutory reference points	RDPEB has oversight of quality and standards issues relating to research degree programmes. The quality assurance framework is key to the maintenance of academic standards and the quality of the student learning experience.
Strategy and risk	
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	
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RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMMES AND EXAMINATIONS BOARD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March – May 2019

Meetings and membership

1. The Research Degree Programmes and Examinations Board meets monthly. The membership comprises:
 - Director of the Doctoral College [Chair]
 - Faculty Deputy Deans for Research (PGR)
 - One additional representative (a school/institute Director of Graduate Studies) from each Faculty

The secretariat is provided by the Research Degrees Office. The Doctoral College Manager is in attendance.

Examinations Business

2. The Board:
 - considers and approves nominations for internal and external examiners for research degrees;
 - considers and approves outcomes of research degree examinations and reviews all examiners' reports;
 - considers and makes decisions on applications to interrupt studies and extensions to the thesis submission deadline;
 - approves awards for research degrees on behalf of Senate.

Decisions are recorded in the minutes of the monthly meetings of the Board.

Academic Regulations and the Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes for 2019-20

3. The Board's recommendations for changes to the Academic Regulations and the Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes for 2019-20 are set out in separate papers for Senate to consider.

UK Quality Code – Advice and Guidance for Research Degrees

4. The Board has reviewed a summary of Queen Mary practice in the provision of research degrees with the updated Advice and Guidance for Research Degrees in the UK Quality Code. The Board will follow up any areas requiring further consideration. This work contributes to a project by the Academic Registry and Council Secretariat to map institutional practice onto each of the twelve themes covered by the UK Quality Code.

New field of study and award title in Chemical Engineering

5. The Board has approved the proposal for a new field of study and award title in Chemical Engineering in the School of Engineering and Materials Sciences
The proposal builds on the recent establishment of the new division of Chemical Engineering and Renewable Energy in SEMS, and several new research groups working in this area.

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