



Senate

Paper Title	Research Degrees Programmes and Examinations Board Executive Summary March to May 2021
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 to May 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • proposals for changes to the Academic Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degrees in 2021-22. The details are in a separate paper on the Senate agenda; • approval of two DClindent Part 2 programme proposals; • unfunded PhD extensions of registration due to disruption to research caused by Covid-19.
Questions for Senate to consider	Senate is asked to note the report.
Regulatory/statutory reference points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queen Mary Strategy 2030 • Queen Mary Academic Regulations • Queen Mary Code of Practice for Research Degrees Programmes • UK Quality Code for Higher Education <p>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.</p>
Strategy and risk	
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	
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RESEARCH DEGREE PROGRAMMES AND EXAMINATIONS BOARD

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March to May 2021

Meetings and membership

1. The Research Degree Programmes and Examinations Board meets monthly. The membership comprises:
 - the Dean for Postgraduate Research / 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 2021-22

3. The Board's recommendations for changes to the Academic Regulations and the Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes for 2021-22 are set out in a separate paper for Senate to consider.

New DClintDent Part 2 proposals

4. The part 2 proposals for two new DClintDent professional doctorate programmes in the Institute of Dentistry have been considered by the Professional Doctorates Committee on 20 May and approved to commence in September 2021. The programmes are
 - a. Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Clinical Oral Microbiology and
 - b. Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Minimally Invasive Dentistry

5. The Professional Doctorates Committee is a joint committee of the Research Degrees Board and the Taught Programmes Board. Both Boards have approved the programme proposals by Chair's action.

Unfunded PhD extensions of registration due to disruption to research caused by Covid-19

6. At the meeting in March 2021 Senate considered the Board's proposal that a 3-month unfunded extension of registration be granted to research students currently registered with a thesis submission deadline after 1 March 2020 who have not yet submitted their thesis for examination and who:
 - do not have an extension of registration already approved;
 - have an approved extension of less than three months which will be increased to three months;
 - have interrupted their studies for a reason unrelated to Covid-19.
7. Senate approved the proposal subject to some questions which were discussed at the Board in March. The Board's response to Senate was considered by Chair's action and approval was conformed.

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