

The University of Edinburgh

Minutes of the Senate Academic Policy and Regulations Committee (APRC) meeting held online on Thursday 19 March 2020

Present:

Professor Alan Murray (Convener)	Assistant Principal, Academic Support
Dr Jeremy Crang	Dean of Students (CAHSS)
Dr Paul Norris	Dean of Quality Assurance and Curriculum Approval (CAHSS)
Dr Lisa Kendall	Head of Academic and Student Administration
Kirsty Woomble	Head of PGR Student Office (CAHSS)
Professor Judy Hardy	Dean of Learning and Teaching (CSE)
Stephen Warrington	Dean of Student Experience (CSE)
Alex Laidlaw	Head of Academic Affairs (CSE)
Dr Antony Maciocia	Dean of Postgraduate Research (CSE)
Philippa Burrell	Head of Academic Administration (CMVM)
Professor Neil Turner	Dean of Undergraduate Learning and Teaching (CMVM)
Dr Paddy Hadoke	Director of Postgraduate Research and Early Career Research (CMVM)
Stephanie Vallancey	Vice President Education, Students' Association
Gemma Riddell	Advice Place Senior Academic Adviser
Rayya Ghul	Institute for Academic Development
Dr Adam Bunni	Head of Governance and Regulatory Framework Team, Academic Services
Sarah McAllister	Student Systems and Administration

In attendance:

Ailsa Taylor	Academic Policy Officer, Academic Services
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1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 January 2020 were approved as an accurate record.

2. Matters Arising

The Committee had undertaken electronic business between 13-20 February 2020 in order to agree a number of concessions to regulations and policies in relation to the industrial action.

3. CAHSS: Master of Nursing (APRC 19/20 4A)

This paper was approved by the Committee, which would mean that the new 2 year Master of Nursing (MN) would have a non-standard academic year. This would allow the programme to meet the requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

4. Concessions to regulations and policies in response to Covid-19 and industrial action (CLOSED B)

This closed paper was approved by the Committee, subject to the insertion of a concession against regulation 28 in the undergraduate degree regulations (optional study abroad).

Undergraduate Degree Regulation 28 (2019/20) – ‘Students must have achieved 240 credits before participating in Optional Study Abroad in year 3. All year 2 courses must be passed at the first attempt; resits during the summer diet are not permitted. Students must have achieved 360 credits before participating in Optional Study Abroad in year 4 of a 5 year programme’.

This additional concession would be added to the relevant guidance.

The approval of this paper would allow a range of temporary concessions to be used to address the impact of Covid-19. Several members of the Committee (including representatives from each College, and the Students’ Association) were involved in the ongoing work to produce guidance for Schools regarding how to address the impact of Covid-19.

ACTION: Dr Bunni to add the additional concession (UG Degree Regulation 28, 2019/20) to the relevant guidance as necessary.

5. Undergraduate Degree Regulations 2020/21 (APRC 19/20 4 C)

The Undergraduate Degree Regulations 2020/21 were approved as presented, subject to strengthening of the wording around Head of College delegation of authority, and correction of any typos/url links.

ACTION: Ailsa Taylor to request approval of degree regulations from University Court by Resolution.

6. Postgraduate Degree Regulations 2020/21 (APRC 19/20 4 D)

The Postgraduate Degree Regulations 2020/21 were approved as presented, subject to correction of any typos/url links.

ACTION: Ailsa Taylor to request approval of degree regulations from University Court by Resolution.

7. Higher Degree Regulations 2020/21 (CLOSED E)

This closed paper was approved by the Committee. The Committee agreed to propose to University Court that the University no longer offer Higher Degrees (except where they are being awarded to Honorary graduands), and that the Higher Degree Regulations are therefore no longer needed.

ACTION: Ailsa Taylor to make proposal to University Court regarding Higher Degrees, following approval of the paper by the Committee.

8. Any Other Business

There was no further business.