

**Subject: Regulation XIV: Student Appeals against Programme or Review Board Decisions, Report for 2009 (Calendar Year)**

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**1. Analysis of Appeals**

1.1 Number of Appeals (Appendix I)

A total of 153 appeals were submitted in the 2009 calendar year, an increase of 6 from 2008.

1.2 Incidence of Appeals (Appendix II s.7)

The characteristics of those who appealed were broadly in line with those of appellants in previous years. Figures are provided by Academic Department, as well as aggregated for the University, for information. However, given the small number of appellants from each department, it is difficult to draw any strong conclusions.

1.3 Appeal Outcomes (Appendices III and IV)

Just under two-thirds (64.24%) of all appeals were dismissed by the Academic Registrar, and a further 17.88% were dismissed by a Dean. 15.89% of appeals were upheld by a Dean the remaining 1.99% of appellants withdrew their appeal. No appeals were referred to an Academic Appeal Committee.

The most common reasons for the dismissal of appeals were lack of evidence, and late disclosure of impaired performance (IP) for which good cause was not established. The majority of successful appeals related to IP where the student was able to establish good cause for not submitting a timely claim, with a small number involving procedural irregularities. In relation to the former category, sensitive personal circumstances and mental health difficulties were treated sympathetically.

Appendices III and IV contain further analysis of appeal outcomes in the context of the characteristics and owning department of appellants. Again, however, relatively small numbers are involved, and care must be taken not to overstate minor differences between years.