

**Senate**

**Subject:** PhD with Integrated Research Studies

**Origin:** Dr Brigette Vale

**Action Required**: Senate, on the recommendation of Research Committee, is asked to approve in principle the introduction of a four year PhD programme with an integrated taught element. If agreement is reached then Learning and Teaching Committee will be requested to review the taught element of the programme

Senate is requested to approve in principle the development of a four year PhD programme with a taught element to be identified as a PhD with Integrated Research Studies.

The aim of the programme would be to provide integrated, focussed research training in a research area, which, through completion of taught postgraduate modules plus a standard length thesis, would lead to the award of a PhD.

The key features would be -

The taught modules would be formally assessed and successful completion would be a progression and completion requirement.

The taught element would be 120 credits at M level and would need to be successfully completed by the end of Year 2. It is anticipated that the modules would be drawn from existing M level modules.

Successful candidates would not receive a taught award in addition to the PhD, but a taught award would be available as an exit route if progression was not permitted.

The programme would be aimed at the international market but might be useful to develop for other markets. There are indications that this model would be attractive to sponsors in the Gulf States. The University has previously offered a similar programme in the form of the New Route PhD and the EngD programme, which offers a combination of taught modules alongside a research programme, is also comparable.

This model should be available to Schools if they wish to adopt this programme route, but they would not be required to do so. In the event that Schools wished to develop this route then regulations for the taught element would be needed.

Tuition fees would be payable for 4 years and submission required within 4.5 years.

Draft regulations are attached as Appendix 1and will be brought forward for formal approval by Senate, subject to agreement to proceed and the approval of Learning and Teaching Committee.

Appendix 1