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**SENATE**

**Subject: Reassessment of undergraduate project/dissertation modules**

**Origin: Learning and Teaching Committee, 3 June 2010**

**Senate action required:** Senate approval is sought for an amendment to Regulation XX *Undergraduate Awards* explicitlyto allow UG students who narrowly fail a project/dissertation module the possibility of revising and resubmitting the original piece of work for the purpose of reassessment.The change is for introduction with effect from the start of 2010-11. A report from Programme Quality Team to LTC follows below, together with the relevant Minute of LTC and the associated Regulation changes.

***PQ Team Report***

At its meeting in March 2010, Programme Quality Team was alerted to the fact that a question had arisen whether UG students who were undertaking reassessment in project/dissertation modules were expected to embark on a new piece of work, or could revise and resubmit work from their first attempt. Regulation XX was silent on this point, by contrast with Regulation XXI *Postgraduate Awards*, which included the following:

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| 35.  | Where, at the first attempt, a student achieves a Module Mark of 40% to 49% inclusive in a project or dissertation module, the same piece of work may be revised and resubmitted at reassessment as a second attempt.  |

PQT was of the view that UG students who obtained a module mark of 30 to 39% in a project or dissertation module should similarly be permitted to revise and resubmit the original piece of work for reassessment as a second attempt, and that this should be explicit in Regulation XX.

PQT has gone on to discuss related issues, in both UG and PGT contexts, and in particular the implications of the options in terms of attendance requirements and the level of fee that should be charged for reassessment. One possibility being explored is that for students subject to reassessment in a project or dissertation module, there might be a status between ‘in attendance’ and ‘without attendance’, which would entitle them to a lower level of access to supervision and facilities than students in full attendance, and that an intermediate fee be set for this. These discussions are ongoing.

***LTC Discussion***

LTC suggested that the following issues be considered in the course of these ongoing discussions:

1. whether or not students who were required to submit new work for reassessment should be allowed to undergo reassessment in the SAP
2. whether students with a first-attempt mark in the range 30-39% (PGTs 40-49%) should be required consult their supervisor/tutor before deciding on their course of action as regards reassessment.

The new regulation would mean that UG students with a project/dissertation mark of <30% would have to submit new work for reassessment. LTC considered it important that academic staff appreciated the implications for students of awarding a mark of <30% as against 30-39% under the revised regulation.

**LTC meanwhile recommends to Senate that Regulation XX *Undergraduate Awards* be amended as follows**:

### Re-Assessment Rights

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| 37. | Re-assessment rights shall be granted as follows:  |
|   | Full Time students  |
|   | 37.1 | Students registered on a full-time programme who have failed to pass the Part will be eligible for reassessment on one occasion only in order to meet the requirements of the Programme Regulations.  |
|   |   | 37.1.1 | The following criteria will be applied to the student's profile of marks to determine which modules are eligible for reassessment.  |
|   |   |   | 37.1.1.1 | Module assessments may be repeated in any module in which the student has failed to gain credit.  |
|   |   |   | 37.1.1.2 | Module assessments may be repeated in any module in which the student has gained credit but has failed to meet module mark requirements set out in the Programme Regulations.  |
|   |   |   | 37.1.1.3 | Where the Programme Regulations require a minimum average mark for the Part, and this has not been achieved by the student, module assessments may be repeated in any or all of the modules in the Part in which the student has failed to achieve a Module Mark equal to, or higher than, the required average mark.  |
|   |   | 37.1.2 | It shall be at the students' discretion whether or not take second attempt module assessments in excess of the minimum requirements to Pass a Part. Students will not normally be permitted to make changes to second attempt module assessment registrations after the published deadline.  |
|   |   | 37.1.3 | No further reassessment rights will become available (except where a Programme Board permits students to repeat any or all parts of the module assessment on a second attempt basis in accordance with paragraphs 23.4 and 24.1.2.4 hereof).  |
|   | Part Time and non-Programme Students  |
|   | 37.2 | Students registered on a part-time programme or non-programme students (for example, incoming exchange students) who have failed to gain credit in a module at the first attempt are eligible for reassessment in that module.  |
|   | Any Module Assessment taken under the provisions of paragraphs 37.1 and 37.2 shall hereinafter be referred to as a second attempt module assessment.  |
| 38.  | Candidates who have registered for second attempt module assessments in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 37 hereof may repeat any or all of the modules with attendance, subject to the payment of tuition fees, if the module is available and if they first obtain permission from the Department teaching the module. In such a case, candidates will be required to produce new work in every assessment contributing to the module, notwithstanding any decisions made by a Programme Board in accordance with paragraph 39 hereof.  |
| 39.  | The Programme Board shall receive recommendations from the relevant Internal Examiner(s) for each student and shall, for each module, determine which of the student's present marks may without further assessment be carried forward in the re-assessment process should the student choose to repeat the module without attendance. Notwithstanding this decision, students may opt to undergo any component of the module's assessment.  |
| 40.  | Where, at the first attempt, a student achieves a Module Mark of 30% to 39% inclusive in a project or dissertation module, the same piece of work may be revised and resubmitted at reassessment as a second attempt.  |
| 41.  | Except where the provisions of paragraph 39 or 40 hereof apply, new work shall be completed by the student for reassessment.  |
| 42.  | Any student permitted to repeat any or all parts of a Module Assessment on a first attempt basis, in accordance with paragraph 23 or 24 hereof, may also be permitted, although not obliged, to concurrently repeat other Module Assessments on a second attempt basis. Where a candidate exercises this option, further second attempt Module Assessments may become available, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 37 hereof, once the final Module Marks for all first attempt Module Assessments are known.  |
| 43.  | Candidates who wish to undergo reassessment must by a date designated by the Academic Registrar complete a reassessment form and must pay the required reassessment fee. The Academic Registrar may permit late registration for individual students and in such cases may require payment of a late registration fee in addition to the reassessment fee. |

*[Subsequent paragraphs to be renumbered and cross references corrected accordingly.]*