

**LTC15D086**

**Title:** PGR Academic Appeals, Complaints, Complaints to the OIA and Senate Student Disciplinary Cases in 2014-15  
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**Issue**

The report considers the PGR Academic Appeals and Complaints and OIA referrals received in the academic year 2014-15. It was considered by the Postgraduate Research Executive at its meeting on 9 December 2015.

**Recommendation**

The committee is asked to note the report.

**Resource Implications**

N/A

**Risk Implications**

N/A

**Equality and Diversity**

No specific issues.

**Timing of decisions**

N/A

**Further Information**

Please contact Melanie Steele, x3870 [m.steele@uea.ac.uk](mailto:m.steele@uea.ac.uk) for enquiries about the content of the paper.

**Academic Appeals**

The number of Stage One PGR Academic Appeals received in the academic year 2014-15 remains small – 3 in 2014-15 compared to 4 in 2013-14. Only 1 Stage Two Academic Appeal was received in 2014-15, which was not upheld (cf 2 received in 2013-14).

## Academic Complaints

The number of PGR Academic Complaints received continues to be low. There were 2 Stage One Academic Complaints received within the period but no Stage Two Academic Complaints. In 2013-14 there were 3 Stage One Academic Complaints and no Stage Two Academic Complaints.

## OIA Cases

Three PGR cases were considered by the OIA in 2014-15, one of which started in 2013-14. The OIA issued judgements on 2 complaints, neither of which were determined by the OIA to be justified.

## Senate Student Disciplinary Cases

### Regulation 15 Conduct of Research

There were no cases received in 2014-15 referred to SSDC under this regulation, compared to 5 cases in 2013-14 and 0 in 2012-13. This suggests that the spike in referrals experienced in 2013-14 was a bunching of cases through random chance rather than an indication of a change in behaviour amongst our students.

## General comments

With such small numbers of cases it is not possible to identify any trends and further analysis is not warranted. However it does seem to suggest that PGR students are generally satisfied with their experience at UEA.

We continue to welcome the advice given to appellants/complainants by, and maintain a good working relationship with, the Student Union Advice Centre.

## Stage One Appeals and Complaints received 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015

Number	Faculty	Type	Date of receipt	Date of FACP	Date of outcome letter
14-15/1	FMH	Academic Appeal	9/9/14	7/10/14	21/10/14
14-15/2	SCI	Academic Appeal	12/1/15	25/2/15	09/03/15
14-15/3	SCI	Academic Complaint	12/5/15	15/6/15	26/06/15
14-15/4	HUM	Academic Complaint	18/08/15	07/10/15	21/10/15
14-15/5	SCI/NBI	Academic Appeal	05/08/15	28/09/15	13/10/15

**Stage Two Appeals and Complaints received 1 October 2014 to 30 September 2015**

Stage 1 Number	Faculty	Type	Date of receipt	Date of outcome letter	Comments
14-15/2	SCI	Academic Appeal	20/04/15+ 1 month	25/06/15	Not upheld

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Stage 1 Number	Faculty	Comments
13-14/5	HUM	OIA confirmed "Not justified" on 02/12/14 – no further action required.
13-14/7	SCI	Case removed from OIA and brought back into internal processes as new information was brought to our attention.
M 13-14/3	SCI	Alumnus case. OIA decision received 15/9/15 – "not justified"

**Misconduct in Research**

Number	Faculty	Degree	Type	Month of receipt	Date of outcome letter
M13-14/4	SSF	PhD	Plagiarism	May 2014	SSDC June, 23/06/15
M13-14/5	FMH	PhD	Plagiarism	June 2014	SSDC Nov, 04/12/14
M13-14/6,7	SCI	PhD	Plagiarism (alumnus)	June 2014	06/07/15
M14-15/1	SCI	PhD	Plagiarism (alumnus)	January 2015	Considered under another procedure
M14-15/2	SSF	PhD	Ethics concerns (alumnus)	June 2015	In progress