

**Title:** New Postgraduate Research Awards – Professional Doctorates  
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### Issue

This paper recommends approval of two new doctoral-level awards and the appropriate postgraduate exit awards. These new awards are of the type known in the sector as “professional doctorates”, which are distinctive from other doctoral provision on the basis of their purpose, research focus and structure. UEA has made 521 awards to date on such programmes (see Appendix 1), around 12% of all UEA’s doctoral awards. There are currently 118 students registered on ClinPsyD, EdD and MD courses: 9% of current PGR students.

The awards are being proposed to strengthen and diversify our professional doctorate offering alongside our successful portfolio comprising Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, Doctor of Education and Doctor of Medicine. They should also help address specific professional skills shortages in the Eastern Region of England, thus contributing to University commitments such as Time to Change and Norwich City Dementia Action Alliance.

The proposed new doctoral-level awards are:

- Professional Doctorate (ProfD) in Health and Social Care
- Doctorate in Educational Psychology (EdPsyD)

The proposed new exit awards are, respective to the awards above:

- Professional Master’s (ProfM) in Health and Social Care
- Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Psychology (PGDipEdPsy)

### Recommendation

Senate is asked to approve the new awards as above, along with the Award Regulations for the Professional Doctorate and the amendments to the General Regulations for Official and Academic Dress.

### Resource Implications

Resource implications are being considered fully as part of the course approval process for each course.

### Risk Implications

The new awards will carry similar risks to existing professional doctorate provision, which centre on ensuring that there are high quality applicants to the course, along with excellent supervision and professional placement provision. In this context it is worth noting that the UEA Doctorate in Clinical Psychology and Doctor of Education have both been recruiting well for several years. ClinPsyD has a ratio of 15 applicants per place and has been green-rated by the NHS for each of the last three years, as well as successfully passing validation by the British Psychological Society (BPS) and Health and Care Professional Council (HCPC).

### Equality and Diversity

ARM and PGR are discussing the best ways to ensure that diversity and widening participation issues are taken into account when recruiting to professional doctorates. Standard procedures for reasonable adjustments for disabled applicants and students will be used; and provision kept under regular review. Professional doctorates tend to attract cohorts which add to the diversity of the overall PGR student body but which can be less diverse internally (see Appendix 1, demographics column); we would seek to improve internal diversity within each professional doctorate cohort.

### Timing of decisions

A decision is requested at June 2017 Senate to enable recruitment to begin for October 2018 start. Full Award Regulations for the Doctorate in Educational Psychology will be developed following confirmation of whether the tender to the Department for Education has been successful, in case any changes are recommended. Doctoral loans of up to £25K expected to be introduced by the Government in 2018/19 will be available to students on all doctoral-level courses including existing and proposed professional doctorate awards.

### Background on professional doctorates and doctoral degree characteristics

A review of professional doctorates was commissioned by HEFCE and carried out by the Careers Research & Advisory Centre Ltd and the University of Brighton. The report, published in January 2016, provides an overview of the current landscape of professional doctorates across higher education institutions in England.

According to the Executive Summary (page iii, Characteristics of PDs) from the HEFCE report, *Provision of professional doctorates in English HE institutions*, <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/rereports/Year/2016/profdoc/>, professional doctorates are distinctive in three respects:

- **Purpose:** PDs [professional doctorates] aim to develop the capacity to make a significant original contribution to professional practice through research. They are targeted at experienced professionals and practitioners working in a professional context and, therefore, are a research-based element of professional training and/or development of practitioners.”
- **Research focus:** The research within a PD directly relates to, and is rooted in, the professional practice of the candidate, and its output should not only contribute to knowledge but have a significant impact on professional practice.
- **Structure:** PD programmes are more structured than many PhD programmes, with taught components as well as supervised and cohort-based experiences. However, this distinction is reducing with the development of other structured doctoral programmes, especially collaborative and cohort-based doctoral training programmes.

The report notes that there has been continued growth in professional doctorates provision since 2011 and that provision is primarily growing in the areas of education, business, psychology, health and social care alongside established brands such as EdD, DBA and DClinPsy (which UEA terms ClinPsyD).

The QAA Characteristics Statement (see <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Doctoral-Degree-Characteristics-15.pdf>) on Doctoral Degrees includes “Professional Doctorate” and “Doctor of Educational Psychology” as examples of award titles in Appendix 1 (p. 21), noting that “there are no nationally agreed definitions of doctoral award titles. The ways in which titles are used will vary depending on the research degree-awarding body and individual providers are best placed to explain their own awards in detail.”

Further details on how the proposed awards and courses meet the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications can be found in Appendix 2.

### Rationale for new award of Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care

The award of Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care (HSC, with potential to expand to PHA and research degree candidates based at the University of Suffolk) is an interdisciplinary, doctoral-level course which has been designed to meet the needs of senior health and social care practitioners who wish to develop and lead evidence-based interventions within their own sphere of practice. There is a growing emphasis on developing a workforce within health and social care that can accelerate the spread of evidence-led health and care solutions. The recent mandate embedded within the shared outcome frameworks of NHS England, Health Education England and Public Health England (2015) expresses the need to develop a more flexible workforce that is able to respond to changing patterns through research and innovation.

The award should also enable the University to capitalise on existing infrastructure and expertise by offering quality local provision for nursing and allied health professionals that complements existing UEA courses.

Course and award approval was recommended by the Postgraduate Research Executive on 30 March 2017 for the Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care (ProfD HASC), noting that it is closely based in structural terms on the successful UEA Doctor of Education (EdD), which the course proposers are familiar with. The Award Regulations are also based on the EdD Award Regulations, which were reviewed in 2014/15. The course approval has been given initial scrutiny by members of the Learning and Teaching Committee and is due to be considered formally by this committee on 21 June 2017.

### **Rationale for new award of Doctorate in Educational Psychology**

The award and course of Doctorate in Educational Psychology (EDU) is being proposed to fill an unmet and growing demand for Educational Psychologists in the Eastern Region (Cambridgeshire, Central Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Peterborough, Suffolk and Norfolk). Provision for mental health and well-being of school students in the region is currently far below demand, with trainees in other regions being brought into the East for placements and job opportunities. The Association of Educational Psychologists (AEP) estimates local shortages to be at least 25%, at the same time that statutory Special Educational Needs (SEN) assessments are up 43% in Norfolk in 2015/16. The course is being put together specifically to meet regional needs. Principal Education Psychologists from the following local authorities have expressed a willingness to offer placements and contribute to teaching: Bedford; Central Bedfordshire Council; Essex County Council; Luton; Norfolk County Council; Peterborough City Council.

The course, if approved, is intended to be part of the only publicly funded scheme in England to becoming an Educational Psychologist. Currently there are eleven universities/bodies approved as part of this scheme (Birmingham, Bristol, UEL, Exeter, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield, Southampton, Tavistock & Portman NHS Trust and IoE-UCL), but none closer than 100 miles to Norwich. A bid has been submitted to a Department for Education tender to provide studentship funding for an initial cohort of 10 funded places and funding for additional staff resource. As the only provider who has shown any interest in the scheme for several years, this was strongly encouraged by the DfE and Norfolk County Council. An outcome was due in late May but may be delayed by electoral purdah rules.

Approval in principle for the course and award of Doctorate in Educational Psychology was given by the Postgraduate Research Executive on 30 March 2017. Course approval is due to be considered formally by this Executive on 15 June 2017 and by the Learning and Teaching Committee on 21 June 2017.

### **Appendices and further information**

- Appendix 1: Table of non-PhD doctoral awards at UEA – existing and proposed awards
- Appendix 2: Framework for Higher Education Qualifications considerations
- Appendix 3: Proposed changes to General Regulations – Official and Academic Dress
- Appendix 4: Proposed Regulations for Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care

### **Further information**

Contact Vivien Easson, x1835 [v.easson@uea.ac.uk](mailto:v.easson@uea.ac.uk) for enquiries about the content of the paper. The data in this paper is current as of May 2017.

### Appendix 1: Table of non-PhD doctoral awards at UEA

The following table shows the existing and proposed non-PhD doctoral awards at UEA. According to the student records system there have been 4477 doctoral awards conferred to date in total by the University, including 3882 PhD awards, 74 PhD by Publication awards and 521 non-PhD doctoral awards including those listed below plus 3 Doctor of Social Work awards (award discontinued).

Thus around 12% of UEA's doctoral awards have been made as non-PhD doctoral awards.

Demographics for all PGR students (April 2017) are: 56% female, 44% male; mean age on entry 29.7 years.

Award	Status	Review and approval PSRB	Awards conferred to date	Currently registered students	Demographics (April 2017)
ClinPsyD Doctorate in Clinical Psychology	Running since 1994	Reviewed in 2013/14, next in 2018/19 PSRB: BPS, HCPC	363	68	89% female 11% male Mean age on entry: 27.8 years
EdD Doctor of Education	Running since 1997	Reviewed in 2014/15, next in 2019/20	83	32	70% female 30% male Mean age on entry: 42.6 years
MD Doctor of Medicine	Running since 2004	Reviewed in 2016/17, proposed changes to come to PGR Executive 15 June.	72	18	16% female 84% male Mean age on entry: 35.4 years
ProfD Professional Doctorate, Health and Social Care	Proposed to start 2018/19	Course approval PGR Exec 30 March, going to LTC 21 June.	N/A	N/A	Likely to be most similar to EdD cohort
EdPsyD (Doctorate in Educational Psychology)	Proposed to start 2018/19	Approved in principle PGR Exec 30 March. Course approval going to PGR Exec 15 June and LTC 21 June. PSRB: BPS, HCPC	N/A	N/A	Likely to be most similar to ClinPsyD cohort

## Appendix 2: Framework for Higher Education Qualifications considerations

Proposed Award	Mode and FTE	Credit distribution and HESA classification	Thesis length and comments
<b>ProfD</b> Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care	<p>Period of study: 5 years at 0.4FTE. Additionally, up to one year of registration-only to write up thesis.</p> <p>Applicants required to have a Master's degree, plus research and practice experience. This ensures fit with QAA FHEQ 4.18.5 expectation of study equivalent to three full-time calendar years. Effectively this is a reduction in period of study due to prior relevant experience, which is normal for professional doctorates.</p>	<p>540 credits in total:</p> <p>Y1: 90 credits at Level 8 Y2: 90 credits at Level 8</p> <p>Y3-5: Equivalent of 360 credits for thesis element, drawing on previous experience.</p> <p>D00: Research degree at doctorate level</p>	<p>Up to 60,000 words</p> <p>This structure broadly matches that for the existing Doctor of Education, which also has a thesis not exceeding 60,000 words in length and a 5+1 / 0.4FTE pattern.</p> <p>Proposed regulations attached in Appendix 4.</p>
<b>ProfM</b> Professional Master's in Health and Social Care	<p>No direct applications.</p> <p>Exit award from ProfD. Exceeds FHEQ for Master's as modules are above level 7.</p>	<p>180 credits in total:</p> <p>Y1: 90 credits at Level 8 Y2: 90 credits at Level 8</p> <p>E90: Advanced taught study at level E for provider credit (to be confirmed with HESA)</p>	<p>None, but assessment for Y1 and Y2 modules includes 24,000 words in total of assessed material.</p> <p>Regulations included in those for the ProfD in Appendix 4.</p>
<b>EdPsyD</b> Doctorate in Educational Psychology	<p>Period of study: 3 years at 1FTE. No registration-only period.</p> <p>This meets QAA FHEQ 4.18.5.</p> <p>Applicants required to have a 2:1 or Master's plus a minimum of one year full-time or equivalent paid employment experience in relevant professional setting.</p>	<p>540 credits in total:</p> <p>Y1: 120 level 7, 60 level 8 Y2: 180 credits at level 8 Y3: 180 credits at level 8</p> <p>D00: Research degree at doctorate level</p>	<p>Up to 40,000 words</p> <p>This structure broadly matches that for the existing Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, which also has a portfolio-form thesis not exceeding 40,000 words in length and a 3-year full-time pattern.</p> <p>Full Regulations to be drafted in summer 2017 following feedback from Department for Education.</p>
<b>PGDipEdPsy</b> Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Psychology	<p>No direct applications.</p> <p>Exit award from EdPsyD, available if students pass the three 40-credit taught level 7 modules in Year 1. Credit basis equivalent to existing PGDip award in UEA Common Masters Framework; satisfies FHEQ and QAA requirements.</p>	<p>120 credits in total:</p> <p>Y1: 120 credits at Level 7</p> <p>Postgraduate Diploma (coded as per existing Postgraduate Diploma)</p>	<p>None, and none needed.</p> <p>Regulations to be included in EdPsyD Regulations, consistent with UEA Common Masters Framework where possible.</p>

### Appendix 3: Proposed changes to General Regulations – Official and Academic Dress

#### Recommendation for amendment

If the new awards of Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care and Doctorate in Educational Psychology and the exit Professional Master’s awards are approved, Sections 10 and 12 of the General Regulations on Official and Academic Dress should be updated to read (amendments in red font):

<p>2 In these Regulations:</p> <p>[maintain items 1 to 5 as written, then add the following items]</p> <p>(6) a reference to the colour “bird of paradise” shall be read as a reference to the colour Bird of Paradise defined by Pantone as colour 16-1357.</p> <p>(7) a reference to the colour “radiant orchid” shall be read as a reference to the colour Radiant Orchid defined by Pantone as colour 18-3224.</p> <p>(8) a reference to the colour “vibrant orange” shall be read as a reference to the colour Vibrant Orange as defined by Pantone as colour 16-1364.</p>
<p><b>ACADEMIC DRESS</b></p> <p><b>10 Doctors</b></p> <p>[first section omitted – no changes]</p> <p>The academic dress of a graduate of the University being a Doctor shall be:</p> <p><b>for Doctor of Philosophy, Doctorate of in Clinical Psychology, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Social Work, Professional Doctorate, Doctorate in Educational Psychology</b></p> <p>(1) a gown of blue cloth with boot-style sleeves and facings of fine red grosgrain.</p> <p>(2) a hood of blue grosgrain lined in folds on the outside:</p> <p>(a) in the case of Doctor of Philosophy, with red.</p> <p>(b) in the case of Doctorate of in Clinical Psychology, with pale blue.</p> <p>(c) in the case of Doctor of Medicine, with light grey.</p> <p>(d) in the case of Doctor of Education, with blue.</p> <p>(e) in the case of Doctor of Social Work, with pastel green.</p> <p>(f) in the case of Professional Doctorate, with bird of paradise.</p> <p>(g) in the case of Doctorate in Educational Psychology, with radiant orchid.</p> <p>(3) a round black velvet bonnet with gold cord and tassel.</p>
<p><b>12 Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of Education, Master of Laws, Master of Business Administration, Master of Music, Master of Research, Master of Clinical Education and Master of Surgery, Professional Master’s</b></p> <p>The academic dress of a graduate of the University being a Master of Arts, a Master of Science, a Master of Education, a Master of Laws, a Master of Music, a Master of Research, or a Master of Clinical Education, a Master of Surgery, or a Professional Master’s, shall be:</p> <p>(1) a gown of blue cloth with boot-style sleeves.</p> <p>(2) a hood of blue grosgrain lined in folds on the outside:</p> <p>(a) in the case of Master of Arts with coral.</p> <p>(b) in the case of Master of Science, with spectrum green.</p> <p>(c) in the case of Master of Education, with blue (the colour Blue BCC 195 as defined in the second edition of the Dictionary of Colour Standards).</p> <p>(d) in the case of Master of Laws and of Master of Business Administration, with magenta.</p> <p>(e) in the case of Master of Music, with Beaton pink.</p> <p>(f) in the case of Master of Research, with maroon.</p> <p>(g) in the case of Master of Clinical Education with Belfast purple.</p> <p>(h) in the case of Master of Surgery, with light grey.</p> <p>(i) in the case of Professional Master’s, with vibrant orange.</p> <p>(3) a black mortar-board with tassel.</p>

Postgraduate Diploma exit awards are covered in Section 14(ii) with a standard academic dress for all such awards. Therefore no update is required for the award of Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Psychology.

# **Regulations for the Degree of Professional Doctorate**

## **1 SCOPE OF THESE REGULATIONS**

- 1.1 These regulations govern the awards of degrees of Professional Doctorate (ProfD) and Professional Master's (ProfM).
- 1.2 The following degrees are covered by these Regulations:
- Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care
  - Professional Master's in Health and Social Care (exit award only)
- 1.3 Candidates may register for the degree of Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care:
- in the School of Health Sciences from 2018/19 onwards; or
  - in the School of Pharmacy from 2019/20 onwards; or
  - in one of the above Schools, but based at the University of Suffolk, from 2019/20 onwards.

## **2 GENERAL PRECONDITIONS TO AN AWARD**

- 2.1 Candidates registered for the degree of Professional Doctorate must normally possess a relevant Master's degree from this University or another approved university or a similar qualification approved by this University, as well as a minimum of three years' experience of relevant professional practice.
- 2.2 Candidates must submit evidence of adequate training and ability to undertake the proposed course of advanced study to the satisfaction of the Head of School (or nominee), be approved by the Head of School (or nominee) as a candidate for the degree and study in accordance with these Regulations.
- 2.3 Before being admitted to the degree of Professional Doctorate candidates must:
- (1) undertake research in fields of study approved by the Head of School (or nominee);
  - (2) engage in advanced study under the direction of a teacher in the University appointed by the Head of School (or nominee). For the thesis, candidates will study under the direction of teachers in the University appointed by the School as the candidate's supervisory team;



#### 4.2.2 **Professional Master's in Health and Social Care**

Year 1: 90 credits of Level 8 modules (Modules 1 and 2)

Year 2: 90 credits of Level 8 modules (Module 3)

Passing all modules within Years 1 and 2 shall be necessary and sufficient for the exit award of Professional Master's in Health and Social Care, providing that either that (a) the candidate is not planning to continue on the Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care; or (b) this is offered as in 7.5 below when the award of Professional Doctorate is not being recommended.

- 4.3 There shall be an annual review of work leading to the thesis, undertaken by the candidate and supervisory team and monitored by or on behalf of the Head of School (or nominee). The supervisory team shall also report to the Head of School (or nominee) at any time when the candidate appears not to be making satisfactory progress, is otherwise not fulfilling the conditions that have been laid down or appears unlikely to reach the standard of the degree;
- 4.4 In order to proceed to the thesis element of the Professional Doctorate programme a candidate must satisfy the examiners that there is a reasonable expectation that they will successfully complete the programme for the degree for which they are registered.
- 4.5 At the end of the first and second year the Board of Examiners shall review the candidate's progress to date. A candidate who has failed any module may be permitted by the Board of Examiners, on one occasion only, to be reassessed.
- 4.6 In circumstances where a reassessment, because of its nature or timing, cannot with reasonable practicability be completed within the year of study to which it relates, the examiners may permit a candidate to proceed to the next year of the course on condition that:
- (1) the reassessment shall be arranged and completed as soon as practicable in accordance with a timetable to be stipulated by them; and
  - (2) the examiners shall consider the outcome of the reassessment at the earliest feasible opportunity.
- 4.7 A candidate who fails to satisfy the examiners in any reassessment of work completed in the first or second year and conducted in accordance with the regulations in this section shall normally be required to withdraw from the University.

## **5 SUBMISSION OF THE THESIS**

- 5.1 The degree shall be awarded on the recommendation of the examiners at the assessment or reassessment undertaken:

5.1.1 In the case of candidates registered for the degree of Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care, in respect of the thesis produced in the final year of study, provided that they are satisfied in all respects as to performance in the final assessment or permitted reassessment. In the thesis and examination the candidate is required to show distinct ability to conduct original investigations, to test ideas (whether the candidate's own or those of others) and to understand the relationship of the theme of the investigations to a wider field of knowledge. The thesis should show evidence of adequate industry and application. The candidate is also expected to show understanding of the relationships of the special theme to a wider field of knowledge. The thesis should represent a significant contribution to the development of understanding, for example, through the discovery of new knowledge, the connection of previously unrelated facts, and/or the development of a new theory or the revision of older views. The thesis shall not exceed 60,000 words in length.

5.2 A candidate who wishes to submit a thesis must apply to the Head of Postgraduate Research Service (or nominee). A thesis may be presented for examination at any time after the beginning of the last six months of the candidate's prescribed period of study provided that not more than the following times have elapsed since the date of registration as a candidate for the degree:

Professional Doctorate in Health and Social Care: Six years

5.3 The Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes may give special permission for extensions to the period within which the thesis must be presented on the recommendation of the Head of School (or nominee) concerned.

5.4 A candidate for the degree shall, not later than three months before the submission of the thesis and in any case no later than three months before the end of the period of advanced study and research, submit for approval to the appropriate Head of School (or nominee) the precise title of the thesis to be examined.

## **6 APPOINTMENT OF EXAMINERS**

6.1 The Head of School (or nominee) shall recommend for approval by the Faculty Associate Dean of Postgraduate Research the names of two or more examiners for the thesis, at least one of whom shall be an external examiner. This recommendation shall normally be made not later than three months before the expected date of the submission of the thesis.

## **7 EXAMINATION**

- 7.1 A candidate shall be examined orally on the thesis and on subjects relevant to it. The examination shall normally be held within three months of the date of the submission of the thesis. Exceptions to this shall require approval by the Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes.
- 7.2 Prior to the oral examination of the thesis the examiners shall each prepare independent preliminary reports regarding the candidate's performance.
- 7.3 In exceptional circumstances the Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes may, on sufficient grounds submitted by the examiners and on the recommendation of the Head of School (or nominee), excuse the candidate from the oral examination or agree to its replacement by a written examination.
- 7.4 The examiners having examined the candidate shall send their joint final report and recommendation to the Head of School (or nominee) concerned. If the examiners do not agree in their recommendations or if for any other reason the Head of School (or nominee) of the School needs a further opinion, the Head of School (or nominee) shall recommend to the Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes the appointment of an additional external examiner who shall conduct a further examination of the candidate.
- 7.5 The Head of School (or nominee) having considered the final report and recommendation of all the examiners shall then proceed in one of the following ways:

### ***Candidates for the degree of Professional Doctorate***

- (1) if the thesis and performance in the oral examination are of sufficient merit it shall recommend that the candidate be approved for the award of the degree of Professional Doctorate.
- (2) if the thesis and performance in the oral examination are of sufficient merit, but that minor corrections are required, it shall recommend that the candidate be approved for the award of the degree of Professional Doctorate, subject to completion of minor corrections within six months.
- (3) if the thesis and performance in the oral examination are not of sufficient merit for the degree of Professional Doctorate but there is reasonable expectation that the thesis, if revised, could reach the standard required for the degree, the Head of School (or nominee) shall recommend either that the candidate be asked to submit a revised thesis or that the candidate be given the option either of submitting a revised thesis or of being approved for the award of

Professional Master's providing that the required taught elements have been passed to allow an award of that degree. A candidate who is given this option shall be allowed a period of not more than fourteen days from receipt of formal notification of the outcome of the examination to decide which of these alternatives to accept. A candidate who submits a revised thesis shall do so within one year and may be required to undergo further oral examination. A candidate shall not be allowed to submit a revised thesis on more than one occasion.

(4) if the thesis and performance in the oral examination are not of sufficient merit for the degree of Professional Doctorate and the Head of School (or nominee) is not of the opinion that the candidate should be permitted to submit a revised thesis, it shall recommend that the candidate be approved for the award of the degree of Professional Master's provided that the required taught elements have been passed to allow an award of that degree.

7.6 In all cases the recommendations of the Head of School (or nominee) shall be laid before the Head of Postgraduate Research Service (or nominee) who shall ensure that appropriate action is taken on behalf of the Senate.

## **8 FINAL SUBMISSION OF THESIS**

8.1 A candidate shall submit two copies of the research thesis in accordance with rules approved by the Senate.

8.2 If a candidate is approved for the award of the degree, the Head of Postgraduate Research (or nominee) shall deposit one copy of the research thesis in the University Library, where it shall be available for consultation. The second copy shall be deposited with the School of registration. The Head of the School (or nominee), at the request of the candidate, may determine that a particular thesis shall, for a period of up to three years specified by the Head of School (or nominee), be available only to those who have written permission to consult it.

## **9 MODIFICATIONS FOR CATEGORY A CANDIDATES, INCLUDING STAFF CANDIDATES**

9.1 Candidates for the degree of Professional Doctorate or Professional Master's will be designated as Category A (including faculty of Schools and such other candidates as the Senate shall determine) or Category B. Candidates in Category B shall study the degree of Professional Doctorate or Professional Master's in accordance with Regulations 1 to 8 above. Category A candidates shall be permitted to proceed to the degree of Professional Doctorate or Professional Master's in

accordance with Regulations 1 to 8, subject to the following modifications.

- 9.2 In the case of Category A candidates, references to the Head of School in Regulations 2 (General Preconditions to an Award), 3 (Duration of Course) and 7 (Examination) shall be interpreted as references to the Academic Director of Postgraduate Research Degree Programmes, or to their nominee if they have a conflict of interest. Thus the examination of any Category A candidate for the degree of Professional Doctorate shall be conducted exclusively by external examiners appointed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes.
- 9.3 In the case of Category A candidates, references to the Head of School in Regulation 4 (Attendance, Assessment and Progress) shall be interpreted as references to the Faculty Associate Dean of Postgraduate Research, or to their nominee if they have a conflict of interest.
- 9.4 In the case of Category A candidates, references to the Faculty Associate Dean of Postgraduate Research in Regulation 6 (Appointment of Examiners) shall be interpreted as references to the Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes or to their nominee if they have a conflict of interest.
- 9.5 The Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes shall be advised of any application from any Category A candidate to continue the period of study as a candidate for the degree after ceasing to be a member of staff.