

LTC17D082

Title: Postgraduate Research Executive Report to LTC
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Issue

This paper summarises the work of the 12 December 2017 meeting of the Postgraduate Research Executive. As per a Senate decision of 6 November 2013, the Postgraduate Research Executive now has delegated authority from LTC to make decisions affecting postgraduate research programmes. It is chaired by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Professor Fiona Lettice, and serviced by the Postgraduate Research Service.

Statistics on PGR appeals and complaints were considered at the 12 December 2017 meeting and the summary is included at the end of this paper. Numbers of cases remain very small.

LTC is also asked to note a Chair’s action to add the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) as an organisation for which visiting research students funded from this source can be eligible for fee exemption if approved by Head of School according to the Procedures for Visiting Research Students maintained by the Postgraduate Research Service.

Recommendation

No recommendations in this paper – specific items are covered in separate papers.

Resource Implications

Resource implications have been considered for each of the items by the Postgraduate Research Executive.

Risk Implications

Risk implications have been considered for each of the items by the Postgraduate Research Executive.

Equality and Diversity

No specific issues.

Timing of decisions

No decisions required in this paper.

Further Information

Contact Dr Vivien Easson, v.easson@uea.ac.uk, extension 1835, with any queries about this report.

Areas covered by the Postgraduate Research Executive at 12 December 2017 meeting

12 December 2017	Doctoral Training Bid update – December 2017 Planning for Brexit: PGR admissions DTP and CDT delivery: updates from NRP Bioscience and SeNSS DTP leads Proposal for Doctoral College Disability, Mental Health and Wellbeing / Catalyst funding PRES 2017: Analysis, School and Institute Action Plans Office for Students Consultation PhD models including review of PhD by Publication (Phase 2) PGR Systems and Process Improvement PGR process improvement plan, PGR quality enhancement plan PGR management information reports, PGR appeals and complaints statistics Terms of reference for working group on RDPD8 (Examiners) Examiner expenses and guidelines
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	Update on PGR marketing campaign, autumn 2017 Chair's actions – summary paper Update on MA HEP PGR Supervision module Terms of reference for Graduate School Executives
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PGR Academic Appeals, Complaints, Complaints to the OIA and SSDC Cases in 2016-17

Academic Appeals

The number of Stage One PGR Academic Appeals received in the academic year 2016-17 remains small: three in 2016-17 (compared to three received in 2015-16). One Stage Two Academic Appeal was received in 2016-17 (compared to none received in 2015-16).

Academic Complaints

The number of PGR Academic Complaints received continues to be low. There was one Stage One Academic Complaint received within the period and one Stage Two Academic Complaint. In 2015-16 there were two Stage One Academic Complaints and three Stage Two Academic Complaints.

OIA Cases

Two PGR cases were considered by the OIA in 2016-17, one of which started in 2015-16 (compared to two in 2015-16). The OIA issued a judgement on two complaints:

- 1) O14-15/5 which was determined by the OIA to be Partly Justified in one of the areas raised in the complaint and the University paid the student £750 due to distress and inconvenience caused.
- 2) O15-16/1 was determined to be Not Justified.

Senate Student Disciplinary Cases: Regulation 15 Conduct of Research

There was one case referred in 2016-17 under this regulation, the same as in both 2015-16 and 2014-15, compared to 5 cases in 2013-14 and no cases in 2012-13. One case listed in the 2015 report to PGR Executive (M14-15/1) was concluded during 2016-17 through SSDC.

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.