

LTC12D026

**Title:** *Amendments to General Regulations (Discipline)*  
**Author:** C J Sharp (Head of Learning & Teaching Services)  
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### **Issue**

- A proposal to insert a minor amendment into the current General Regulations in order that students who are alleged to have breached Regulation 14 (Professional Misconduct and/ or Unsuitability) are afforded additional time in which to review the summons and prepare their case.
- A proposal to insert an additional appendix to the University Disciplinary Procedures. The appendix consists of a flowchart detailing the process for dealing with students who are not bound by Regulation 14, by virtue of being post-qualification Nursing professionals, but about whom concerns have arisen in relation to their professionalism.

### **Recommendation**

That Senate endorse the recommendations from the Learning and Teaching Committee made at its meeting on 15 May 2013 to approve the enclosed amendments which should become effective within the University's General Regulations from the academic year 2013-14 onwards.

### **Resource Implications**

None

### **Risk Implications**

Not applicable

### **Equality and Diversity**

The proposed amendments do not give rise to a new set of expectations with regard to students' conduct, but serve to clarify the appropriate regulatory route for dealing with inappropriate conduct.

## **Timing of decisions**

Approval by the Senate will allow the amended regulations to take effect for the 2013-14 academic year.

## **Further Information**

### **1) Amendment to General Regulations**

- There is an increasing incidence of Regulation 14 disciplinary hearings being adjourned due to the student's need for more time to prepare a case.
- The requirement for Regulation 14 hearings to include a relevant professional who is external to the University means that adjournments can result in the hearing being significantly delayed.
- It is proposed that Regulation 5.12 within Section C of the University Disciplinary Procedures be amended to read:

5.12 The summons shall be delivered to the student's University email address and contact address at least:

- i) For Cases being heard in Mode A or Mode B, 5 working days (Saturdays, Sundays and University closure days excepted) before the meeting of the Panel.
- ii) For Cases being heard in Mode C, 20 working days (Saturdays, Sundays and University closure days excepted) before the meeting of the Panel.

### **2) Insertion of an Appendix to the University Disciplinary Procedures**

- NSC students undertaking post-qualification courses are not bound by the requirements of Regulation 14.
- However, where professionalism concerns arise in relation to such students, Schools should be provided with a clearly articulated route through which those concerns can be expressed.
- The proposed process, detailed in the flowchart below, has been agreed with relevant staff in NSC and has the support of the Chair of SSDC.
- The process described in the attached flow chart provides a means by which the School may report concerns to the relevant professional body and ensure that the student's position in relation to the University is appropriately managed.
- It is proposed that the flowchart be included as an additional appendix to University Disciplinary Procedures.

