### Changes to Examination Regulations 2011

**Medical Sciences Board**

**Approved:** 4 April 2012

**Title of Programme:** MSc in Pharmacology

**Brief note about nature of change:** To clarify assessment arrangements for quantitative and qualitative examinations and for the research project and dissertation; to update assessment and module titles.

**Effective date:** With effect from 1 October 2012

**Location of change:** Examination Regulations 2011

#### Details of change:

1. In *Examination Regulations*, 2011, p. 745, delete ll. 30-35 and substitute:
   
   ‘(ii) each candidate must pass a three-hour data handling and experimental design examination (also known as the quantitative examination) during Hilary Term. Candidates must pass the examination in order to proceed with the course, and those who fail shall be permitted to sit the examination on one further occasion only.

   (iii) each candidate must pass an essay examination at the beginning of Trinity Term on the material covered in the Advanced Pharmacology courses. Candidates must pass the examination in order to proceed with the course, and those who fail shall be permitted to sit the examination on one further occasion only.’

2. Ibid., l. 37, delete ‘typewritten or printed essay’ and substitute ‘printed Critical Literature Review’

3. Ibid., l. 41, delete ‘typewritten or’

4. Ibid., delete l. 43 and substitute ‘out in the Schedule. The arrangements for approval will be notified to candidates not later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the academic year in which the examination is taken;’

5. Ibid., p. 745, cl. 4, re-number existing sub-cll. (iii) to (v) as sub-cll. (iv) to (vi) respectively.

6. Ibid., p. 746, l. 31, delete ‘Cells’ and substitute ‘Cell & Receptor Pharmacology’

7. Ibid., l. 32, delete ‘Organism’ and substitute ‘Organ’

8. Ibid., l. 40, after ‘Cardiovascular’ insert ‘ & Systems Pharmacology’
9. Ibid., l. 41, delete ‘Molecular and Pharmacogenetics’ and substitute ‘Drug Discovery & Personalised Medicine’

10. Ibid., delete ll. 42-45, and substitute:

‘(d) Research Project Dissertation

Candidates shall submit a dissertation on a research project undertaken under the supervision of a research supervisor. The subject of each dissertation and the supervision arrangements for each student must be approved by the Organising Committee. The research project will normally be laboratory-based, but in exceptional circumstances students may undertake a library-based project, subject to approval from the Organising Committee.’

Explanatory Notes

The above changes to regulations will clarify the assessment arrangements for both the quantitative and qualitative examinations by separating them into separate clauses.

Other amendments will update a number of assessment and module titles to reflect revised content. The only substantial changes to content will take place in the re-named “Drug Discovery and Personalised Medicine” course which is being updated to reflect topics of interest in modern Pharmaceutical research. This is in line with the strategic science priorities identified by the Medical Research Council, who recently awarded studentships to the course.

The arrangements for the research project and dissertation are also being clarified, to include the possibility of students undertaking a library-based research project if a suitable laboratory project cannot be identified.