Changes to Examination Regulations 2011

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: 14 March 2012

Title of Examination: Honour School of Cell and Systems Biology, Part I

Brief note about nature of change: To re-structure options in Part I i.e. to create constituent units within options; to amend the penalty for unsatisfactory practical work.

Effective date: With effect from 1 October 2012 (for first examination in 2013)

Location of change: Examination Regulations 2011 (also cross-reference with changes to these regulations published in the Gazette on 28th July 2011, No. 4961)

Details of change:

1. In Examination Regulations, 2011, p. 167, delete ll. 3-13 and substitute:

   ‘1. Candidates will attend lectures and practicals in options selected from a list published in the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre by the end of Week 8 of Hilary Term in the year preceding the examination. Each option will have a number of units ascribed to it. Candidates will be required to study options totalling ten units. The list published in the Medical Sciences Teaching Centre and the handbook for the course will specify how many units are assigned to each option, and which options are recommended to proceed to particular advanced options in Part II.

2. Two written papers will be set:

   (i) Paper I will be a three-hour examination comprising a selection of questions requiring short answers. Candidates will be required to answer those questions relating to their chosen options.

   (ii) Paper II will be a two-hour essay paper. Candidates will be required to answer questions from a selection relating to the different options that they have studied.’

2. Ibid., p. 167, ll. 16-17, delete ‘Week 9 of Hilary Term’ and substitute ‘Week 0 of Trinity Term’

3. Ibid., ll. 20-22, delete:

   ‘may be required by the Examiners to submit to further examination. Failure to satisfy the Examiners in the practical work associated with an examination paper will normally
constitute failure of that examination paper.’

and substitute:

‘will forfeit one quarter of the marks in the Part I examination, the outcome of which will be carried forward to the Part II Examination.’

4. Ibid., Part I, re-number existing cl. 4 as cl. 3.

Explanatory Notes

To re-define the weight of individual options within Part I in order to provide greater flexibility in the magnitude of content offered in each option.

The date for the Course Director, or deputy, to make available to the examiners evidence showing the standard and extent to which candidates have completed practical work is being changed from late Hilary Term to early Trinity Term.

The penalty for candidates whose practical work is deemed unsatisfactory is being amended due to re-structuring of the examination papers: it is not possible to fail candidates in an examination paper directly associated with practical work, so the penalty must be applied to the Part I examination as a whole. The requirement to submit to further examination has also been removed in order to remain consistent with similar courses who favour the application of a penalty instead of requiring candidates to sit an additional examination.