Changes to *Examination Regulations 2013*

Medical Sciences Board

**Approved:** 16th July 2014

**Title of Examination:** Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

**Brief note about nature of change:** To introduce changes to the assessment of Part II options.

**Effective date:** With effect from 1 October 2014 (for first examination in 2015)

**Location of change:** *Examination Regulations 2013*

**Details of change:**

1. In *Examination Regulations*, 2013, p. 386, l. 5, delete ‘Heads of laboratories, or their deputies’ and substitute ‘The Director of Teaching, or a deputy’

2. Ibid., delete ll. 25-26 and substitute:
   
   ‘Part II will consist of project work and assessments based on two options. Each candidate may be examined viva voce on the Part II examination.’

3. Ibid., l. 34, delete ‘Candidates will be required to do project work under the supervision of any person’ and substitute ‘Candidates will be required to undertake project work under the supervision of a person’

4. Ibid., p. 387, ll. 7-8, delete ‘to a group of two examiners (or examiner(s) and assessor appointed to ensure an adequate representation of expertise)’

5. Ibid., ll. 13-14, delete ‘Dissertations previously submitted for the Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry may be resubmitted.’

6. Ibid., l. 15, insert ‘either ’ before ‘wholly or substantially’

7. Ibid., delete ll. 18-27 inclusive and substitute:

   ‘*Options:* Each candidate will undertake and be assessed in two areas of Biochemistry, each selected from options approved by the Biochemistry Steering Committee, and published by the Department of Biochemistry. Two lists, each consisting of three options, will be published and one option must be chosen from each list. The lists of options will be posted in the Department of Biochemistry and sent to Senior Tutors of all
colleges not later than noon on Friday of the eighth week of Trinity Term in the year preceding that in which the examination is taken.

The form of assessment for each option will consist of at least one, and at most two, of the following:

A. an unseen written paper.
B. an oral assessment in the second half of Trinity Full Term, involving a presentation and/or questions.
C. a submitted assignment, based on course work undertaken during the option.
D. an essay, selected from a list of titles provided.

Assessment method B will not be used in isolation; it will always be combined with one of assessment methods A, C or D.

The detailed specifications for each assessment method will be published not later than noon on Friday of the eighth week of Michaelmas Full Term in the year of the examination. These specifications will have been approved by the Biochemistry Steering Committee, prior to publication by the Department of Biochemistry.

For assessment methods C and D, two hard copies and one electronic copy (ideally on CD) of the work are to be submitted to the Chair of Examiners, Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, Part II, c/o the Examinations Schools, High Street, Oxford by noon on Friday of the seventh week of Trinity Full Term in the year of the examination, together with a statement certifying that the work is the candidate's own work or indicating where the work of others has been used. No work will be accepted if it has already been submitted, either wholly or substantially, for an Honour School other than Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, or for another degree of this University, or for a degree of any other institution.'

**Explanatory Notes**

Amendments (1)-(3), and (6): minor changes for clarity / consistency, or to update the regulations as per current practice.

Amendment (4): this content is more appropriately included in the examination conventions / guidance to examiners instead of within the regulations.

Amendment (5): this clause has been removed with the endorsement of Education Committee officers. Circumstances in which re-submission may need to be considered are more appropriately handled through dispensation procedures, rather than within standard regulations that could result in misleading interpretation.

Amendment (7): introduces changes to permit greater flexibility in the methods used for the assessment of Part II options.