Changes to *Examination Regulations 2012*

**Medical Sciences Board**

**Approved:** Graduate Studies Committee (January 2013) and Audit Sub-Committee (December 2012), on behalf of the Educational Policy & Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board

**Title of Examination:** MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences

**Brief note about nature of change:** To reduce the number of examinations required over the two years of the course from 3 examinations to 2 examinations i.e. 1 examination at the end of each year. This amendment also incorporates a change so that the results of the computer-based assessments contribute to the outcome of the degree examination.

**Effective date:** With effect from 1 October 2013 *(for first examination in 2014)*

**Location of change:** *Examination Regulations 2012*

**Details of change:**

In *Examination Regulations, 2012*, p. 745, delete ll. 11-14 and substitute:

‘(b) Each candidate must pass an examination in Michaelmas Term. The examination will comprise two elements: the first of these will consist of a one-hour computer-based assessment comprising multiple-choice questions; the second of these will constitute a two-hour written paper. The dates of the examination will be specified in the course handbook.’

**Explanatory Notes**

The above change affects Year 1 of the MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences.

The existing schedule of assessments includes, *inter alia*, three examinations: two in Year 1 and one in Year 2. Each examination comprises two parts: a 1-hour computer-based assessment and a 2-hour written paper.

To date, the computer-based assessment has been a pass/fail examination that does not contribute to the outcome of the award. At the first Examination Board meeting held in August 2012, the External Examiner questioned why this assessment did not contribute to the overall award. He felt that it was an appropriate assessment of knowledge and allowed for discrimination between candidates. He suggested that this might be re-considered for future cohorts, which was supported by the examiners and the course committee.

Additionally, with the benefit of experience, the course committee considered that three sets of examinations over the two years may be too many (particularly with the introduction
of an additional formative assessment), and therefore proposed reducing this to one set of exams at the end of each year.

Proposals for change were subsequently approved by the Medical Sciences Division. Further information can be found in the paperwork considered by the Medical Sciences Audit Sub-Committee and Graduate Studies Committee in December 2012 and January 2013 respectively.
Changes to Examination Regulations 2012

Medical Sciences Board

Approved: Graduate Studies Committee (January 2013) and Audit Sub-Committee (December 2012), on behalf of the Educational Policy & Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board

Title of Examination: MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences

Brief note about nature of change: To reduce the number of examinations required over the two years of the course from 3 examinations to 2 examinations i.e. 1 examination at the end of each year. This amendment also incorporates a change so that the results of the computer-based assessments contribute to the outcome of the degree examination.

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

Location of change: Examination Regulations 2012

Details of change:

1. In Examination Regulations, 2012, p. 745, delete ll. 16-29 and substitute:

   ‘(a) Each candidate must submit, for assessment of their progress, an outline research proposal. The outline must be submitted in Hilary Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

   (b) Each candidate will be assessed on their presentation skills by means of a public oral presentation on his or her research topic. The presentation must take place in Trinity Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

   (c) Each candidate must submit a written research proposal of no more than 10,000 words on a topic selected by the candidate and approved by the Organising Committee. The proposal must be submitted in Michaelmas Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook.’

   (d) Each candidate must pass an examination in Michaelmas Term. The examination will comprise two elements: the first of these will consist of a one-hour computer-based assessment comprising multiple-choice questions; the second of these will constitute a two-hour written paper. The dates of the examination will be specified in the course handbook.’

2. Ibid., l. 45, after ‘Postgraduate Diploma’ insert ‘(comprising all assessments with the exception of the written research proposal)’
3. Ibid., at the beginning of l. 47, insert ‘written’

Explanatory Notes

The above change affects Year 2 of the MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences.

The existing schedule of assessments includes, inter alia, three examinations: two in Year 1 and one in Year 2. Each examination comprises two parts: a 1-hour computer-based assessment and a 2-hour written paper.

To date, the computer-based assessment has been a pass/fail examination that does not contribute to the outcome of the award. At the first Examination Board meeting held in August 2012, the External Examiner questioned why this assessment did not contribute to the overall award. He felt that it was an appropriate assessment of knowledge and allowed for discrimination between candidates. He suggested that this might be re-considered for future cohorts, which was supported by the examiners and the course committee.

Additionally, with the benefit of experience, the course committee considered that three sets of examinations over the two years may be too many (particularly with the introduction of an additional formative assessment), and therefore proposed reducing this to one set of exams at the end of each year.

Proposals for change were subsequently approved by the Medical Sciences Division. Further information can be found in the paperwork considered by the Medical Sciences Audit Sub-Committee and Graduate Studies Committee in December 2012 and January 2013 respectively.

The additional regulation changes included here are for editorial purposes: the clauses describing the assessments in Year 2 have been re-ordered chronologically. The remaining changes are for clarification only.
## Changes to Examination Regulations 2012

### Medical Sciences Board

**Approved:** Graduate Studies Committee (January 2013) and Audit Sub-Committee (December 2012), on behalf of the Educational Policy & Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board

**Title of Examination:** Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Sciences

**Brief note about nature of change:** To reduce the number of examinations required over the two years of the course from 3 examinations to 2 examinations i.e. 1 examination at the end of each year. This amendment also incorporates a change so that the results of the computer-based assessments contribute to the outcome of the degree examination.

**Effective date:** With effect from 1 October 2013 *(for first examination in 2014)*

**Location of change:** Examination Regulations 2012

**Details of change:**

In *Examination Regulations, 2012*, p. 1006, delete ll. 27-30 and substitute:

‘(b) Each candidate must pass an examination in Michaelmas Term. The examination will comprise two elements: the first of these will consist of a one-hour computer-based assessment comprising multiple-choice questions; the second of these will constitute a two-hour written paper. The dates of the examination will be specified in the course handbook.’

**Explanatory Notes**

The above regulation change affects Year 1 of the Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Sciences and is a consequence of changes to Year 1 of the MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences. Please refer to the MSc regulation changes for explanatory information.
Changes to *Examination Regulations 2012*

**Medical Sciences Board**

**Approved:** Graduate Studies Committee (January 2013) and Audit Sub-Committee (December 2012), on behalf of the Educational Policy & Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board

**Title of Examination:** Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Sciences

**Brief note about nature of change:** To reduce the number of examinations required over the two years of the course from 3 examinations to 2 examinations i.e., 1 examination at the end of each year. This amendment also incorporates a change so that the results of the computer-based assessments contribute to the outcome of the degree examination.

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

**Location of change:** *Examination Regulations 2012*

**Details of change:**

In *Examination Regulations, 2012*, p. 1006, delete ll. 39-41 and substitute:

‘(c) Each candidate must pass an examination in Michaelmas Term. The examination will comprise two elements: the first of these will consist of a one-hour computer-based assessment comprising multiple-choice questions; the second of these will constitute a two-hour written paper. The dates of the examination will be specified in the course handbook.’

**Explanatory Notes**

The above regulation change affects Year 2 of the Postgraduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Sciences and is a consequence of changes to Year 2 of the MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences. Please refer to the MSc regulation changes for explanatory information.