Changes to *Examination Regulations 2010*

**Medical Sciences Board**

**Approved:** 21 March 2011

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

**Brief note about nature of change:** New MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences to replace current MSc in Rheumatology

**Effective date:** With effect from 1 October 2011 (for first examination in 2012)

**Location of change:** In *Examination Regulations 2010*

**Detail of change:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Text</th>
<th>New Text</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P. 679, insert after l. 5 ‘Musculoskeletal Sciences Medical Sciences’</td>
<td>‘Musculoskeletal Sciences’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. 679, delete l. 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. 767, delete from l.14: to p. 769, line 42 and insert:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Musculoskeletal Sciences</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The Medical Sciences Board shall elect for the supervision of the course an Organising Committee, which shall have the power to arrange teaching, assessments and other instruction.

2. The Organising Committee shall appoint for each candidate an academic supervisor.

3. Candidates will hold a first degree in medicine, or exceptionally a biomedical science degree.

4. Candidates shall follow a course of study in Musculoskeletal Sciences on a part-time basis for at least six terms, and including vacations, as determined by the course timetable. The course commences every two years in January and runs until December of the following year.

5. Candidates shall be examined in all of the following ways:

   (i) Year 1 (January to December)

   (a) Each candidate shall submit a literature review of no more than 4,000 words on a topic selected by the candidate and approved by the Organising Committee. The review must be submitted during the Long Vacation on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

   (b) Each candidate must pass two written examinations, the first in the Long Vacation and the second in Michaelmas Term, on dates to be specified in the course handbook. Part of the written examination will comprise computer-based multiple choice questions.

   (ii) Year 2 (January to December)

   (a) Each candidate must submit a 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.

   (b) 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.

   (c) 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.

(d) Each candidate must pass a written examination in Michaelmas Term on a date to be specified in the course handbook. Part of the written examination will comprise computer-based multiple choice questions.

6. Candidates may be examined viva voce on their research proposal. The viva voce examination will normally be conducted at the end of the course.
7. Candidates must pass each examination or written assignment in order to pass overall.
8. Candidates will be allowed one opportunity to retake or resubmit each of the required elements, normally within six months of the original failure, should they fail to reach the necessary standard. Candidates failing to pass any element at the second attempt will normally be judged to have failed to reach the necessary standard for the award and will not be permitted to continue.
9. The required written submissions must be sent to the Chairman of Examiners, MSc in Musculoskeletal Sciences, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford. Submissions must be accompanied by a declaration of authorship and originality.
10. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in part of or in the whole examination.
11. The examiners may award a postgraduate diploma to candidates who have satisfied the requirements for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma and who do not wish to continue their studies, or who fail to meet the required standard for the research proposal.

Schedule

The syllabus for study will include the following components:

Core Subjects

Candidates are required to complete all of the following modules:

1. Principles of Musculoskeletal Diseases
2. Research, Statistics and Epidemiology
3. Scientific Aspects of Common Musculoskeletal Diseases

Specialist Subjects

Candidates are required to complete one of the following modules:

1. Advanced Rheumatology
2. Advanced Orthopaedics

Explanatory Notes:
The regulations introduce a new part-time MSc course in Musculoskeletal Sciences replacing the part-time MSc course in Rheumatology.