

Notification of change in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette July 2011

EdC(11)64

Education Committee

Approved at the meeting of 27th May 2011

Changes to the regulations governing transfer of status

Brief note about nature of change:

'Changes to the regulations governing transfer of status (reduction in terms etc.)'

With effect from 1 October 2011

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* 2010, p.813

Before line 1, insert:

For Probationer Research students admitted prior to 1 October 2011

Then, following line14, insert the following:

For Probationer Research students admitted after 1 October 2011

5 A full-time student (other than students registered on a Doctoral Training Centre Programme under §4, cl. 9) may hold the status of Probationer Research Student for up to four terms and a part-time student for up to eight terms, including the term in which he or she was admitted.

6 A candidate whose first application for transfer to D.Phil. status is not approved shall be permitted to make one further application, following the procedures laid down in clauses 1-4 above, and shall be granted an extension of time for one term if this is necessary for the purposes of making the application.

7 Subject to the approval of the responsible divisional board or the CE Board as appropriate, and for good cause, a full-time student may be permitted to hold the status of PRS (prior to the first application for transfer of status) for a further one or two terms, and a part-time student for a further one to four terms. A first application for transfer of status must take place within the six term limit of PRS status. Any application outside those limits (other than in clause 6 above) must be approved by or on behalf of Education Committee.

8 A Probationer Research Student (other than a student registered on a Doctoral Training Centre Programme - see §4, cl. 10) shall cease to hold such status if:

(i) (a) he or she shall not have gained admission to another status within four terms of admission as a full-time student to the status of Probationer Research Student, or within eight terms for a part-time student, and

(b) he or she has not been given approval under clause 6 above to hold Probationer Research Student status for a further one or two terms as a full-time student or one to four terms as a part-time student;

(ii) he or she has failed to gain admission to either doctoral status or to the status of the applicable lower degree after the two transfer applications allowed under clause 7 above;

(iii) the board concerned shall in accordance with provisions set down in chapter 16, section 5, and after consultation with the student's college and supervisor, have deprived the student of such status.

9 For a full-time Probationer Research Student registered on a Doctoral Training Centre Programme, the maximum number of terms for which he or she may hold that status is as specified in the special regulations governing students on the Doctoral Training Centre Programmes in the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences and the Medical Sciences Divisions.

10 A Probationer Research Student registered on a Doctoral Training Centre Programme shall cease to hold such status if:

(i) (a) he or she shall not have gained admission to another status within the number of terms specified in the special regulations governing Probationer Research Students on the Doctoral Training Centre Programmes in the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences and the Medical Sciences Divisions and

(b) he or she has not been given approval under clause 7 above to hold Probationer Research Student status for a further one or two terms as a full-time student or one to four terms as a part-time student;

(ii) he or she has failed to gain admission to either doctoral status or to the status of the applicable lower degree after the two transfer applications allowed under clause 7 above;

(iii) the board concerned shall in accordance with provisions set down in chapter 16, section 5, and after consultation with the student's college and supervisor, have deprived the student of such status.

Explanatory Note:

These regulation changes give effect to decisions taken by Education Committee on the recommendation of its Graduate Panel and in the light of consultation with divisions/CE, Conference and OUSU. Their effect is to reduce the normal length of time for which Probationer Research Student may be held from six to four terms for a full-time student (and *pro-rata* for a part-time student) but to allow the relevant divisional/Continuing Education Board to approve up to two further terms of Probationer Research Student status (and *pro rata* for part-time students) for good cause. It also makes clear that Probationer Research Student status comes to an end once the two applications for transfer permitted under the current regulations have been concluded.