

University of Glasgow**Academic Standards Committee – Friday 16 November 2012****Update on Development of Generic Regulations for PGT and MRes Awards****Ms H Butcher, Clerk to the Committee**

Since the last meeting of ASC, the Convener has met with the Vice Principal (Learning & Teaching) and the Clerk of Senate along with the clerks of ASC and ARSC to discuss the proposed joint generic regulations for PGT and MRes degrees.

The current proposal sought unity of regulations between Masters degrees which involved varying structures particularly in terms of the amount of research/independent study involved. Given the wide range of views expressed from the DoGS during consultation, the variety of structure of current MRes degrees, and concerns over the different standards applied to independent work and taught credit in the regulations, there was discussion on how the proposed regulations might be taken forward.

The following was noted:

1. The proposed regulations reflected a continuation of the current generic regulation for PGT awards which required a minimum standard of C3 (average) in taught credit and D3 for the independent work at the final stage of the degree.
2. The current PGT regulation permitted flexibility in the amount of independent work for the Masters award (anything above 60 credits), although the exit awards of Postgraduate Diplomas and Certificates required the achievement of 120 and 60 taught credits respectively.
3. The generic PGT regulation had been operating for a number of years and since its review in 2008-09, was considered to have settled well.
4. The DoGS reported to EdPSC in October that a review of MRes regulations in other universities was part of their year planning for 2012-13.

Given that the PGT regulation, which applies to a large majority of the University's postgraduate student cohort, is operating well it was agreed that action should be avoided which might risk de-stabilising that regulatory framework. However acknowledging the disquiet expressed by the DoGS, it was agreed that rather than incorporate MRes degrees which generally have a stronger focus on independent/research work into the PGT regulatory framework, these could instead have their own variant of the generic regulation.

It was therefore agreed that ARSC should be invited to develop a second generic regulation for Masters degrees to accommodate programme structures which involved more than a third of research/independent work in their overall content. (It was agreed that current MRes degrees operating under the PGT regulation should remain in that framework as these were predominantly taught programmes.)