

University of Glasgow

## Academic Standards Committee – Friday 4 October 2013

### The Glasgow School of Art: Policy Amendments Approved by Academic Council – 2012-13

Geraldine Perriam, Senate Office

#### Action

The University of Glasgow's Academic Standards Committee is asked to **consider** the undernoted.

#### Context

GSA has made amendments to several of its key academic policies in 2012/13. These amendments will be reported in the Annual Report to Senate on session 2012/13. The key changes are outlined below.

Copies of all policies were offered to the Senate Office for comment and final versions for the file have been submitted with this paper.

#### **Amendments to GSA's Examination Board Policy (approved December 2012)**

Changes made to the policy were to ensure consistency and improve transparency across GSA.

Key changes included:

- Clarification of the requirement that all marks are returned in a consistent format to Registry; and
- the current policy position that demarcates aspects of Board of Examiner remit and External Examiner programme review duties;
- Removal of the role of External Examiner as final adjudicator, in line with Chapter B7 of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education;
- Removal of the section relating to mitigation and the cross referencing to section 5 of the GSA's Code of Assessment which covers regulation relating to *Incomplete Assessment resulting from Good Cause*.

#### **Amendments to GSA's External Examiner Policy (approved March 2013)**

An addendum had been put in place regarding the External Examiners Policy of May 2011. The addendum was drafted in Term 1 of session 2012/13 following the publication of the External Examining chapter of the UK Quality Code for Higher Education and discussions with the University.

The revised policy incorporated the addendum contents and made additional revisions in line with related GSA policy revisions, such as the Examination Board Policy.

#### **Amendments to GSA's Code of Assessment (Approved May 2013)**

Academic Services had conducted a review of the Code of Assessment as a result of a request from the University of Glasgow that specific aspects of the GSA's Code of Assessment be closer aligned with that of the University.

The key changes were as follows:

- Using University of Glasgow terminology to refer to *grade points* (as opposed to *aggregation scores* which only relate to University of Glasgow's Schedule B).
- The addition of the section on the Provision of Reassessment as it relates to GSA.
- The addition of the section on the Aggregation of Assessments across a programme.
- Transferring the *Incomplete Assessment resulting from Good Cause* section from the Examination Board Policy to the Code of Assessment where it more appropriately should sit.

The following areas will be given future consideration prior to any further closer alignment with the University's Code of Assessment and the intention is to progress this in 2013/14:

- Timing and duration of Examinations
- Penalties for the Late Submission of Coursework
- Minimum Requirements for the Award of Credit
- Assessment of Study Abroad
- Assessment of Visiting Students

Following approval by Undergraduate and Postgraduate Committee and Academic Council any amendments were also reflected in the GSA Examination Board Policy and External Examiners Policy.

This Code of Assessment shall take effect from September 2013.

ASC is invited to note that Academic Council was of the view that whilst further alignment with the University of Glasgow's Code of Assessment should be undertaken where appropriate, given the nature of GSA's provision there maybe aspects of GSA's Code of Assessment which should remain appropriately distinct.

#### **Amendments to the GSA's Code of Procedure for Appeals (Approved May 2013)**

The following key changes were made to the regulations following consideration of the 2012/13 appeals process and agreement at the Joint Appeals Committee that revisions were required:

- Development of a GSA Academic Appeals Form and GSA Academic Appeals Form Guidance.
- Consideration of the deadline for submitting appeals.

The amendments to this policy have been made in the GSA Section of the University's Academic Calendar and shall take effect from September 2013.

#### **Amendments to GSA's Programme Monitoring and Annual Reporting Policy (Approved May 2013)**

The key changes to the policy were as follows:

- Renaming of the policy to Programme Monitoring and Annual Reporting Policy.
- Academic-related support departments should provide input and feedback to the draft Programme Reports at Boards of Studies stage.

- The Quality Enhancement Plan would be used as a live document to encourage continual reflection.

This policy shall take effect from September 2013.

Academic Services wishes to acknowledge the guidance from colleagues in the Senate Office in the development of the above policies, in particular with the GSA's Code of Assessment.