MANUAL OF ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES (MARP)
BRIEFING NOTE ON CHANGES FOR 2019

INTRODUCTION

This note provides a summary of changes made to the University’s Manual of Academic Regulation and Procedures (MARP) for 2019-20, highlighting the main changes and flagging up more minor ones. MARP is published on the Academic Standards and Quality (ASQ) website.

The main changes are in the areas as listed below. This does not include all the amendments made or the detail of changes. The Table of Changes for MARP 2019 provides the full listing of changes and more detail and the particular clause(s) in MARP should be consulted.

Staff are encouraged to read the Introduction chapter to MARP, which explains the scope and status of MARP and its application to student cohorts and applicants.

REGULATORY CHANGES

Admissions

- Re-entry for former students. Former students in certain categories are not eligible for re-entry to the University (AD 2.6 and 2.7).

Study Regulations

- PG Attendance monitoring. Revisions to attendance monitoring procedures for PGT and PGR students (SR 3.4.10-17).
- Intercalation. New clauses stipulating maximum periods for intercalation and for absence through ill health (SR 4.3.2 and SR 4.3.3).
- Complaints policy and procedures. Referencing clause and hyperlink added to provide a link to these (SR 6). (See item 8. below.)

Undergraduate Assessment Regulations

- Restart Year. New option for students who wish to change their programme of study following initial failure. Certain conditions apply (UG 4.2.2, UG 4.2.6). There is now a distinction between a ‘Restart Year’ and a ‘Repeat Year’.
- Repeat Year. Exceptionally, students can be granted permission by the exam board to move to the Repeat Year without re-assessment of failed modules (UG 4.2.3).
- Final Year condonation and reassessment of failed modules. Revised clause to permit the immediate application of condonation without the requirement for reassessment (UG 6.3).
Medical Degree Regulations

- **Year 3 exit award.** Clarification that the award is also available to students who do not successfully complete Year 4 (MD 6.8(a)).
- **Clinical/practitioner based judgements.** Reference to these judgements is included in exam board decisions (MD 8.3).
- **Medical School Academic Appeals.** Removal of whole section on Academic Appeals procedures for Medical School students. Approved LMS variations are now incorporated into the main Academic Appeals section of MARP.

Postgraduate Taught Assessment Regulations

- **Classification.** Amendment to provide for the classification of all PGT awards, including PGCert and PGDip awards, whether these relate to ‘target’, ‘exit’ or ‘intermediate terminating’ qualifications (PT 5.2).

Postgraduate Research Regulations

- **Alternative format thesis.** Clarification that three is the minimum number of articles where the alternative format of the thesis is a series of articles (Appendix 1, 2(a)).

Malpractice Regulations and Procedures

- **Definition of self-plagiarism.** Extension and clarification of the definition of self-plagiarism (AM 2.4(f)).
- **Academic malpractice in PGR coursework (taught elements of the programme).** Clarification of the procedures to be followed (AM 6.1.4).
- **Academic malpractice in the submission to a Confirmation of PhD/Transfer to PhD panel.** New procedure introduced for dealing with academic malpractice in this submission (AM 6.3).
- **Right to Academic Appeal.** The existing right to an Academic Appeal against a judgement of academic malpractice is re-stated more clearly (AM 8).
- **Right to petition Standing Academic Committee.** Extension of the student’s right to petition SAC against the decision of the Academic Officer, which is now unconditional (AM Appendix 1(b)).

Academic Appeals

- **Clinical/practitioner based judgements and staff.** Inclusion of these judgements and category of staff alongside references to ‘academic judgements’ and ‘academic staff’ (AA 1.1 footnote and AA 1.4 footnote).
- **Variations for Medical Degree Academic Appeals.** Variations to accommodate Medical Degree appeals – period of time within which an appeal must be made (AA 1.3) and composition of Academic Appeal Panel (AA 3.1.6) – are now incorporated into the chapter on Academic Appeals rather than in the Medical Degree Regulations.
Categories of students who may lodge an Academic Appeal. The existing right to an Academic Appeal against a judgement of academic malpractice, previously enshrined in Statute 21 (now laid down) is now incorporated in this chapter (AA 1.5(d)).

Outcomes for PGT appeals. Provision is made for the Academic Appeal Panel to amend the classification of the award (analogous with UG outcomes) (AA 3.1.18).

Outcomes of an Academic Appeal against a judgement of academic malpractice. Specification of the outcomes available to the Academic Appeal Panel where an appeal against a judgement of academic malpractice has been made (A 3.1.9).

Student Complaints

Student Complaints chapter removed. The policy and procedures on student complaints is now located wholly on the Governance web pages.

Teaching Partner Regulations

Regional Teaching Partner (RTP) Assessment Regulations. A number of revisions have been made to these consequent upon the changes made to the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations. Lancaster staff acting as Programme Consultants for the RTP colleges may contact the relevant RTP contact in Academic Standards and Quality (ASQ) for further information. The RTPAR regulations are available on the ASQ website.

UA92 Assessment Regulations and procedures. A new set of Lancaster assessment regulations is available for the UA92 teaching partnership. Lancaster staff acting as Link Tutors for this partnership may view the UA92 regulations on the ASQ website.

Sunway University Regulations. Significant changes to the Sunway University regulations have been approved by Lancaster, including the introduction of a GPA system and a grade translations table for SU students taking their Study Abroad year at Lancaster. Lancaster staff acting as Link Tutors for this partnership may view the Sunway University regulations and Study Abroad Grade Translation Table on the ASQ website.

BJTU Study Abroad Grade Translation Table. A Grade Translation Table for BJTU students taking their Study Abroad year at Lancaster is now available. Lancaster Staff acting as Link Tutors for this partnership may view the table in the appendix to the BJTU Assessment Regulations on the ASQ web site.

CONTACTS FOR MARP: The Academic Standards and Quality office is responsible for the maintenance and publication of MARP each year. If you have any queries on MARP and/or feedback you wish to give, please contact Judith Anstee (x 92220) or Martin Colclough (x 94392) in ASQ in the first instance. Student Registry staff are able to provide advice on the application of MARP regulations.