**CODE OF PRACTICE FOR RESEARCH DEGREE STUDENTS AND SUPERVISORS**

**SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS AND/OR ADDITIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/17**

***The wording in bold reflects the amended wording***

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| **Section number** | **Relevant paragraph(s)** | **Page (s)** |
| N/A | The title of the Code has been changed from *Code of Practice for the* *Academic Welfare of Research Degree Students* to the ***Code of Practice*** ***for Research Degree Students and Supervisors***. The change of title reflects the broader focus of the Code beyond academic welfare and the fact that the expectations within are applicable to both students and supervisors. | 1 |
| Section 2 (10) | *The text highlighted in bold has been added to Section 2 in relation to the composition of supervisory teams, acknowledging that an advisor may be appointed for pastoral reasons.* **Roles and Responsibilities**  1. There may be cases where, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the research and/or the subject-specific expertise required **(or exceptionally for pastoral reasons)**, there is a need to appoint an advisor as a third or fourth member of the supervisory team. The advisor will normally be an established or probationary, doctorate-holding and research –active member of the academic staff of the College, an Honorary Research Fellow, Emerita/Emeritus or Visiting Professor or may be external to the College.
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| Section 2 (19) | *The following paragraph has been added to Section 2 of the Code to make clear its expectation that supervisors should ensure the continuity of supervision through periods of sabbatical and that they retain responsibility for ensuring suitable alternative arrangements are in place where they may be unable to continue to provide supervision.***Roles and Responsibilities** 1. **Members of College staff assigned as principal or second supervisors will have continuing responsibility for supervision throughout any period of sabbatical. Where they may be unable to continue to act as principal or second supervisor (e.g. for reasons of overseas research fieldwork), they will be responsible for working with the DoGS to make alternative arrangements as necessary.**
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| Section 3 (31) | *The following paragraph has been removed from the Code as it is no longer a requirement of the Research Councils.***Research Skills Training** 1. Students funded by Research Councils are normally required to complete an average of a minimum of ten days of research skills training per academic year over their first three years of full-time study (pro-rata for part-time students) with a total of thirty days across their three years of study.
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| Section 3 (34) | *The text in bold has been added to the paragraph below to make clear that departments may specify additional researcher development training and may take a discretional view on whether further activities such as conference posters should count toward such training.***Research Skills Training** 1. All students are required to complete an average of a minimum of five days of researcher development training per academic year over their first three years of full-time study (pro-rata for part-time students) with a total of fifteen days across three years of study. **Some departments may specify a higher number of days. Activities such as conference posters and papers may be counted towards this total at the discretion of departments.**
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| Section 10 (71) | *The following paragraph has been added to Section 10 to provide further clarification on the College’s provision for supporting students who become pregnant during the course of their research degree.* **Maternity, Paternity and Adoption Leave** 1. **Where a student on a College studentship becomes pregnant with an expected date of childbirth that occurs during the period of their research degree, or adopts a child during that time, they are entitled to six months of maternity/adoption leave during which the College will continue to pay their maintenance grant and the studentship will be extended accordingly. Students may also request an interruption of the award for a further six months after this period, during which no maintenance grant or tuition fees are payable. The paid period of absence and the unpaid interruption should be taken consecutively. Students must follow the procedures for requesting an interruption, ensuring that they include a copy of the MATB1 certificate if they are pregnant or other relevant evidence from an adoption or other agency if they are adopting. There is no qualifying period for maternity or adoption leave. As such, students may take leave regardless of when they commenced their research degree provided they are still receiving a stipend.**
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| Section 10 (72) | *The following paragraph 72 has been added to provide clarity on the entitlement to interruption for research degree students who become fathers during the course of their studies.* **Maternity, Paternity and Adoption Leave** 1. **Full-time research students who are new fathers have the right to apply for an interruption of studies for up to 13 weeks, within the first 12 months after the birth of the child.**
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| Section 10 (76) | *The following paragraph sets out provision which may be made available to international students, subject to the College’s continued compliance with its Tier 4 visa sponsorship obligations.* **Maternity, Paternity and Adoption Leave** 1. **The College may also provide a reduced period of stipend funding for international students holding visas. This will, however, be governed in relation to the maximum number of days allowed for pregnant international students to remain in the UK whilst interrupting their studies. The College will support such students according to the time allowed under the terms of their visa away from working on the studentship in the UK and will not pay any additional stipend over and above that figure.**
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