MEMORANDUM

To: Chairs of Graduate Boards
   Chairs of Boards of Studies
   Chairs of Boards of Examiners
   Departmental Administrators
   Graduate Administrators
   Academic Support Office
   Graduate Students’ Association
   YUSU
   PVC for Students

From: John Robinson, PVC Teaching, Learning and Information
       Steve King, Chair, Standing Committee on Assessment

Date: 1 June 2012

Subject: Extraordinary Change to PGT progression requirements for current cohort

Dear Colleagues,

Upon reconsideration of the current progression rules for PGT students, it has been determined that the restriction that Masters and PGDip students not be allowed to resit if they have any more than 40 credits-worth of failed modules (whether compensatable or not) is unduly harsh, and needs amendment.

Given this, the SCA has agreed to recommend the following to Teaching Committee:

Guide to Assessment- F8 Masters: non-ISM Modules
“Where a student has failed modules and the award requirements cannot be met by application of the compensation criteria, s/he is entitled to reassessment in a maximum of 40 credits-worth of failed modules provided they have failed no more than 60 credits, with no more than 40 credits-worth of outright fail (ie module marks less than 40).”

The same phrase will be used to define reassessment opportunities for PGDips (Guide Section F10).
For PGCertificates

F11. “Where a student has failed modules and the award requirements cannot be met by application of the compensation criteria, s/he is entitled to reassessment in a maximum of 20 credits-worth of failed modules provided they have failed no more than 30 credits, with no more than 20 credits-worth of outright fail (ie module marks less than 40).”

Given the potential for inequities between the current cohort and future cohorts, we have decided to make an extraordinary change to the current progression requirements to bring in this new wording for the current cohort. Note that this change to the advertised assessment regime can be proven not to disadvantage any student, per Section 4.4 of the Guide.

For those departments who have already completed their progression boards, the SITS team in Registry Services will review your progression lists to identify students who will be eligible for reassessment under this new rule, but who were not under the published F8. They will be in touch very soon to discuss the revision of the pass lists if necessary.

For the majority of departments who have not yet completed their progression boards, manual overrides will be made on the progression lists for students who are now eligible for reassessment. Please ask departmental administrators to confirm these calculations—particularly for students who are listed as eligible to resit for PGCerts, as they are the students most likely to be affected.

We apologise for the lateness of this change within the annual cycle, and for the inconvenience that it is likely to cause. But we are sure that you will be supportive given that it is with the best interests of students in mind that we are taking this extraordinary course of action.

Yours sincerely,

John Robinson
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Teaching and Learning

Steve King
Chair
Standing Committee on Assessment