**Summary of Changes to Academic Regulations for 2020-21**

| **Sections** | **Changes** |
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| Section 03: Student Status: Offers, Registration, Enrolment, Termination, Break of Studies | * To clarify and simplify the taking a break process for both students and staff. To create a simple task in Evision for students to complete.
* Regulations have been updated to make it clear when/why an exceptional change may be considered.
* Guidance for staff to be produced for School Offices and relevant staff to ensure that there is consistency in how the rule is applied.
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| Section 06: Undergraduate Assessment Regulations: Bachelors Degrees. Foundation Degrees and Preparatory Courses. | * To include under the section Award and classification of qualifications the following sentence:

We recognise credit awarded to students throughout their journey with us as a student. Any credits achieved at level 4 or above will be recognised and recorded against a student's record.* To include the following sentence regarding progression to next level of study:At the discretion of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Services (or nominee), a student can progress from Level 3 to Level 4 of an extended degree having been awarded 90 credits without the need to carry the additional 30 credits forward into Level 4.
* To include the following sentence regarding conditional progression:In exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Services, you will be able to progress to the later levels of the course without passing outstanding module(s)
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| Section 13 Appeals Regulations and Procedure and  | * The introduction of a new process for handling complaints and appeals approved by the Learning and Teaching Quality Committee at its meeting in April 2021.
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| Section 14: Complaints Regulation and Procedure | * The introduction of a new process for handling complaints and appeals approved by the Learning and Teaching Quality Committee at its meeting in April 2021.
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| Section 15: Academic Misconduct Regulations and Procedure | * Amendments to the Regulations to ensure that it is more accessible and student-friendly. Poor Academic Practice is defined, and types of Academic Misconduct as in OIA Good Practice Guidelines.
* The Review Stage is to be considered by the Head of School, Dean (or their nominee) instead of the Deputy Vice Chancellor.
* A reduction in the number of categories from twenty-four in 2020/21 Regulations to the four proposed. Namely, Minor, Moderate, Major and Severe.
* Penalties are reduced from six in 2020/21 Regulations to a proposed four penalties - Minor, Moderate, Major and Severe.
* Research penalties renamed from R1-R4, to (R) Minor, (R) Moderate, (R) Major, (R) Severe for consistency.
* Expulsion as a penalty for all Levels excluding Research Degrees.
* Allegations of Minor cases of Academic Misconduct for students studying at Levels 3 and 4, to be addressed pedagogically.
* Academic Misconduct Panels will be made up of no less than three members.
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| Section 16: Student Conduct Regulations and Procedure | * Amendments to the Regulations to ensure that it is more accessible and student friendly.
* Updates to the introduction to reflect the expectations of students and as members of the community.
* The term “Authority to check disorder” is replaced with “Initial Formal Interventions”.
* Headings are added making it easier to identify the Stages of the Procedure - namely, Initial Formal Interventions; Initiation of the Misconduct Procedures; Stage 1 Formal Exploratory Investigation; Stage 2 Formal Misconduct Panel Hearing; Stage 3 Appeal.
* The composition of the panel is explicit and in line with changes to the Complaint and Appeals Regulations and Procedure.
* Confidentiality and Reporting section has been added.
* Schedule 3 – Safeguards and Procedures in respect of interviews, hearings and decisions is now embedded within the document in the relevant Stages. The new Schedule 3 lists examples of alleged misconduct.
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| Section 20: Regulations for certification | * New section added: The formal removal of an award from a graduate
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