

UCC Policy on Progress Review for Research Students Info Session October 11th 2023

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New Review Process Requirements



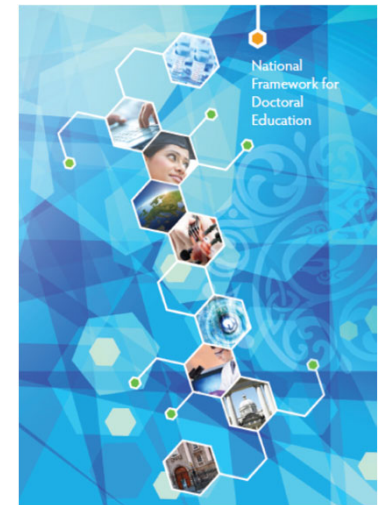
- Expected rollout date across UCC April 2024
- All students: Research Student Learning Plan to be completed by Month 3
- Doctoral students:
 - Submit student report by month 9
 - Annual progress review by Independent Review Panel
- Masters students:
 - Review by independent review panel in Month 6 of year 2
 - Recommended that student and supervisory team assess completion plan in months 9-12 of year 1.
- All units complete progress review process by end of students' academic year.
- Student annual registration shall be dependent on the submission by the Student of a progress review report each year by the end of month 9 of the Student's academic year. A Student is not entitled to register in the absence of same
- Independent panel review in addition to regular meetings between student and supervisory team

New Review Process Rationale



Aims

- Facilitate consistent excellence in the quality of postgraduate education and training
- To recognise and acknowledge good progress
- To provide students with the opportunity to present aspects of their work and achievements
- To provide students and supervisory team with the opportunity to highlight any issues arising
- To ensure that the Student has set goals for the coming year's study and training.
- To ensure the Student is making sufficient progress with their studies to progress
- To gauge feasibility of completion and put in place mitigation strategies if required
- To ensure student has set goals and help prepare RSLP
- **Provides students and supervisors with independent support, reducing potential for escalation of any issues arising**



The Panel Review Meeting

- Presentations are not required
- Discussion with independent panel for 20 minutes (student) and 10 minutes (lead supervisor)
- Discussion based on submitted reports

Outcomes of Panel Review Meeting

- That the Student's performance is **satisfactory**, and that the Student may progress to the next stage.
- That there were **some concerns/shortcomings**. Mitigation strategies have been proposed and agreed. The Student undertakes a **re-review** within 3 months (FTE) from the date of recommendation. (**Re-Review 1**)
- Following a re-review, the PRP will consider the re-review and may make the following recommendations:
 - satisfactory or recommend that shortcomings remain which still will need to be addressed.
 - Where shortcomings remain, the Student must undertake, a subsequent **final review** which is to be completed by a specified timeframe and where possible within 3 months of the re-review; the outcome of which will result in either a satisfactory or unsatisfactory recommendation.
- In the event of the **final review** being unsatisfactory, the PRP will recommend to the GSC of Unit either:
 - a) submission for a lower degree examination or
 - b) that no submission for a Doctorate degree or Master's degree examination be recommended, and registration be terminated

Actions required of Students and Supervisors

Review planning

- Respond to emails regarding meeting availability
- All supervisors required to act as independent panel reviewers once/year

Reporting

- Review reports by Month 9 – to ensure registration for following year
- Reports submitted to review panel one week ahead of IRP

Independent Progress Review Meeting

- Students meet with IRP for 20 minutes and lead supervisors meet with IRP for 10 minutes
- Discussion informed by student and supervisor reports

Policy on Research Student Progress Review Current Status



New Review Process – What the process will look like in the future

Policy requirements:

- Registration dependent on student submitting report by Month 9
- All units complete progress review process by end of students' academic year
- Tyndall review periods:
 - Early June for July and September/October registered students
 - Early November for January and April registered students

November 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

UCC Code of Research Conduct

- Principles of Good Research Practice
- Ethical Approval
- Responsibility
- Integrity
- Respect for the rights and Dignity of Research Participants
- Records and Data Management
- Dissemination

Feedback snapshot

Students

- *Process is supportive and encouraging*
- *Provides good opportunity for self-reflection*

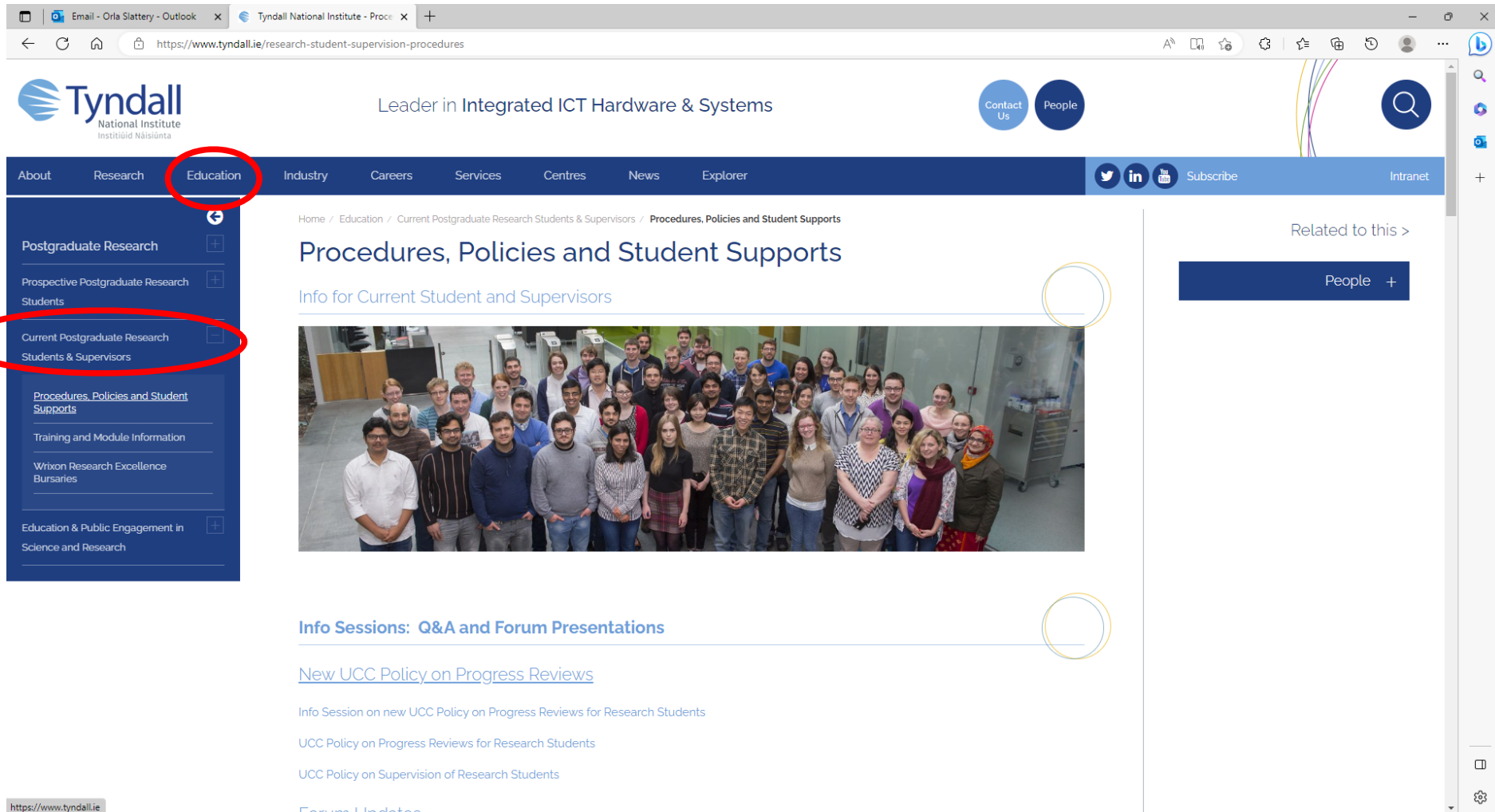
Supervisors

- *Provides opportunity to consider whether students are progressing*
- *Independent nature of reviews beneficial to supervisors in cases where disputes might arise*

Panelists / Reviewers

- *New process is very efficient*
- *New process is significant improvement for all stakeholders*
- *Both students and supervisors were open and honest*

Further Information



Feedback, Queries and Further Information

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