

Section 14

Students' Property Rights

This section seeks to reconcile conflicting interests: on the one hand, the view that rights in students' property should be vested in the students concerned (on the basis that they produced the work) and, on the other, the view that such rights should be vested in the University (on the basis that students' work is produced as part of a University course). This section is a compromise which results from a consultative process between the University and representatives of the Students' Union. It is to be interpreted in a spirit of reasonableness.

- 14.1** These regulations are intended to protect the interests of both students and the University in all matters of property, including intellectual property.
- 14.2** The University makes no claim on property rights, including the copyright, design rights and patent rights in any work of whatsoever nature executed or produced in the course of any undergraduate studies or deriving there from.
- 14.4** However, students may be required to grant to the University an irrevocable royalty-free licence to use the work, or any part of it, for non-commercial purposes including academic teaching and research.
- 14.4** There may be exceptional circumstances where the University will, through its initiation or contribution to a project, seek to negotiate part-ownership of some (or some return from) undergraduate student-led projects.
- 14.5** All postgraduate students agree to assign to the University all property rights, including the copyrights, design rights and patent rights in any work of whatsoever nature (with the exception of copyright in his/her thesis) executed or produced in the course of his or her studies or deriving therefrom. The student agrees that, if requested by the University, he or she will execute and sign any documents required by the University to enable it to protect or deal in any of the rights in the work.
- 14.6** Postgraduate students shall be offered a share of the income generated from that intellectual property right. The University commits to sharing income generated by the exploitation of intellectual property rights with the student contributing to the development of that intellectual property. Each Income Sharing Agreement will be negotiated on its own merits.
- 14.7** Students may apply for release from an Income Sharing Agreement if they feel that the University has not made substantive or crucial contribution to the generation of the intellectual property in question.
- 14.8** The University will accept no responsibility for any work left on the premises within one year of the student ceasing to be a student of the University and reserves the right to dispose of it.
- 14.9** The University may require payment by the student of a charge sufficient to cover the cost of any materials provided by the University for work removed by the student.
- 14.10** The student warrants that all work is his or her own work and does not infringe any rights of third parties.

- 14.11** The student gives his/her permission for a copy of any work of whatsoever nature produced in the course of his or her studies to be assessed for academic misconduct, including the use of plagiarism software, where the University deems this to be necessary (see section 16.3.8 Use of Turnitin® UK).
- 14.12** Failure by the student to observe these regulations may result in disciplinary action being taken against him or her.
- 14.13** Subject to clause 14.10, the copyright in the thesis of a research degree, postgraduate and PhD student is exempt from these regulations. Under University regulations this vests in the individual student.

From time to time, issues may arise concerning the question of the confidentiality of students' project work carried out while on work experience with external companies or bodies, or seconded by such companies or bodies. Such matters fall outside this Handbook (which is concerned with the relationship between a student and the University) and are for the company or body in question to determine. Where necessary, the University will assist in resolving such matters.