

PAPER FOR ENDORSEMENT OF SENATE

PROPOSAL ON ADDITIONAL MECHANISM TO ENHANCE POSTGRADUATE ADMISSION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This paper seeks the endorsement of the Senate on the additional mechanism to enhance postgraduate admission process.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The University is embarking on strategies to increase the postgraduate students intake in order to achieve a ratio of 60:40 for undergraduate and postgraduate population by 2020. One of the initiatives is to provide opportunities for mature applicants who may not meet the entrance requirement but possess relevant working experience to enroll in our postgraduate programmes. This alternative route to education is in fact in tandem with the practices embedded in the Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) which was established by the Ministry of Higher Education in 2007. Furthermore, the IIUM has also given provision for applications of this nature as stated in Article 1.3.1 in the Postgraduate Regulations (Revised 2015) where it states that the applicants must “have at least ten (10) years working experience in a relevant field of his postgraduate studies”.

This paper has been deliberated and approved by the Deans’ Council Meeting No. 3/2016 held on 24th March 2016.

3.0 MECHANISM

3.1 Admission Criteria

According to APEL, the admission criteria are as follows:

Programme at the Master's level

The candidate should be more than 30 years of age in the year of application, possess at least STPM/diploma/ equivalent (e.g. foundation) with the relevant work experience.

Programme at the Doctoral level

The candidate should be more than 35 years of age in the year of application, possess at least a Bachelor's degree in relevant field or equivalent, with 5 years of relevant work experience.

3.2 Admission Requirement

Due to the unconventional nature of the applications, the evaluation for admission may take the form of:

- a. Portfolio assessment
- b. Interview by respective Centre of Studies (Article 1.3.2 PG Regulation 2015)
- c. Aptitude Test

3.3 Calculation and convergence of experience into CGPA

Through this alternative route to education, the applicants' experience will be given due recognition by giving credit to the number of years to their non-formal and informal learning. The method of calculation and convergence is as follows:

1 year of experience = 0.05 point
10 years of experience = 0.5 point

4.0 PROPOSAL

The Senate members are kindly requested to endorse the above proposal.

Prepared by: