1. Role of Stakeholders

1.1 Stakeholders and governance structure

The roles of various TPg stakeholders and their relationships under the prevailing governance structure are described briefly below.

A TPg student is one who has been admitted to a programme of studies to pursue a higher degree and has registered with the Graduate School. S/he must take timely actions to maintain the validity of his/her student status by observing relevant rules and regulations, enrolling for course(s), achieving satisfactory academic performance and progress, and paying fees, according to respective schedules.

A TPg student is expected to be a responsible member of the University community. S/he has the right to take full advantage of the teaching and learning facilities and support provided by the University, and the obligation to take ultimate responsibility of any of his/her academic output.

All TPg programmes are under the jurisdiction of a particular Graduate Division which structurally forms part of a Faculty. The Board of the Faculty co-ordinates the activities of the Departments within the Faculty and considers and deals with the recommendations of the Departments regarding the content of courses for the degree or degrees and on the details of syllabuses. A Graduate Panel is set up for each Graduate Division to take care of matters of postgraduate studies. The roles of a Graduate Panel are discussed below.

The Graduate School coordinates all postgraduate programmes leading to higher degrees and postgraduate diplomas/certificates. The Head of a Graduate Division reports to the Dean of the Graduate School and the Department Chairperson for operations of his/her Graduate Division’s postgraduate programmes. S/he also bears the responsibility to ensure compliance of all TPg programmes offered by the Graduate Division with University rules and policies.

The Graduate School also provides administrative support to the Graduate Council and its Executive Committee. The powers and duties of the Graduate Council are (a) to advise the Senate on all graduate programmes of studies; (b) to coordinate the activities of the Graduate Divisions within the Graduate School; and (c) to consider and deal with the recommendations of the various Graduate Divisions on the content of courses and on the details of syllabuses.

The Faculty and its Department(s)/Graduate Division(s) must establish a governance system which ensures compliance of all TPg programmes with University rules and policies. In Faculties with more than one Graduate Division, an Associate Dean or equivalent shall be appointed to oversee all TPg programmes to ensure consistency across programmes in terms of procedures and practices. In Faculties with only one Graduate Division, this task is discharged by the Head of the Graduate Division.

The Senate is in control of and regulates (a) instruction, education and research; (b) the conducting of examinations for students; and (c) the award of degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions of the University.
TPg students are also supported by various CUHK service units, such as the Office of Student Affairs (OSA).

The following diagram describes in general the relationships and interactions among various stakeholders.

Key to relationships in general:
- Teaching, learning and academic advice
- Administrative governance and policies
- Progress and assessment
- Non-academic advice, services and support

1.2 Graduate Panel

A Graduate Panel is set up for each Graduate Division with the Graduate Division Head as the Chairperson and at least two other members to be nominated by the Graduate Division Head. Its responsibility is to endorse or decide on:

- the courses of study to be offered;
- the selection of applicants for admission; and
- any other matters related to the Graduate Division.