



NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF CHAIRPERSON OF EXAMINERS OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (BY PRIOR PUBLICATION) SUBMISSION

STANDARD FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE

The degree will be awarded to an applicant who, through published work of which the applicant is either author or joint author, has made an original scholarly contribution to knowledge and demonstrated a capacity for independent research as judged by independent experts applying appropriate international standards. The submission takes the form of a collection of original authored published works and an introductory statement. The standard for the degree will be the same as that required for the degree of PhD at Griffith University.

THE EXAMINATION BOARD

At least two external expert examiners of international standing are appointed to assess the submission. A member of staff of the University is appointed as Chairperson of Examiners, whose task is to consider the reports of the examiners and make a recommendation to the University on the outcome of the examination.

The thesis examination process is conducted online through the Examiner's Evaluation Workcentre located in the Griffith University home page: www.griffith.edu.au>Griffith Portal>Research>Academic Resources>Evaluation Workcentre:

- Examiners are asked to provide their recommendation on results of examination.
- Examiners are asked to provide a justification for their recommendation and a general evaluation of the thesis. Please note that in the case of competing recommendations, a recommendation may need to be set aside if not supported by a report detailing the justification for the recommendation.

Examiners must make an independent report and recommendation and are asked not to communicate directly with the candidate, the candidate's supervisor/s or each other.

Candidates are provided with copies of reports of the examiners and Chairperson of Examiners with their identity expunged. The identity of the examiners and Chairperson of Examiners will be revealed to the candidate when the examination is concluded. If this policy causes you concern, you are asked not to accept the task of Chairperson of Examiners.

THE EXAMINATION

The University's policy on the examination of a PhD (by Prior Publication) enables an examiner to recommend that:

- 1 the degree be awarded; or
- 2 the degree be not awarded.

Although the nature of the submission does not permit revision and re-examination, examiners may request an oral or written defence of the submission. Where there is substantial disagreement between the examiners, the University may appoint a third examiner or an adjudicator examiner to consider and report on the submission and on the reports of the examiners.

ROLE OF CHAIRPERSON OF EXAMINERS

The task of the Chairperson of Examiners is to consider the reports of the examiners and make a recommendation to the Dean, Griffith Graduate Research School on the outcome of the examination. The Chairperson of Examiners does not undertake an independent examination of the submission, although they may need to consult the submission in order to make judgements about the comments of the examiners.

The Chairperson's report to the Dean, Griffith Graduate Research School should include a number of sections:

1. **A brief summary/overview of the examination reports.**
2. **A collation of the examination reports.** The collation may be provided under the headings in the examiners summary form (ie significance of substantial contribution to the knowledge of the topic, standard of literary presentation; methodology; survey of literature and documentation of statements; suitability for publication).
3. **Recommendation on the outcome of the examination.**

When the reports of the examiners cannot be sufficiently reconciled, a recommendation should be made on whether:

- a third examiner should be appointed;
- an adjudicator examiner should be appointed to consider and report on the submission and on the reports of the examiners.

FURTHER INFORMATION

A copy of an example report or further advice on the role of the Chairperson of Examiners or the examination procedure may be obtained from:

Thesis Examinations Office
Griffith Graduate Research School
Griffith University
Bray Centre (N54) 0.21
Nathan QLD 4111
Australia

Email: thesisexams@griffith.edu.au
Phone: +61 7 373 53817
