

Research Degree Examination Board

(1) Terms of Reference:

(a) to appoint examiners, on behalf of Senate. The appointments normally to be approved on behalf of the Board by the Chair or Vice-Chair;

(b) to consider examiners' reports and to forward recommendations on candidates to the Doctoral School Committee in accordance with the University Regulations for Research Degrees;

(c) to report annually to the Doctoral School Committee;

(d) to formulate instructions and communications to candidates about the results of any examination for a research degree. The Board will hold full meetings only to consider those cases where a candidate has failed under Regulations 58(c), 59(c), 59(d), 59(f), 62 (b), 64(b), and 64(c). Notwithstanding this, the Chair has discretion to call a meeting to consider any cases where the recommendation does not appear to be straightforward. In all other cases the examiners' recommendations are forwarded by the Chair, on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the Vice-Chair, where appropriate. In the absence of the Chair, authority shall be delegated to the Vice-Chair and vice-versa. In cases where the Board is required to meet there will be a quorum of at least three members of the Board in addition to the Chair, one of whom must be the Vice-Chair if the case to be considered does not fall within the general academic area of the Chair.

(2) Composition:

(a) Two senior members of the academic faculty as Chair and Vice-Chair, one with experience of graduate work at research degree level in the humanities and social sciences and one with experience in science or engineering, nominated by the Doctoral School Committee and appointed by Teaching and Learning Committee. The respective roles of Chair and Vice-Chair to alternate after three academic years;

(b) Up to six senior members of the academic faculty, with experience of graduate work at research level, nominated by the Doctoral School Committee after consultation with the appropriate Directors of Doctoral Studies in order to ensure coverage and balance of expertise, and appointed by Teaching and Learning Committee.

(3) Reports to: Doctoral School Committee.