

**The University of Sussex  
Doctoral School Committee**

**Research Degree Examination Board  
Annual Report 2011/12**

**1. Examination Board Procedures**

The procedures followed by the Research Degree Examination Board are as set out in the Organisation of the University 2011/12, the Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes and the Regulations.

**2. Results**

A table showing the number of degrees awarded by the Research Degree Examination Board during the academic years 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12 is attached as paper DSC/17/3(i).

**3. Operation of the Examination Board**

Under the approved procedures, the Board does not meet routinely to consider every recommendation. The Chairperson, in liaison with the Vice-Chairperson as appropriate, considers examination reports and recommendations made by examiners on behalf of the Research Degree Examination Board. The Board recommends the award of degrees to the Chairperson of the Doctoral School Committee who approves them on behalf of Senate. Under the Terms of Reference, as set out in the Organisation of the University 2011/12, the Board is required to convene in cases where it is recommended that a candidate should fail the degree, or revise and resubmit for a lesser degree, or be awarded a lesser degree. In addition, the Chairperson has discretion to call a meeting to consider any cases where the recommendation does not appear to be straightforward.

**4. Examination Board Meetings 2011/12**

The Board met three times during 2011/12. At the meeting held on 16 May 2012 the Board discussed a number of issues which it agreed to draw to the attention of the Doctoral School Committee. Paper DSC/17/3(ii) plus an appendix is attached.