

## Higher Doctorate Regulations

*Made by the Research Graduate School Committee*

*Version incorporating amendments as at 20 December 2011*

### 1. Degrees

- 1.1 The higher doctorate degrees listed in the schedule may be undertaken pursuant to these regulations.
- 1.2 For each higher doctorate degree there is an administering faculty as specified in the schedule.

### 2. Interpretation

In these regulations, unless the contrary intention appears -

'**candidate**' means a candidate for a higher doctorate degree;

'**days**' does not include a Saturday or Sunday or any university holiday;

'**faculty board**' means the faculty board of the administering faculty for the degree concerned.

### 3. Applicant requirements

An applicant for admission to candidature must -

- 3.1.1 have qualified, not less than seven years previously, for a degree of the university;
- 3.1.2 be a current member of the teaching or research staff of the university and have been so for not less than six consecutive years full-time or an equivalent number of consecutive years part-time; or
- 3.1.3 have qualified, not less than seven years previously, for a degree of another educational institution and have had a close research association with the university for not less than six years.

### 4. Work requirements

Work submitted for a higher doctorate degree -

- 4.1.1 must have been published not less than one year prior to submission;
- 4.1.2 subject to paragraph 4.1.3, must be the original work of the applicant;
- 4.1.3 may include work conjointly authored provided -

**4.1.3.1** the conjoint work is clearly indicated; and

**4.1.3.2** a statement is provided that demonstrates how the applicant was responsible for a major portion of the work; and

**4.1.4** must not have been previously submitted for a degree in any educational institution, unless the relevant higher doctorate committee in any particular case otherwise determines.

## **5. Degree requirements**

To qualify for the award of a higher doctorate degree, the work submitted for the degree must -

**5.1.1** make an original, substantial and distinguished contribution to knowledge in the field concerned; and

**5.1.2** give the applicant authoritative standing in that field and the right to general recognition of this standing by scholars in the field.

## **6. Application for admission to candidature**

An applicant for admission to candidature must lodge with the faculty board -

**6.1.1** an application for admission in the form approved by the faculty board; and

**6.1.2** three copies of each of the following -

- the work submitted for the degree;
- a summary of the development of the work, of approximately 1000 words;
- a statement of the applicant's view of the extent to which the work contributes to the advancement of knowledge;
- where appropriate, statements in relation to any part of the work jointly published or previously submitted for a degree.

## **7. Faculty higher doctorate committee**

**7.1** Following receipt of an application for admission to candidature, the faculty board must constitute a faculty higher doctorate committee to determine whether or not the applicant is qualified for admission to candidature.

**7.2** A faculty higher doctorate committee must comprise -

**7.2.1** the dean of the administering faculty or nominee, who shall be chair of the committee;

**7.2.2** the relevant head of department or equivalent, or nominee; and

**7.2.3** one additional member being, where possible, a specialist in the particular field.

**7.3** Where a faculty higher doctorate committee determines that-

**7.3.1** the applicant satisfies the requirements for admission to candidature; and

**7.3.2** the work submitted for the degree is prima facie worthy of examination –  
the applicant is qualified for admission to candidature.

**7.4** Where all members of a faculty higher doctorate committee are not in agreement, the determination of the majority is the determination of the committee.

**7.5** A faculty higher doctorate committee must give notice of its determination to both the applicant and the Research Graduate School Committee.

## **8. Appeal**

**8.1** An unsuccessful applicant for admission to candidature may appeal to the Research Graduate School Committee by lodging notice of appeal with the committee within one month after receipt of notice under subsection 7.5.

**8.2** Upon receipt of a notice of appeal, the chair of the Research Graduate School Committee must constitute an advisory panel to hear the appeal.

## **9. Advisory Panel**

**9.1** An advisory panel must comprise a minimum of three people, including -

**9.1.1** the chair of the Research Graduate School Committee, or the chair's nominee, who shall be convenor and chair of the panel; and

**9.1.2** at least one member from outside the administering faculty but from a cognate discipline.

**9.2** After an advisory panel has been constituted, the candidate must be advised in writing of the membership and allowed two rights of veto.

**9.3** A right of veto must be exercised by notice in writing to the chair within 10 days after receipt of the membership advice.

**9.4** After an advisory panel hearing, the panel must make a recommendation on the matter to the Research Graduate School Committee.

## **10. Research Graduate School Committee determination**

**10.1** After consideration of an advisory panel recommendation, the Research Graduate School Committee must determine whether or not the applicant is qualified for admission to candidature; and the determination of the committee is final.

**10.2** The Research Graduate School Committee must give notice of its determination to both the applicant and the faculty board.

**11. Admission to candidature**

**11.1** Where under -

**11.1.1** section 7, a faculty higher doctorate committee; or

**11.1.2** section 10, the Research Graduate School Committee –

determines that an applicant is qualified for admission to candidature, the faculty board must –

**11.1.3** admit the applicant to candidature; and

**11.1.4** give notice of the admission to the candidate.

**11.2** The committee may –

**11.2.1** refuse a person's application for admission to candidature for a degree or enrolment in degree;

**11.2.2** cancel a candidate's admission to candidature for a degree or enrolment in degree;

if the committee is of the opinion that the person or candidate's admission to candidature for a degree or enrolment in a degree may place the university in breach of a law.

**11.3** The committee may impose a condition on a candidate's admission to candidature for a degree or enrolment in a degree, where the committee is of the opinion that the condition is necessary to ensure the university's compliance with a law or legal requirement.

**12. Documents to be lodged**

After admission to candidature, a candidate must lodge with the Research Graduate School Committee, in a form approved by the committee, four copies of the documents lodged with the faculty board under paragraph 6.1.2.

**13. Examiners**

**13.1** Where an applicant is admitted to candidature -

**13.1.1** the faculty higher doctorate committee must advise the Research Graduate School Committee of the persons it considers appropriate examiners for the candidate's work; and

**13.1.2** the candidate may, within 10 days after receipt of notice under paragraph 11.1.4, in writing advise the Research Graduate School Committee of any

persons the candidate objects, for stated reasons, to being appointed examiners.

**13.2** The Research Graduate School Committee, after considering the advice of the faculty higher doctorate committee and any objections from the candidate, must appoint three examiners to assess the candidate's work.

**13.3** Examiners must-

**13.3.1** be persons of outstanding reputation in the area of the work concerned;

**13.3.2** be from outside the university; and

**13.3.3** unless the Research Graduate School Committee in any particular case otherwise determines, not have published, or engaged in substantial research collaboration, with the candidate.

**13.4** Each examiner must independently -

**13.4.1** assess the candidate's work; and

**13.4.2** report the results of the assessment to the Research Graduate School Committee.

#### **14. Advice to candidate**

The Research Graduate School Committee must, by notice in writing, advise a candidate of the results of the examiners' assessments.

#### **15. Appeal**

**15.1** Where one examiner only determines that a candidate's work does not satisfy the requirements of the higher doctorate degree, the candidate may, within one month after receipt of notice under section 14, appeal to the Research Graduate School Committee.

**15.2** Upon receipt of an appeal, the chair of the Research Graduate School Committee must, after consulting with the faculty higher doctorate committee, appoint an adjudicator from outside the university to review the assessment of the dissenting examiner and report to the Research Graduate School Committee.

**15.3** After consideration of the adjudicator's report and consultation with the higher doctorate committee, the Research Graduate School Committee must determine whether or not the candidate's work satisfies the requirements of the faculty higher doctorate degree; and the decision of the Research Graduate School Committee is final.

#### **16. Higher doctorate award**

Where -

**16.1.1** under section 13 all examiners; or

**16.1.2** under subsection 15.3 the Research Graduate School Committee –

determine that a candidate's work satisfies the requirements of a higher doctorate degree, the candidate is qualified for the award of the degree.

**17. Right to re-apply**

A candidate who fails to qualify for the award of a higher doctorate degree may, after a period of not less than five years, re-apply for admission to candidature for the degree.

**18. Distribution of work**

The provisions of section 25 of the *Doctorate regulations* apply to and in relation to the bound copies of the documents lodged with the Research Graduate School Committee under section 12 as if they were a thesis lodged under subsection 19.1 of the *Doctorate regulations*.

**Schedule**

<b>Degrees</b>	<b>Administering Faculties</b>
Doctor of Economics	Business and Economics
Doctor of Engineering	Engineering
Doctor of Informatics	Information Technology
Doctor of Laws	Law
Doctor of Letters	Arts
Doctor of Science	Science

---

---

**End Notes**

1. Table of amendments from 1 November 2011 (as incorporated into this version):

<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Sections amended</b>	<b>Commencement Date (promulgation)</b>
Higher Degree by Research Regulations (Amendment) (No. 25 of 2011)	Section 11	20 December 2011