Addendum to Regulations regarding Examination Outcomes approved by the Graduate School Board and Research Enterprise Committee  March 2015

Method of PhD Examination

Outcomes open to examiners in determining the result of the examination are as follows:

(a) **Pass** - the candidate has satisfied the examiners in the examination for the PhD degree.

(b) **Pass subject to minor amendments** – the thesis fulfils the criteria but requires minor corrections and the candidate satisfies the examiners in the viva. The corrections required will make no difference to the arguments or conclusions of the thesis. The amendments will usually be typographical in nature, but may also include minor changes to the text to improve explanations or descriptions. The examiners will be required to outline the corrections in writing. The candidate will complete the amendments within three months. The amended thesis shall be submitted to one or both of the examiners at their determination for confirmation that the amendments are satisfactory

(c) **Pass subject to major amendments** – the thesis fulfils the criteria but requires major corrections and the candidate satisfies the examiners in the viva. The corrections required are more significant in nature, including the re-writing or re-structuring of significant parts of the thesis and the clarification of arguments. The candidate will complete the amendments within six months. The amended thesis shall be submitted to both of the examiners for confirmation that the amendments are satisfactory

(d) **Not Pass, represent for examination** - If the thesis, though judged not to meet the standard required, shall seem of sufficient merit to justify such action, the examiners may determine that the candidate be permitted to re-present his/her thesis in a revised form within 18 months. Examiners shall not, however, make such a decision without submitting the candidate to viva voce examination. Following the viva examination the examiners shall be required to advise the student in writing of the additional work required before the thesis is re-presented. The examiners may at their discretion exempt from a further oral examination.

(e) **Not Pass, represent for viva** - the thesis satisfies the criteria for the degree, but the candidate fails to satisfy the examiners at the viva voce examination, the examiners may determine that the candidate be permitted to re-present the same thesis, and submit to a further viva examination within a period specified by them and not exceeding 18 months.

(f) **Not Pass, but with recommendation of the award of MPhil** – the examiners can consider whether the thesis does or might be able to satisfy the criteria for the award of the MPhil degree. The candidate must complete the viva voce before this option can be
considered. The examiners will submit a report which demonstrates either (a) how the
criteria for the MPhil degree are satisfied, or (b) what action would need to be taken in
order for these criteria to be satisfied.

(g) Either with a pass or with minor amendments completed within 3 months or major
amendments completed within 6 months

(h) Not Pass - but with recommendation to represent for re-examination for MPhil – the
thesis would be resubmitted within 12 months. The examiners may at their discretion
exempt from a further viva examination

[In reporting they shall have regard to the different normal maximum lengths of the thesis
for the PhD and MPhil degrees but shall have discretion to waive the thesis length for the
MPhil degree if appropriate]

[a candidate who has reached the standard for the award of the MPhil degree who does not
indicate that he/she wishes to be considered for the award of that degree within the period
given will be informed that he/she has failed to satisfy the examiners for the PhD degree
and that he/she may no longer be considered for the award of the MPhil degree]

(i) Fail - the examiners may determine that the candidate has not satisfied them in the
examination. A candidate who fails to satisfy the examiners will not be permitted to re-enter
for the examination

If the examiners are unable to reach agreement, their reports shall be referred to the
Research Degrees Committee, which shall determine the action to be taken.

**Method of Examination for the MPhil degree**

Outcomes open to examiners in determining the result of the examination are as follows:

(j) Pass - the candidate has satisfied the examiners in the examination for the MPhil
degree.

(k) Pass subject to minor amendments – the thesis fulfils the criteria but requires minor
corrections and the candidate satisfies the examiners in the viva. The corrections required
will make no difference to the arguments or conclusions of the thesis. The amendments will
usually be typographical in nature, but may also include minor changes to the text to
improve explanations or descriptions. The examiners will be required to outline the
corrections in writing. The candidate will complete the amendments within three months.
The amended thesis shall be submitted to one or both of the examiners at their
determination for confirmation that the amendments are satisfactory

(l) Pass subject to major amendments - the thesis fulfils the criteria but requires major
corrections and the candidate satisfies the examiners in the viva. The corrections required
are more significant in nature, including the re-writing or re-structuring of significant parts.
of the thesis and the clarification of arguments. The candidate will complete the amendments within six months. The amended thesis shall be submitted to both of the for confirmation that the amendments are satisfactory.

(m) **Not Pass, represent for examination** - If the thesis, though judged not to meet the standard required, shall seem of sufficient merit to justify such action, the examiners may determine that the candidate be permitted to re-present his/her thesis in a revised form within 18 months. Examiners shall not, however, make such a decision without submitting the candidate to viva voce examination. Following the viva examination the examiners shall be required to advise the student in writing of the additional work required before the thesis is re-presented. The examiners may at their discretion exempt from a further oral examination.

(n) **Not Pass, represent for viva** - the thesis satisfies the criteria for the degree, but the candidate fails to satisfy the examiners at the viva examination, the examiners may determine that the candidate be permitted to re-present the same thesis, and submit to a further viva voce examination within a period specified by them and not exceeding 12 months.

(o) **Fail** - the examiners may determine that the candidate has not satisfied them in the examination. A candidate who fails to satisfy the examiners will not be permitted to re-enter for the examination.

If the examiners are unable to reach agreement, their reports shall be referred to the Research Degrees Committee, which shall determine the action to be taken.

**Method of Re-Examination on a Represented thesis following major revisions**

Candidates for MPhil or PhD who are given ‘Not pass, represent for examination’ or ‘Not pass represent for viva’ are permitted one re-entry to examination. There are four possible outcomes for candidates re-entered for examination:

Pass.  
Pass subject to minor corrections within 3 months of the release of the result.  
Pass subject to major corrections within 6 months of the release of the result  
Fail.