



GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

*Report to Academic Council
at its meeting of May 28, 2019*

FOR ACTION

1. Graduate Academic Calendar Regulation Amendments

The Graduate Studies Committee recommends:

That Academic Council approve the amendments as proposed in the attached documentation.

a) **PhD candidacy examinations**

Rationale: In the past, the academic calendar section on candidacy exams has been silent on the Candidacy Exam member's report, decisions made by majority votes, co-supervision number of votes, attendance of members and if the exam is closed. Our practice was to follow the existing language under Oral examination for master's and doctoral candidate's regulation which has been added to ensure consistency and clarity.

b) **Thesis and external examiner's report for master's and doctoral candidates,
University examiner's report for doctoral candidates**

Rationale: In the past, there have been challenges in receiving the examiner's report within the week deadline. We propose that the Thesis/External/University Examiner report be due 10 Calendar Days before the exam. This new deadline will allow a grace period for examiners to complete their report in extenuating circumstances.

c) **Examination procedure**

Rationale: To ensure consistency with the Oral examination for master's and doctoral candidates regulations, clarifying that co-supervisors within an examination committee collectively have one vote during the deliberation phase of the defence.

d) **Approval for the oral examination**

Rationale: To clarify how far in advance the thesis must be approved and ready to be sent to the examining committee prior to the oral defence date for master's and doctoral thesis to ensure adequate time for the examining committee to review the written work prior to the defence date.