UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB

NOTIFICATION

It is hereby notified that the Syndicate in its meeting held on 28-03-2025 approved the recommendations of the Academic Council dated 27-01-2025 regarding amendments/addition in the existing rules and regulations of MS/M.Phil/M.Sc.(Engineering)/MBA/M.Com/LL.M./ Equivalent and Ph.D. Degrees, in the light of HEC's Graduate Education Policy-2023 (GEP-2023) effective from Fall, 2023 (already notified vide No. D/3049/Acad, dated 02-05-2024) pertaining to the following:-

- External Evaluation of Ph.D. Dissertation
- > Open Defense of the Dissertation
- ➤ Incentive/facilities for Non-PhD University Teachers/Officers
- Panel of Examiners
- Constitution of Relevance Assessment Committee

The amended rules and regulations in the aforesaid categories are enclosed vide Annexure-A.

Admin. Block, Quaid-i-Azam Campus, Lahore. Sd/-REGISTRAR

Dated: 25-04-2025

No. D/3215/Acad.

Copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and further necessary action:-

- 1. Pro-Vice Chancellor/Chairman, Admission & Implementation Committee
 - 2. All the Deans of Faculties
 - 3. All the Heads of Teaching Departments/Conveners, Boards of Studies
 - 4. Chairperson, DPCC
 - 5. Director, Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC)
 - 6. Controller of Examinations
 - 7. Director, IT Centre (for uploading PU website)
 - 8. Secretary to the Vice-Chancellor
 - 9. Private Secretary to the Pro-Vice Chancellor
 - 10. Private Secretary to the Registrar
 - 11. Assistant Registrar (Statutes)
 - 12. Assistant Registrar (Syndicate)
 - 13. Assistant Meetings-II

Deputy Registrar (Academic)

for Registrar

Existing Rule/Regulations

30. EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF PHD DISSERTATION (at Page 23 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)

The PhD dissertation must be evaluated by: A. At least two external foreign experts who shall be:

i. PhD faculty member from the world top 500 universities ranked by the Times Higher Education or QS World Ranking in the year corresponding to dissertation evaluation year.

- 35. AN OPEN DEFENSE OF THE DISSERTATION (at Page 25 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)
- d. Review Committee: To evaluate the dissertation and defense
- h. Final Decision: expressed in the following terms:
 - · Pass or
 - Pass with minor amendments or
 - Deferred for resubmission and re-defense or
 - Fail (in exceptional circumstances and for the reasons to be recorded

by the defense committee and case be forwarded to ASRB for final decision)

Amended Rules/Regulation

30. EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF PHD DISSERTATION (at Page 23 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)

The PhD dissertation must be evaluated by:

a:

- i. PhD faculty member from the world top 500 universities ranked by the Times Higher Education or QS World Ranking in the year corresponding to dissertation evaluation year OR
- ii. Pakistan-based Distinguished National Professors, Meritorious Professors from any national university; or professors from top universities ranked by HEC; or Professors from any Pakistani University having a minimum H-Index 30 for Sciences, 15 for Social Sciences or 8 for Art & Humanities as determined by Web of Science.

b:

At least one external expert qualifying any one of the conditions mentioned at 'a' above if the PhD candidate publishes dissertation research in a peer-reviewed journal that is classified by the HEC in category W for Sciences and X or above for Social Sciences.

- 35. AN OPEN DEFENSE OF THE DISSERTATION (at Page 25 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)
- d. Review Committee: (two externals, Chairman/HOD/Director/Principal, Coordinator, Supervisor).
- h. The Local external examiners (two) are appointed only for viva voce and public defense.

They cannot recommend major revisions in the theses as these are already evaluated and reports are already discussed and approved by the ASRB. Final Decision: expressed in the following terms:

- · Pass or
- Pass with minor amendments or
- · Deferred for re-defense or
- •Fail (in exceptional circumstances and for the reasons to be recorded by the defense committee and case be forwarded to ASRB for final decision)

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- 38. INCENTIVE/FACILITIES FOR NON-PHD UNIVERSITY TEACHERS/OFFICERS (at Page 26 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)
 - i. For facilitating the University's own faculty, the workload of a teacher (appointed on a regular basis) enrolled in the Ph.D. program at PU will be reduced to half. Provided that those teachers will not take any class in the evening program on a payment basis in PU or other than PU. The period of privileges regarding PhD studies will be a maximum of up to two years (relaxation in workload or study leave).
 - ii. Relaxation of workload to the employees during Ph.D. studies shall also be granted as is admissible to faculty members subject to approval by the Registrar and Vice-Chancellor on a case-to-case basis. The privilege period in this regard shall be a maximum of up to two years.

38. INCENTIVE/FACILITIES FOR NON-PHD UNIVERSITY TEACHERS/ OFFICERS

(at Page 26 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)

- i. A teacher/employee (appointed on a regular basis in PU), enrolled in the Ph.D. program will be subject to following: -
 - There will be a full work load as prescribed in PU rules and regulations of work load.

OR

b. He/She may avail study leave.

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- a. The HOD of the concerned teacher/employee will determine the number of teachers/employees who will be granted permission for enrollment in MS/MPhil/Equivalent and Ph.D. program on need basis.
 - b. To apply for MS/MPhil/equivalent or Ph.D. program NOC from the Registrar's office is required as per admission rule/regulations.

following/paragraphs approved by the Syndicate on the recommendations of the Academic Council are hereby made part of existing Ph.D. rules and regulations (already notified vide No. D/3049/Acad, dated 02-05-2024):

Existing Policy/Rules/Regulations
(Notification No D/7716/Acad dated 02-08-2021 regarding Panel of Examiners)

Furthermore, in the case of retired Professors/Associate Professors (Foreign and Local) who are actively engaged in any university /organization, at least visiting/part-time faculty members in any institute /university/on the basis of publications, etc. may be appointed. In such cases, the official e-mail ID, addresses, and landline number is required, it should be verified by the concerned organization, and also his/her placement letter will be needed.

Amended Rules/Regulations

(Following paragraph is added at the end of para at Sr. No. (i) of Section 29 at Page 22 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)

In such cases, the official e-mail ID, addresses, and landline number is required, it should be verified by the concerned organization, and also his/her placement letter will be needed. It Should be verified by the concerned Convener of the DDPC.

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As per HEC's Graduate Education Policy, 2023

- 7.1.2 Determining relevance of faculty with subject/degree program
- a) Wherever required, the subject and supervisory relevance of faculty members shall be determined based on:
- i. Qualifications including bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees.
- ii. The research includes thesis/dissertation and published articles.iii. Experience consisting of teaching and administrative domains.
- b) To ascertain the relevance of the faculty in the related discipline to the program and supervision of theses, the university shall:
- i. constitute a Relevance Assessment Committee (RAC)/equivalent body, with the approval of the Vice Chancellor/Rector/Head of the HEI.
- ii. The RAC shall consist of at least five (5) members:
- a. Respective Dean of the university
- b. Director QEC of the university
- c. Two External subject expert not less than a professor /Associate Professor level
- d. Program Team/Assessment Team member who was involved in preparing self-assessment report of the program.
- c) The RAC shall submit a report with detailed reasons and rationale for the assessment decision.

(Following is added as Section 42 at Page 27 of rules/regulations notified vide No. D/3049/Acad., dated 02-05-2024)

RELEVANCE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE:

The concerned DDPC will act as a Relevance Assessment Committee and perform functions as described in 7.1.2 of HEC Graduate Policy, 2023.

DDPC Composition also be notified as Relevance assessment committee.

Cases for NOC for launching of new programs will be routed with the recommendations of concerned Dean and Director QEC.

At the time of approval of new programs, courses/syllabi the recommendation of RAC (as described in 7.1.2 (b) To ascertain the relevance of the faculty in the related discipline to the program) may also be placed in Academic Council for approval as required by HEC

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