



Template for the justification of the examining committee and opponent

This is a translation of the guideline *Mall för motivering av betygsnämnd och opponent*. Keep in mind that this is just a translation. It is the document in Swedish which is established by the Committee for doctoral education. Date when established: 2015-09-03. Reg. no.: L 2015/115.

The principal supervisor submits a proposal for proposed opponent and members of the examining committee (including a deputy) as well as proposal for chairman for the public defence of the doctoral thesis. These proposals must be submitted on the form *Application regarding the public defence of a doctoral thesis*. Furthermore, justification explaining why the members of the examining committee and opponent were proposed needs to be attached to the form. The principal supervisor is required to write this justification.

The examining committee shall consist of three or five members. At least one member of the examining committee shall be appointed from among teachers at another university. This criterion needs to be complied even if one of the members is replaced. At least two of the members must have experience of supervision and of examining doctoral students. Each member shall be a docent (associate professor) or professor, or have the equivalent qualifications. Anyone who has supervised the doctoral student is not allowed to be on the committee.

A prominent researcher (known internationally) in the relevant subject area should be designated as an opponent. The opponent should have experience of both doctoral student supervision and the examination of doctoral students.

In the justification that the principal supervisor attaches *Application regarding the public defence of a doctoral thesis*, the persons named proposed as an opponent and grading committee. The following needs to be stated for each person:

- Name and full address, including email address, and phone number.
- Brief description of the person (qualifications and subject knowledge) and how the person is suitable for the thesis subject. It is important that it is clear that the requirements as described above are fulfilled with the persons proposed.

It is appropriate that the examining committee comprises of at least one female and at least one male. If the submitted proposal does not include at least one woman and at least one male, the reasons need to be justified.