



HÖGSKOLAN
I HALMSTAD

Template for the justification of the examining committee and opponent (This is a translation of *Mall för motivering av betygsnämnd och opponent*)

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.

Members of examining committee as well as opponent must not have any conflicts of interest. This applies in relation to both the respondent/doctoral student and the supervisor. For more information on conflicts of interest, see extract from *Guidelines for examination at PhD level at Halmstad University*.

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.

At least one man and at least one woman should be represented in the examining committee.¹ If this can not be achieved, a written statement of reasons for this must be attached to the application for the public defence of the doctoral thesis and the submitted proposal for the examining committee. The motivation should contain a description of how the requirement that both women and men are represented in the examination committee was tried to be fulfilled and why this was not possible to achieve.

¹ Sweden has currently two legal sexes. This does not rule out that an individual can identify in a different way. The text in this template refers to the legal gender, which is the sex registered in the public register.