


SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

MEMORANDUM

**To:** Senate

**From:** D. Gagan, Chair   
Senate Committee on Academic Planning

**Subject:** Change to Graduate General Regulation 1.9.4

**Date:** May 15, 1996

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Action undertaken by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee and the Senate Committee on Academic Planning gives rise to the following motion:

**Motion:**

"That Senate approve ~~and recommend approval to the Board of Governors~~, as set forth in S.96 - 53 , revision to General Regulation 1.9.4 - Preparation for Examination of Doctoral Thesis."

## DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

*Memorandum*

TO: Senate Graduate Studies Committee

FROM: B.P. Clayman  
Dean of Graduate StudiesSUBJECT: Approval of Ph.D. Examining Committees DATE: February 11, 1996

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In the interests of increased efficiency, I propose that we no longer should require the approval of Ph.D. Examining Committees by Faculty Graduate Studies Committees. My impression is that only very rarely is this approval not given. The Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies, under authority delegated by the SGSC, would continue to exercise final approval of Examining Committees.

In addition to cutting workloads at the Faculty level, this change would allow a bit more time for the consideration of the recommendations by Departmental Committees and by my office, prior to the one month lead-time required for thesis distribution. I also suggest that the starting point for the process be 8 weeks rather than 2 months prior to the proposed date of the defence; this will permit Supervisory Committees a few more days to decide on Examiners.

Excerpt from Regulation: **1.9.4 Preparation for Examination of Doctoral Thesis**

## Present Text:

At least two months before the proposed date for the thesis examination the candidate's Supervisory Committee shall make a recommendation concerning the composition of the Examining Committee (in conformity with 1.9.3) and the date of the thesis examination. This recommendation, which shall also include the thesis title, an abstract of the thesis, and a short biography of the proposed External Examiner, shall be sent to the Graduate Program Committee, then to the Faculty Graduate Studies Committee for approval, then to the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies for consideration by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee. The recommendation must reach the Dean of Graduate Studies Office at least five weeks before the examination date.

## Proposed New Text:

At least eight weeks before the proposed date for the thesis examination, the candidate's Supervisory Committee shall make a recommendation concerning the composition of the Examining Committee (in conformity with 1.9.3) and the date of the thesis examination. This recommendation, which shall also include the thesis title, an abstract of the thesis, and a short biography of the proposed External Examiner, shall be sent to the Graduate Program Committee, then to the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies for consideration by the Senate Graduate Studies Committee. The recommendation must reach the Dean of Graduate Studies Office at least six weeks before the examination date.

This matter will be on the agenda of the next meeting of the Senate Graduate Studies Committee.



c. M. McGinn (for distribution to members of the SGSC)  
Deans