

Procedures for PhD *viva voce* examinations School of Medicine

All *viva voce* examinations will be examined through a *PhD Viva Committee* structure.

PhD Viva Committee

Chairperson: Director of Postgraduate Teaching and Learning (or nominee)

External Examiner

Internal Examiner

The Chairperson is present to ensure that the *viva voce* takes place in accordance with the regulations of the University. He/she is not involved in the scientific assessment process.

Presentation

Prior to the *viva voce* examination the candidate will give a presentation (40 mins duration) which will be open to any interested parties within or outside of the School of Medicine. This presentation will be chaired by the chairperson of the Viva committee. The internal and external examiners will attend this presentation, but it is envisaged that most of their questioning of the candidate will occur during the *viva voce* examination. The presentation provides an opportunity for the PhD candidate to share their research findings with members of the School. Given that presentation skills are an important part of PhD training, it also provides a platform for the candidate to demonstrate their ability to present. A notice advertising the PhD research presentation should be sent to Ms. Dara O'Mahony (e-mail: gradapps.hs@tcd.ie) for circulation to members of the School.

Viva Voce examination

The *viva voce* examination will take place immediately following the presentation. The role of the Chairperson is not to examine the thesis but to ensure that all procedures take place in an appropriate fashion. The examiners will evaluate the scientific merit of the thesis and submit independent reports to the Dean of Graduate Studies.

General procedures for examination of a thesis will be as indicated in the College Calendar (Part 2, section 2.14).

Note: It is the responsibility of the *internal examiner* to liaise with the external examiner and chairperson in order to organise the research presentation and *viva voce* examination.