**Oral Examination of a Candidate for the Award of a PhD:**

***Examiner’s Initial Report***

* Please type this report, and ensure that you complete it fully.
* Please complete all of Sections 1-5 inclusive. Please also add your signature and the date in the boxes at the end of the form.
* You are welcome to extend or reduce the length of each section as appropriate.

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| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your Role [*Internal Examiner or External Examiner*]** |  |
| **Name of the Candidate** |  |

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| **Section 1:**  ***What, in your judgement, are the main strengths of the research and/or the thesis?*** |
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| **Section 2:**  ***What, in your judgement, are the main weaknesses of the research and/or the thesis?*** |
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| **Section 3:**  **What are the key issues that you would like to discuss with the candidate during the oral examination?** |
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| **Section 4:**  ***In general, does the candidate appear to have fulfilled the university’s expectations for the award of a doctoral degree?*** | |
| The creation and interpretation of new knowledge, through original research or other advanced scholarship, of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication. | Yes  No |
| A systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of an academic discipline or area of professional practice. | Yes  No |
| The general ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems. | Yes  No |
| A detailed understanding of applicable techniques for research and advanced academic enquiry. | Yes  No |

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| **Section 5:**  ***On the basis of reading the thesis, what is your provisional recommendation? (please tick one box)*** | |
| The candidate should be awarded a PhD. |  |
| The candidate should be awarded a PhD subject to making minor amendments to the thesis. |  |
| The candidate should be awarded a PhD subject to making major amendments to the thesis within 6 months. |  |
| The candidate has not yet satisfied the requirements for the award of a PhD, but should be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit the thesis within 12 months, with or without re-examination for a PhD. |  |
| The candidate has not satisfied the requirements for the award of a PhD, but should be awarded an MPhil. |  |
| The candidate has not satisfied the requirements for the award of a PhD, but should be awarded an MPhil subject to making minor amendments to the thesis. |  |
| The candidate has not satisfied the requirements for the award of a PhD, but should be awarded an MPhil subject to making major amendments to the thesis, with or without re-examination. |  |
| The candidate has not satisfied the requirements for the award of a PhD, should not be given a further opportunity to gain a research degree, and so should fail, with no award. |  |

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| **Your Signature** | **Date:** |
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