

Thesis Evaluation Policy

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BAQAI MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE EDUCATION POLICY

Version 3

2023

1.1.1. External Evaluation of PhD Dissertation

The PhD dissertation must be evaluated by:

- a) At least two external experts who shall be:
 - i. PhD faculty member from the world top 500 universities ranked by the Times Higher Education or QS World Ranking in the year corresponding to dissertation evaluation year OR
 - ii. Pakistan-based Distinguished National Professors, Meritorious Professors from any national university; or professors from top universities ranked by HEC; or professors from any Pakistani University having a minimum H-Index 30 for Sciences and 15 for Social Sciences as determined by Web of Science. OR
- b) At least one external expert qualifying any one of the conditions mentioned at 'a'
 - Above if the PhD candidate publishes dissertation research in a peerreviewed journal that is classified by the HEC in category W for Sciences and X or above for Social Sciences.
 - ii. The following general guidelines shall, at least, be observed while selecting external evaluator as per HEC's criteria:
 - a) Relevance of Expertise: in the same or related fields as in the dissertation.
 - b) No Conflict of Interest: in personal, financial, or professional stakes in a particular decision or outcome.
 - c) Objectivity: capable of making unbiased evaluations.
 - d) Diversity: in terms of geography, culture, professional backgrounds etc.
 - e) Reputation: must be good in the field, with a track record of fair and thorough evaluations.
 - f) Availability: should have the time and availability to review the dissertation.
 - g) Professionalism: capable of conducting themselves in a professional and respectful manner throughout the evaluation and defense process (if applicable).
 - h) Communication: capable of providing clear and constructive feedback on the dissertation.
 - i) Confidentiality: capable of maintaining confidentiality and protecting the intellectual property of the dissertation.
 - j) Compatibility: well-versed with the research methodology, approach, and theories used in the dissertation.