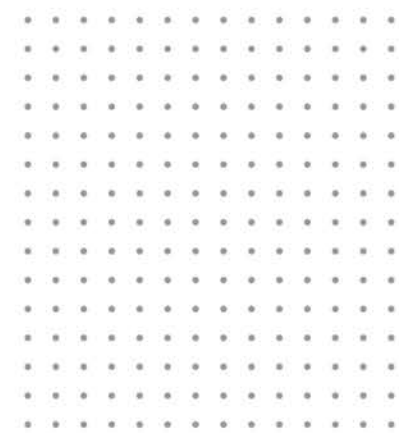




Rules and Regulations of

# Ph.D. Program

at AURO University



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## RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR

# PH.D. PROGRAMME OF AURO UNIVERSITY

Definitions as per UGC Delhi Gazette Notification dated 7th November 2022:

**i. Adjunct Faculty:** Adjunct Faculty means a part-time or contingent instructor, but not a full-time faculty member hired to teach by a Higher Educational Institution;

**ii. Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA):** Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) means a measure of the overall cumulative performance of a student over all semesters. The CGPA is the ratio of total credit points secured by a student in various courses in all semesters and the sum of the total credits of all courses in all semesters. It is expressed up to two decimal places;

**iii. Credit:** Credit means the number of hours of instruction required per week over the duration of a semester. A three-credit course in a semester means three one-hour lectures per week, with each one-hour lecture counted as one credit;

**iv. Course:** Course means one of the specified units which go to comprise a programme of study;

**v. Course Work:** Course work means courses of study prescribed by the School/Department/ Centre to be undertaken by a student registered for the Ph.D. degree;

**vi. Degree:** “Degree means a degree awarded by a Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in accordance with the provisions of section 22 (3) of the UGC Act;

**vii. External Examiner:** External Examiner means an academician/researcher with published research work who is not part of the HEIs where the Ph.D. scholar has registered for the Ph.D. programme;

**viii. Foreign Educational Institution:** Foreign Educational Institution means–(i) an institution duly established or incorporated in its home country and offering educational programmes at the undergraduate, postgraduate and higher levels in its home country and (ii) which offers programme(s) of study leading to the award of a degree through conventional face-to-face mode, but excluding distance, online, ODL mode;

**ix. Grade Point:** Grade Point means a numerical weight allotted to each letter grade on a 10-point scale;

**x. Guide/Research Supervisor:** Guide/Research Supervisor means an academician/researcher recognized by HEIs to supervise the Ph.D. scholar for his/her research;

**xi. Interdisciplinary Research:** Interdisciplinary Research means research conducted by a Ph.D. scholar in two or more academic disciplines;

**xii. Open and Distance Learning Mode:** Open and Distance Learning Mode shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC(Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020;

**xiii. Online Mode:** “Online Mode” shall have the same meaning as defined under the UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations 2020.

**xiv. Plagiarism:** Plagiarism means the practice of taking someone else’s work or idea and passing them as one’s own;

**xv. Programme:** Programme means a higher education programme pursued for a degree specified by the Commission under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the UGC Act;

**xvi. Prospectus:** Prospectus means any document, whether in print or otherwise, issued for providing fair and transparent information relating to a HEIs and Programmes, to the general public (including to those seeking admission in such HEIs) by the Higher Educational Institutions;

**xvii. Research Proposal:** Research Proposal means a brief write-up giving an outline of the proposed research work which the Ph.D. scholar shall submit along with the application for registration for Ph.D. programme;

**xviii. University:** University means a HEI established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act, or a State Act, and shall include any institution for higher education deemed to be a University under Section 3 of the UGC Act.

## **RR.Ph.D.1:Eligibility Criteria for Admission to Ph.D. Programme**

1.1. Candidates who have completed a 1-year/2-semester master’s degree programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor’s degree programme or a 2-year/4-semester master’s degree programme after a 3-year bachelor’s degree programme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master’s degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or an equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accrediting or assure quality and standards of educational institution.

1.2. A relaxation of 5% of marks or its equivalent grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/SEBC (Non-creamy layer)/ Differently-abled, Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC, Government of Gujarat and other statutory bodies, as applicable, from time-to-time, or for those who had obtained their master’s degree prior to 19th September 1991.

1.3. The eligibility marks of 55% (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever the grading system is followed) and the relaxation of 5% to the categories mentioned above are permissible based on the qualifying marks preferably without including the grace mark procedures. It provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor’s degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. a

relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade shall be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC, Government of Gujarat and other Statutory bodies, as applicable, from time-to-time.

1.4. Candidates who have cleared the M.Phil. Course-work with at least 55% marks in aggregate, or its equivalent grade on a point scale, wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved and is on the way to successfully completing the M.Phil. Degree shall be eligible to proceed to research work leading to the Ph.D. degree in the same institution in an integrated programme. A person whose M.Phil. dissertation has been evaluated and the viva voce is pending may be admitted to the Ph.D. programme of the same institution; Candidates possess a degree equivalent to M.Phil. degree of an Indian institution from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accrediting or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. programme.

1.5. Related/Conjunct subject(s) shall be recommended by the concerned School Research Committee (SRC) and approved by AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC). Such introduction of related/conjunct subject(s) will be reported to the Academic Council and the Board of Management through the concerned Board of Studies. Such introduction of related/conjunct subject(s) shall have to be proposed by the concerned School Research Committee (SRC).

1.6. Notwithstanding, anything contained hereinabove, whenever any candidate, after possessing requisite qualification of marks not less than 55% in aggregate or its equivalent grade (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in a particular subject, applies for joining the Ph.D. programme under the subject different from or not related to his/her post-graduation or an allied subject (related/conjunct subject) under the school, he/she may be permitted to join Ph.D. Programme in the desired subject upon recommendation from the School Research Committee (SRC) and approval from the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC). The application for this purpose shall have to be made by the interested candidate to the concerned School. Such cases be reported for information and noting purpose to the Academic Council and the Board of Management.

1.7. Notwithstanding, anything contained hereinabove, a person intends to register for the Ph.D. Degree of this university, working in a national laboratory or an institution outside the AURO university campus recognized by this university to impart guidance and research, is eligible to register for Ph.D. Programme by virtue of having the requisite qualifying degree of this or any university, or equivalent qualification having marks not less than 55% in aggregate or its equivalent (an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed, such applications must be addressed to the concerned School Research Committee (SRC) for consideration and approval by the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC). Such cases be reported for information and noting purpose to the Academic Council and the Board of Management.



## **RR.Ph.D.2: Duration of the Ph.D. Programme:**

2.0 Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three [03] years, including course work and a maximum duration of six [06] years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme. A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.

2.1. A research scholar intending to extend the period of Ph.D. registration beyond the three [03] years/six [06] consecutive semesters from the date of registration/enrollment, and intends to continue the research work shall be required to apply for an extension of Ph.D. registration to the Registrar, in prescribed format through the guide for a research degree to be recommended by the Head of the School concerned at least three (03) months before the expiry of the registration period.

2.2. Registrar may permit such application of extension up to a maximum period of three (03) years/six (06) semesters for Ph.D. programme at once. a research scholar who has extended the period for Ph.D. registration shall be required to submit the Ph.D. thesis within this extended period of three (03) years/six (06) semesters from the first date of registration/enrolment. Candidates who fail to submit the Ph.D. thesis after the maximum extension period of three years to re- register for the program.

2.3. The synopsis of the Ph.D. thesis can be submitted after a minimum period of two (02) years from the date of Ph.D. registration/enrollment, along with the prescribed fees to be deposited to the office of the Registrar forwarded through the guide for a research degree along with the concerned Head of the School.

2.4. Before submission of the synopsis, a research scholar shall be required to present the synopsis before the School Research Committee (SRC) at least one (01) month before the submission of the synopsis. the synopsis shall be submitted to the Controller of Examinations within one (01) month from the date of presentation before the School Research Committee (SRC), with necessary amendment(s)/correction(s), if any, as suggested by the School Research Committee (SRC).

2.5. The minimum time limit for submitting the Ph.D. thesis shall be after thirty (30) months from the date of Ph.D. registration/enrollment, along with the payment of the prescribed fees. However, the Ph.D. degree notification shall be issued only after completion of three (03) years from the date of registration/enrollment. The research scholar registered for the Ph.D. degree shall be required to present an open seminar in the concerned school at least twice a year to review the progress of the research work.

2.6. The women research scholars and research scholars with disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for a Ph.D. programme in the maximum duration in addition, the women research scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave once in the entire duration of Ph.D. studies for up to 240 days. such leave period shall not be considered for counting the aforesaid maximum duration of the Ph.D. programme subject to production of necessary documentary evidence. however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.

2.7. Notwithstanding the provision contained here, the Vice-Chancellor/Provost, in special cases, may permit the research scholar to submit the synopsis and the Ph.D. thesis late by granting necessary renewal. Such research scholar shall be required to pay the necessary additional fees for Ph.D. programme for each additional year(s)/semester(s) or a part thereof, such action be reported to the Academic Council and the Board of Management for information and noting purpose.

2.8. The research scholar registered for Ph.D. programme shall be required to pay the tuition and other fees as prescribed from time to time for all the terms from the date of registration/enrollment up to the date of submission of the thesis on production of six-monthly progress report. However, submission of the six-monthly progress report shall not be required once the research scholar submits the synopsis.

## **RR. Ph.D. 3: Procedure for Admission to Ph.D. Programme & Progression of Research Study:**

3.1. The university shall admit Ph.D. students through an entrance test to be called as AURO Ph.D. Entrance Test (APET) to be conducted by AURO University. The candidate who has qualified in the National Level Eligibility Test /State Level Eligibility Test, Teacher Fellowship Tests or the Tests such as UGC-CSIR/NET/GSET/GATE/GPAT/DBT/ICMR/ICAR/JRF/NBHM/INSPIRE/ or such other eligibility tests of national level, as recognized equivalent thereto by Vice Chancellor or an applicant who has passed M.Phil. Programme shall be exempted from appearing in the Ph.D. entrance test to be conducted by the AURO University.

3.2. The candidates otherwise fulfilling the requirements as stated in RR.Ph.D.1 but have not qualified in the National/State Level Eligibility Test (NET/) or the Tests such as UGC-CSIR/NET/GATE/DBT/ICMR/ICAR/JRF/Teacher fellowship tests etc. shall have to qualify in the APET to be conducted in the concerned subject by AURO university.

3.3. A relaxation of 5% of marks or its equivalent grade in APET will be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/SEBC (Non-creamy layer)/ Differently-abled, Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the UGC, Government of Gujarat and other statutory bodies, as applicable, from time-to-time

### **3.4. The offer and conduct of Ph.D. Programme shall include following :**

3.4.1. To decide on an annual basis a predetermined and manageable number of Ph.D. scholars to be admitted depending on the number of available guides for a research degree and availability of other academic and physical facilities keeping in mind the norms regarding the research scholar: teacher ratio, lab oratory, library and such other facilities as the case may be;

3.4.2. The concerned teacher as recognized Ph.D. research guide shall be required to inform about the availability of positions for Ph.D. students through the concerned Head of the School.

3.4.3. The AURO university shall be required to be advertised in at least two (2) national newspapers, of which at least one (1) shall be in the regional language, and such Ph.D.

admission announcement notification shall have to be posted on the AURO university website.

3.4.4. The AURO university shall be required to notify well in advance through a prospectus should specify the number of seats for admission, subject/discipline-wise distribution of available seats, criteria for admission, the procedure for admission, and all other relevant information for the candidates to be uploaded on the university website.

3.4.5. Admission to the Ph.D. programme shall adhere to the National/State-level reservation policy, as applicable.

3.5. The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the university, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the UGC and other concerned Statutory Bodies/Councils etc. in force and be amended from time to time.

3.6. The AURO university shall admit candidates for Ph.D. by a two-stage process through:

3.6.1. AURO Ph.D. Entrance Test (APET) shall be regarded as a qualifying test with qualifying Marks of 50%.

3.6.2. The syllabus of the APET shall consist of 50% of Research Methodology, and 50% shall be subject-specific.

3.6.3. The selection of candidates based on the APET (online/offline) which shall carry a weightage of 70 % for the performance in the APET and 30 % for the performance in the interview (online/offline).

3.6.4. An interview (online/offline) shall be organized by the concerned School Research Committee. The candidates must discuss their research proposal/research interest/area through a presentation before a duly constituted School Research Committee.

**3.6.5. The interview shall also consider the following aspects, viz. whether:**

3.6.5.1. The candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;

3.6.5.2. The research work can be suitably undertaken at the University;

3.6.5.3. The proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.

3.6.6. The university shall decide the number of eligible students to be called for an interview based on the availability of the number of Ph.D. seats.

3.6.7. A student has to pay yearly fees/half-yearly fees, as prescribed from time-to-time, and in force, for admission required under relevant regulations. The student shall apply for admission to the university only after obtaining the certificate of eligibility on the production of the required documents and the prescribed fees. On receipt of the completed application for registration and the prescribed fees, the university will issue a registration certificate showing the name of the research scholar, the date of registration, the title of the research and the year in which the research scholar is entitled to submit the thesis.

3.7. The Controller of Examinations, and concerned school shall maintain the list of Ph.D. supervisors (specifying the name of the supervisor, his or her designation, and the

school, along with the details of Ph.D. scholars (specifying the name of the registered Ph.D. scholar, the topic of his/her research and the date of admission) admitted under them in the concerned school and shall also upload the same on the website of the university which shall also be required annually in each academic year by the university.

3.8. A research scholar for the Ph.D. degree after registration shall be required to work for a minimum period of two years under the guidance of a guide for a research degree. Employees who are in-service in any other recognized university/college/research institute/industry/organization etc., in India and have a minimum of three years teaching/research experience will be considered for registration for a Ph.D. degree only if they get a 'No Objection Certificate from the parent organization.

3.9. Teacher (s) of this university, if wishes to pursue Ph. D in this university, S/he shall be required to submit the 'No Objection Certificate' from the concerned Head of the School [to the effect of his/her research work shall not adversely affect the teaching assignment of the concerned school.

3.10. An employee belonging to non-teaching /administrative staff, if S/he wishes to pursue Ph. D in this university, S/he shall be required to submit the 'No Objection Certificate' from the office of the 'Registrar" to the effect of his/her Research work shall not adversely affect the administrative duties and responsibilities of the university.

3.11. Under essentially required conditions, the research scholar may apply to the School Research Committee to transmit to undertake the research work for a maximum of 12 months in the institute of the Co-Guide. The School Research Committee may ordinarily permit the same to undertake the research work for a maximum of 12 months. Any extension shall require the prior approval of the School Research Committee.

3.12. In case of essentiality, a research scholar may apply for the 'Change of Title for Ph.D. Thesis' to the School Research Committee through his/her guide for a research degree. After proper academic consideration, the School Research Committee (SRC) may recommend the application appropriately to the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC), empowered to approve such applications. The information to this effect shall be required to be submitted to the Office of Registrar & Controller of Examinations for making the necessary changes in the university records and also its copy shall be required to be sent to research guide and concerned Head of the School as the case may be.

3.13. Guide for a research degree may propose the cancellation of Ph.D. registration, if the research scholar is not exhibiting/showing satisfactory progress to the School Research Committee, then the recommendations of the School Research Committee (SRC) will be suitably considered by the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC), which shall be empowered to cancel the registration of a research scholar. Such action shall be required to be performed by the Office of Registrar in coordination with the Controller of Examinations for making the necessary changes in the university records and also its copy shall be required to be sent to concerned research guide and concerned Head of the School as the case may be.

3.14. A research scholar may propose for withdrawal of his/her Ph.D. registration, for whatsoever reason(s), to the School Research Committee. The recommendations of the School Research Committee (SRC) will be suitably considered by the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC), which shall be empowered to cancel the registration of a



research scholar. Such action shall be required to the Office of Registrar & Controller of Examinations for making the necessary changes in the university records and also its copy shall be required to be sent to research guide and concerned Head of the School as the case may be.

### **3.15. Admission of International Students to the Ph.D. Programme:**

3.16.1: Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a super-numerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in these regulations.

3.16.2: The university shall decide its own selection procedure for Ph.D. admission of international students keeping in view the guidelines/norms issued by statutory/regulatory bodies concerned in force and that be amended from time to time.

## **R.R.Ph.D.4: Eligibility Criteria and Allocation of the Guide/Co-Guide & Number of Ph.D. Scholars Permissible Per Guide for Research Degree:**

4.0. Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of the AURO University with a Ph.D., and at least 05 research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors the AURO University with a Ph.D., and at least 03 research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a research supervisor in the AURO university. Such recognized research supervisors of the AURO University cannot supervise research scholars in other HEIs., where S/he can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by a university under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the university would be in violation of the UGC Regulations.

4.1. For Ph.D. scholars working in Central Government/ State Government/research institutions whose degrees are given by HEIs, the scientists in such research institutions who are equivalent to Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can be recognized as supervisors if S/he fulfill the requirements as per the UGC Regulations.

4.2. Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the university may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as research supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.

4.3. Co-Supervisors/Co-Guides from within the same School or other Schools of the university or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the Academic Council and Board of Management.

4.4. Adjunct Faculty Members and Professor of Practice shall NOT act as Research Supervisors. But, S/he can only act as Co-Supervisors/Co-Guides.

4.5. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a Co-Supervisors/Co-Guides from outside the university may be appointed.

4.6. An eligible Professor can guide up to 08 where as an Associate Professor can guide up to 06 and an Assistant Professor can guide up to 04 Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.

4.7. In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the HEI to which the scholar

4.8. intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the AURO university and guide/supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however be required to give due credit to the AURO university and guide/supervisor for the part of research already undertaken by him or her at the AURO university.

4.9. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation.

4.10. Every recognized Guide for a research degree must be attached to the School of this university, and the recognition will continue so long as one answers the designation on the basis of which the recognition was granted till the date of retirement/ resignation and/or if the services of such guide for a research degree is continued as per the UGC's Scheme. The AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) shall be empowered to allow to discontinue/transfer/extend/continue the guidship of such guide/co-guide for research degree either for those already registered research scholars or for the remaining period of the services, as the case may be. Those guide/co-guide for research degrees whose services are extended under the scheme of statutory bodies will be permitted to register new research scholars within the first year of the newly extended period within the stipulation above. Such action shall be required to be reported to the Registrar through proper channel for making necessary changes in the university records and is to be reported to the Board of Management through the Academic Council for noting.

4.11. In case of topics which are inter-disciplinary in nature and where the school concerned feels that the expertise in the school has to be supplemented from outside, the School Research Committee may recommend a co-guide for the research degree, with the approval of the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC). Such application for recognition of the co-guide shall be granted by the Vice Chancellor/Provost and reported to the Board of Management for information through the Academic Council upon such terms and conditions as may be specified and agreed upon as the case may be.

4.12. Further, a research scholar registered under a guide of any subject in any School may request permission to have a co-guide from any national laboratory or research institution outside the university or any other school within this university. Such request shall be required to be considered and approved by the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) of the University.

4.13. The School Research Committee, on the recommendation of the guide for a research degree, may recommend the scholars of eminence outside the school/university, who shall be residing in India or abroad, as co-guide from the institution recognized for imparting the research studies or any institution with repute.

4.14. The allocation of a Guide/Co-Guide for a selected Research scholar shall be decided by the concerned School depending on the number of scholars per guide for the research degree, the available specialization among the guides for research degree/co-guide and research interests of the research scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview.

4.15. The School Research Committee shall have to recommend the application for

4.16. Guide/Co-Guide to the university through the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC). The recognition of a guide/co-guide shall be as per the stipulated rules as specified in these regulations of this university.

4.17. The following shall be the guidelines to which the Academic Council will give due consideration while recognizing external guides/co-guide(s) (persons from outside the university) for research degrees as qualified for guiding research scholars for Ph. D. degree:

4.16 Any person from institutions/laboratories or research institutions / industry/ Government schools / institutions etc., be deemed recognized guide/ co-guide(s) for research degree for guiding Ph.D. research scholars with referring their cases to the Academic Council and the Board of Management, provided such persons are from scientific / technical / managerial / administrative / Government cadre and having Ph.D. degree in the respective subject. However, such a person shall submit a formal application in the prescribed form to the university for recognition as a guide/ co-guide(s) provided that s/he fulfills following :

**4.16.1:S/he has obtained the Ph.D. degree:**

4.16.2 S/he should have obtained a master's degree with at least 55% having a consistently good academic record or its equivalent grade (an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by the ministry of education, and the degree of Ph.D. has been accorded equivalence by AIU, New Delhi.

4.16.3 The guide for the research degree must ensure that the co-guide(s) maintains active academic interaction with the university.

4.16.4 Viva-voce examination of the research scholar will be held in the concerned university school. However, the Vice Chancellor/ Provost is empowered to take appropriate decisions in exigency conditions on a case-to-case basis.

4.17 In the case of a student registered in this university working under a recognized co-guide for a research degree from a recognized institution outside the university the Head of the concerned School will act as Coordinator for establishing liaison between the research scholar, and the co-guide as the case may be.

The following are the responsibilities of the Coordinator for such purpose:

4.17.1 The coordinator needs to ensure that the research scholar comes to the university school at least twice a year to present the progress of the research work done during the year to the concerned School Research Committee.

4.17.2 Coordinating for the appointment of an external examiner/referee.

4.17.3 Coordinating with the external examiner for the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination.

#### **4.18 Change of a Guide/Co-Guide for Research Degree:**

4.18.0 A research scholar desirous of changing the guide/co-guide for a research degree shall apply to the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) through both the existing guide for a research degree and the proposed guide for a research degree through concerned Head of the School to AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) which shall be empowered to take befitting decision and shall act on such application with suitable reason(s) to be recorded in writing. The information to this effect shall be required to be submitted to the Office of Registrar & Controller of Examinations for making the necessary changes in the university records and also its copy shall be required to be sent to Research Guide and concerned Head of the School as the case may be.

#### **4.19 Equivalence for Ph.D.:**

4.19.1. As per the AICTE Notification dated 01/03/2019, the person of eminence wishing to become the guide for research degree who not hold the Ph.D. degree but has Five Research publications in the UGC CARE Reference List, SCOPUS Listing or WEB of Sciences with the criteria that each journal has a cumulative impact index of not less than 2.0, with the incumbent as the primary author and all 05 publications being in the authors' area of specialization;

**OR**

4.19.2. An incumbent should have obtained at least two patents;

**OR**

4.19.3 An incumbent contributed to the increased productivity in the place of work recognized at the State or National level or elected as a Fellow of any of the National academies. However, the administrative procedure of providing such equivalence for a Ph.D. shall require to be devised and followed by the university.

#### **4.20: Withdrawal of Recognition for Guide/ Co-guide for Research Degree:**

Notwithstanding, the Board of Management may, at any time, on the recommendation of the Academic Council shall be empowered to withdraw the recognition of a guide/co-guide for a research degree.

RR.Ph.D.5 : Coursework: Credit Requirements, Number, Duration, Syllabus, Minimum Standards for Completion, etc.

5.1 The coursework shall be considered a prerequisite for awarding a Ph.D. degree. All research scholars admitted to the Ph.D. The programme shall be required to complete the coursework prescribed by the concerned school during the initial one or two semesters.

5.2. The credits assigned to the Ph.D. coursework shall be a minimum of 12 credits and a maximum of 16 credits.

5.3. The credit requirement for the Ph.D. coursework is a minimum of 12 credits, including a compulsory course on "Research and Publication Ethics" and a 'Research Methodology'.

5.4. School level 04 credits shall be assigned to one or more courses on 'Research Methodology', which could cover areas such as Quantitative methods, Computer Applications, Research Ethics and Review of published research in the relevant field, training, fieldwork, etc. Other shall be advanced-level courses for preparing the research scholar for the Ph.D. degree.

5.5. All courses prescribed for Ph.D. coursework conform with the credit hour instructional requirement and specify the content, instructional and assessment methods.

5.6. Based on the need for an approved research topic for the studies, which the Guide for research degree considers necessary and that the research scholar must acquire proficiency in these areas as well.

5.7. The School Research Committee (SRC) shall suggest courses related to the subject within and outside the school, equivalent to at least 06 credits (01 Credit = 15 hours of teaching) in the relevant area. This School level course-work may also include other specialized areas of studies.

5.8. The School Research Advisory Committee can also recommend UGC recognized online courses as part of the credit requirements for the Ph.D. programme.

5.9. All courses as part of Ph.D. coursework shall require to be duly approved by the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) upon recommendation by the School Research Committee (SRC).

5.10. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week of teaching/research assistantship for conducting tutorial or laboratory work and evaluations.

5.11. All Ph.D. scholars, irrespective of discipline, shall be required to train in Teaching / Education/Pedagogy/writing related to their chosen Ph.D. subject during their doctoral period.

5.12. Grades in the course-work, including Research Methodology Courses, shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the School Research Committee. The certification of the final grades in the prescribed format shall be communicated to the University by the concerned Head of the School by informing the Research scholar concerned and the Guide for a research degree.

5.13. Ph.D. scholar must obtain a minimum of 55% marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 10-point scale in the Ph.D. course work to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit his or her thesis.

5.14. A research scholar having completed the Pre-Ph.D. course-work from another university and moving to the AURO University shall be exempted from the course-work. The credits so obtained shall be treated at par with the credits of this university. However, such a research scholar will have to appear in the AURO University Ph.D Entrance Test (APET) as applicable to fresh candidates directly registering for Ph.D.

5.15. Candidates already holding M. Phil. degree and admitted to the Ph.D. Programme or those who have already completed the coursework in M.Phil. and have been permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. Programme (including integrated Ph.D. Programme, if any) may be exempted by the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) from the Ph.D. course-work.



## **RR.Ph.D.6: The Functions & Responsibilities of the School Research Committee (SRC), & The AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC):**

6.1. There shall be School Research Committee (SRC) in each of the school of the university.

The School Research Committee (SRC) shall be constituted as under:

I. Head of the concerned School – Chairperson

II. Guide for Research Degree – Convener

III. An Outside Expert from the concerned subject [To be nominated by Vice Chancellor] – Member

IV. One Professor [S/he must be a Guide for Research Degree] – Co-Chairman

V. One Associate Professor [S/he must be a Guide for Research Degree] – Member

VI. One Assistant Professor [S/he must be a Guide for Research Degree] – Member

6.1.1. Where the Guide for the research degree is also the Head of the School concerned, then a Dean [Research] provided S/he is a recognized Ph.D. guide or in case of his/her non-availability, other senior recognized Ph D Guide of the school be included in the School Research Committee (SRC).

6.1.2. Where the Guide for a research degree is Dean [Academic/Research] concerned, other two senior recognized Ph D Guide of the School be included in the School Research Committee (SRC).

6.1.3. If the School concerned does not have the required number of senior recognized Ph D Guide, then such a number of senior recognized Ph D Guide from “other related School(s) of the AURO university” concerned be included in the School Research Committee (SRC) so that in any given situation, the School Research Committee (SRC) consists of not less than two other such teachers in addition to the Guide for a research degree.

6.1.4. The School Research Committee (SRC) shall meet at least once every three months and the proceedings of the concerned School Research Committee (SRC) shall be placed before the concerned Boards of Studies and AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) as defined herein for information and notes about the actions within its empowerment.

### **The School Research Committee (SRC) shall perform the following functions and fulfill its responsibilities.**

i. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research;

ii. To guide the research scholar to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he /she may have to do so;

- iii. To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the research scholar;
- iv. To hold the interview and viva-voce for the research scholar intending to join the Ph.D. and recommend the area of research based on the review of the research proposal;
- v. To recommend the Guide for research degree as per the area of research of the applicant;
- vi. To recommend the application of research from the candidate to undergo the research work under the interdisciplinary subject/subject not related to the qualifying post-graduate degree;
- vii. To recommend the conjunct/related subject(s) for the concerned school;
- viii. To suggest, recommend and prescribe the subjects and areas of school level course-work;
- ix. To review the progress of research work periodically upon the presentation from the research scholar and assist in the progress of the research work of the research scholar/self-guide;
- x. To recommend the cases of researcher wherein the title of Ph.D. need to be altered/changed on the merit of an application;
- xi. To vet, scrutinize and recommend the applications for the Guide/ Co-Guide from within the University or outside the University under a recognized Institution for imparting the research work or an institution of repute, if need be, and dealt with the extension of research work outside the university;
- xii. To attend the Open Public Viva-voce (Open Defense) and recommend the critique, if any;
- xiii. To review/examine ethical issues involved in undertaking research on the topic, its methodology plan of the research scholar and suggests changes required (if any), as applicable.
- xiv. To undertake such other duties, as recommended and entrusted upon, in order to elevate the research standards from time to time.

6.1. A research scholar shall appear before the School Research Committee (SRC) once in six months to make a virtual/physical presentation of the progress of the research work for evaluation and further guidance. The six-monthly progress reports shall be submitted by the School Research Committee (SRC) to the University with a copy to the research scholar.

6.2. In case the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the School Research Committee (SRC) shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measure(s). If, the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures. In that case, the School Research Committee (SRC) may recommend to the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) with specific reasons for the cancellation of the registration of the research scholar.

### **6.3. There shall be an AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) at the University Level for Ph.D. scholars.**

The AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) shall be constituted as under:

1. Vice Chancellor /PROVOST - Chairperson
2. Dean ( Research)
3. Heads of the Schools – Co-Chairperson
4. Two Outside Experts from the concerned subject [To be nominated by Vice-Chancellor] – Members

The ARAC shall meet at least once in a quarter and submits the proceedings to the Registrar for placing the same before the ensuing meeting of the Academic Council, as the case may be.

### **The AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) Committee shall perform the following functions and fulfill its responsibilities:**

- i. To vet, scrutinize and approve the applications for the Guide for research degree as per the criteria laid down in the regulations in force for Ph.D.;
- ii. To vet, scrutinize and recommend the application for Co-guide received from the School Research Committee (SRC) to the University;
- iii. To vet, scrutinize, approve and report the application for Research work under an interdisciplinary subject/subject not related to the qualifying post-graduate degree;
- iv. To consider and approve the recommendation of the School Research Committee (SRC) with regard to 'Change of the Title for Ph.D. Thesis'; approve the same on the merit of the case and report the same to Academic Council;
- v. To consider, approve and report the matters related to the cases of cancellation/withdrawal of Ph.D. Registration intended by either the Guide for the research degree or the research scholar, as the case may be;
- vi. To consider and approve the applications for change of the Guide for a research degree, upon the merit of the application and on a case-to-case basis, and report the same to the same to the Academic Council;
- vii. To consider and approve the school level course-work as prescribed and recommended by School Research Committee (SRC);
- viii. To consider, accept and report the applications of continuation of Guide for research degree after retirement from the University;
- ix. To finalize the grades of the school level course-work in consultation with the concerned school;

- x. To recommend the names of the external examiners in those subjects/schools wherein the specific Board of Studies and/or subject do not exist;
- xi. To oversee the overall research activity of the School as a whole periodically and to undertake such other duties as deemed fit to elevate the faculty's research standards from time to time.

## **RR.Ph.D.7.: Evaluation and Assessment Methods, Minimum Standards/Credits for Award of the Degree:**

7.1. Upon satisfactory completion of coursework and obtaining a minimum of 55% of marks in the prescribed grade point scale and structure of the university, the Ph.D. scholars shall be required to undertake research work and produce a draft of PhD thesis.

7.2. At most One (01) month prior to the submission of the Ph.D. synopsis, the Research scholar shall make a presentation before the School Research Committee (SRC), which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars. The feedback and comments obtained from them may be suitably incorporated into the Ph.D. Thesis in consultation with the School Research Committee (SRC).

7.3. The university shall do needful for providing facilities of access of well-developed software applications to detect Plagiarism in research work to teachers, research scholars and post-graduate students of this university.

7.4. The research integrity shall be an integral part of all the research activities of this university leading to the award of a Ph.D. degree.

7.5. A Ph.D. scholar shall submit the thesis for evaluation, along with (a) an undertaking from the Ph.D. scholar that there is no plagiarism and (b) a certificate from the research supervisor attesting to the originality of the thesis and that the thesis has not been submitted for the award of any other degree/diploma to any other HEIs.

7.6. The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by his/her research supervisor and at least two external examiners who are experts in the field and not in employment of this university. Such examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the field. Wherever possible, one of the external examiners should be chosen from outside India.

7.7. The viva-voce board shall consist of the research supervisor and at least one of the two external examiners and may be conducted online. The viva-voce shall be open to each of the faculty member, and members of the SRC & ARAC as well as research scholars, and students.

7.8. The viva-voce of the Ph.D. scholar to defend the thesis shall be conducted if both the external examiners recommend acceptance of the thesis after incorporating any corrections suggested by them. If one of the external examiners recommends rejection, the university shall send the thesis to an alternate external examiner from the approved panel of examiners, and the viva-voce examination shall be held only if the alternate examiner recommends acceptance of the thesis. If the alternate examiner does not recommend acceptance of the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected, and the Ph.D. scholar

shall be declared ineligible for the award of a Ph.D.

7.9. The office of Registrar in coordination with the office of the Controller of Examinations shall ensure completion of the entire process of evaluating a Ph. D. thesis, including the declaration of the viva-voce result, within a period of six (6) months from the date of submission of the thesis.

7.10. The research scholar will be allowed to submit synopsis on completion of two (02) years (extendable up to a maximum period of 04 years from the date of Ph.D. registration).

7.11. The research scholar, after submission of the synopsis, shall require to submit the Ph.D. Thesis within a maximum period of 01 year, failing to which S/he needs to propose an additional period of extension, not beyond the 03 years and or 06 Semesters within the maximum permissible limit as stipulated in these regulations.

7.12. An application of extension must be forwarded through the Guide for a research degree, through the Head of the School concerned upon the recommendation of the School Research Committee (SRC). Such application may be duly considered and permitted by the Registrar within the stipulated period of Ph.D. registration .

7.13. The Ph.D. thesis can be submitted at any time during the academic year.

7.14. The Ph.D. thesis shall be written in English; otherwise, when its subject matter is related to or based on a modern European or Indian language, it may be written in the relevant language.

7.15. The Board of Studies concerned shall recommend a list of at least 08 examiners for evaluation of Ph.D. thesis. In the case of those subjects, where, there is no Board of Studies; the AURO Research Advisory Committee (ARAC) shall be empowered to submit names of External Examiners.

7.16. 02 examiners shall be preferably from the outside country, and 06 shall be from within the country, out of which not more than 02 shall be from within the tState of Gujarat.

7.17. Vice Chancellor/Provost of the university is empowered to relax this requirement upon the academic considerations on a case-to-case basis, for which the reasons are to be recorded in writing and shall be reported to the Board of Management through the Academic Council for information and Noting purpose.

7.18. It is desirable to have the external examiners, preferably from university schools/ reputed institutions/premier institutes, and she/he should preferably be a professor.

7.19. External Examiner once appointed by Vice Chancellor/ Provost and assigned the responsibility to act as examiner for Ph.D. Thesis, his/her name should not be recommended by the concerned Board of Studies for another period of 01 academic year again.

7.20. The format for the recommendation of the panel of external examiners must include certification for this criterion. certification for fulfilling this criterion shall be obtained from the chairman/chairperson of the concerned board of studies through concerned head of the school for the research work. in extraordinary circumstances, the



Vice Chancellor / Provost is authorized to relax this condition.

7.21. The Panel of external examiners shall be recommended by the guide for research degree directly to the office of the Controller of Examinations. The same will be placed for due consideration before the concerned Board of Studies at its meeting. The same will be finalized at the meeting itself and submitted in a sealed envelope to the Controller of Examinations, the AURO University, Surat.

7.22. Guide for a research degree, while recommending the list of examiners, shall have to ensure that the examiners are well below the superannuation age in force as of now or be amended from time to time by the Government of Gujarat.

7.23. Concerned guide(s)/co-guides of research degree shall also be invited during the meeting of the Board of Studies as an invitee member, or he/she shall have to be included in the chain of circulation while consideration for finalization of the panel of external examiners, if he/she is not the member of respective Board of Studies, as the case may be.

7.24. In case, if the Board of Studies is not likely to meet, the panel of external examiners shall be recommended by circulation among all the concerned Board of Studies members. The provisional panel of referees submitted by the guide for research degree shall be sent for circulation through an e-mail by the office of Controller of Examinations.

7.23. Following documents are to be submitted while submission of Ph.D. synopsis:

1. Forwarding letter duly signed by the guide, the Head of the School concerned as well as and Dean (Research);
2. Final eligibility certificate (If applicable);
3. Ph.D. registration certificate;
4. Course-work certificate/M.Phil. Degree Certificate;
5. Extension letter and/or renewal letter (If applicable);
6. Last term fee slip (Paid)
7. Guide change letter (if applicable)
8. Filled examination form (If applicable)
9. Panel submission certificate

7.23.1. At most, 01 month prior to the submission of the Ph.D. synopsis, the research scholar shall make a presentation before the School Research Committee (SRC), which shall also be open to all faculty members and other research scholars. The feedback and comments obtained from them may be suitably incorporated into the Ph.D. thesis in consultation with the School Research Committee (SRC).

7.23.2. All the members of the concerned Boards of Studies will be given 10 working days' time for vetting of the submitted Panel of referees in light of the submitted Synopsis.

7.23.3. If all the members of the Boards of Studies agree for the panel of referees, then such agreement will be communicated to the office of Registrar & Controller of Examinations.

**7.23.4.** If no communication(s) is(are) received within 10 working days, from the members of the Boards of Studies, then it will be presumed that all the members of Boards of Studies agree of the submitted panel of referees, and the office of Controller of Examinations will process the Panel of referees further.

**7.23.5.** Chairperson of the concerned Board of Studies shall finally submit the sealed envelope of the panel of external examiners to the office of Controller of Examinations. The Controller of Examinations may permit such a proposal of allowing the finalization of the panel of examiners through circulation.

**7.24** The Ph.D. scholars should preferably publish at least 01 research paper and make 02 paper presentations in conference(s)/seminar(s) before the submission of the Ph.D. Thesis for adjudication, and submit the evidence for the same.

**7.25** Before submission of Ph.D. thesis, each research scholar shall be required to fulfil the requirements prescribed by the Academic Council of the AURO University, Surat, with respect to the detection of plagiarism and any other forms of academic dishonesty.

**7.26** The Ph.D. Thesis shall be submitted in spiral bound/softbound/book type bound form along with a soft copy [in PDF Format] as per the required format along with the following attachments:

**7.26.1.** 02 copies of the 'Abstract' (Other than the Synopsis) shall be submitted in the prescribed format to the office of the Controller of Examinations, the AURO University, Surat. The research scholar and the guide for research degree shall jointly sign, verify and ensure that the contents of the hard copy and soft copy matches and are submitted in the prescribed format.

**7.26.2.** The research scholar shall submit 02 hard copies of the Ph.D. thesis along with soft copies (in MS-Word and/or PDF) (in 03 separate CDs/Pen drive) (02 for external examiners + 01 proof of submission) and submit an acknowledgement of the receipt from Controller of Examinations to the research Guide and the concerned Head of the School as the case may be.

**7.26.3.** The softcopy of the executive summary of the Ph.D. thesis consisting of the table of contents, brief research methodology, the key findings, implications, conclusions, and the recommendations/suggestions etc., along with the bibliography and webliography for hosting the same on the website of the university website for a period of 10 days.

**7.27.** The following modality will have to be followed by the Office of Controller of Examinations after forwarding the Ph.D. thesis for evaluation:

**7.27.1.** The executive summary needs to be uploaded on the university website.,. If, no suggestions/comments are received within 10 days of hosting the research work, the same will be recorded.

**7.27.2.** As soon as the joint final consolidated report on the open public viva-voce (open defense) examinations is received from the guide for the research degree and the external examiner(s), the Vice Chancellor is authorized for the acceptance of the thesis of the Ph.D. degree.

**7.27.3.** The Controller of Examinations shall notify the Ph.D. notification of the concerned research scholar after observance of due administrative formalities.

**7.28. The Ph.D. thesis to be submitted should fulfill the following specifications:**

**7.28.1. The paper used for printing shall be of A4 size.**

**7.28.2. Printing shall be standardized on both sides of the paper and in 1.5 line spacing.**

**7.28.3. A margin of 1.5 inches shall be on the left-hand side.**

**7.28.4. The card for cover shall not be more than 330 GSM.**

**7.28.5. The title of the Ph.D. the thesis, name of the research scholar, degree, and name of the guide for the research degree, details about the name of the concerned school, and the month and year of submission shall be required to be printed on the title page and the front cover of the final Ph.D. thesis as the case may be.**

**7.29. The Vice Chancellor shall appoint two 02 external examiners to evaluate Ph.D. thesis from among the names (preferably professors or equivalent in ranks) approved by the academic council upon the recommendation of the panel of examiners by the relevant Board of Studies.**

**7.30. The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar for a research degree shall be evaluated by at least two external examiners who are not in the employment of the AURO university, Surat.**

**7.31. The external examiners shall submit a detailed report on the evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis and clear recommendations as per the prescribed format to be prepared and put to use by the office of the Controller of Examinations.**

**7.32. The open public viva-voce (open defense) Examination of the research scholar to defend the Ph.D. thesis shall be conducted only if the external examiners' evaluation reports are satisfactory and include a specific and positive recommendation for award of the Ph.D. degree and conducting the open public viva-voce examination.**

**7.33. In case, if the external examiner(s) ask for certain clarifications before giving their clear recommendation. In that case, the guide for a research degree shall coordinate with the research scholar to obtain the required information and communicate the same to the external examiner. In such cases, where the external examiners reserve their recommendations and suggest an open public viva-voce (open defense) examination and if the research scholar satisfies the viva-voce committee [The Guide for a research degree and the external examiner (chairperson) present], on the points raised by the two/one external examiners. If the external examiners of the Ph.D. thesis reports that the Ph.D. thesis is unsatisfactory and does not recommend for award of the Ph D degree and conducting the open public viva-voce examination, in such case, the Controller of Examinations, AURO University, Surat, shall forward the Ph.D. Thesis to another external examiner to be appointed by Vice-Chancellor, from out of the approved panel of examiners.**

**7.34. Provided further that when it is decided to appoint a third external examiner, the copies of the reports of both the earlier appointed external examiners, favorable and or adverse, will be sent to the third external examiner for the perusal, without disclosing their identities to him or her.**

**The open public viva-voce (open defense) examination shall be held only if the report of the latest (third) external examiner is satisfactory. If, the report of the newest external**

examiner is also unsatisfactory; the Ph.D. thesis shall be summarily rejected, and the research scholar shall be declared 'Ineligible' for the award of the Ph.D. degree.

7.35. If both the external examiners consider that the Ph.D. thesis is unacceptable for the award of the Ph.D. degree, open public viva-voce (open defense) examination test of the research scholar shall not be conducted, and the reports of all the external examiners shall be placed before the Board of Management. The decision of the Board of Management shall be considered as final for non-award of the Ph.D. degree, as the case may be.

7.36. After the receipt of the reports of the external examiner(s) as prescribed herein under, the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination shall be proposed by the guide for research degree by inviting in person at least one of the external examiners who has evaluated the Ph.D. thesis [In case of virtual open public viva-voce (open defense), the guide for research degree must invite both the external examiners for conducting the virtual public viva-voce (open defense)].

7.37. The physical open public viva-voce (open defense) examination, based among other things, on the critiques given in the Ph.D. thesis evaluation report, shall be conducted by the guide for research degree and at least one of the external examiners [in case of virtual open public viva-voce (open defense), the guide for research degree must invite both the external examiners for conducting the virtual public viva-voce (open defense)]. Public Viva-voce (Open defense) shall be open to be attended by the members of the School Research Committee (SRC) as well as all other members of the Academic Council, members of Board of Studies of the concerned School or any other faculty member of the university as well as registered research scholars, research associate, concerned post-graduate students and any other interested experts/researchers may be permitted to attend open public viva-voce (open defense) examinations, as the case may be

7.38. Open public viva-voce (open defense) examination of the Ph.D. thesis:

7.38.1. The open public viva-voce (open defense) examination shall be chaired by the external examiner and in the presence of the guide for the research degree.

7.38.2. If the external examiner is unable to remain present at the time of the defense, the Vice Chancellor, on the recommendation of the guide for the research degree and the Head of the School concerned, shall appoint a senior recognized Ph.D. guide for the research degree to act as the Chairperson for the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination of the Ph.D. thesis.

7.38.3. In case the Guide for a research degree is unavailable, the Vice Chancellor shall appoint one of the senior recognized Ph.D. Guide for a research degree on the recommendation of the Head of the School concerned to act as an internal examiner for the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination of the Ph.D. thesis.

7.38.4. The Controller of Examinations shall notify the day, date, time and place for the conduct of open public viva-voce (open defense) examinations of Ph.D. thesis at least 03 days in advance. Generally, the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination of the Ph.D. thesis shall be required to be held in the university. However, in exceptional cases, the Vice Chancellor may allow the conducting of open public viva-voce (open defense) examination outside the AURO University, Surat. In such a case, the procedure and norms for conducting the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination, pay-

ments, etc., shall be as laid down by the office of the Controller of Examinations of the university.

7.38.5. An open public viva-voce (open defense) examination must be conducted in the videography. Controller of Examinations shall be required to separately preserve, store and maintain the safe custody of the footage of the open public viva-voce (open defense) examinations for each research scholar. These footages are primarily to be shared only on approval of the Board of Management.

7.39. To have academic enrichment, the external examiner visiting the school be invited to deliver at least one lecture/interaction with the students, research scholars and staff members. Extra honorarium be paid from the university's budget.

7.40. After the successful completion of the open public viva voce (open defense) examination, both the guide for the research degree and the external examiner (chairperson) shall prepare a joint final consolidated report on the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination [in case of virtual public viva voce (open defense), both the external examiners, through an e-mail to the guide for research degree] and certify that all suggested changes have been incorporated along with the reply given to the queries raised by the external examiner in the written form, signed and accepted by the members of the viva-voce panel as well as the list of the persons who attended the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination in respect of the award of the Ph.D. degree immediately after the open public viva voce (open defense) examination is over.

7.41. In case the open public viva voce (open defense) examination is not satisfactory, the examiners may unanimously recommend with reasons that a fresh open public viva-voce (open defense) examination of the Ph.D. thesis is organized within a period of not less than one month. If the open public viva voce (open defense) examination is still not satisfactory, the panel for viva-voce examination will record the reasons for the same. It may recommend the resubmission of the Ph.D. thesis with suggested changes or recommend the rejection of the Ph.D. thesis, as the case may be.

7.42. Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), AURO University shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph. D. thesis to the INFLIBINET for hosting the same to make it accessible to all institutions/colleges.

7.43. Award of degrees to research scholars registered for the Ph.D. programme on or after regulations of 2016 till the date of Notification of these regulations shall be governed by the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Awards of M.Phil / Ph.D Degree) / Regulation 2016. Nothing, in these regulations shall impact the M.Phil. degree programmes commencing before the enactment of these regulations.

7.44. An honorarium @ ₹7000/- each shall be paid for evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis, each examiner conducting the open public viva-voce (open defense) examination, including the co-guide, if any, shall be paid ₹3000/- as the honorarium.



## **RR. Ph.D. 8 Ph.D. through Part-time Mode-**

8.1 Ph.D. programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations of the AURO University are fulfilled.

8.2. The AURO University shall require a “No Objection Certificate” through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:

8.2.1. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.

8.2.2. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time to research.

8.2.3. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the coursework.

