

Phone: 0744-2473003 Email: registrar rtu@yahoo.co.in

No.RTU/F(2)/2014/1/420-87

OFFICE-ORDER

Date: 14/8/2014

As per the resolutions passed (for agenda items 15.5.3 and 15.5.4) in the Academic Council Meeting held on 31st July 2014 and subsequent approval from Hon'ble Vice Chancellor under section 12(6) of RTU Act the following amendments in Ordinances of Degree of Doctor of Philosophy are hereby made:

1. Following addition in PhD Ordinances shall be made and identified as O.8.A:

O.8.A Comprehensive Examination

- a) Research Scholar registered in the PhD programme must pass a Comprehensive Examination designed to test the overall comprehensiveness of the Research Scholar in the various subjects of his/her intended area of research as specified by Supervisor. This examination is meant to test the student's comprehensive knowledge both in breadth across the general field of study and in depth within the area of specialization. A Research Scholar can appear in the Comprehensive Examination only after he/she has successfully completed the course work requirements laid down in R.6.
- b) Research Scholar may appear in the Comprehensive Examination earliest at the end of the first semester, but must pass it before the end of the fourth semester after their initial registration. For this purpose Research Scholar shall apply in the prescribed form to concerned Supervisor. It is the onus of the Research Scholar to apply and also pass the Comprehensive Examination well within the above said time frame. Only in an extraordinary circumstance the permission to conduct the Comprehensive Examination beyond the fourth semester and before the end of fifth semester may be granted by the DRC Chairperson. For this purpose the Supervisor needs to apply for extension in the time limit to conduct the Comprehensive Examination citing appropriate reasons for the delay, to the DRC Chairperson. The registration of the Research Scholar who fails to appear/pass within the above maximum time frame shall automatically stand cancelled.



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- c) The Supervisor shall announce the date of the Comprehensive Examination at least two weeks before to the Research Scholar to give him/her sufficient time for preparation. Only the Research Scholar who has passed the Comprehensive Examination shall be allowed to proceed further with the research work and are allowed to submit the Research Proposal specified in O.8.
- d) The Comprehensive Examination Board shall consist of four members namely; Supervisor, two subject expert members (one member shall be a faculty member of the University Department and the other shall be a faculty member from the outside institute, in case if University Department does not exist both expert members may be from the outside institute) and the DRC Chairperson. Name of subject experts shall be proposed by the supervisor and shall be forwarded by the concerned head of the Department to the DRC Chairperson for approval. The DRC Chairperson shall also be the convener of the Board.
- e) The comprehensive examination shall consist of an oral and a written exam of 100 marks each. The passing percentage in the comprehensive exam is 50% of the total marks obtained in written & oral exam together. A Research Scholar who fails in a comprehensive exam needs to reappear again in both oral and written exam later at a suitable date.
- f) The question paper for the written exam of four hours duration shall be prepared by a member of the Comprehensive Examination Board other than the Supervisor and shall be evaluated by the same member. There shall be total 8 questions in the written paper and the candidate shall be asked to attempt any five of them. The two questions shall be from the intended area of research as specified by the Supervisor and the remaining 6 shall be based on the two department course works undertaken by the Research Scholar in equal proportion.
- g) The written exam shall be conducted at respective department/ research center on a pre-announced date by distributing the question paper received in a sealed envelope from the paper setter. The concerned Head of the Department shall act as coordinator for the conduct of the written exam of research scholar in his/her department. After the written



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exam is over, the answer sheets shall be sealed in envelope and shall be forwarded on the same day to the paper setter for evaluation. The marks of the written exam shall be communicated in writing by the evaluator to the DRC Chairperson before oral exam.

- h) The oral exam shall be conducted at the University campus. The honorarium and TA/DA of the subject expert (other than University employee) as per the rules shall be borne by the University; however, the TA/DA for the supervisor shall be borne by the parent institute. No TA/DA shall be admissible to the Research Scholar to appear in the oral exam. The complete report of the comprehensive examination must be sent by the chairperson, DRC within 8 weeks of the date of the oral exam to the Dean Research.
- i) When a Research Scholar has not passed the Comprehensive Examination in his/her first attempt, a second Comprehensive Examination shall be conducted by the same board that was constituted earlier unless otherwise approved by the Chairperson, DRC on the recommendation of the Supervisor. A Research Scholar shall not be allowed to appear in the Comprehensive Examination more than twice and beyond the maximum time frame stipulated above. Research scholar who remain absent in the comprehensive examination shall be treated as failed in that attempt. The registration of the Research Scholar who fails in the comprehensive examination in two consecutive attempts shall stand cancelled.

2. The PhD ordinance 0.14.1 is amended as follows:

"A Research Scholar may be permitted to submit his/her thesis only after publication/acceptance of at least two papers in peer reviewed International Journal and at least one paper in National Journal/International Conference/National Conference.

Each DRC shall individually decide the specific criteria for the acceptability of journal for publication such as Impact Factor(s) and type of journal (published/open access and paid/free) etc. and get it approved by Research Board. The list of journals fulfilling the criteria shall also be prepared by the respective DRC and is to be updated on regular basis."



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This shall be effective from the session 2014-15 and shall be applicable on the fresh batch of Research scholars admitted.

Registrar

Copy to:

- 1. PS to HVC for apprising HVC
- 2. All Heads of offices RTU
- 3. All Heads of Departments of UCE
- 4. All Deans of the University
- 5. A.R. (Research)
- 6. All Principal/Director of Research Centres
- 7. RTU-DAT Coordinator 2014

Registrar