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Prince of Songkla University Announcement
Re: Criteria for Evaluating Quality of Thesis Involving Innovations or Creative Works
for Fulfilling Graduation Requirements in Prince of Songkla University

To strengthen research within thesis to become as a base for driving Prince of Songkla University to achieve its vision of being university for innovation and society, and to promote thesis work as a part of the creation of economic value, development of the country or resolving social problems as specified in the Strategic Plan of the University, The University Council at the meeting No. 412 (2/2020) on March 21, B.E. 2563, and the Higher Education Standards Committee at the meeting No. 1/2014 on January 13, B.E. 2564 approved the use criteria for evaluating quality of thesis involving innovations or creative works for fulfilling graduation requirements in Prince of Songkla University. By virtue of section 34 and section 39 of the Prince of Songkla University Act B.E. 2559, the University hereby issues the announcement as follows:

1. This announcement is called "Prince of Songkla University Announcement Re: Criteria for Evaluating Quality of Thesis Involving Innovations or Creative Works for Fulfilling Graduation Requirements in Prince of Songkla University".

2. This announcement shall come into effect from the day following the date of announcement onwards.

3. All any other requirements for evaluating thesis quality which are contrary to or inconsistent with this announcement shall be replaced by this announcement.

4. Students whose thesis involving innovations or creative works applicable for commercial use or for social or economic benefit can submit such innovations or creative works for fulfilling graduation requirements as a substitute of one publication or one proceedings as required by the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program.

5. Thesis examination and quality assessment of innovations or creative works shall be proceeded as follows:

(1) Quality assessment of innovations or creative works from thesis according to the "Criteria for Evaluating Quality of Thesis Involving Innovations or Creative Works for Fulfilling Graduation Requirements in Prince of Songkla University" shall be conducted along with thesis examination.

(2) Thesis examination committee for thesis applicable for using the Criteria under item 4 consists of no less than three qualified experts outside the University, having high levels of knowledge, expertise, and experience recognized in the same or related field to the program of the thesis examinee, with approval from the University Council, and faculty members of the program. In total, the committee should consist of no less than five members.

If the composition of the examination committee has completely conformed to that specified in the 1st paragraph, full-time faculty members or researchers may be additionally appointed as adjunct examiners, but with no more than two.

The chairperson of the examination committee must be an external expert. All members of examination committee must hold educational qualifications and academic publications as specified in the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program B.E.2548 or the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program B.E. 2558, as the case may be.

(3) Faculty must nominate qualified external experts with high levels of knowledge, expertise, and experience according to item (2) along with information on their educational background, description on their high levels of knowledge, expertise, and experience being recognized in the same or related field to the program of the thesis examinee, and providing supporting evidences such as their academic works, other works, experiences, including positions indicating high levels of knowledge, expertise and experience.

In this regard, external experts must be nominated on basis of thesis by thesis to the Graduate school.

In the case of external experts not holding educational qualifications and academic publications as specified in the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program B.E.2548 or the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program B.E. 2558, paragraph two of item (4) shall be followed.

(4) The Dean of the Graduate School shall appoint a subcommittee for evaluating innovations or creative works from thesis to preliminarily consider the appropriateness of external experts nominated by Faculty according to item (3), and subsequently nominate them for approval by the University Council.

However, if external experts do not hold educational qualifications and academic publications as specified in the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program B.E.2548 or the Standard Criteria for Graduate Program B.E. 2558, but having high levels of knowledge, expertise, and experience in accordance with item (2), Graduate School shall nominate their name for approval by the University Council, and subsequently notify the Higher Education Commission.

(5) A thesis examination under this Announcement must be open to those interested for attending and asking questions in order for the works to be strengthened and more accepted.

In case of necessity where thesis examination is unable to comply with the 1st paragraph, faculty needs to notify the reasons to the Graduate School.

(6) Innovations or creative works with the quality in accordance with the criteria prescribed in the annex of this Announcement shall be deemed that the aforementioned works could fulfill graduation requirements of Prince of Songkla University under item 4.

6. Students enrolled prior to the effective date of this announcement can apply the Criteria according to this Announcement for fulfill graduation requirements.

Issued on May 19, 2021.

(Signed) Niwat Keawpradub
(Asst. Prof. Dr. Niwat Keawpradub)
President of Prince of Songkla University

Sirinan/Type
Niramom/Revise
Panattha/Translate

Annex

Categories of Creative Works, Quality Assessment, and Minimum Quality Criteria

Innovations or creative works from thesis according to the Announcement of Prince of Songkla University Re: Criteria for Evaluating Quality of Thesis Involving Innovations or Creative Works for Fulfilling Graduation Requirements in Prince of Songkla University include of 5 categories of creative works as follows:

- 1) Thesis work for industry and commerce
- 2) Thesis work for public policy development
- 3) Thesis work for social contribution
- 4) Thesis work for invention in sciences and technology
- 5) Thesis work for creative work in aesthetics and art

1) Thesis work for industry and commerce

Definition	Thesis work useful for improving industry/commerce or resolving the problems within industry/commerce.
Necessary information required	<p>Thesis work must have an explanation on the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Situation of the problem that exists before conducting the thesis work - Explanation of industrial/commercial problem resolving processes as well as the knowledge and technology used - Explanation of new knowledge for industry/commerce gained from the thesis work - Description of the outcome or impact of thesis works on users of the works or on industry/and commerce - Evidences showing the utilization of the thesis work/acceptance of the work by its user that indicates the quality of the work.
Minimum Quality Criteria	<p>Criteria for master’s degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a collection of clear information to identify problems or needs with the participation of those in targeted industrial/commercial groups - There is an analysis or synthesis of knowledge in order to resolve problems that arise. - <u>Thesis work has been utilized</u> to gain better understanding of the situation/problems encountered in industry/commerce, has tendency to bring about empirically significant changes or is likely to produce improvement in that industry/commerce <p>Criteria for doctoral degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employ the same criteria as a master's degree; and - Thesis work is utilized with the ability to resolve problems with a significant improvement empirically observed or the ability to produce improvement in industry/commerce - cause a concrete change in policy at the local, provincial or country level

2) Thesis work for public policy development

<p>Definition</p>	<p>Thesis work for public policy development is thesis work that studies, analyzes and synthesizes the information on economy, society, politics, environment, health, science, engineering, or other dimensions that leads to <u>a public policy proposals or proposals for the implementation of that policy in order for the government to use it to formulate policies, laws, plans, orders or other measures to resolve public problems that exist at the national, local or international level.</u></p>
<p>Necessary information required</p>	<p>Thesis work must have an explanation on the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis and synthesis of information on economic, social, political, environmental, health or other aspects related to public problems to be resolved; - Process for formulate new public policy proposals or proposals on the implementation of that policy with the participation from relevant parties - Description of new public policy proposals or proposals on the implementation of that policy - Rationale, evidence, and academic supporting data that is convincing in the efficacy in resolving the problems of the approach outlined in the new public policy proposal. or proposals on the implementation of that policy - Output from the work in the form of draft policies, laws, regulations, plans, orders or other measures. The outcome and impact on society must also be anticipated, whether at the local, national or international level.
<p>Minimum Quality Criteria</p>	<p>Criteria for master’s degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is a work that is analyzed/synthesized with supporting data or rationales. - Help understand the situations of the problem and discover policies with the possibility to lead to sustainable solutions - Draft policies, laws, plans, orders or other measures are presented to the stakeholders/authorities responsible for the public policy. <p>Criteria for doctoral degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employ the same criteria as a master's degree; and - A new proposal that includes resolution of the problem or improvement of the situations with a broader range than the previous one. - The proposed draft policy, law, plan, order or measure draft is referenced by the relevant parties, or leads to consideration or action by the responsible person.

3) Thesis work for social contribution

<p>Definition</p>	<p>Thesis work that is beneficial to society with the evidences showing concrete benefits to the public in any aspect concerning community, way of life, art and culture, environment, occupation, economy, politics, governance, quality of life or health.</p>
<p>Necessary information required</p>	<p>Thesis work must have an explanation on the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of the situation of problem that exists before conducting the thesis work - Participation of the targeted society in the process of resolving social problems - Design or development or concepts or processes used to resolve social problems - Knowledge, concepts and theories used to resolve social problems - Anticipating what will happen after implementing the problem resolving process - Assessing results by tracking changes that have occurred - Summary of approaches for maintaining or extending or improving the resolutions - Other additional evidences of the work and its dissemination, such as pictures, moving pictures, audio clip, videos, and letters indicating earnings, profits or desirable outcomes obtained by various sectors, including government agencies, the private sector, or civil society.
<p>Minimum Quality Criteria</p>	<p>Criteria for master’s degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear data and information are gathered to identify problems or needs through the participation of the targeted society. government agencies or private sector - There is an analysis or synthesis of knowledge that can resolve problems that arise. or gain understanding of the situation - Thesis work must have a tendency to create positive improvement or has a tendency to contribute to the development of communities, society, government organizations or private organizations. <p>Criteria for doctoral degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thesis work results in empirically significant changes or contributes to the development of communities, societies, government organizations or private organizations; and - Must be able to be used as a model for resolving problems of society, government organizations or other non-governmental organizations, or - Cause a concrete change in policy at the provincial or national level

4) Thesis work for invention in sciences and technology

<p>Definition</p>	<p>Thesis work involving the invention of tools or machines, creation of new plants or animals or microorganisms useful in specific areas, products or other inventions that are economically and socially beneficial. The work is developed from the application of knowledge in science and technology by methodology accepted in the field</p>
<p>Necessary information required</p>	<p>Thesis work must have an explanation on the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis and synthesis of information on the situations of problem that led to the development of this invention. - Description of invention and ideas underlying invention - The process of inventing and testing the invention - The results of testing various properties of invention, both basic features and special features that are unique for the invention, and test results on the actual use in appropriate conditions - The potential or impact of the use of invention in economic or social terms
<p>Minimum Quality Criteria</p>	<p>Criteria for master's degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is a creative invention which requires academic knowledge. - Has clear and credible test results from acceptable methods, and its application shows potential for a moderate economic or social impact <p>Criteria for doctoral degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is an invention that demonstrates creativity requiring a higher level of academic knowledge than that of master's degree. - Has clear and credible test results from acceptable techniques, and its application shows potential for a high economic or social impact

5) Thesis work for creative work in aesthetics and art

Definition	Works that demonstrate aesthetic, philosophical, ethical or social values, demonstrate the creativity of the owner of the works, such as literary creative works, performing arts, music, architecture, painting design, sculpture, printmaking and other arts.
Necessary information required	Thesis work must have an explanation on the following points. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Detail of creative work with explanations on the meaning and value of the work- An analysis that explains principles, techniques and/or theoretical ideas for creating work.- Processes and/or techniques for creating works- Information, descriptions and analysis that facilitate the understanding of the meaning and value of creative work.
Minimum Quality Criteria	Criteria for master's degree <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Being work of artistic value- Creator could explain principle and creative process that is understandable for the audience. Criteria for doctoral degree <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Employ the same criteria as a master's degree; and- Being outstanding model for its benefit to the study of literary works, creative writing, and that branch of art