

Trial lecture and Public defence

Formality or reality

Kim Henrik Ruud
Department for Research and Development



Trial lecture and Public defence

- *Constitutes the doctoral examination*
- *Procedures are regulated in rules and regulations*
- *Procedures sometimes differ between the Faculties.*
- *The Faculty appoints a Chair to preside over the public defence*
- *Open to the public*

Trial lecture

- *The trial lecture has two purposes:*
 - *is to test the candidates ability to aquire knowlegde on subjects wider than the topic of the thesis, and*
 - *To test the ability to disseminate this knowlegde in a lecture situation.*
- *The assessment Committee decides the title*
- *The topic should not be directly connected to the thesis*
- *The topic will be announced 10 working days in beforehand*
- *The Trial lecture lasts 45 minutes, discussion and questions included*
- *Must be held in the same Language as the thesis is written. The Faculty can approve the use of different langauge.*
- *Subject of approval*

The Public Defence

- *Time frame is between 2-4 hours, depending on the defence.*
- *20 minutes is used to present the thesis. Whether you introduce your own thesis/research depends on the Faculty.*
- *The two opponents usually divide the topics between them, and often cover specific topics.*
- *The defence will quite often be conducted as a conversation between the opponent and the candidate.*
- *When the opponents are satisfied (approval), the defence will be concluded by the Chair of the defence.*

The Doctoral dinner

- *It is a tradition that the candidate invites the committee, the Chair of Public defence, supervisors, family and friends for dinner*
- *The dinner is, however, not obligatory*
- *If you choose to arrange it you are eligible for an tax deduction*

The Doctoral conferrement

- *The Doctoral conferral is the highest formal approval of your PhD work and when you are conferred (awarded) the degree of Philosophiae Doctor.*
- *Takes place annually*
- *The university will send you an invitation to the PhD conferral ceremony and you are welcome to invite your closest family and friends to the event.*
- *If you cannot attend, your diploma will be sent to your private address after the conferral ceremony.*
- *The conferral ceremony for 2020 will take place on May 28th.*

In general

Things to have in mind:

➤ Errata list

- *Minor correction of formal errors. Application to correct formal errors must be submitted no later than four weeks before the committee's submission deadline.*
- *No substantial changes in the text.*

➤ *The assessment/recommendation*

- *The main rule is that the assessment committee must submit the assessment/recommendation within three months. The Faculty can grant extension. Extension is normally granted due to holidays (summer, Easter and Christmas), but also if a situation requires an extension.*