THE COURSE OF PUBLIC DEFENCE AND TRADITIONS OF KARONKKA PARTY

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Towards Doctoral Degree – seminar April 19th 2017
What the Finnish Law Says?
= Has to undergo a public examination

- Your own production which meets the academic standards
- Through inspection of the contents
- Research results presented in highly visible manner
WHAT TO WEAR?
THE DEFENCE

Agree on the dress code for the doctoral thesis defence with the custos and opponent

THE CUSTOS, OPPONENT(S) AND DOCTORAL CANDIDATE SHOULD FOLLOW THE SAME DRESS CODE

Alternative 1.

Men: tails with black vest and white bow tie.

Women: Black ankle-length dress/jacket suit or black knee-length dress/skirt or jacket suit
Alternative 2.

MEN: A black suit and dark necktie

WOMEN: A black knee-length dress/skirt or black jacket suit

Opponents with degrees awarded abroad can wear their own doctoral outfit (cape, hat)

Audience: every-day clothing or smart outfit

Guests invited by the doctoral candidate: black tie, or other festive outfit
THE COURSE OF PUBLIC DEFENCE
- STEP BY STEP

Custos may offer cognac just before the defence
Thesis defence starts at XX.15

ENTERING THE LECTURE HALL:
1. Doctoral candidate
2. Custos
3. Opponent(s)

(Audience stands up)
“As the custos appointed by the University of Oulu Graduate School, I hereby declare the doctoral thesis defence of ‘title name xx‘ opened.”

Everybody but doctoral candidate sits down
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE
LECTIO PRAECURSORIA

= Max. 20 min. introductory lecture (Finnish/English)

• Start: “My honoured custos, opponent, ladies and gentlemen”

• Background of the thesis and its connections to academic or practical problem

• Not a summary of your thesis!

Ending: “Dear Professor (Doctor, etc.) xx, as the opponent named by the University of Oulu Graduate School, I now call upon you to present your critical comments on my doctoral thesis”
Opponent’s speech: (Opponent and Doctoral Candidate standing)

• Brief opening statement
• Start of detailed examination

Examining the thesis

• General questions
  • Research topic, methods, data…

• Detailed examination
  • Chapter or article at time
HOX! The role of the opponent is to ask tricky questions!
BUT! No one knows your research better than you!

Your performance is one part of the evaluation.

MAX. 4 hours (2–3 h)
Opponent’s Final Statement
(opponent and doctoral candidate standing)
Summary: Significance of the results

Doctoral Candidate (opponent sits)
   Thank the Opponent
   Turn to audience: “I now cordially invite anybody who has comments regarding my doctoral thesis to offer their comments by asking the floor from the custos”

Custos

“I declare the public defence of the doctoral thesis to be concluded.”
DOCTORAL CANDIDATE:
Invite audience for coffee and cake or sparkling wine reception

Congratulations, flowers, gifts

Speeches by the faculty, department or major subject

Different traditions and practices
KARONKKA PARTY
= Evening celebration on the examination day (6/7/8 pm)

Arranged in honour of the Opponent!

Usually in restaurant

Paid by the Doctoral Candidate fully or partially (dinner tickets)
Remember: Doctoral Candidate always pays for the dinner of the opponent and custos!

Seating:
DC in the middle, Opponent on the right, Custos on the left
Speeches:

Doctoral candidate delivers speeches usually after the dinner and before the dessert.

1. Opponent, 2. Custos 3. Supervisor(s)

4. Others: people that have helped you in your research; parents, spouse etc.

These people give speech back to the doctoral candidate in the same order.
What to wear in Karonkka-party?

Units have different preferences for the dress code, consult your colleagues!
WHAT TO REMEMBER BEFORE THE DAY

Defence date
Lecture hall
Coffee/sparkling wine reception (university restaurants, in front of lecture hall)
Karonkka party arrangements (invitations, food, drinks, entertainment, speeches)

Treat your Opponent well:
   Organize travel and accommodation
   meeting the day before (dinner)
   Dress code

Printed thesis placed on public display (10d before)

Visit the lecture hall

Go listen to other doctoral examinations!
After defence:

statement and evaluation by Opponent

Proposal for final grade

Possibility to respond to the statement

Doctoral Training Committee gives approval for the thesis and grade

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**EVALUATION OF THE THESIS**

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- **After defence:**
  - Statement and evaluation by Opponent
  - Proposal for final grade
  - Possibility to respond to the statement
  - Doctoral Training Committee gives approval for the thesis and grade

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**Opponent’s assessment form**

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**Lomake vastavaittijalle**

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1. **Väitöjen kielikirjoituksen kirjoittaja / Name of the candidate**

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2. **Väitöjen kielikirjoituksen etiketti / Title of the thesis**

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3. **Väitöjen kielikirjoituksen arvostelut (1-4-piste) [Oponent's assessment of the thesis manuscript (1-4 scale)]**

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4. **Väitöjen puheenjohtajan arvostelut / Opponent's proposal for grading of the thesis**

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5. **Allekirjoitukset / Signature and name**

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**EVALUATION OF THE THESIS**
FINISHING THE DEGREE

Student requests the degree by filling in a *Diploma Request* and submitting it to the *Chief Academic Officer*.

In order to receive the diploma, the candidate must be enrolled as “present” in university and be a registered doctoral student in UniOGS

the degree certificate, the transcript of studies and the diploma supplement.

GET YOUR STUDIES IN OODI BEFORE THE DEFENCE

The student can obtain the degree certificate at the Faculty service point, or can request that it will be sent by post.
More information can be found from UniOGS webpages!
http://www.oulu.fi/sites/default/files/content/End-process2017.pdf
Ask your supervisor and custos!

THANK YOU!
OULUN YLIOPISTO