

**KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES  
PANANGAD**

**REGULATIONS FOR THE AWARD OF Ph.D. DEGREE**

*[Adoption: University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.PHIL./ICAR/PH.D Degrees) Regulations, 2016]*

**Short title**

These Regulations of KERALA UNIVERSITY OF FISHERIES AND OCEAN STUDIES (KUFOS) may be called “KUFOS Ph.D Regulations 2018” (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph.D. Degrees).

**1. Scope**

- 1.1 The regulations provided herein shall apply to studies leading to Ph.D. degree offered by the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies from the Academic year 2018 onwards.
- 1.2 The regulations shall apply to every Research Centre approved by KUFOS, where research leading to PhD is undertaken
- 1.3 They shall come in to force from the date of approval by the Academic Council of the KUFOS.

**2. Definitions**

In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

- i. “Advisory Committee” means the Committee constituted to supervise the research program of the student
- ii. “Board of Examiners” means the Board constituted for the conduct of comprehensive and final examinations for recommending award of the Ph.D. degree by KUFOS
- iii. “Credit” is the weekly unit of work recognized for any particular course as per the course catalogue issued by the University. Normally, a lecture class of one hour or a practical class of two to three hours duration per week shall count as one credit
- iv. “Dean” means Dean of the Faculty concerned.
- v. “Controller of Examinations” is an officer designated to discharge the duties and functions of examinations.
- vi. “Department” means a Department in a Teaching Institution offering academic programs. Scientists/Teachers of a discipline working in research stations/ schemes/ projects will also be considered as members of the Department of the teaching institution concerned.
- vii. “Major Adviser” means the student's adviser in his/her major field of study who shall also be the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee/ Board of Examiners.

- “Minor Adviser” means Members of the Advisory Committee other than Major Adviser.
- viii. “Part-time Student” means a student who has been permitted to undertake a Ph.D. program on a part-time basis.
  - ix. “Ph.D. Committee” means the Ph. D. Committee of the University.
  - x. “Doctoral Student” is a student undergoing doctoral degree program on a full-time /part time basis. The studentship commences on the day of registration after payment of fee during the first semester and ends when he/she submits the thesis.
  - xi. “Sponsored Candidate” is a candidate deputed by Development Departments, Research Institutions of National importance, Commodity Boards and other Government and Quasi-Government Institutions. The expenditure towards the doctoral program of such students be met by the sponsoring agency.
3. **Number of seats**  
The maximum number of candidates to be admitted every year for the Ph.D. programs will be announced by the University, subject to the slots available as per UGC Regulation in force and facilities available.
4. **System of teaching**  
The” course-credit system” of teaching shall be followed as prescribed by UGC from time to time, including days of examination and study leave. The medium of teaching shall be English.
5. **Recognized Institutions**  
The University may decide to accord recognition in specified faculties, on the recommendation of the Academic Council, to a Research/Educational Institution under the control of Central/State Government as per the provisions of the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies Act (2010) and the relevant statutes and ordinances in this regard, provided the University is satisfied that the Institution will be able to provide the required facilities to candidates to pursue their studies in the Institution for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the University in the Faculties concerned and to fulfil such other conditions that the University Governing Council may stipulate from time to time. The list of approved centres shall be available in the University website.
6. **Eligibility criteria for admission to Ph.D. Programme:**
- 6a) **General stream**  
Subject to the conditions stipulated in these Regulations, the following persons are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. programme:

- i) Candidates shall have a Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or 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 an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.
  - ii) Candidates who have cleared the M.Phil. Course work with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) and successfully completing the M.Phil. Degree shall be eligible to proceed to do research work leading to the Ph. D. Degree in the same Institution in an integrated programme.
  - iii) A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50%, or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/differently-abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Government from time to time. The eligibility marks of 55% (or an equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) and the relaxation of 5% to the categories mentioned above are permissible based only on the qualifying marks without including the grace mark procedures.
- 6 b) **ICAR stream**
- i) Master's degree in the respective discipline/ related discipline from the concerned faculty of ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research) or a recognized equivalent qualification with an OGPA of 7.0/10 or equivalent OGPA / equivalent percentage of marks at Master's degree. For SC/ST an OGPA of 6.5/10 or equivalent OGPA / equivalent percentage of marks at Master's degree as per the recommendations of ICAR from time to time.
  - ii) Reservation of seats shall be governed by the rules of State Government. 50% of the seats to be filled by ICAR through all India entrance examination. In the absence of ICAR candidates, the vacancy will be filled from the general category.
  - iii) For General category (other than from ICAR), the condition under 6a are applicable.

7. **Admission of students to Ph.D programme**

7a) **General stream**

- i. The admission shall be based on the criteria notified by the KUFOS, keeping in view the guidelines/norms in this regard issued by the statutory bodies concerned, and taking into account the reservation policy of the Central/State Government from time to time.
- ii. Candidates seeking registration to the Ph.D. program as full-time or part-time students, shall do so by submitting their applications in the prescribed form in response to the notification in this respect issued once a year by the University.
- iii. Candidates seeking admission under interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research shall have to qualify in the CET (common entrance test) for Ph.D programmes conducted by the University, once in a year.
- iv. The minimum qualifying marks for CET shall be 50% and 45% for SC/ST/O C (Non Creamy layer category). The syllabus of the CET shall consist of 50% of research methodology and 50% shall be subject specific. The CET shall be conducted at a Centre(s) notified in advance
- v. The qualified candidates shall be called for an interview/ *viva voce*. The interview shall consider the following aspects, viz. whether:
  - a) The candidate possesses the competence for the proposed research;
  - b) The research work can be suitably undertaken at the Institution/College;
  - c) The proposed area of research can contribute to new/additional knowledge.
- vi. The marks awarded for the selection is as follows; CET-50% qualifying degree- 30% and interview 20%.
- vii. The University shall maintain the list of all the registered students on its website on year-wise basis.
- viii. Candidates who are working in research projects taken up by a School/ Department of the University, funded internally or by external funding agencies, shall be eligible for full-time or part-time registration. Candidates working in research projects taken up by recognized institutions shall be eligible only for full-time registration.
- ix. Candidates applying for registration as part-time students shall be considered for registration only in cases where the Research Committee (see Clause 19) is convinced that effective supervision can be ensured.
- x. The following candidates are exempted from CET and these candidates shall be ranked as per the norms laid down in Clause 16 of the regulations:
  - a) Candidates who possess National / Kerala State research fellowships with valid score, with committed financial assistance at the time of seeking admission, in any of the National / State level eligibility tests conducted by

the agencies recognized by the University.

- b) Candidates who have qualified UGC/NET Lectureship examination or GATE//ICAR/KSCSTE/CSIR/NBHM/ICSSR or M.Phil degree
  - c) Candidates who have been awarded research fellowships by the Government of India for pursuing a Ph.D. program in India.
  - d) Foreign students who have minimum eligibility and assessed and approved by the Research Committee of the School/ Department
  - e) Teachers of Universities / Aided Colleges in Kerala, teachers who are working in Government institutions / Quasi Government recognized by KUFOS and Scientists in National Level Research Laboratories, with a minimum continuous service of five years as permanent employees.
  - f) Candidates who are exempted from CET, however, are required to appear for the interview along with the candidates undergone entrance examination at the time of seeking admission.
- xi. The merit list published by the University is valid till the results of the next examination are published.
  - xii. Candidates who come with any fellowship from State/ Central Govt. agencies shall be permitted to join at any time for PhD programmes depending up on the availability of guide and facility.

7b. **ICAR stream**

- i. Selection of students will be done by a Doctoral Committee consisting of Director of Research, Dean, Head of concerned Department and Major Advisors. Changes can be made in the project proposal submitted by students subject to the approval of the committee. Those candidates who have qualified ICAR's SRF examination are recommended for admission to the Ph.D. program without appearing the CET.
- ii. The Directorate of Research shall make a list of successful students and upload in the University Website.

8. **Duration of the Programme**

- i. Ph.D. programme shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work and a maximum of six years. Extension beyond the above limits will be governed by the relevant clauses as stipulated in the Statute / Ordinance of the individual Institution concerned.
- ii. For part time students the duration is, however, maximum seven years, subject to condition under Clause 18.

9. **Payment of fees**

9a) **General stream**

- i. Every research student shall be required to pay, the fees prescribed by the University at the beginning of each semester, failing which his/her name shall stand removed from the rolls if the default is more than 30 days after the due date.
- ii. Within a period of 30 days from the date of removal from the rolls, the candidate may be readmitted by the Director of the School/Research Institution on an application made by the candidate, duly recommended by the Research Guide and on payment of all arrears of fees, readmission fee and the fine as the University may prescribe from time to time.
- iii. In cases where the default in payment of fees exceeds 30 days and candidate fails to apply for readmission within the next 30 days he/she will be required to apply for readmission within 180 days, which shall be placed for consideration before the Research Committee. If the Research Committee is satisfied with the genuineness of the causes of delay, it shall be competent to take appropriate decision. A candidate who is in default of fees for more than 180 days from the due date, the registration shall remain cancelled.
- iv. Every research student shall submit a report of the progress of the research achieved and attendance certificate countersigned by the guide and Director / Recognized Institution during the previous semester before the payment of the next semester fees.

9b) **ICAR stream**

- i. The registration for a semester is valid only if the candidate remits the approved tuition fee and other fee, if any, for the semester. The details of remittance of fee (Receipt Number and date) shall be quoted in the Course Registration Card.
- ii. Part-time students who are employees of the university are exempted from payment of caution deposit, but they should pay the tuition fee prescribed and all other fee as per the decision of the University.
- iii. Part-time students registered for Ph.D. programme shall pay additional fee specified if their programme extends beyond twelve semesters.
- iv. Those who are granted extension beyond the maximum permissible time limit are required to remit a special fee over and above the normal fee which shall be fixed by the University.

10.

**Research Supervisor/ Guide**

(Eligibility criteria for a Research Supervisor, Co- Supervisor, Number of scholars permissible per Supervisor, etc.)

- i. Any fulltime regular Professor/Associate/ Assistant Professor of the university or a scientist or a faculty in any recognised research institute with a Ph.D. degree and at least **three** research publications in refereed journals who has completed his/her probation may be recognized as Research Supervisor / guide.
- ii. Teachers of KUFOS and Scientists who are already functioning as Research Guides in the faculty concerned (including from Approved Research Centres of KUFOS) are *ipso facto* recognized as Research Guides in the Faculty concerned.
- iii. Recognition granted to Scientists/Teachers of Recognized Institutions coming under Clause 5 will cease to exist as soon as they retire from service, or are transferred outside the State of Kerala, or they take up employment in Institutions or are transferred to Institutions which are not recognized by the University. They will not be allowed to supervise fresh research scholars. The students already registered under them shall be allowed to continue research under their guidance.
- iv. An outstanding person with a Ph.D. degree who has substantially contributed in an area, whose service as Research Guide is considered to be of value to the University, may also be given recognition as a Research Guide under an appropriate Faculty on the recommendation of the Research Committee of the School concerned. There is no age limit for such outstanding academicians/ scientists.
- v. A person is eligible to be recognized as a Research Guide under two Faculties of the University at the same time.
- vi. Co-Supervisor is allowed in inter-disciplinary areas from other departments of the same institute or from other related institutions with the approval of the Research Advisory Committee
- vii. In case of interdisciplinary / multidisciplinary research there shall be two Research Guides, one in his own subject and another in the area of the subject in which he combines his core subject.
- viii. In case where a recognised guide is not available in the University, the student can take any approved guide of KUFOS, from any of its approved centres. The student shall work in the department where admission is sought and will be under the control of the Head of the Department
- ix. The Research scholar who has qualified CET has to get the consent of a suitable guide in concerned form prior to the interview
- x. A Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point

of time, cannot guide more than Eight (8) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars.

11. **Course Work: Credit Requirements, number, duration, syllabus, minimum standards for completion, etc.**

11a) **General Stream**

- i. The credit assigned to the Ph.D. course work shall be a minimum of 08 credits and a maximum of 16 credits.
- ii. The course work shall be treated as prerequisite for Ph.D. preparation. A minimum of four 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, field work, etc. Other courses shall be advanced level courses preparing the students for Ph.D. degree.
- iii. The School / Department where the scholar pursues his/her research shall prescribe the course(s) to him/her based on the recommendations of the Research Advisory Committee, of the research scholar.
- iv. All courses prescribed for Ph.D. course work shall be in conformity with the credit hour instructional requirement and shall specify content, instructional and assessment methods. They shall be duly approved by the authorized academic bodies. The structure and details of course work shall be as follows

Course number and title	Credits	Marks		
		Continuous Evaluation	End Semester Examination	Total
Course I: General Course comprising of the broad areas of research	4	50	50	100
Course II: Topic specific to the core field of research	4	50	50	100
Course III: Research Methodology, Quantitative methods and computer applications	4	50	50	100
Course IV: Review of literature on topic of research & research proposal defence	4	50	50	100



- v. The Syllabi and titles for course I and II shall be prepared by the respective Doctoral Committee of the student and approved by the Research Committee.
- vi. The syllabus and title for Course III shall be formulated by the Research Committee. For Course IV, the Doctoral Committee shall guide/supervise and monitor the progress of the student periodically.
- vii. Continuous evaluation shall be done by the teachers offering the courses. Setting of the question papers and their evaluation for end-semester examination (except course IV) shall be carried out by a Board of Examiners nominated by the Research Committee. For Course IV, at the end of the semester, the student shall submit a report on the scope, relevance and purpose of the research work, its identified objectives, review of literature, research methodologies to be followed and expected outcome of the thesis work. The evaluation of Course IV shall be done by the Research Committee or a subcommittee nominated by the Research Committee at the end of the semester, through an open seminar.
- viii. All candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programmes shall be required to complete the course work prescribed by the Department during the initial one or two semesters.
- ix. Candidates already holding M. Phil. degree and admitted to the Ph.D. programme, or those who have already completed the course work in M.Phil. and have been permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. in integrated course, may be exempted by the Department from the Ph.D. course work. All other candidates admitted to the Ph.D. programme shall be required to complete the Ph.D. course work prescribed by the Department.
- x. Grades in the course work, including research methodology courses shall be finalized after a combined assessment by the Research Advisory Committee and the Department and the final grades shall be communicated to the Director of Research.
- xi. A Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum 7 OGPA or its equivalent grade in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work in order to be eligible to continue in the programme and submit the dissertation/thesis.
- xii. Based on the marks obtained in the examinations, the students may be awarded grades as detailed below:
  - a. Minimum pass grade in a course shall be 6.00
  - b. Minimum OGPA to get Course completion certificate: 6.50

Overall performance at the end of the semester will be indicated by Grade Point. Average (GPA) calculated as follows:

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{G1C1 + G2C2 + \dots + Cn}{C1 + C2 + \dots + Cn}$$

Where 'G' refers to the grade weightage and 'C' refers to the credit value corresponding course undergone by the student.

- xiii. Students who are not able to acquire a minimum grade of 6.0 in any course shall be given one more chance to complete the course work successfully. If he/she cannot acquire the required 16 credits within a period of 24 months from the date of his/her Ph.D. registration, his/her registration will be cancelled.
- xiv. If found necessary, course work approved by the Doctoral Committee may be carried out by the doctoral candidates in sister Schools in the University and Institutions recognized by the University.
- xv. The end semester examination for the scholars admitted at Approved Research Centre and the University will be conducted by the Controller of Examinations as per the syllabus in accordance to University Regulations
- xvi. The Research Committee will scrutinize the grades awarded to the candidate in each course, finalize the results. On successful completion of the course work by acquiring 16 credits, the candidate shall be given a certificate of Course Completion by the University.

**11b. ICAR stream**

- i. Minimum credit requirement is as follows:

Sl. No.	Credits
<b>1.0 Course work</b>	
1.1 Major subject	15
1.2 Minor subject	08
1.3 Supporting subject	05
1.4 Seminar	02
1.5 Total	30
<b>2.0 Comprehensive examination</b>	Non credit
<b>2.0 Thesis</b>	45

- ii. The pattern of the comprehensive examination is as follows:
  - Major subject: Two papers
  - Minor subject: One paper
  - Paper setting: External
  - Evaluation: External
  - Qualifying marks: 60%

- iii. **Credit load in a semester**
  - a. The maximum credit load, including the credit for research work, assigned to a full time Ph.D. student for a semester shall not exceed 20. Non-credit compulsory courses can be taken over and above the 20 credits.
  - b. Part-time students shall be permitted to take a minimum of 6 credits and a maximum of 9 credits per semester for research.

- iv. **Evaluation of course work:**

- a. The evaluation of the students in a course shall be based on his performance in various examinations, submission of practical records, record of practical class work and performance in other types of exercises/assignments. The method of evaluation shall be announced at the beginning of the semester along with the course outline, a copy of which shall be communicated to the Head of the Department by the Course Teacher. The method of valuation for non-credit may be decided by the Course Teacher and announced in advance, at the beginning of the semester. The grade for non-credit courses will be S (Satisfactory) US (Unsatisfactory). Those students getting the grade US shall repeat the course until the grade is achieved.

- b. **Theory examination:**

Internal (conducted by the Course Teacher / Head of Department)

Distribution of marks for theory examination:

Mid-term examination	: 20%
Final examination	: 80%
Total	:100%

- c. **Practical examination**

Internal (conducted by a Committee consisting of Head of Department and Course teachers)

Distribution of marks for Practical Examination:

Regular practical class works:	20%
Practical Records	: 20%
Viva voce	: 10%
Final practical exam	: 50%
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Total	: 100%

- v. **Computation of Grade Point**

The total combined marks obtained by a student out of 100 for a course having credits 'a' for theory and 'b' for practical will be  $\frac{ax+by}{a+b}$  where 'x' is the marks obtained for theory and 'y' is the marks obtained for practical, each out of 100. The grade point for a course is obtained by dividing the combined

marks by 10 and correcting to the second decimal

vi. **OGPA requirement for continuing studies:**

(a) Minimum pass grade in a course: 6.00

(b) Minimum OGPA to obtain degree: 6.50

Any student whose research work is reported unsatisfactory for a consecutive period of two semesters shall be removed from the rolls of the University.

vii. **Absence from examination**

a. A student who is absent from an examination shall be deemed to have scored zero in that particular examination. However, students absenting on account of being on deputation at the time of examination for the activities of the College/ University by written order of the Head of Institution, may be given a supplementary examination. A supplementary examination may also be conducted if the candidate's absence was on account of bonafide reasons for which leave has been sanctioned by the Head of the concerned Department offering the course.

b. Supplementary examination shall be conducted only once and within five working days of the previous examination. A candidate who is unable to take the supplementary examination, even if the leave had been sanctioned on valid grounds shall be deemed to have scored zero. However, in deserving cases, based on the merits of each relaxation of this rule to conduct a supplementary examination within a reasonable time or to declare the course as Incomplete (I) instead of Failure (F) may be ordered by the Head of the Institution. Supplementary examination shall be conducted on prior sanction by the Head of Institution based on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of the Head of Department, a senior Professor of the concerned Faculty nominated by the Dean and the Professor-in-charge of the Academic Program in the concerned faculty

viii. **Grade reports**

a. The Course Teachers are required to maintain the attendance and academic records of the students registered for the respective courses. At the end of the semester, the Course Teacher shall prepare the internal marks of midterm, final and practical examinations of various courses and report to the Head of the Institution within five days, with the counter signature of the Head of the Department. Head of the Institution shall send the marks to the University, within five days for publishing the results.

b. The Advisor shall fill up the Course-Registration-cum-Grade Cards (CRCG Cards) and forward the same to the Head of the Department, before the commencement of the next semester. The Head of the Department, after scrutinizing the grades entered shall forward the copy to

the Academic Officer to Registrar / Controller of Examinations through Dean. It shall be the responsibility of Advisers to consolidate the grade reports of students under them.

**ix. Withdrawal of course(s):**

On recommendation of the Major Advisor / Chairperson, the Head of the Institution may permit a candidate to withdraw a course or courses during a semester within a period of 45 working days (excluding the day of registration) from the commencement of that semester. In such cases, the symbol (W) will be marked against the course in the grade report.

**x. Addition of course(s):**

On recommendation of the Major Adviser of the student, the Head of the Institution may permit a student to add a course or courses during a semester within a period of ten working days from the commencement of the semester.

**xi. Repetition of course(s):**

- c. A student who has failed in a course may repeat that course in a subsequent semester when it is offered again or register as a re-examination course in any of the subsequent semesters as per rules.
- d. A student getting 6.50 or less in a course, may if he/ she so desires, may repeat that course to improve his/her OGPA.
- e. (When a student repeats a course, the previous grade obtained in that course is automatically cancelled.
- f. Symbol "R" shall be shown in relevant records for repeated course and "RE" for re-examination course.
- g. The credits assigned to a course in which a student has failed shall be taken into consideration in calculating OGPA.
- h. A student who has secured above zero in a course during a semester may, if he/she so desires, register for re-examination course in the subsequent semester, provided he/she had satisfied the attendance requirement. However, students who obtained zero for particular course or who do not satisfy the attendance requirement, shall register for the course and attend classes when the course is offered again in the subsequent semester, after paying the fee as approved by the university.
- i. For registering re-examination application shall be forwarded.

**xii. Valued answer papers**

- a. The valued answer papers of internal examinations shall be returned to the student within 10 working days of the examination.
- b. If a student wants to appeal against the marks awarded he/she shall then and there approach the teacher concerned for rectification of errors.

- c. If a student wants to appeal to the higher authorities (Head of the Department offering the course) against the marks awarded he shall do so in writing along with the relevant answer papers, within three working days after the announcement of the result of the particular examination. If the Head of the Department himself is the course teacher the appeal may be made to the Head of the Institution. Appeals received after the stipulated period will be not considered.
- d. The Head of the Department/Institution may constitute a committee consisting of at least three members of the Faculty who may advise him/her on the disposal of petitions or moderate the results in a particular course. The report of the committee in such cases should be submitted within two days, since the semester grades are finalized before the commencement of the next semester.

12. **Publication of Research paper:**

Every candidate shall be required to publish at least **TWO** research paper in a refereed journal in the relevant subject, before submitting the thesis. A copy of the research paper or a letter of acceptance from the editor of the journal with a copy of the manuscript has to be submitted at the time of submission of synopsis of the thesis as given in Sub clause 21a.

13. **Change Research Guide**

- a. The Research Committee shall have the power to consider the request of a candidate to change his/her Guide or to have a Joint Guide provided that the request is supported by his/her guide and the prospective Joint Guide and the request is recommended by the Doctoral Committee. If the Research Committee gives assent to the request, the matter shall be reported to the Director of Research/ University.
- b. However, such request for change of Guide or Joint Guide shall be made at least six months prior to giving notice for submission of thesis for adjudication by examiners, provided that this limitation shall not be applicable in cases where the present guide is unable to continue supervision due to reasons of health, shifting of place of work/residence to a distant place, etc. candidate's giving notice for submission of the thesis for adjudication by examiners, provided.

14. **Change of Centre of Research**

The Research Committee shall have the power to consider and give assent to the request of the candidate for change of the Centre of Research, provided

the request is recommended by the Research Guide and the Doctoral Committee and is accompanied by a “no objection certificate” from the Head of the present and newly proposed recognized Centre of Research. Such instances of change in the Centre of Research shall be effected with the approval of the University.

15. **Change of Area of Research**

- a. A candidate who is registered for research shall be eligible to apply for the change of the topic or the area of research on payment of the prescribed fee and the Research Committee shall be competent to give assent to the request, which has been duly supported by the Research Guide and the Doctoral Committee and the University shall be informed accordingly. However, such an application for change of topic / the area of research shall be permitted only once during the period of registration, and further that the application for the same shall be made at least one year prior to the notice for submission of thesis.
- b. In case area of research is substantially different, as decided by the Research Committee, the candidate shall have to pass the special subject as far as course work is concerned.

A candidate who is registered as a research student shall be eligible to request for approval or a change in the title of his/her thesis and the Doctoral Committee shall be competent to give assent to the request, provided that in the case of change in the title of research, the request shall be made at least one month prior to the submission of thesis.

16. **Conversion of Registration from full-time to part-time and vice versa**

- a. A candidate who is registered for the Ph.D Programme shall be eligible to apply for conversion of research work from full-time to part-time and vice versa. The Research Committee shall be empowered to grant the request, which is duly recommended by the research guide, and endorsed by the Doctoral Committee. In such cases the matter shall be reported to the University for Confirmation. In such conversion, the maximum period of registration will be as in the case of Part-time students.
- b. Conversion from part-time to full-time or vice versa will be allowed only twice during the period of registration, after paying the required fee.

17. **Residency requirement and time limit**

17a) ***General stream***

- i. A candidate who is registered for the Ph.D. degree as full-time student and

- has completed the course requirements shall be eligible to submit his/her thesis for adjudication, on completion of two years of registration. In the case of part-time students, the minimum period of registration shall be three years.
- ii. A candidate who is registered as a full-time research student shall remain on the rolls of the University for a maximum period of six years provided that he/she satisfies the periodic progress and the dues are cleared as per rules. The Research Committee shall be competent to extend the period of registration for one more year at the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee and the Research Guide provided that the candidate has made satisfactory progress and the application for extension is made after paying the prescribed fee. However, the application should be submitted before the expiry of the registration period.
  - iii. A candidate who is registered as a part-time research student shall normally remain on the rolls of the University for a maximum period of seven years after which his/her registration will lapse. The Research Committee shall be competent to extend the period of registration for one more year on the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee provided that the candidate has made satisfactory progress, and the application for extension is made after paying the prescribed fee before the expiry of the registration.
  - iv. A candidate shall cease to be on the rolls of the University as research student as soon as his/her Open Defence is over, or from the date on which his/her registration is cancelled or lapses for other reasons.

17b) ***ICAR stream***

- i. Minimum residency requirement for Ph.D. programme is 6 semesters, excluding the period of discontinuance, if any. The maximum time limit for completing the requirements shall be twelve semesters for the Ph.D. programme including the period of discontinuance and the extension of joining time.
- ii. Part-time registration facility will be available to the teachers of KUFOS who are availing study leave/ eligible leave during the period of course work. As far as possible, in service candidates may join another University for their Ph.D. Programme
- iii. The student seeking extension of time beyond 6 semesters for submission of thesis shall normally submit the application at least one semester before the expiry of the maximum permissible time limit. Due recommendation of the Advisory Committee is a must for the extension of time
- iv. The extension shall be recommended only on medical grounds or failure of experiments due to loss of crop / animal or on similar grounds, which are to be supported by appropriate documents.



- v. The Advisory Committee will evaluate such applications and if convinced that the student had made earnest effort on his/her part to complete the work within the approved time limit, shall recommend extension of residency period beyond 6 semesters.
  - vi. The request for extension of time for submission of thesis should contain the original request of the student, documentary evidences to justify the delay, the minutes of the Advisory Committee meeting and the remarks of the Director and Head of the Institution. A checklist in the prescribed proforma duly signed by the Major Advisor should also be submitted along with the request.
  - vii. The request for extension of time should specifically mention the number of semesters required to complete the programme. The maximum extension of time shall normally be limited to 2 semesters. The Advisory Committee shall ensure that the student will complete the work within the extended time limit itself. Minimum attendance need not be insisted in such cases.
  - viii. ***Discontinuance and re-admission***
    - a) A student may be permitted by the Head of the Institution on recommendation of the Advisory Committee and the Dean to discontinue his/her Ph.D. programme temporarily on valid grounds and shall be intimated to Registrar. The student may re-join after the specified period of discontinuance on payment of the approved re-registration fee. No student who has completed the Course credit and Research credit will be allowed temporary discontinuation in any of the subsequent semesters.
    - b) On no account shall a student, who discontinued his studies without the orders of the Head of the Institution, be re-admitted.
18. **Monitoring of progress of Ph.D. students**
- 18a) **General Stream**
    - i. There shall be a **Research Committee** or an equivalent body and a **Doctoral Committee** for similar purpose as defined in the Statutes of the University, for each Ph.D. scholar. The Research Supervisor of the scholar shall be the Convener of such Committees.
    - ii. In the case of a University/School, the Director of the School concerned in consultation with the Research Guide shall constitute the Doctoral Committee with the Research Guide as Convener, the Joint Guide, if any, and an approved Research Guide from the same or allied area in the University/ Research Centre as Members. In cases where qualified guides are not available in the University, qualified personal from other National Institutes/ Universities shall be co-opted with appropriate justification from the Faculty/Doctoral Committee and approval from the Competent Authority.

- iii. In the case of a Recognized Institution, the Head of the Recognized Institution in consultation with the Research Guide shall constitute the Doctoral Committee with the Research Guide as Convener, the Joint Guide, if any, and an approved Research Guide from the same or allied area in the University and the Head of the Institution as members. This Committee shall have the following responsibilities:
    - a. To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research;
    - b. 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.
    - c. To prepare syllabi and panel of question paper setters/examiners for the course work, make recommendations on matters such as the Conversion of registration from full-time to part-time or vice versa, granting leave of the candidate for short term assignments, training, etc. and (c) cancellation of registration in case of unsatisfactory progress, unethical practices in research committed by the student, or misconduct of the student.
    - d. The Doctoral Committee shall be responsible for the preparation of the Panel of Experts for the evaluation of the thesis
  - iv. The Research Committee shall have the Head of school/ organisation/ centre as chairman, the Dean of the faculty as member. All the research guide of the school/ organisation/ centre shall be the members of the research committee.
  - v. A research scholar shall appear before the Doctoral Committee once in six months to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work for evaluation and further guidance. The six monthly progress reports shall be submitted to the Institution/ University through the research committee with a copy to the research scholar.
  - vi. In case the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures. If the research scholar fails to implement these corrective measures, the Research Committee may recommend to the University with specific reasons for cancellation of the registration of the research scholar.
- 18 b) **ICAR stream**
- i. For every student admitted to Ph.D. programme, there shall be an Advisory Committee appointed by the Head of the institution. Constitution of the Advisory Committee will be as per the guidelines issued by the University from time to time. The Committee shall consist of Chairperson, Dean of the Faculty and two Members from the same Department or from other Departments or outside who can guide in relevant part of research work. To be a Chairperson of Advisory Committee, the teacher should have a Ph.D. degree.

- ii. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee in consultation with the student and other Members of the Committee shall prepare the course programme and the same shall be forwarded by the Chairperson through the Head of Institution within 60 days of admission of the student, for approval. The approved course program shall be forwarded to the Director of Research by the Dean of faculty. The Advisory Committee may meet and review the progress of the work of the student periodically, at least, once in a semester. The proceedings of the meeting shall be noted and a copy of the proceedings shall be forwarded to the Head of Institution and the University.

19. **Attendance**

19 a) **General stream**

- i. Notwithstanding anything contained in these regulations, a candidate who comes under the National/State or such other fellowship or scheme/project etc., shall be governed by the respective rules governing the award of such fellowship/scheme/project, regarding attendance, leave, etc.
- ii. A student registered as full-time research student will be required to have at least 75% attendance in every semester failing which his/her name shall be removed from the rolls of the University subject to the provisions under sub clauses 19a(iii), (iv), (v) and (vi), below
- iii. The Research Committee shall be empowered to condone the shortage of attendance up to 5% on an application made by the student, duly recommended by the Research Guide and endorsed by the Doctoral Committee.
- iv. A Research student will be eligible to participate in conference/seminars/symposia specialized training programmes connected with his/her area of research or participate in research cruises or visit other places for collecting data, and such days when they were away from the Department or Recognized Institution, including days of travel, shall count for attendance or for periods of being in residence at the University, if they have been duly authorized to do so by the Research Guide with intimation to the Head of the Department.
- v. The women candidates and Persons with Disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for Ph.D. in the maximum duration. In addition, the women candidates may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave once in the entire duration of M.Phil / Ph.D. for up to 240 days.
- vi. Part time research scholars should complete successfully the course work within a maximum period of two years of registration. In the remaining period of research, minimum 60 days attendance is necessary each year.

19 b) **ICAR stream**

- i. Minimum attendance requirement for each course shall be 75%. An additional 5% absence will be permitted to students who are deputed for university level competitions, coaching camps, etc., over and above the present 10% absence permitted for attending official duties approved by authorities. Attendance need not be insisted in cases of those students who have completed course work and research credits successfully and applied for extension of time for thesis submission.

20. **Submission of the Thesis**

20 a) **General stream**

- i. The thesis shall be written in English and should conform to the format and standards prescribed by the University from time to time
- ii. The candidate shall submit five copies of the synopsis prepared in English to be used in the thesis, and conforming to the specification prescribed by the University along with a CD containing soft copy of the Synopsis in PDF format at least one month before the submission of the thesis
- iii. The Panel of Experts prepared by the Doctoral Committee shall be forwarded to the University through the concerned Director. In the case of recognized institutions, panel of experts prepared by the Doctoral Committee shall be submitted to the Director of Research by the concerned Head of Institution forwarded through the Dean of the Faculty concerned. The panel should contain names of at least ten experts not below the rank of an Associate Professor of a University or an equivalent rank in a reputed research institution. At least five experts of this panel should be from outside the State/Country.
- iv. A candidate proposing to submit the thesis shall inform the University at least one month in advance and such intimation shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Director that he/she has presented the salient features of the proposed thesis in a pre-submission Seminar in the Department. The request shall be accompanied by:
  - a. Synopsis
  - b. Copy of the Grade cards in respect of the Ph.D. course work.
  - c. Copy of at least one published research papers/letter of acceptance with copy of the manuscript along with a certificate from the Doctoral Committee to the effect that the paper is published in a refereed journal.
  - d. Attendance certificate
  - e. A certificate from the Director / Recognized Institution stating that the candidate has presented his/her pre-submission synopsis seminar.

- f. Recommendation of the research guide to the effect that the work of the candidate is adequate and complete for the award of the Ph.D. degree.
  - g. Evidence of having paid the required fees prescribed by the University.
- v. The candidate shall submit the thesis after the expiry of one month from the date of notice, but within a period of six months. The delay in submitting the thesis beyond six months, but within one year may be condoned by the Research Committee on the recommendation of the Doctoral Committee. The Vice Chancellor may condone delay for as further period of six months in exceptional cases, provided further that the candidate shall submit his/her thesis only during the period of his/her registration.
  - vi. The candidate shall submit to the University (Director of Research) five copies of the thesis, printed or typed clearly in the format prescribed by the Faculty concerned along with a CD containing soft copy of the thesis in PDF format. One hard copy shall be deposited with the Director for display in the Department/ Recognized Research Institution one week preceding the Open Defence.
  - vii. A thesis shall be accompanied by the following:
    - a. A declaration signed by the candidate to the effect that the thesis is the outcome of the original work done by the candidate and that the work did not form part of any dissertation submitted for the award of any degree, diploma, associate ship or any other title or recognition from any University or Institution.
    - b. A certificate by the Research Guide(s) to the effect that to the best of his/her/their knowledge the thesis is a bonafide record of research work carried out by the candidate under his/her/their supervision.
    - c. A certificate from the Research Guide to the effect that all relevant corrections and modifications suggested by the audience during the pre-synopsis Seminar and recommended by the Doctoral Committee of the candidate have been incorporated in the thesis.
    - d. An appendix containing research articles published by him/her, alone or jointly with others, on the same area of study as additional evidence of the research work done by the candidate.
- 20 b) **ICAR stream**
- i. The student shall be allowed to submit the thesis duly certified and signed by Members of the Advisory Committee, on any day after completion of 75% of working days in the last semester, satisfying the minimum residential requirements. If this is not possible, he/she shall be permitted to submit his/her thesis within the maximum permissible time limit (including the

extended time limit, if any, subject to the condition that he/she should register for every intervening semester till the submission of the thesis with zero credit or till the expiry of the authorized time limit for submission of thesis.

- ii. The Academic Council may permit extension of time limit by a maximum of two semesters over and above the normal permissible maximum time subject to guidelines approved for this purpose. Such students are required to remit the special fee at the approved rate over and above the normal fee for each of the extended semester
- iii. A Ph.D. student before submitting his/her thesis should present the synopsis of the same in a Seminar of the Faculty members and PG students of the college concerned. Scientists from other related Institutions of education and research may also be invited for the Seminar. Members of the Faculty can suggest changes in the thesis and the Advisory Committee may consider the suggestions on merits and advise the student accordingly.
- iv. A Ph.D. student can submit his/her thesis only after producing the proof of acceptance of two research papers based on the research work, for publication in a refereed journal
- v. Copies of the thesis prepared in a word processor and loosely bound and conforming to the general instructions for the preparation of the thesis duly approved by Advisory Committee shall be submitted by the student to his/her Adviser. A proposal for appearing for the final examination, with details of examination fee remitted, shall also be submitted at the time of submission of thesis.
- vi. The thesis shall be signed with date by the Chairman and all the Members of Advisory Committee before submission, and forwarded to the Director of Research in the University. Three copies are to be submitted for sending to the external examiners for evaluation.

## 21. **Procedure for adjudication of the thesis**

### 21 a) **General stream**

- i. The thesis will be subjected to "Plagiarism" check by the authorised officer in the University library in accordance to the guidelines stipulated by the UGC in this regard and the results will be attached to the Thesis. Thesis conforming to the requirements shall be forwarded to examiners for evaluation.
- ii. The thesis to be adjudicated shall be forwarded to three external examiners nominated by the Vice Chancellor from the Panel of Experts, as given in Sub-clause 20.a.(iv) above, of which at least four shall be from outside the State/Country.
- iii. a. Each examiner shall be requested to send a separate individual report on adjudication of the thesis, wherein it shall be specifically stated,

whether or not the examiner recommends the award of the degree based on the written thesis, with reasons for the Recommendation. If the thesis does not meet the standard expected of a Ph.D. thesis, the thesis may be rejected.

- b. In the event of the receipt of the evaluation reports of any two examiners recommending the thesis for the award of Ph.D. degree, the University shall make arrangements for the conduct of the Open Defence and Viva Voce examination as given in Clause 21a(iii) below, without waiting for the third report.

In the event of one examiner recommending the thesis for the award of Ph.D. degree and the other examiner rejecting it, the report of the third examiner will also be considered. If the third examiner recommends the award, Open Defence and Viva Voce examination shall be conducted. If the third examiner rejects the thesis, the Ph.D. degree will not be awarded to the candidate.

- c. But if any of the examiners suggests resubmission of the thesis, after revision, the candidate may resubmit the thesis incorporating the changes proposed by the examiner(s) after a period of six months and on payment of such fees as may be prescribed by the University. On resubmission, the thesis shall again be sent for adjudication as far as possible to the same examiner(s) who had adjudicated it earlier and recommended revision. If the same examiner(s) is (are) not available, another examiner(s) shall be selected by the Vice Chancellor from the same panel.
  - d. The candidate shall have no further chance for resubmission of the thesis and the decision to accept or reject the thesis at this stage shall be final.
- iv. If any two examiners recommend for the award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall make arrangements for the conduct of Open Defence and Viva Voce examination. The Open Defence / Viva Voce Board shall consist of the Dean of the Faculty under which the candidate is registered, as Chairman and any one of the examiners nominated by the Vice Chancellor, from the Panel of Examiners prepared for the adjudication of the thesis, the Research Guide and Joint Guide, if any, as Members.
  - v. The Open Defence and Viva Voce examination shall be held at a place and time decided by the University after making prior announcement of the same, and after issuing the notice to all the Schools of the University/Recognized Institutions coming under the Faculty, sufficiently in advance
  - vi. During the Open Defence of the thesis, the candidate has to explain the motivation and relevance of the work, innovation in methodology and salient

features of the findings. He/she shall satisfactorily answer the questions put forward by the audience. This shall be followed/preceded by an in camera Viva Voce examination conducted by the Viva Voce Board.

- vii. The Chairman (Dean of the Faculty) and the external expert shall necessarily be present at the Open Defence and Viva Voce examination.
- viii. If the Viva Voce examination is not held on the scheduled date, the candidate shall be required to be present for the Open Defence and Viva Voce examination on a subsequent date, as intimated to him/her.
- ix. If, in the opinion of the Viva Voce Board, the candidate is successful in the Viva Voce examination and has defended his/her thesis satisfactorily in the Open Defence, the Board shall prepare a consolidated report and present it to the University recommending the award of Ph.D. degree.  
The candidate shall submit the hard bound copy of the thesis along with a soft copy in PDF format after incorporating all corrections/suggestions made by the examiners. The Research Guide shall give a certificate stating that all corrections have been made in the final copy of the thesis.
- x. If, in the opinion of the Viva Voce Board, the candidate is not successful in the Viva-Voce examination, the candidate shall be given an additional opportunity after one month for the Open Defence and Viva Voce examination after payment of the prescribed fee.

21 b) **ICAR stream**

- i. The thesis to be adjudicated shall be forwarded to three external examiners nominated by the Vice Chancellor from the Panel of Experts submitted by Major Adviser., as given in Sub-clause 28(iv) above, of which at least four shall be from outside the State/Country
- ii. a. Each examiner shall be requested to send a separate individual report on adjudication of the thesis, wherein it shall be specifically stated, whether or not the examiner recommends the award of the degree based on the written thesis, with reasons for the recommendation. If the thesis does not meet the standard expected of a Ph.D. thesis, the thesis may be rejected.  
b. In the event of the receipt of the evaluation reports of any two examiners recommending the thesis for the award of Ph.D. degree, the University shall make arrangements for the conduct of the Open Defence and Viva Voce examination as without waiting for the third report. In the event of one examiner recommending the thesis for the award of Ph.D. degree and the other examiner rejecting it, the report of the third examiner will also be considered. If the third examiner recommends the award, Open Defence and Viva Voce examination shall be conducted. If the third examiner rejects the thesis, the Ph.D. degree will not be awarded to the candidate



- c. But if any of the examiners suggests resubmission of the thesis, after revision, the candidate may resubmit the thesis incorporating the changes proposed by the examiner(s) after a period of six months and on payment of such fees as may be prescribed by the University. On resubmission, the thesis shall again be sent for adjudication as far as possible to the same examiner(s) who had adjudicated it earlier and recommended revision. If the same examiner(s) is (are) not available, another examiner(s) shall be selected by the Vice Chancellor from the same panel.
    - d. The candidate shall have no further chance for resubmission of the thesis and the decision to accept or reject the thesis at this stage shall be final.
  - iii. If any two examiners recommend for the award of the Ph.D. degree, the University shall make arrangements for the conduct of Open Defense and Viva Voce examination.
    - a. The external examiners shall send their reports to the Controller of Examinations within 60 days of receipt of the thesis. He will forward copy of the reports with evaluated thesis to the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee for making arrangements for the final Viva Voce examination or for modifications as suggested by the Examiner(s).
    - b. The Chairperson shall advise the student, if necessary, to revise the thesis incorporating the suggestions of the External Examiner(s). Five copies of the revised thesis shall be presented by the student to the Board of Examiners at the final Viva Voce examination.
    - c. If the thesis is not accepted, the candidate shall be permitted to resubmit his/her thesis after a minimum period of one semester during which interval he/she may repeat his/her research work wherever necessary and modify or correct the thesis in accordance with the observations made by the External Examiners.
    - d. A candidate shall not be permitted to submit his/her thesis for the degree on more than two occasions and if the thesis is not approved on the second occasion, the candidate shall not be awarded the degree and his/her name shall be removed from the roll.
    - e. The final Viva Voce examination shall be conducted normally within three months after the submission of thesis by the candidate.
    - f. The Board of Examiners for conducting the final Viva Voce examination shall consist of the Chairperson and Members of the Advisory Committee and one External Examiner who evaluated the thesis. The Chairperson of the Advisory Committee shall act as the Chairperson of the Board of Examiners also. In case there is a difference of opinion between the External Examiner and other members of the Board of Examiners, the

matter will be reported to the University, for a decision.

- g. The general guidelines issued for the conduct of examinations shall be followed for the conduct of final Viva Voce examination also.
- h. If any of the members of the Board of Examiners fails to turn up on the date fixed for the examination, the Head of the Institution shall appoint a suitable substitute examiner and report to the University
- i. Thesis work may be graded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory.
- j. Based on the reports for the External Examiner(s) who evaluated the thesis and on the performance at the final Viva Voce examination, the Board of Examiners shall declare whether the thesis is approved or not. Only on the approval of the thesis by duly signing on the thesis with date by all members of the Board of Examiners, the candidate becomes eligible for the award of the degree. The decision of the Board of Examiners shall be communicated to the University through the Head of the Institution.
- k. Out of five copies of the corrected and bound thesis, one copy shall be sent to the University along with the report of examination and the evaluation reports of the thesis furnished by the External Examiner(s), one copy is to be returned to the student and one copy each to be given to the School, General Library and to the Chairperson. One soft copy of the thesis shall be submitted by the student and forwarded to the University, along with the thesis.
- l. The Chairperson shall submit a Certificate to the effect that all the corrections suggested or pointed out by the External Examiner(s) have been attended to. He shall also submit his own report on the suggestions of the Examiners.
- m. If the performance of the student in the final Viva Voce examination is unsatisfactory, the candidate has to appear for a re-examination after 60 days. The reasons for unsatisfactory performance shall be recorded in the report of the Board of Examiners.
- n. The University shall have the full right to publish the thesis in any media including electronic media and to transmit the same to the online system. The IPR rights of the inventions made/technology developed shall remain with the University. In the case of thesis brought out from externally funded projects, the rules pertaining to publication of such funding agencies have to be considered.

22. **Issue of Certificate/Transcript**

- i. On receipt of the intimation of the approval of thesis and the report of final Viva Voce examination from the Head of Institution, together with a copy of the approved thesis, the University shall take further action to award the

- degree to the candidate.
- ii. The Vice Chancellor shall approve the final results and the University, shall issue provisional certificate and transcript to the candidate. The student shall apply for the issue of Provisional/Degree Certificate and /or transcript.
23. **Amending / Cancellation of results**
- If it is established that the result of a candidate has been vitiated by malpractice, fraud or other improper conduct and that he/she, in the opinion of the Vice Chancellor, has been a party to or connived to malpractice, fraud or improper conduct, the Vice Chancellor shall have the power at any time, notwithstanding the award of a certificate, scholarship or degree, to amend the results of such a candidate and to make such declaration as the Vice-Chancellor may deem necessary to that effect including withdrawal of prize, scholarship money and debarring the candidate from the University for such periods as may be specified and the cancellation of results of the candidate in such manner as the Vice Chancellor may decide.
24. **Publication of the thesis**
- i. The contents of the thesis can be published with a footnote that they are based on thesis accepted by the Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies for the award of Ph.D. degree. Research papers based on the results of the Ph.D. research can be published by the candidate prior to the submission of the thesis. Copies of the paper(s) so published should be attached to the final thesis. If the paper is accepted for publication, the same may also be mentioned in the Certificate to be given at the beginning of the thesis.
  - ii. If the researcher publishes the paper of the Ph.D. thesis after joining other institutes, the affiliation may be shown as KUFOS and the present address given separately
  - iii. A candidate who has been awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy shall be free to publish his/her thesis with a proper acknowledgement to the University. A copy of the thesis so published shall be given by the candidate to the University.
25. **Penalty for unauthorized discontinuance**
- In case a student discontinues the Ph.D. program without permission, he/she has to remit to the University an amount as decided by the University, towards liquidated damages.

26. **Removal of difficulties**
- i. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of these regulations, the Vice Chancellor may issue necessary orders, which appear to him to be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty.
  - ii. No order under Rule 26(i) shall be questioned on the ground that no difficulty as is referred to in the said rule existed or was required to be removed.
  - iii. Every order issued by the Vice Chancellor under this provision shall be laid before the next Academic Council of the University for ratification.
27. **Depository provision**
- i. Following the successful completion of the evaluation process the department concerned shall submit an electronic copy of the thesis for hosting the same in the database to make it accessible to all institutions.
  - ii. Before the actual award of the degree, the University shall issue a provisional Certificate to the effect that the Degree has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the UGC Regulations, 2016/ provisions of the KUFOS.

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