**Oral Examination of a Candidate for the Award of a Professional Doctorate:**

***Examiner’s Initial Report***

* Please type this report, and ensure that you complete it fully.
* Please complete all of Sections 1-5 inclusive. Please also add your signature and the date in the boxes at the end of the form.
* You are welcome to extend or reduce the length of each section as appropriate.

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| **Your Name** |  |
| **Your Role [*Internal Examiner or External Examiner*]** |  |
| **Name of the Candidate** |  |

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| **Section 1:**  ***What, in your judgement, are the main strengths of the research and/or the thesis?*** |
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| **Section 2:**  ***What, in your judgement, are the main weaknesses of the research and/or the thesis?*** |
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| **Section 3:**  **What are the key issues that you would like to discuss with the candidate during the oral examination?** |
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| **Section 4:**  ***In general, does the candidate appear to have fulfilled the university’s expectations for the award of a doctoral degree?*** | |
| The creation and interpretation of new knowledge, through original research or other advanced scholarship, of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication. | Yes  No |
| A systematic acquisition and understanding of a substantial body of knowledge which is at the forefront of an academic discipline or area of professional practice. | Yes  No |
| The general ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline, and to adjust the project design in the light of unforeseen problems. | Yes  No |
| A detailed understanding of applicable techniques for research and advanced academic enquiry. | Yes  No |

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| **Section 5:**  ***On the basis of reading the thesis, what is your provisional recommendation? (please tick one box)*** | |
| The candidate should be awarded a Professional Doctorate. |  |
| The candidate should be awarded a Professional Doctorate subject to making minor amendments to the thesis. |  |
| The candidate should be awarded a Professional Doctorate subject to making major amendments to the thesis. |  |
| The candidate has not yet satisfied the requirements for the award of a Professional Doctorate, but should be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit the thesis, and then be re-examined for a Professional Doctorate. |  |
| The candidate has not satisfied the requirements for the award of a Professional Doctorate, is not entitled to resubmit the thesis, and so must terminate studies. The candidate has failed the Professional Doctorate, but the Progression and Award Board may award the candidate a Masters degree on the basis of the candidate’s performance in Part One of the programme. |  |

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| **Your Signature** | **Date:** |
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