



Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Education Level, A.D. 2005

To justify the postgraduate education level accurately academic standardize, high quality, efficiency and agree to the Announcement of the Ministry of Education on “The Criteria Standardization of the Postgraduate Study Level Program A.D. 2005 (B.E. 2548) and “Administrative Guidance of Criteria Standardization of Higher Education Level Program B.E. 2548. The regulations adhere to Clause 16(2) and Clause 26 of the Khon Kaen University Council, set forth at the 5/2005 meeting on July 6, 2005 that stipulates the regulations as follows:

Section 1 General Chapter

Article 1 This set of regulations is entitled “*Regulations of Khon Kaen University regarding Graduate Education Level, A.D. 2005*”

Article 2 This set of regulations applies to the graduate education level of all curricula at Khon Kaen University from the academic year 2005 onwards.

Article 3 All Khon Kaen University Regulations at the Graduate Level 2001, including charters, orders or other announcements issued by the university or by the faculties which contradict the present regulations shall be superceded by these regulations.

Article 4 In the regulations:

"University" refers to Khon Kaen University.

"President" refers to the President of Khon Kaen University.

"Faculty" refers to any faculty, the Graduate School, or other unit which offers graduate programs.

"Dean" refers to the Dean of any faculty, Dean of the Graduate School, or head of other units which offer graduate programs.

"Program" refers to any course attached to the graduate program.

"Program Administrative Committee" refers to the Committee appointed by the Dean to be responsible for graduate programs.

“Program Chair” refers to a Chairperson of the Program Administrative Committee.

“The Bureau of Academic Administrative and Development” refers to the Office of Registrar (The Bureau of Academic Administration and Development) complying with an announcement of Khon Kaen

University Council (No. 3/2548)

“Graduate School” refers to the Graduate School at Khon Kaen University

“Graduate School Committee” refers to the Committee of the Graduate School at Khon Kaen University.

"Student" refers to a graduate student of Khon Kaen University.

Article 5 The President should adhere to these regulations and has the authority to issue any announcement, order or practical regulation which does not contradict these regulations.

In case some principles and rules have not been established, or in case any issues arise relating to the practice of these regulations, the committee board of the Graduate School has the authority to adjudicate and submit recommendations to the President. The President then has the authority to reach a decision accordingly. The order of the President is final.

All interpretations must be in agreement with the Announcement of the Ministry of Education on “The Criteria Standardization of the Postgraduate Study Level Program A.D. 2005 (B.E. 2548)”

Section 2 Education System

Article 6 Management of graduate education level should be as follows:

6.1 The Graduate School is to uphold the standards of the graduate study program of the university.

6.2 The Graduate School is to co-ordinate and support the management of graduate education level, whereas the faculties and departments are to manage the graduate study programs.

6.3 The Graduate School will oversee the implementation of a committee for interdisciplinary programs administration in order to manage and facilitate administration between related faculties. The duties and components of this committee are subjected to the university announcement.

Article 7 Khon Kaen University adheres to a credit, bi-semester system. As such, the education is divided into two regular semesters. There are at least 15 weeks in each semester. A summer session can be organized according to the necessity of each program, thus making the proportion of credits equal to those in the regular semester.

The program can then be arranged into other systems, such as tri-semester, quarter or others and is subject to the following guidelines.

A tri-semester system is divided into three semesters including the summer session. There are at least 12 weeks in a regular semester.

A quarter system is divided into four semesters including the summer session. There are at least 10 weeks in a regular semester.

Article 8 Credits Calculation

8.1 A Bi-semester System

A theory course with lectures or discussions not less than 15 hours per regular semester should be worth 1 credit.

A practicum course with no less than 30 hours per regular semester should be worth 1 credit.

An internship course or a field study course with no less than 45 hours per regular semester should be worth 1 credit.

A thesis course or independent study course with no less than 45 hours per regular semester should be worth 1 credit.

8.2 A Tri-semester System.

One credit in a tri-semester system can be compared to 12/15 credits in a bi-semester system; or, 4 credits in a bi-semester system can be compared to 5 credits in a tri-semester system.

8.3 A Quarter System

One credit in a quarter system can be compared to 10/15 credits in a bi-semester system; or, 2 credits in a bi-semester system can be compared to 3 credits in a quarter system.

Article 9 An Educational Plan is divided into 2 categories:

9.1 Full-Time. This refers to the program comprised of an average amount of credits throughout the program not less than 9 credits per one regular semester of a bi-semester system.

9.2 Part-time. This refers to the program comprised of an average amount of credits throughout the program less than 9 credits per one regular semester of a bi-semester system.

Article 10 Any program may be arranged using one or more educational systems and/or educational plans with approval from the University.

The teaching and learning system and the educational planning system should be arranged according to the university announcement.

Section 3 Program

Article 11 Graduate programs are as follows:

11.1 A Graduate Diploma Program. This is a program which enhances specialization and professional efficiency. This is for those who have already graduated with a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent.

11.2 A Master's Degree Program. This is a program which promotes academic advancement or research in different fields at a higher level than a Bachelor's Degree or a Graduate Diploma Degree.

11.3 A Post-Graduate Diploma Program. This is a program which enhances specialization and professional efficiency. This is for those who have already graduated with a Master's Degree or equivalent.

11.4 A Doctoral Degree Program. This is a program that promotes academic advancement or research in different fields at a higher level than a Master's Degree or a post-Graduate Diploma Graduate Diploma Degree.

Article 12 The Structure of Graduate Programs.

12.1 A Graduate Diploma and a Post-Graduate Diploma are comprised of courses in total not less than 24 credits.

12.2 A Master's Degree Program. There should be a total number of not less than 36 credits

Plan A This is a research oriented program, and may be one of two types:

Type A 1 consists of a thesis course that should be not less than 36 credits. The program may assign the study of some courses or other non-credit courses but the results should be up to the standard specified by the program.

Type A 2 consists of a thesis course which should be not less than 12 credits, and other coursework of not less than 12 credits.

Plan B This is a non-thesis program but there should be at least 3 credits and no more than 6 credits for an independent study.

Any department must offer Plan A, and such department may also offer plan B.

12.3 A Doctoral Degree Program. The total number of credits for the whole program should be not less than 72 credits for those who have completed a Bachelor's Degree or a Graduate Diploma, whilst those with a Master's Degree or a Postgraduate Diploma should attempt not less than 48 credits. There are two types of this Doctoral Degree program:

Type 1 This is a research oriented program that expands academic knowledge into new areas. The program may assign the study of some courses or other non-credit courses but the results should be up to the standard specified by the program.

Type 1.1 Those holding a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent, or a Graduate Diploma are required to complete 72 credits for a thesis.

Type 1.2 Those holding a Master's Degree or equivalent, or a post-Graduate Diploma are required to complete 48 credits for the thesis.

The thesis in both Type 1.1 and Type 1.2 must contain the same quality and standards.

Type 2 This is a research oriented program that requires the students to complete a thesis that is highly academically qualified. There should also be coursework.

Type 2.1 Those holding a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent, or a Graduate Diploma are required to complete 48 credits for a thesis and study other coursework of not less than 24 credits.

Type 2.2 Those holding a Master's Degree or equivalent, or a post-Graduate Diploma are required to complete 36 credits for a thesis and study other coursework of not less than 12 credits.

The thesis in both Type 2.1 and Type 2.2 must contain the same quality and standards.

Article 13 There are three types of programs:

13.1 Regular Program. This refers to any particular program that is taught using Thai language, although some courses may be taught in a foreign language.

13.2 English Program. This refers to a program in any field which uses English as a medium of teaching and learning throughout the program. This includes the Thesis and Independent Study writing.

13.3 International Program. This refers to a program which instructed in English. Activities which promote internationalism are arranged in order to produce graduates who are qualified according to the international standard. A foreign language is used in class.

Article 14 Duration of a full-time program should be as follows:

14.1 A Graduate Diploma and Higher Graduate Diploma should not exceed 3 academic years.

14.2 A Master's Degree should not exceed five academic years.

14.3 A Doctoral Degree should not exceed eight academic years of study for those who have earned a Bachelor's Degree. Those with a Master's Degree should spend not more than five academic years.

The duration of study for any program with other kinds of plan should be according to the University's Regulations.

Article 15 Quality Assurance

Every program must have a quality assurance system to ensure that standards and quality of the program are controlled and reported according to the quality assurance system of the Graduate School and the university. Each program must present a self-evaluation report to the Dean of the Faculty at least once a year, and send a copy to the Graduate School.

Section 4
Graduate Faculty Staff

Article 16 Graduate Faculty Staff consist of:

- 16.1 A full time lecturer referring to a permanent staff or a person who is employed to work for the program, and belongs to Khon Kaen University with a qualification of teaching and learning work, and has been assigned to engage in teaching and researching.
- 16.2 A lecturer of a program referring to a full time lecturer who is appointed to be responsible for program administration by working as a lecturer and/or Thesis or Independent Study advisor for the duration of the program. Each lecturer must belong to only one program.
- 16.3 A lecturer responsible for the program referring to a lecturer of a program who is appointed to be responsible for program administration, teaching and learning, program development and evaluation, as well as other possible duties.
- 16.4 Teaching staff referring to a full time faculty staff or special graduate lecturer who is appointed to teach certain courses or some items of the course in a program.
- 16.5 General Academic Advisors referring to the full time faculty staff appointed by the faculty to give advice on the education and learning plan of the students.
- 16.6 A Major Advisor referring to the full time faculty staff who have been appointed to give advice to the students on conducting Thesis or Independent study, such as a proposal consideration, supervising, including evaluation of progress and defense of Thesis and Independent study.
- 16.7 A co-advisor referring to a full time staff or a special graduate lecturer appointed by the faculty to co-work with a major advisor for supervising the thesis or the independent study.
- 16.8 An expert referring to a person who is not a full time lecturer appointed to work on graduate level teaching, but who has an academic degree or title according to their function.
- 16.9 A special expert is not a full time staff member, and he/she is appointed to be responsible for some part of teaching at graduate level. He/she does not hold a related degree or academic position, but has expertise and experience in a related field, and is recognized by a related division or Ministry relevant to staff level 9 as the criteria of the Bureau of Government Officer Committee and related division. The major advisor has to be a staff of the University.
- 16.10 A special graduate lecturer referring to an expert who is appointed by the Dean of the Faculty to lecture a graduate study level program.

Article 17 Qualifications of program staff

The staff of the program must be full time staff members and qualified not lower than the qualification of lecturer of that program.

Article 18 Qualification of the staff responsible for the program

18.1 For a Master's Degree program, a Graduate Diploma program and a Higher Graduate Diploma Program, there should be three teaching staff who hold a Doctoral Degree or a position which is not lower than an Associate Professor in that field or in a related field.

18.2 For a Doctoral Degree Program, there should be three teaching staff who hold a Doctoral Degree or a position which is not lower than a professor in that field or in a related field.

Article 19 Program Administration consists of the following:

19.1 There should be at least 5 staff of the program, consisting of at least 3 staff members who are responsible for the program.

19.2 Each graduate program must be under the administration of a Program Administrative Committee appointed by the faculty. The committee can administrate one or more programs as the faculty's assignment and appointment require.

Article 20 The Graduate Study Committee should be appointed by the faculty to be responsible for controlling graduate level program administration and quality. The authority of this committee is specified by the faculty.

Article 21 Teaching staff must have the following qualifications:

21.1 For a Master's Degree Program, a Graduate Diploma Program or a Higher Graduate Diploma Program, teaching staff must be a full time lecturer or expert from outside the university who holds a Master's Degree or equivalent in the field taught, or holds a position of not lower than an Assistant Professor in the field taught or in a related field, has teaching experience, and has done research work other than the research which is a part of the study for a degree.

21.2 For a Doctoral Degree program, teaching staff must be a full time lecturer or an expert from outside the university who holds a Doctoral Degree or equivalent in the field taught, or holds a position of not lower than an Associate Professor in the field taught or in a related field, has teaching experience, and has done research work other than the research which is a part of the study for a degree.

Article 22 A Major Advisor must have the following qualifications:

A Major Advisor must be a full time lecturer, hold a Doctoral Degree or equivalent in the field taught or hold a position of not lower than an Associate Professor in the field taught or in a related field, and have done research work other than the research which is a part of the study for a degree.

Article 23 A co-advisor (if available) must have the following qualifications:

A co-advisor must be a full time lecturer or an expert who holds the same degree and academic position including experience in research work as the major advisor. In case of necessity, the expert can be appointed as a co-advisor.

Article 24 In case of necessity, the expert who is a full time staff member of the university and has expertise on a related field can be appointed to be a major advisor by the Dean of the Faculty, under approval of the Graduate School Committee, and agreement of the announcement of the Graduate School.

Article 25 The workload of a thesis or independent study advisor

One full time faculty staff member is to supervise the thesis of not more than five Master's Degree and/or Doctoral Degree students, or he/she should be an advisor of independent study not more than 15 Master's Degree students. If he/she is both a thesis and an independent study advisor he/she can follow the following proportion of his/her workload: one thesis student equals three independent study students, including the

student who is not yet graduated. If the program has a potential to supervise the Thesis for more than five students, the number of students, can be extended to, but not exceed, 10 students, and this must agree with the announcement of the Graduate School.

Section 5 Enrollment

Article 26 Qualifications of Students

26.1 A Graduate Diploma Program

Those who wish to enroll in this program must have graduated with a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent as specified by the program. They should also have other additional qualifications as specified by the Program Administrative Committee and the Graduate School.

26.2 A Master's Degree Program

Those who wish to enroll in this program must have graduated with a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent or have a Graduate Diploma as specified by the program. They should also have other additional qualifications as specified by the Program Administrative Committee and the Graduate School.

26.3 A Higher-Graduate Diploma Program

Those who wish to enroll in this program must have graduated with a Master's Degree or equivalent as specified by the program. They should also have other additional qualifications as specified by the Program Administrative Committee and the Graduate School.

26.4 A Doctoral Degree Program

26.4.1 Those who wish to enroll in this program must have graduated with a Master's Degree or equivalent or have a post-Graduate Diploma as specified by the program. They should also have other additional qualifications as specified by the Program Administrative Committee and the Graduate School or

26.4.2 Those who wish to enroll in this program must have graduated with a Bachelor's Degree or equivalent or have a Graduate Diploma in the same field or related field with the program they wish to enroll in. Study results should be excellent. They should be capable and have the potential to complete a doctoral thesis. They should have other additional qualifications as specified by the Program Administrative Committee and the Graduate School.

Article 27 Application

The application form, the duration of application, accompanying documents and other conditions should comply with the Graduate School announcements.

Article 28 Acceptance to the program

28.1 The Program Administrative Committee under approval of the Faculty Committee specifies the conditions, methods and the number of students for enrollment in each field. This should be approved by the faculty and the Graduate School Committee.

28.2 The Program Administrative Committee may propose to accept any student on a special quota. This must be approved by the Program Administrative Committee and the related faculty.

28.3 The Graduate School Committee may propose to accept students with a background of lower than a Bachelor's Degree who have qualifications according to Article 26, to study or carry out research with no intention to receive a degree, as a special case. This must be approved by the Program Administrative Committee and the related faculty.

- 28.4 For those waiting for the results of enrollment as contingent upon a Bachelor's Degree or a Master's Degree the enrollment is deemed complete when the applicant sends in the document specifying his/her degree according to the program he/she is applying for within the deadline by the Graduate School.
- 28.5 An applicant cannot apply to study in more than one program at Khon Kaen University at the same time.
- 28.6 The acceptance of foreign students to the program is to comply with the Khon Kaen University announcements.

Article 29 Student enrollment and registration is to comply with Khon Kaen University announcements

Article 30 Students are divided into two types:

- 30.1 Regular Students. These are persons who are accepted into the program or a pre-program course to study for the degree or the diploma. For those who are accepted into a pre-program course, when they pass the pre-program's requirements they will be able to attend the program and study for the degree or the diploma.
- 30.2 Irregular Students. These are persons who are accepted into the program but are not studying for the degree or the diploma. The procedures for irregular students should comply with the university.

Section 6 Registration

Article 31 Registration, and Course Addition and Withdrawal

31.1 Registration is divided into two types:

- 31.1.1 A credit course registration
- 31.1.2 An audit course registration

31.2 Registration in the regular semester

Full time students must register for not less than 9 credits and not more than 15 credits.

Part time students must register for not less than 3 credits and not more than 8 credits.

Students in Plan A Type A 1 in the Master's Degree Program who have registered in the first semester and students in the Doctoral Degree Program who have not passed the qualifying examination may be exempt from registration in that particular semester. This has to be approved, however, by the Dean of the Faculty with the consent of the Program Administrative Committee, and students have to renew their registration and pay full student fees as specified.

31.3 In the summer session a student can only register for a maximum of 6 credits.

31.4 Registration of less or more than specified in articles 31.2 and 31.3 can be attempted when credits left unfinished are less or more than those specified above, and/or the student is expected to graduate in that particular semester. This should be approved by the Dean of the Faculty with the consent of the Program Administrative Committee.

31.5 Students are not permitted to re-register for the same course in which they have taken and earned a grade B or higher.

In the case of students who have completed all required courses, but have attained GPA less than 3.00, they can re-register in that same course which they have earned lower than grade A in order to upgrade their GPA.

- 31.6 Students who have completed their course work in the program, but have not graduated, and students who are on a leave permit must pay the student fee as specified by the university in order to retain their status.
- 31.7 Students can register for the subject of the program plan or equivalent subject in other institute in order to count the credit of the program. This has to be approved by the Dean of the Faculty with the consent of the general academic advisors.

Article 32 The criteria for addition or withdrawal from courses has to comply with the Graduate School announcements.

Article 33 The transfer of credits and values of the courses studied from other institutions and from Khon Kaen University has to comply with the Graduate School announcements.

Article 34 Program Change

Students may change their programs at the same level of education when they have completed at least 8 credits in the former program and have courses which can be transferred of at least 6 credits. Each course must have been studied within the past 3 years and completed with at least over grade B or S.

For Plan A Type A(1) in the Master's Degree program and for the Doctoral Degree Type 1, students may request to change their programs at the same level of education when they have registered for at least one semester and have studied not more than three years. They should also have the potential to carry out the thesis in the new program.

The process for program change should comply with the Graduate School announcements.

Article 35 To Change the Level of Education

Students at a lower level of education may be considered for transfer to a higher level of program or vice versa. This should meet the criteria set in that particular program and/or the Graduate School announcements.

Section 7

An Evaluation of Course of Study

Article 36 An Evaluation of Course of Study at the graduate education level is as follows:

- 36.1 A Course Examination. Students have to take an examination in all courses they have registered for, except for the courses they have legally withdrawn from. The course lecturer shall send the examination results on a form of the Bureau of the Academic Administration and Development with approval of the Department or the Program Administrative Committee and the Dean of the Faculty. The results will be sent to the Bureau of the Academic Administration and Development within 15 days after the examination.
- 36.2 A Comprehensive Examination. This is a written or oral examination, or both kinds, for the students in the Master's Degree program Plan B. The examination covers the content of major courses and other related courses in the program. The comprehensive examination committee consists of those appointed by the Dean of the Faculty with approval from the Program Administrative Committee.
- 36.3 A Thesis Examination. This is an examination to evaluate the thesis of the students in the Master's Degree program Plan A and the students in the Doctoral Degree Program. The examination process involves the reading and evaluation of the work by the

committee, an oral defense by the student, and a meeting to decide on the work by the committee.

36.4 An Independent Study Examination. This is an examination to evaluate an independent study of the students in the Master's Degree program Plan B. The examination process involves the reading and evaluation of the work by the committee, an oral defense by the student, and a meeting to decide on the work by the committee.

36.5 A Qualifying Examination. This is a written or oral examination, or both kinds, for the students in the Doctoral Degree program. The examination covers the major courses and other related courses in the program. This is to evaluate the competency of doctoral students in carrying out their research independently. The student who passes the Qualifying Examination has the right to submit a thesis proposal at the Doctoral Degree level.

36.6 An Evaluation of Competency in a Foreign Language. This is required for the students in the Doctoral Degree program and should comply with announcement of the Graduate School.

Article 37 The Comprehensive Examination, a Qualifying Examination and a Foreign Language Competency Evaluation in articles 36.2, 36.5, 36.6, The Graduate School set up the criteria and method with approval of the Graduate School Committee.

Article 38 Students who cheat in the examination room should be dealt with according to the regulations of Khon Kaen University on the Examination of Students 2004 or other regulations to be revised to follow suit.

Article 39 An evaluation of each course of study should be conducted at the end of each semester.

Article 40 A course evaluation should involve the symbols and corresponding grade levels as follows

Level of Grade	Meaning	Value per credit
A	Excellent	4.0
B+	Very Good	3.5
B	Good	3.0
C+	Fairly Good	2.5
C	Fair	2.0
D+	Poor	1.5
D	Very Poor	1.0
F	Failed	0

Symbol	Meaning	
I	Incomplete	is used in the course which has a grade resulting from one of the following cases : 1) A student could not take the examination for a reason beyond his/her control. 2) A student has not completed the coursework set by the lecturer. This has to be approved by the Dean of the Faculty.
S	Satisfactory	is used in an audit course.
U	Unsatisfactory	is used in an audit course.
W	Withdrawn	is used for a withdrawal from the course, or the courses registered by the student who is on a leave permitted or ordered in that particular semester.

Article 41 An evaluation of a comprehensive examination, a qualifying examination, or a foreign language competency evaluation should observe the following guidelines:

S (Satisfactory) means the student has passed the examination.

U (Unsatisfactory) means the student has not passed the examination.

Each comprehensive examination and each qualifying examination may only be attempted two times in each program. For a foreign language competency evaluation there are no limits on number of attempts.

Article 42 A student whose grade level is lower than C or has a U in a compulsory course is considered lower than average and should re-register for the course.

Article 43 Credits and Grade Point Average Calculation

43.1 If a student has registered in the same course more than once, the credits are only valid once.

43.2 Cumulative Grade Point Average can be calculated from every course. In case a student has registered more than once in a particular course the credits earned together with grade value should be calculated in cumulative grade point average. Four decimal points should be calculated, i.e. if the fourth figure after the decimal point is greater than 5, the third figure should be rounded up. If this also adds up to greater than 5, the second figure should also be rounded up.

Section 8

Thesis and Independent Study

Article 44 A student with qualifications specified in the program can register for the Thesis or Independent Study. This can be approved by a Thesis advisor or an Independent Study advisor. Other regulations should be according to the Graduate School announcements.

Article 45 Supervision of Thesis or Independent Study

There should be one major advisor and there may be a co-advisor should it be deemed appropriate and comply with the regulations of each faculty.

Article 46 The Evaluation of the Progress of the Thesis or Independent Study.

46.1 There should be an evaluation on the progress of Thesis or Independent Study every semester.

46.2 Advisors for Thesis or Independent Study are to evaluate the progress of Thesis or Independent Study of the student. They are to report the evaluation to the Program Administrative Committee, and the Bureau of Academic Administrative and Development.

46.3 Use S to refer to the satisfactory result of the evaluation of Thesis or Independent Study.

The advisor is to evaluate the student's progress in Thesis writing or Independent Study by pointing out how many Thesis credits or Independent Study credits have been evaluated as S in each semester. This should not be more than the credits the student has registered for. (If no progress is made, the credits earned with S in that semester should equal 0 (Zero)).

The draft of the Thesis or Independent Study for presentation to the Defense Committee and the original copy of the Thesis to be published, are defined as a part of Thesis or Independent Study, that can be set as number of credit which depends on each case.

46.4 For the students who have been evaluated as having made no progress in their Thesis or Independent Study and earned 0 (Zero) credits, the Program Administrative Committee should enquire as to the reason. This could cause the student to change the Thesis or Independent Study proposal, or change the Thesis or Independent Study advisor. The Program Chair should report the reason to the Dean of the Faculty to find a solution.

Article 47 In case the student receive approval to change the title of Thesis or Independent Study which has the effect of changing the main idea or content, the evaluation result of the previous title can be replaced for the new title, but it must be for the same number of credits, and the symbol of passed credit must be “S”. This must be approved by the Dean of the Faculty with agreement of the Program Administrative Committee. The faculty staff must inform the Registration Section within 15 days, and also record the result in the student’s profile.

Article 48 The Thesis or an Independent Study Examination

48.1 The Thesis or Independent Study examination should be arranged within 45 days after the student has passed the progress evaluation with a symbol S for the total credit numbers of the Thesis or Independent Study course.

On the final report of progress evaluation with a symbol S for the total credit number of the Thesis or Independent Study, the advisor has to propose the appointment of a Defense Committee to the Dean of the Faculty for approval, including the defense date.

In case of the student who can not complete a defense within 45 days, the last symbol is invalid.

48.2 The Thesis Examination

48.2.1 The faculty should appoint the Thesis Examination Committee comprised of at least one external expert who is not a co-advisor, at least one full time faculty staff member who is not a co-advisor, and a major advisor; however, the co-advisor may also be appointed (if available). One of the committee members who is not the advisor should act as the chairperson of the examination committee. One teaching staff member and external expert for the defense must hold a Doctoral Degree or equivalent level, or an academic position not lower than Associate Professor in that field or in a related field, and must have done research work which is not a part of the study for a degree.

If necessary, the Dean of the Faculty can appoint the expert to be on the defense committee, with approval of the Graduate School Committee, this should be according to the Graduate School announcement.

48.2.2 The defense presentation must be open for interested people to attend and the faculty must announce it 7 days prior to the defense date.

The defense committee is authorized to permit or prohibit the other people asking questions or sharing opinions about the content of the Thesis, including time limitations of asking questions, so as to conduct the defense procedure smoothly.

48.2.3 On the examination day there should be at least 3 people present, including a full time faculty staff member or an external expert and a Thesis advisor. This will enable the examination to be complete.

If a full complement is not reached, the examination should be postponed and a new date arranged which gives the newly appointed committee members time to read the Thesis. Exam evaluators must be a member who is present on the examination day. An evaluation by an advisor(s) should be counted as 1, a teaching staff(s) should be counted as 1, and an expert(s) should be counted as 1. The results of the evaluation of the

committee members who vote 2 out of 3 of all committee members should be followed.

48.2 An Independent Study Examination

48.3.1 The faculty should appoint an Independent Study Examination Committee comprised of at least one full time faculty staff or an expert who is not a co-advisor, an Independent Study advisor and a co-advisor (if there is one). One member of the committee should act as the chairperson of the examination committee.

48.3.2 On the examination day there should be at least 2 people present, including a full time faculty staff member or an expert and an Independent Study advisor. This will enable the examination to be complete.

If a full complement is not reached, the examination should be postponed and a new date arranged which gives the newly appointed committee members time to read the Independent Study report.

48.3.3 The examination evaluators must be the examination committee. An evaluation by an advisor(s) should be counted as 1, a teaching staff(s) should be counted as 1, and an expert(s) should be counted as 1. The results of the evaluation of the committee members who vote 2 out of 3 of all committee members should be followed.

Article 49 The results of the Thesis or Independent Study examination can be divided into 4 levels:

Excellent
Good
Pass
Fail

The examination can be taken no more than 2 times.

Article 50 The chairperson of the examination committee should report the result in a letter to the Dean of the Faculty and the student within 3 days of the examination date.

50.1 If the student passes the examination with conditions, the examination committee should record the items which are in need of revision, including informing the student. The student must finish all revisions and present to the examination committee for approval within 45 days of the examination date. If the student can not get approval, the result of the examination is invalid. The examination committee reports the result to the Dean of the Faculty.

50.2 If the student can not pass the examination, the examination committee has to report the main reason in a letter to the Dean of the Faculty within 3 days of the examination date.

Article 51 If the student cancels the examination without an acceptable reason, the result is a fail.

Article 52 The student who is failed as in No. 50.2 is able to request a second examination with 15 days of the first examination date, and must complete the examination within 60 days of the first examination date.

The student who is failed as in No. 50.1 is able to request a second examination within 15 days of the ending date of the revision, and must complete the examination within 60 days of the ending date of the revision.

For both cases, the student has to pay the examination fee as per the faculty's regulations, if the student does not comply, the student's status is invalid.

For the second examination, regulations still apply

Article 53 The Format, Submission and Copyright of the Thesis or the Report of the Independent Study:

53.1 The format of the thesis or the report of the independent study is to comply with the regulations of the Graduate School.

- 53.2 Students are to submit the Thesis or report of an Independent Study according to the number, and the form and within the time allowed by the Graduate School.
- 53.3 The copyright or patent of the Thesis and the report of the Independent Study belong to Khon Kaen University. Students and/or an advisor of the Thesis or Independent Study may publish the work academically. Should they take the work of study for other purposes they should follow the guidelines set by Khon Kaen University.

If the student has been granted research funds for the Thesis or Independent Study which are bound to a copyright or patent, should he/she wish to do anything with the work, approval from the University must be requested prior to any such action.

Section 9 Graduation

Article 54 Graduation

A student who is eligible to graduate must possess the following qualifications:

54.1 Graduate Diploma and Post-Graduate Diploma Programs

- 54.1.1 Must earn all credits required by the program.
- 54.1.2 Obtain a cumulative GPA not lower than 3.00.

54.2 A Master's Degree Program

- 54.2.1 Possess knowledge of English according to the standard set by the Graduate School announcements.
- 54.2.2 Plan A Type A 1 must present the Thesis and pass the Thesis examination, with approval of the examination committee, and the journal which is a part of the Thesis must be published, or at one least one peer reviewed journal paper resulting from the work of the thesis must be published or accepted for publication, or he/she should present the work at a conference where the paper presented will be published in the proceedings.
- 54.2.3 Plan A Type A 2 must earn all credits required by the program and obtain a cumulative GPA not lower than 3.00, and must present the Thesis and pass the Thesis examination, with approval of the examination committee, and the journal which is a part of Thesis must be published or at least one peer reviewed journal paper resulting from the work of the thesis must be published or accepted for publication at a conference where the paper presented will be published in the proceedings.
- 54.2.4 Plan B must earn all credits required by the program and obtain a cumulative GPA not lower than 3.00, pass the Independent Study examination and Comprehensive Examination in written and/or oral examinations, as applicable.

54.3 A Doctoral Degree Program

- 54.3.1 Possess knowledge of English according to the standard set by the Graduate School announcements.
- 54.3.2 Pass the Qualifying Examination
- 54.3.3 Type 1 must present the Thesis and pass the Thesis examination with approval of the examination committee, and the journal which is a part of Thesis must be published or at one least one peer reviewed journal paper resulting from the work of the thesis must be published or accepted for publication with consideration of an external committee before publication and should be accepted by the program.

54.3.4 Type 2 must earn all credits required by the program and obtain a cumulative GPA not lower than 3.00, and must present the Thesis and pass the Thesis examination, with approval of the examination committee, and the Thesis must be published or at least be accepted for publication in an academic journal or in academic printed material, or he/she should present the work at a conference where the paper presented will be published in the proceedings, with peer review by the external committee before publication and should be accepted by the program.

Article 55 For the student of the program that needs to publish the Thesis as a part of graduation, and he/she already passed other criteria, but he/she is waiting for acceptance of publication in an academic journal or academic printed material required by the program, and completed study duration as set in Article 14, the student can submit the request form of study duration extension once each semester, but for no more than 2 semesters, according to the Graduate School announcement.

The approval to graduate should be given by the Faculty Committee Board and the date given is considered the day the student graduates.

Article 56 A Degree Request

56.1 A student who expects to graduate in a given semester is to submit a request form for graduation to the faculty at least 30 days in advance before the end of the semester in which he/she expects to graduate.

56.2 A student whose name is to be submitted from the faculty to the University Council for graduation must possess the following qualifications:

56.2.1 Must complete his/her study according to article 50

56.2.2 Must have paid all fees and not be indebted to the University or the department.

56.2.3 Is not being tried for violating the student codes.

56.2.4 Has submitted the Thesis or the report of an Independent Study and other related materials according to the format and the number set by the Graduate School.

56.2.5 Submission of the names of the graduates in order to request degree to the University Council are to comply with the University Regulations.

Article 57 In case of necessity and propriety, the University may not allow the graduate to attend the Royal Commencement, as specified by the criterion of the University.

Article 58 Denouncement of degree and diploma, the University Council may consider to withdraw the degree or diploma that has already been approved for the graduate in the following cases:

58.1 The graduate is unqualified as stated in Article 26 or Article 54 of these regulations. The degree or diploma withdrawal is effective on the date of the degree or diploma approval by the University Council.

58.2 The graduate has copied the Thesis or Independent Study, or other academic work which is constituted directly from other people's work, or he/she has not produced the Thesis or Independent Study by himself/herself. The degree or diploma withdrawal is effective on the date of the degree or diploma approval by the University Council.

58.3 The graduate denigrates the prestige of the University or the degree or diploma. The degree or diploma withdrawal is effective on the date of withdrawal approval by the University Council.

Section 10

The Status of the Student

Article 59 Leave of study and Resignation of the student

- 59.1 A student who wishes to request a leave of study must make such a request to the related faculty. This has to be approved by the Dean of the Faculty with the consent of the general academic advisor or the Thesis or Independent Study advisor, and the Program Director.
- 59.2 A student is entitled to request a leave of study for no more than 2 regular semesters throughout the program.
- 59.3 A student given a leave of study has to pay his/her student fee in order to retain student status, within 15 days from the issue date of the leave permit.
- 59.4 A student who wishes to resign his/her student status has to submit a resignation to the related faculty. This has to be approved by the President with the consent of the general academic advisor or the Thesis or Independent Study advisor, the Program Director, and the Dean of that faculty.

Article 60 Release from Student Status

A student can be released from being a student if he/she falls into one of following categories:

- 60.1 Deceased.
- 60.2 Granted resignation
- 60.3 Graduated
- 60.4 Expelled by the University due to violation of the regulations on registration or has not paid the tutorial fees.
- 60.5 Earned less than half of the credits accumulated in the program and has made a cumulative GPA of less than 2.50
- 60.6 Earned more than half of the total credits of the course which had grades in the program and has made a cumulative GPA lower than 2.75
- 60.7 No progress of Thesis or Independent Study for 2 consecutive semesters, or continuously earned symbol 0 for 2 semesters.
- 60.8 Has taken a Thesis Examination or Comprehensive Examination or Independent Study Examination or Qualifying Examination twice, and failed both times.
- 60.9 Has not taken the second examination on the set date after having failed the first examination.
- 60.10 Has spent the study time up to the limit allowed and not completed the study.
- 60.11 A regular student who has been on probation of study longer than permitted.
- 60.12 Was sentenced to be imprisoned, except for light penalty or wrong doing without discretion.
- 60.13 Penalized on discipline and had to leave the study.

Article 61 A Request to Retain Studentship

A student who has been dismissed from this status according to articles 60.2 and 60.4 may request the former status. This has to comply with the Graduate School Regulations.

Section 11

AD HOC CHAPTER

Article 62 The approved programs which are new or have been revised by the University Council before July 1, 2005 must use the standard criteria involved with the program according to the regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate study A.D. 2001. However, the

program must be revised and use these regulations within 5 years since the last revision or the starting teaching date depending on each case.

Article 63 Article 14, 54, and 60 are to apply to all students except those who have enrolled before the academic year of 2005, though they shall remain subject to the Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Study A.D. 2001

Article 64 The Thesis or Independent Study advisors, or the examination committee members who have been appointed prior to this announcement of regulations will remain so.

Article 65 All previous announcements or criteria involving Graduate Study are effective until revision and are to agree with this regulation; however, the revision must be completed within 180 days from the date of the announcement.

Announced on July 14, 2005

Signed Pao Sarasin
(Police General Pao Sarasin)
President of Khon Kaen University Council