



Quality Support

Guidelines for preliminary reviews of doctoral theses at the Faculty of Engineering at Lund University

All doctoral theses at the Faculty of Engineering are to be submitted for a preliminary review prior to the public defence.

Scope

The preliminary review consists of an assessment of whether the doctoral thesis is of sufficient quality to be presented at a public defence. A pass at a preliminary review is not a pre-approval of the thesis and does not guarantee a pass at a public defence. A reviewer is to state whether the doctoral thesis is suitable for assessment or advise against a public defence. Advice against a public defence is to be justified by the reviewer. It is allowed to proceed with the public defence despite advice against it. The decision to proceed is taken after a dialogue between the doctoral student, the main supervisor and the head of department or director of third-cycle studies. The postgraduate education leader at the Faculty of Engineering must be informed if a reviewer advises against a public defence.

The head of department or director of third-cycle studies is to ensure that manuscripts are sent to reviewers and that a reply is received.

Schedule

Requests for a public defence are to be submitted twelve weeks prior to the planned date, at the latest. Following a decision on members of the examining committee and the faculty opponent,

the manuscript is to be submitted to all members of the examining committee and the faculty opponent for a preliminary review. The preliminary review is expected to take two weeks and must be completed six weeks before the public defence.

Reviewers

All members of the examining committee and the faculty opponent, decided on by the Postgraduate Education Committee at the Faculty of Engineering, are to be given the opportunity to participate in the preliminary review. It is not compulsory to request preliminary reviews from new reviewers in the event of decisions on changes to the faculty opponent or the members of the examining committee.

Documentation

The draft of the thesis in a version that is possible to assess and, for a compilation thesis, included articles in at least manuscript form are to be used for the preliminary review. The manuscript may be more developed than the version submitted in the registration of a public defence.