

Examining doctoral candidates

Learning from failures and appeals

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

THURSDAY

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| 11.00 | Coffee/tea available |
| 11.15 | Introductions and agenda setting |
| 11.30 | The candidate's experience: |
| 12.30 | Lunch in Restaurant |
| 13.30 | Exercise: what is a doctorate?
Discussion of criteria, learning outcomes |
| 14.30 | Diary: Amanda's Dilemmas. Syndicates share in the experience of
examining a PhD, with special reference to own institution's regulations |
| 15.15 | Tea in Garden Room |
| | Plenary: syndicates identify issues raised by Amanda's experience and key issues that
need covering in doctoral examination regulations. Discussion |
| 16.00 | Either
Lessons from my case file. Presentation Clive Robertson
Or
Narrative on being examined |
| | Discussion |
| 17.15 | Mid-course review |
| 17.30 | Break |
| 19.00 | Reception in Library, book display |
| 19.30 | Dinner in Library |
| 21.00 | Viewing of 'the good viva video' |
| | Discussion of issues raised |

FRIDAY: PROVISIONAL PLAN

[subject to modification in the light of mid-course review]

- from 7.30 Breakfast in Dining Room
- 9.00 Presentation: Richard Wakeford: Oral assessments in the postgraduate assessment of doctors - - what can the doctoral viva learn from the experience and research?
- Plenary: reports back and discussion
- 10.30 Tea & coffee
- 11.00 Either
Appointing examiners: Robert's Predicaments. Syndicates share an experienced examiner's problems in re-examining two PhDs, and draw up suggestions for identifying, recruiting, appointing and training examiners
Or
Exercise: three PhD appeals. Appeal panels consider some actual cases and determine the outcome
- Plenary discussion of decisions.
- 12.30 Lunch
- 13.30 Presentation: John Wakeford: future challenges
- 14.00 Exercise: drawing up code of best practice for institutions, supervisors, examiners and students
- 14.45 Tea
- 15.00 Action planning session and evaluation
- 16.00 Depart

