

**Materials linked from the February 1, Graduate Council agenda.**

**From:** Garagnani, Rosemary

**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2017 4:05 PM

**To:** Dennis, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Dennis@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Dennis@oregonstate.edu)>; Heppell, Selina S <[selina.heppell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:selina.heppell@oregonstate.edu)>

**Cc:** Levi, Taal <[Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu)>; Dunham, Susie <[Susie.Dunham@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Susie.Dunham@oregonstate.edu)>; Bernell, Stephanie <[stephanie.bernell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:stephanie.bernell@oregonstate.edu)>; Wildenschild, Dorthe <[Dorthe.Wildenschild@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Dorthe.Wildenschild@oregonstate.edu)>; Filtz, Theresa <[theresa.filtz@oregonstate.edu](mailto:theresa.filtz@oregonstate.edu)>; Ganio, Lisa M <[lisa.ganio@oregonstate.edu](mailto:lisa.ganio@oregonstate.edu)>

**Subject:** RE: quick question about seminars at PhD defenses

I believe the full exam (both portions) of the exam should be completed before the exam results are submitted to the Graduate School. If we all agree about that, keep in mind that the degree will not be certified until after any delay for the second part of the exam.

**From:** Dennis, Jennifer

**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2017 3:34 PM

**To:** Heppell, Selina S <[selina.heppell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:selina.heppell@oregonstate.edu)>; Garagnani, Rosemary <[Rosemary.Garagnani@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Rosemary.Garagnani@oregonstate.edu)>

**Cc:** Levi, Taal <[Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu)>; Dunham, Susie <[Susie.Dunham@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Susie.Dunham@oregonstate.edu)>; Bernell, Stephanie <[stephanie.bernell@oregonstate.edu](mailto:stephanie.bernell@oregonstate.edu)>; Wildenschild, Dorthe <[Dorthe.Wildenschild@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Dorthe.Wildenschild@oregonstate.edu)>; Filtz, Theresa <[theresa.filtz@oregonstate.edu](mailto:theresa.filtz@oregonstate.edu)>; Ganio, Lisa M <[lisa.ganio@oregonstate.edu](mailto:lisa.ganio@oregonstate.edu)>

**Subject:** RE: quick question about seminars at PhD defenses

Hi Selina,

I am always happy to think of helpful solutions for students. I want to ask Lisa Ganio and Theresa Filtz to chime in for this part of the question. Thinking through the max time allotted...

I want to first clarify that the seminar portion is for the student to present their research/findings and that it does not serve other purposes. And if this is the case, I couldn't see more than a 2-4 week time frame to be honest. I fear that committee members may forget content and it may become a burden on the student to re-create the "seminar" moment.

I am open to other thoughts.

Jennifer

Jennifer Dennis, Ph.D.

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**From:** Heppell, Selina S

**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2017 3:20 PM

**To:** Garagnani, Rosemary

**Cc:** Levi, Taal; Dunham, Susie; Dennis, Jennifer; Bernell, Stephanie; Wildenschild, Dorthe

**Subject:** RE: quick question about seminars at PhD defenses

Hi Rosemary and Jennifer,

Thank you for considering this request. We can definitely ensure that all committee members are present. We have discussed rescheduling and will look into this more for future years, but it is likely too late to reschedule for this upcoming spring term. I agree that would be a good option, if a room is available (we had a hard time getting a suitable room for our seminar this term, and I expect it will be the same next term).

One question back to you – if we did separate the public and private components of the defense, what is the maximum separation in time that would be acceptable to you? I would propose that the two components should be in the same term, or in an extreme case, within

the first two weeks of the following term (including summer). If a delay in the closed door defense occurs, the student should give another public talk.  
Also, I think that if a student and his or her committee wants to do this (everyone needs to agree to it), the seminar should come first. Your thoughts?  
Selina

**From:** Garagnani, Rosemary  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2017 1:44 PM  
**To:** Heppell, Selina S  
**Cc:** Levi, Taal; Dunham, Susie; Dennis, Jennifer; Bernell, Stephanie; Wildenschild, Dorthe  
**Subject:** RE: quick question about seminars at PhD defenses

Hello Selina,

I checked with Jennifer to see what she thought about your proposal. This is what she shared:

" I am open to the idea and could/would allow if: (1) she could ensure that all committee members were present- not just the GCR during the separate seminar/defense meetings and (2) if Selina could respond to the possibility of re-scheduling the 4pm seminar time to fix the issue about scheduling on the same day due to the late time."

If you decide to move ahead with this after conversing with Jennifer, please have Susie talk with me about how we would need to handle the exam scheduling forms.

Thank you,

Rosemary

Rosemary Garagnani  
Assistant Dean of the Graduate School  
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**From:** Heppell, Selina S  
**Sent:** Monday, January 16, 2017 11:18 AM  
**To:** Garagnani, Rosemary <[Rosemary.Garagnani@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Rosemary.Garagnani@oregonstate.edu)>  
**Cc:** Levi, Taal <[Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Taal.Levi@oregonstate.edu)>; Dunham, Susie <[Susie.Dunham@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Susie.Dunham@oregonstate.edu)>  
**Subject:** quick question about seminars at PhD defenses

Hello Rosemary, and Happy New Year!

We would like to enhance the profile of our PhD students' work by scheduling their defense seminars during our regular seminar time (Wednesdays at 4pm) in spring term. Because our seminar time is late in the day, it is not possible to schedule the seminar and defense on the same day. To be honest, I have also found that some students spend too much time preparing for the seminar and not enough time preparing for the defense, so allowing them to be decoupled could improve the quality of both.

On the other hand, we don't want to create more work for your office. Could we simply have the GCR ensure that a public defense was given, even if it happened some time before the oral defense?

Thanks for considering –  
Selina

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