Guidelines for eligibility and procedures for the award of Doctor of Philosophy by Previous Publication.

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with Regulations for the award of the University’s degrees of Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Philosophy, Professional Masters and Professional Doctorate.

June 2013
1 Eligibility

1.1 The award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by publication shall be open to all members of staff of Glasgow Caledonian University who do not already hold a doctoral degree in the same or cognate discipline or area of research and to external applicants who can demonstrate a publication record of appropriate quantity and quality to benefit from this form of doctoral study.

1.2 The degree will be awarded on the basis of submitted publications as defined and formally recognised by the appropriate subject, disciplinary area or professional association.

1.3 Work submitted for consideration must be published (or in exceptional circumstances have been accepted for publication) and must include a very substantial proportion of peer-reviewed work.

1.4 The submission shall be made up, as appropriate, of a collection of books, articles, chapters, reports and/or other creative works and artefacts which together form a coherent contribution to research. Each item of submitted work would normally be expected to be eligible for a publicly-registered ISSN/ISBN number. Work, whether published or unpublished, already submitted for the award of another degree will not be acceptable.

1.5 The submission as a whole will be required to demonstrate that it makes a significant contribution to knowledge in its subject area consistent with the norms laid out in the Research Councils’ joint statement on originality and broadly comparable to that expected of a PhD by thesis.

1.6 Joint publications may be accepted subject to a clear statement as to the nature and extent of the relative contributions of each author.

2 Procedures for registration and submission

2.1 Candidates may apply to register for the award of the degree at any time during the academic year.

2.2 Those candidates who believe that they meet the criteria for award should, in the first instance, forward a statement of intention to submit for the degree to the Chair of their School Research Committee (SRC). The statement should consist of a full list, including ISSN/ISBN numbers, page references, publishers, journal titles and other identifiers, of those publications which the applicant wishes to put forward for consideration together with a summary of no more than 5000 words outlining the nature and significance of the work to be submitted and its contribution to knowledge in its field. Copies of all work identified for submission should be available for the SRC if required.

2.3 The SRC shall be responsible for deciding the eligibility of the application against the criteria as set out in 1.1–1.6 above. In coming to its decision the Committee will be expected to seek the opinion of at least one external assessor of high standing with appropriate knowledge in the field of the submission. The external(s) will subsequently be eligible to act as external examiner for the degree if requested.

2.4 On completion of the preliminary assessment the SRC will forward a statement to the Chair of the Higher Degrees Committee (HDC) for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee. The statement should include a brief summary of the grounds for
supporting or rejecting the application, the name(s) and position of the external assessor(s) and, in the case of a favourable recommendation, the names of at least two appropriate external examiners. The HDC will, on the basis of the submitted report, decide whether to approve the examination for the PhD.

2.5 Those candidates who wish to explore the potential for PhD by publication but who are not confident that they, as yet, meet the criteria for award should, in the first instance, submit a note of interest to the Associate Dean for Research of the relevant School, or some other senior member of the SRC in the case that the ADR is him/herself a candidate for the award. The notification should contain a list of work already published and that in progress, including publication strategies and timetable, as well as a brief statement of the nature and significance of the corpus of work when completed and its expected contribution to knowledge in its field.

2.6 On receipt of the notification the ADR will convene an appropriately qualified group of experienced academic staff with knowledge of the proposed subject area. It will be the responsibility of this group, to make a judgement as to the potential of the proposed submission and, in the case that this is positive, to recommend for approval by the SRC an appropriate supervisory team. The supervisors should be experienced senior staff and should not, normally, nominate as first supervisor any person who is, or is likely to be, a co-author of publications that will form part of the eventual submission.

2.7 At a time when the supervisors and applicant consider that publication is sufficiently advanced they shall recommend to the SRC, and through it to the HDC for formal approval, supervisory arrangements and registration for degree of PhD by publication.

2.8 The maximum time allowed for registration for the degree shall be two years.

2.9 The registered candidate may apply at any time during registration to proceed to the examination for the degree. In this case he/she should follow the procedures as laid down in 2.2-2.4 above.

2.10 In order to be examined, the submitted work must be bound and should incorporate: the published papers and other materials, an introduction, a form of linkage demonstrating the interrelationship between the submitted publications, and a critical analysis of the work outlining how it has contributed to its field of study. Where appropriate a signed declaration of the extent and nature of joint or multi-authorship must be appended together with a statement from each joint or co-author indicating their agreement with the claims to independent work. Enquiries on the ownership of joint or multi-authored work will be a valid aspect of the viva voce examination.

2.11 The candidate will undertake a viva voce examination. Membership of the examining panel will be in accordance with the University’s regulations for higher degrees with the addition of a member of HDC, nominated by the Chair of that Committee, who will act as an examining chair. An unsuccessful submission for the degree of PhD by publication will not be eligible for the award of MPhil in lieu. Unsuccessful candidates will be permitted to resubmit only after a minimum period of two years and after they have produced further publications in their field of research.