

At the Research and Research Studies Committee meeting on 4 November 2011 it was agreed that ‘doctoral graduates be responsible with their supervisors to supply the ACT office with a 150 word citation in plain English describing their research and the outcome. The citation is to be read out at their graduation’.

All doctoral students are required to submit a citation. Regardless of whether they choose to attend the ceremony they should send in a citation for the records to document their academic contributions as a graduate student.

It is important that those present at the ceremony are able to comprehend the nature of the research and appreciate its contribution to society, although they may have no specialized knowledge of the field or its technical terms.

The citation must be submitted to the Postgraduate Administrator at the ACT office along with the final bound copy of the thesis and electronic version from which the bound copy was produced. The Associate Dean will review the citation and if necessary correspond with the candidate and supervisor to finalise an agreed version of the citation. The ACT office will then produce the testamur and send it along with the agreed citation to the candidate’s sponsoring college.

If there are any points to clarify, please contact Graeme Chatfield or Elizabeth Kohn at the ACT office (02) 9262 7890.

The following guidelines are presented to assist candidates and supervisors in writing citations.

GUIDELINES FOR DOCTORAL GRADUATION CITATIONS

Citations read out at Graduation Ceremonies should present the research in a positive and meaningful way.

- 1) A candidate should draft a citation which must be approved by their supervisor before it is submitted by the candidate to the ACT office as part of the electronic record of the thesis submitted at the same time as the final bound thesis.
- 2) Citations should be no more than **150 words** in length, prepared with the expectation that normally only candidate’s name, title of the award, title of the thesis and the first two sentences will be read out at the graduation ceremony.
- 3) The citation should begin with the candidates name, followed by the title of the award; the title of the Thesis, and the name of the principal supervisor.
- 4) The **first two sentences of the main text** should be **no longer than 70 words**, and should convey the research problem/issue and the outcome/impact of the study.
- 5) The remaining words may elaborate the research method used and/or expand on key research findings.

- 6) The citation should be written in **plain English so that it is** able to be understood by a person who has no specialised knowledge of the area of the research.

EXAMPLE:

Sun Park Doctor of Theology (ThD)

Thesis Title: *The ecclesiological response of protestant Christians in China to the political upheaval 1949-1958.*

Supervisor:

Rev Dr John Miller

The thesis has explored in detail the changes in the Chinese Protestant churches during the first nine years of the People's Republic of China. The study is based on a detailed analysis from original sources of the ecclesiological thought prior to 1949 of five significant Protestant leaders. This research aims to serve as a new paradigm to understand church and state relationships not only for churches in China but also in other socialist regimes.