COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION

SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHE)

MEETING ON DOCTORATES

14 AUGUST 2013

In 2011 institutions were required to submit details of their HEQSF aligned programmes on the HEQSF online system. The programmes submitted as category A that required minor technical changes were peer evaluated in 2012 and 2013. This process has been completed for all programmes except the doctorates which were difficult to evaluate due to missing information and wide variation in the naming of the same or similar doctorate programmes.

The purpose of the meeting on doctorates held at the CHE on 14 August 2013 was to clarify the naming conventions proposed by the CHE based on a CHE task team report; *A CHE proposal for doctoral qualification types in South African higher education*. Institutions were given an opportunity to raise issues of concern and to agree on a process to review their submissions, taking into account the proposals in the task team report.

Dr. Denyse Webbstock presented the issues pertaining to the naming of the doctorates that were identified and addressed by the task team, and provided an overview of the report and the proposals on the naming convention for the doctorates. Participants discussed the issues and way forward and agreed on the following:

1. The task team report provided useful guidelines which should be followed for the naming of doctoral programmes
2. Institutions may wish to reconsider their range of doctoral offerings and may require time for re-curriculation of programmes and approval of the revised curricula by internal structures. Therefore, new and revised programmes will be submitted for accreditation in the normal manner as and when they are ready
3. In order to complete the alignment of current programmes in category A, institutions will submit a reviewed list of doctorates on the same spread sheet sent to them for the meeting. The revised list should be submitted to the heqsfonline@che.ac.za by 16 September 2013

Curriculum development of doctoral degrees in future should be guided by both the task team report on doctorates and the revised HEQSF.

Requests for additional information or queries regarding the naming of doctorates should be directed to heqsfonline@che.ac.za

Professor Kethamonie Naidoo

Director: Accreditation

16 August 2013