

examinations. The date is set and announced by the director of the PhD-ThD programs at least two weeks before the defense. No defenses are scheduled during the final two weeks of a term or during the interim between regular semesters.

The defense date is announced publicly. Upon prior notification to the chair of the examining committee, any member of the faculty of the university may attend the defense as an observer. Candidates, upon a request to the director of the PhD-ThD Programs, may invite guests to attend the oral defense as observers. The oral defense is conducted by the dissertation defense committee and is held no later than four weeks before the degree is conferred.

The director of the PhD-ThD Programs or designee presides at the defense and the executive session without voting. Questions at the oral defense concentrate on the dissertation and its area of investigation. The questions are designed to test the candidate's ability to defend the concepts and data of the dissertation and to examine significant related material. The candidate should demonstrate an understanding of the larger context in which his/her dissertation lies. Normally, two hours are scheduled for the oral defense. Committee members read the dissertation and bring written questions to the examination. As the examination process progresses, other questions may arise.

To pass the oral defense, candidates must receive a vote of approval from at least four of the five examiners. The committee votes in one of the following ways:

1. Acceptance of the dissertation as presented
2. Acceptance of the dissertation subject to minor revisions
3. Acceptance of the dissertation subject to major revisions
4. Rejection of the dissertation.

After a successful defense, the director of the PhD-ThD Programs recommends to the dean of the Theological Seminary and the dean of the School of Graduate Studies that the PhD degree be conferred on the candidate. The Seminary dean in turn presents the candidate's name to the Seminary faculty for approval.

When a dissertation is accepted with the proviso that minor or major revisions be made, the student's adviser supervises the revision. As soon as the chair finds revision to be satisfactory, he/she recommends the candidate to the director of the PhD-ThD Programs for the conferral of the degree. Then the steps prescribed in the paragraph above are followed. Normally, rejection of a dissertation terminates the student's doctoral candidacy, but the PhD-ThD Committee may consider whether to allow him/her to prepare and submit another dissertation and what specific requirements would apply (including possible further course work and additional comprehensive examinations).

After the defense. After the defense

- The student makes all corrections.
- As soon as possible, but no later than two weeks before graduation, the student submits a complete corrected copy of the dissertation to the School of Graduate Studies via the dissertation secretary for approval to duplicate. At that time any changes made after the defense should be pointed out.
- After the dissertation secretary gives approval to duplicate, the student has two options:

Option 1. The dissertation secretary arranges for duplicating with Andrews University LithoTech, and the student's account is billed. At this point, the dissertation secretary submits the *Notification of Dissertation Completion* form to the Records Office and the student's dissertation process is complete.

Option 2. The student personally arranges for duplicating the dissertation. Doctoral students must have three unbound copies made to show to the dissertation secretary (and to receive a *Completion* form) and to deliver to the Library Director's

office. An additional unbound copy must be given to the dissertation secretary to be processed for microfilming.

- The deadline for dissertations to be turned in to the Library is no later than Wednesday, a week and a half before graduation. Strict adherence to this deadline is essential or graduation is postponed.

ThD: Doctor of Theology

Roy E. Gane, *Director*

The primary purpose of advanced academic studies leading to the Doctor of Theology (ThD) degree is to provide teacher-scholars in the fields of biblical and theological studies for the Seventh-day Adventist Church—primarily its institutions of higher learning (colleges, seminaries, universities) around the world. This academic degree meets the need of individuals in areas of the world where a ThD is the preferred academic degree. The normal doctorate in religion is the PhD.

The ThD program is offered in two fields of study with areas of emphasis as listed below.

Biblical Studies

Archaeology and History
Exegesis and Theology
Languages and Literature

Theological Studies

Historical Theology
Systematic Theology

A minimum of two academic years of formal course work or not fewer than four semesters of full-time study at 12 credits per semester is required. This ordinarily amounts to a minimum of 48 credits of formal course work, 24 credits of which must consist of seminars, directed study, and reading courses. The student chooses a field of study and within that field an area of emphasis to which at least one-half (24 credits) of the course work is devoted. The student also chooses a supporting area, normally in another field, to which at least one-fourth (12 credits) of the course work is devoted. Of the remaining 12 credits of course work, 3 are used in GSEM854, 3 in GSEM920, and 3 in GSEM860. Students with recognized experience as college/graduate-level teachers may devote the latter 3 credits (together with the other remaining 3 credits) to the area of emphasis or to the supporting area.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must meet the general admission requirements listed in the Graduate Programs Admission section of the bulletin, p. 41, and in the Seminary Admission Requirements, p. 287. Admission to the ThD in religion program is granted by the PhD-ThD Committee to applicants who also have the following qualifications:

- Applicants must hold an MDiv degree or its equivalent from an approved seminary or university. For students holding the MTh

Depending upon the applicant's academic background, the PhD-ThD Committee may also require proficiency examination(s) before granting admission to the doctoral program.

Admission Procedure.

GSEM620 (2-3)

Research Methods

An introduction to research techniques and tools. A research paper is required.

GSEM625 (3-4)

Religious Liberty Issues and Advocacy

A survey of religious liberty principles and cases from an Adventist perspective with an emphasis on the contemporary U.S. setting, including a review of major historical developments and a look at trends shaping the future.

GSEM648 (variable)

Workshop

GSEM670 (1-12)

Guided Study Tour of the Bible Lands

The principal sites of historical and archaeological interest in the