APPENDIX G

Requirements for the Award of Doctor of Business Administration

The Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) is an advanced degree granted on successful completion of an approved program of coursework and an independent and original investigation of a research problem within a professional environment. The purpose of the DBA is to prepare professional leaders in Business and related fields. Candidates undertake a focused program of study, including coursework in research methodology, and a thesis.

The DBA will be completed in 2 stages:

Stage 1 will require the successful completion of the following four core subjects:

- Business Research: principles and processes (12 credits)
- Methodology – Qualitative and Quantitative (12 credits)
- Literature Review and Annotated Bibliography – 10,000 words (12 credits)
- Proposal and Defence – 10,000 words (12 credits)

Progression to stage 2 requires a grading of no less than 65% in each of the DBA’s four core subjects.

Failure to reach this grade, but gaining at least 50% in each subject will allow the student to graduate with a Masters of Business (Research)

Stage 2 is the field work and research thesis element of the program. This will be deemed to be of equivalent standing to that of the PhD. It must therefore be an original work with significant contribution to the chosen field of research. Two supervisors must be nominated for each candidate. The thesis should report original work, the research may be of an applied nature, into issues of professional or policy concern. The DBA thesis comprises two-thirds of the total program, (approximately 70,000 words).

The principal criteria for the award of the degree of DBA is whether the thesis represents an original and significant contribution to knowledge and/or professional practice, either by the discovery of new facts or understandings, and/or the exercising of independent critical ability and/or the articulation of a new or novel approach to the research question.