

**Program in Neuroscience  
Division of Medical Sciences  
Dissertation Advisory Committee Report**

**FINAL**

*Student should bring this form to the meeting.  
A 2- to 3-page research summary should be provided to DAC members prior to meeting date.  
This form must be completed and signed by all attendees upon conclusion of meeting, then submitted to the Program Administrator.*

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Program:** **Neuroscience**

**Dissertation Advisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year G.S.A.S.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student may begin writing dissertation.**  
*DMS guidelines specify that a student should expect to defend within six months of submitting the Final DAC Report.*

**Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last Report Submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expected Date of Thesis Defense:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Advisory Committee Members:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Signatures:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Summary of research progress since last report (use separate page if necessary):**

**\*\*\*PLEASE ATTACH A SEPARATE SHEET THAT DESCRIBES  
THE GENERAL OUTLINE AND CONTENT OF THE DISSERTATION\*\*\***

**Recommendation(s):**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN TO PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR** by email (neurosciphd@hms.harvard.edu), fax (617-432-0498), or by hand (Goldenson 129).  
**NOTE:** Program Administrator will send copies of report to the student, the Program Director, members of the DAC, and D.M.S.

Please read and discuss the following excerpt from DMS guidelines with the student at the final Dissertation Advisory Committee meeting. (Requirements for the Program in Neuroscience are noted in bold and italics.)

The dissertation must show original treatment of a fitting subject, contain a scholarly review of the pertinent literature, give evidence of independent research, and be clearly, logically, and carefully written . . .

Attributions to dissertation: The Ph.D. dissertation is expected to contain a substantial amount of independent research work of publishable quality. In addition to chapters of research, each dissertation must contain Introduction and Conclusion chapters which present the themes of the dissertation and summarize the accomplishments. In some cases the student has done all of the work in the dissertation; more often portions of the dissertation result from collaborative research. In all dissertations containing collaborative results, the dissertation should indicate concisely who contributed the work.

For example, a chapter containing multi-authored, published work must include a complete reference and a brief description of the candidate's and the colleagues' contributions. For work that is not published but resulted from multiple researchers, they must be named and respective attributions made clearly. This policy allows stylistic flexibility; depending on the amount of the collaborative work in the dissertation and publication's status, the attributions can appear together at the end of the Acknowledgements or Introduction sections of the dissertation or before each relevant chapter. It is permissible for more than one student to include work from the same collaboration or publications as long as the required attributions are clear, justified, and complete.

Individual chapters can be reprints of published articles as long as there are comprehensive Introduction and Conclusion chapters ***written by the student. Decisions about the inclusion of reprints or a modified version of the text are made by the student, Advisor, and Dissertation Advisory Committee at the Committee's final meeting. Also at that final meeting, the Dissertation Advisory Committee will discuss with the student the general outline and content of the dissertation and submit a description with the final report.*** In any case the dissertation must be easily readable and suitable for microfilming. Any dissertation that varies significantly from the graduate school guidelines or is not neat and readable is subject to required stylistic revision before acceptance by the University.