

The Admissions Interview for Doctoral Studies

[The language in this document is masculine, but it applies to both genders]

The admissions interview will be conducted in several stages. The stages of the interview will be explained to the candidate in advance, so he knows what to expect [the word "interview" per se is misleading, because most of the "interview" is actually an exam].

- **Interview, about 10 minutes:** The candidate's background; why he wants to study towards a PhD degree; why precisely in the Faculty of Aerospace Engineering etc.
- **Presentation by the candidate of his MSc research, approximately 10 minutes:** The candidate will present his MSc research work (either completed or underway, in the event of his transferring to the direct track). The presentation can be accompanied, at the candidate's discretion, by use of the white board, but there will be no use of a computer and projector [Reasons: (1) A presentation without visual aids will demonstrate the candidate's ability to freely express himself on an engineering/scientific topic without having to rely on visual aids; (2) Using a computer presentation may very likely cause a large part of the interview to focus on the candidate's master's thesis, which is not the aim of the interview]. The candidate should be allowed to present his research work without interruption by the committee members.
- **Questions from committee members (about 10 to 15 minutes per committee member):** Each committee member in turn will ask the candidate questions (with or without using the board). The questions will test knowledge and especially ability for independent and creative thinking, and do not have to be related to the topic presented by the candidate (at the committee member's discretion. In this manner, even if the candidate did not know how to fully solve the problem, one could get the impression of how he approaches the problem, in what directions his thoughts take him, what stands in his way of solving it, etc.).
- **Additional questions as needed (from 0 to 30 minutes):** Committee members, who will not have formed a final opinion of the candidate following the above stages, will ask additional questions.

Usually, the entire interview will last no more than an hour and a half, and in any case, no longer than two hours.