

From: [O'Connor,D](#)
To: [Metcalf,F](#)
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?
Date: 07 October 2019 13:49:00
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Seems fine, though they can't find a digital copy either!

Added a little more to the end.

From: Metcalf,F
Sent: 07 October 2019 13:47
To: O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Fair enough

What about

LSE statement on PhD of Tsai Ing-wen

LSE has received a number of queries regarding the academic status of our alumna, Dr Tsai Ing-Wen, President of Taiwan.

We can be clear that the records of LSE and of the University of London - the degree awarding body at the time - confirm that Dr Ing-Wen was correctly awarded a PhD in Law in 1984.

All degrees from that period were awarded via the University of London and the thesis would have been sent first to their Senate House Library. However, it has recently been discovered that the University of London Senate House Library are unable to find the hard copy of the thesis.

The Senate House Library records confirm that a copy was received and sent by them to the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) and there is a listing of Dr Ing-Wen's thesis 'Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions' In the IALS index document "Legal Research in the United Kingdom 1905-1984", which was published in 1985.

Dr Ing-wen recently provided the LSE Library with a facsimile of a personal copy of the thesis, *Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions* which is available to view in the Library Reading Room. We understand Dr Tsai has also provided a digital version of her personal copy to the National Central Library of Taiwan.

/END

Fiona Metcalfe
X2892



From: O'Connor,D
Sent: 07 October 2019 13:39
To: Metcalfe,F
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

I think that's fine.

I don't know if we need to acknowledge that UoL did lose her original thesis.

From: Metcalfe,F
Sent: 07 October 2019 13:31
To: O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

What about this:

Fiona Metcalfe
X2892



From: O'Connor,D
Sent: 07 October 2019 12:58
To: Metcalfe,F
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Hey,

Have put together this for a web statement, I suspect it's too discursive but prefer to start long and then edit down.

D

LSE statement on PhD of Tsai Ing-wen

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We can be clear that the records of LSE and of the University of London - the degree awarding body at the time - confirm that Dr Ing-Wen was correctly awarded a PhD in Law in 1984.

All degrees from that period were awarded via the University of London and the thesis would have been sent first to their Senate House Library.

The Senate House Library records [confirm](#) that a copy was received [and sent by them](#) to the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) [and](#) there is a listing of Dr Ing-Wen's thesis 'Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions' In the IALS index document "Legal Research in the United Kingdom 1905-1984", which was published in 1985.

Dr Ing-wen recently provided the LSE Library with a facsimile of a personal copy of the thesis, *Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions* and has provided a digital copy to the National Central Library of Taiwan.

/END

From: Metcalfe,F
Sent: 07 October 2019 12:11
To: O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

I think we need to stop engaging

Can you put statement on website and only signpost
?

Fiona Metcalfe
X2892

[REDACTED]

From: O'Connor,D
Sent: 07 October 2019 11:38
To: Metcalfe,F
Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Hi,

Does this seem ok to you? I realise I shouldn't be replying to all this stuff but it's sending me a bit insane.

Danny

Dear [REDACTED],

I refer you back to our statement that the London School of Economics and Political Science and the University of London can confirm that Tsai Ing-Wen was correctly awarded a PhD in Law in 1984. The records of both institutions have been checked and both confirm this was correct.

With regards to your other questions: the School has received a number of emails from members of the public with false allegations about this issue. To avoid duplicate responses, the media relations office has been asked to collate and reply to many of these messages.

Thank you for the Wikipedia link but I am aware of the position of the Women's Library at LSE. You are, however, incorrect in your assertions. The dissertation is housed in LSE's central library catalogue. The Women's Library Reading Room (which is part of LSE) was used for those wishing to read it. [check with Clive]

As indicated in previous correspondence, this is a facsimile of the personal copy of Dr Tsai's thesis for those interested. The copy submitted for examination in 1980s could not be located by the University of London's Senate House.

We consider this matter closed.

Regards,

Daniel O'Connor

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 October 2019 09:11
To: O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>
Cc: Media.Relations <Media.Relations@lse.ac.uk>; Carter,HC <H.C.Carter@lse.ac.uk>
Subject: Re: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Dear Mr. O'Connor,

I am writing in relation to the following statement of your response dated 16th of September:

... For your information, Dr Tsai Ing-wen recently provided the LSE Library with a facsimile copy of the thesis, *Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions*. This is available to view in the LSE library reading room upon request.

Since it is not clear which LSE library you referred to that housed Ms. Tsai's thesis copy., I did some research and found it is housed at the LSE Women's Library.

I also found that Women's Library has been in the custody of the LSE, it is in fact not a formal LSE library that will house theses of LSE graduates.

For your information, below is a brief background information on the LSE Women's Library which was downloaded from Wikipedia:

" The **Women's Library @ LSE** is England's main library and museum resource on women and the [women's movement](#), concentrating on Britain in the 19th and 20th centuries. It has an institutional history as a coherent collection dating back to the mid-1920s, although its "core" collection dates from a library established by [Ruth Cavendish Bentinck](#) in 1909. Since 2013, the library has been in the custody of the [London School of Economics and Political Science](#) (LSE), which manages the collection as part of the [British Library of Political and Economic Science](#) in a dedicated area known as the Women's Library @ LSE."

In view of the nature of the collections the Women's Library under the custody of LSE, the copy on Tsai's thesis displayed in LSE Women's Library is unlikely the one submitted to the

Law Department for the doctoral degree. The copy looks more like a personal collection. In addition, there were no signatures of the internal and external examiners.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, September 28, 2019 19:35
To: O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>
Cc: Media.Relations <Media.Relations@lse.ac.uk>; h.c.carter@lse.ac.uk <h.c.carter@lse.ac.uk>
Subject: Re: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Dear Mr. O'Connor,

Thank you for your reply dated 16/09 my captioned query.

Having read your response, I have further questions which I will list below:

1. Why is it that Mrs. Carter from the Law Department cannot respond to me directly since it is obviously her job to know about Tsai's thesis in the Law Department.
2. Why should you in the Media/Communication Division respond to inquiries about LES's theses when it should be the responsibility of the relevant department such as the Law Department to do so where the theses are handled?
3. When was the copy of Tsai's thesis submitted? If it were in 1984, why there was no record of such; if it were in 2019, why?
4. Did LES award Tsai's degree based on the thesis in LES's Wemen's Library? If that is the case, then a whole series of questions raised by both Professor Lin of North Carolina and Dr. Xu, a ph.d. from Oxford U., can be asked as to why can LES accept a thesis like this-- sloppy format including different layout of the lines, corrections by hand, missing pages, no signatures of the advisers, etc.?
5. How can a thesis be without a conclusion at the end while in each chapter there is? Was this the common practice among the LES thesis awardees back in 1984?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

From: O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 16:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Media.Relations <Media.Relations@lse.ac.uk>

Subject: RE: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email to Ms Carter, I have been asked to respond.

As indicated to a number of enquirers, the London School of Economics and Political Science and the University of London can confirm categorically that Tsai Ing-Wen completed and submitted her thesis and was correctly awarded a PhD in Law in 1984.

For your information, Dr Tsai Ing-wen recently provided the LSE Library with a facsimile copy of the thesis, *Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions*. This is available to view in the LSE library reading room upon request.

Kind regards,

Daniel O'Connor

Daniel O'Connor
Head of Media Relations | Communications Division
The London School of Economics and Political Science
Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
t: +44 (0)20 7955 7417
e: connord@lse.ac.uk
lse.ac.uk



[LSE is ranked #1 in Europe for social sciences \(QS World University Ranking 2019\)](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 September 2019 08:41
To: Carter,HC
Subject: Fwd: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

Dear Madam,

Following my previous email message to you (attached below), I also enclose my university email address for your reference.

[REDACTED]

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Win-lin Chou
Professor (retired) in economics
The Chinese U of Hong Kong

----- Forwarded message -----

寄件者: [REDACTED]

Date: 2019年9月14日 週六 下午3:33

Subject: Is it possible? To award a Ph.d. degree in Law without submission of the thesis?

To: <h.c.carter@lse.ac.uk>

Dear Mrs. Carter,

Sorry to bother you about the captioned issue on the possibility of LSE Law Department awarding a ph.d. in law without submission of a ph.d. thesis.

My name is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I am currently visiting my hometown in Taipei. As there will be a presidential election held in January 2020, potential voters are careful in examining the candidates. The issue on incumbent president Tsai Ing-wen who is seeking for a 2nd term in the coming election, is whether or not LSE law department awarded her a ph.d. degree in 1984, as she spent less than two years (1982-83) with LSE law department, and her ph.d. thesis was missing from the U of London library.

As this issue is in relation to a candidate's integrity, many of us, as valid voters, would like to seek clarification from your department on this issue.

The article attached below entitled "Tsai Ing-wen's missing thesis was not submitted says university library" raised questions on why the Law Department awarded Tsai a ph.d. degree in law without receiving her ph.d. thesis?

<https://richardsonreports.wordpress.com/2019/07/04/tsai-ing-wens-missing-thesis-was-not-submitted-says-university-library/>

As this issue has also become a most talk-about issues on local TV programs here in Taiwan.

Would be grateful if you could help resolve this puzzle.
Any exceptional case could happen?

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

