

**School of Theology**  
**Report on the Recommendations on Grading of**  
**Postgraduate Qualifications: Honours, Merit and Distinction**

The School of Theology endorses the recommendations on Grade Descriptors. The following points are made in response to these recommendations.

- i. The suggested basis for awarding honours for Bachelors (Hons) and Masters degrees is very close to the practice that the School of Theology has followed for its MTheol degree.
- ii. The School commenced its Post-graduate Diploma programme at the beginning of 2006. The policy on the difference between Distinction and Merit for the Post-graduate is therefore very timely. There is a question as to whether it will be necessary to ensure that examiners' marks are given in percentages rather than letter grades in order to distinguish the Merit grade at 5.5 and above (72.5%)? If so this will need to be built into the instructions sent out to examiners and assessors.
- iii. The policy on "rounding" clarifies what has up to this point been ill defined.
- iv. The School is revising its instructions for examiners of MTheol theses and the generic descriptors it uses to describe grades awarded at the post-graduate level. These generic descriptors will be considered at the next meeting of the School's Research and Postgraduate Committee.

Elaine Wainwright

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