GUIDELINES FOR THE NOTIFICATION OF THE DATE OF THE DEFENCE OF A DOCTORAL THESIS (SPIKNING) AT THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES (HV) AND THE SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (MV)
(as approved by the Head of School decision ORU 1.2.1-01962/2017)

The date of the defence of a doctoral thesis shall be announced publicly in a procedure known as spikning. At Örebro University, this announcement shall be made twice – at a ceremonial event but also electronically. See further information on the notification of the date of the defence of a doctoral thesis in the “Regulations Handbook for Third-cycle Courses and Study Programmes at Örebro University”

1. Time, date and venue

Ceremonial announcement/spikning: The ceremonial event is organised by the school. The date, time and venue for the defence of the thesis are then publicly announced and the thesis is made available to the general public. The ceremony is to be held no later than three weeks prior to the planned defence, either in the first-floor entrance hall of Prismahuset, or in the Medical Library on Örebro University Medical Campus. The purpose of hosting the ceremony in public is to make it open to and easily accessible for students at all levels and members of staff.

Electronic announcement/spikning: As soon as the decision on the date of the defence is available, the e-publishing team will publish the date of the defence electronically. See Recording doctoral thesis in DiVA.

2. Notification

Ceremonial announcement/spikning: The supervisor shall contact the study and research administrator well in advance before the planned announcement with a request for the date and time of day for the event. The name of the person put forward as the master of ceremonies (MC) shall also be included (usually the supervisor).

3. Preparations

Ceremonial announcement/spikning: The study and research administrator makes sure that a copy of the thesis, as well as a hammer and nail are brought to the ceremony.

4. The event

Ceremonial announcement/spikning: The doctoral student and supervisor(s) as well as any other persons interested attend the ceremony in which the doctoral student will nail his/her doctoral thesis on a board specially designed for this purpose.
The MC opens by extending a welcome to those present and introduces the doctoral student. The doctoral student will then give a brief presentation of his/her work (approx. 5 min.) after which there will be some time for any questions. The doctoral student will then use the hammer to drive the nail into the board and hang up his/her thesis on the nail. When this is done, the MC thanks those present and closes the ceremony.

### 5. Refreshments and finance

Regarding refreshments, see the guidelines in the document “Guidelines on venues and refreshments in connection with doctoral programme activities”. The Study and Research Administrator may assist with the ordering of refreshments.

### 6. Advertising

The event will be advertised on Örebro University’s and the School’s online calendars. The study and research administrator are responsible for the advertising.

**Study and Research Administrators:**

- [Link to the web page of study and research administrators at the School of Medical Sciences](#) (regarding Medical Science with specialisation in biomedicine, surgery and medicine), email fouadm.MV@oru.se

- [Link to the web page of study and research administrators at the School of Health Sciences](#) (regarding Disability Science, Sport Science, Medical Science with specialisation in healthcare science), mail fouadm.HV@oru.se