



Stan Lester Developments
education and training systems

International Conference on Professional Doctorates

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Doctoral-level qualifications outside of universities: a comparison of forms and practices

Dr Stan Lester

(Middlesex University)

	HE	QCF/SCQF	Non-framework
Level 8 (Scottish Level 12)	Doctorates	Certificates / Diplomas	Professional fellowships

Chartered Management Institute
Certificate / Diploma in Strategic Leadership

No membership requirement

Six units level 8 (= 60 credits) plus one level 7 (+ 7 credits)

Based on CMI strategic management standards

University / college course

Each unit assessed by 4000-4500 word written assignment

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Fellowship (FRCVS)

For qualified veterinary surgeons with 5+ years experience

Membership category rather than permanent qualification

30,000 word research thesis

Alternative by publication for members of 15+ years standing

Similar criteria to doctorate

City & Guilds of London Institute Fellowship (FCGI)

Highest-level of four 'Senior Awards'

Permanent qualification rather than membership category

Can be applied for, nominated or invited

Considered by panel

Requires (1) distinction in career, (2) public contribution beyond that expected in normal career, (3) demonstrable support for vocational education and training.

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For taught components of professional doctorates?
For original but smaller contributions to knowledge / practice?
Terminology issue – advanced postgraduate awards

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FCGI

Blurs boundary between achievement-based and honorary award
Issue of taking career achievement at face value?