Institut ekonomických studií

Fakulta sociálních věd, Universita Karlova Praha

Referee report on the Bachelor/Master Thesis submitted to State Exam

Student Name:	**Jana Rihova**
Thesis Supervisor Name:	**Oldrich Dedek**
Thesis Title:	**The impact of dividend policy on firm value**

Overall Evaluation:

The evaluated paper nicely joints a review of relevant theory with an original econometric investigation based on Czech data. The econometric section is the stronger part of the thesis. The theoretical part is primarily textbook-style review without an original contribution of the author. (To be fair, some quantifications based on the Czech data were done by author herself and not just taken from textbooks of Marek and other sources). Reference to Marek (2005) on p. 23 is missing in the list of cited literature. During the defense the author could elaborate on the topic of economic meaning of preferred stock – to mention its position on the boundary between shares and bonds.

Some stylistic details would be more appropriate in a popular business article and do feel right in a high quality economic thesis. Talk about small beautiful country in Introduction is totally irrelevant. The quotes introducing some of the sections would be probably fine in a newspaper article, but I do not consider them appropriate for academic publication in economics. In addition, technically, when we cite something in economics, we use full citation (cited publication, and page). In some places, the thesis would benefit from more careful English proofreading (see for example p. 35) – I do not suggest any native-speaker proofreading, I would be just happy if the author herself read the whole thesis and corrected obvious English discrepancies or if she asked some fellow student to read the paper and help her to identify typos and other obvious mistakes.

The econometric analysis is nice, but sometimes it feels kind of too mechanic, not really innovative.

I recommend the thesis to the defense and I suggest the grade B (Velmi dobre).

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for the explanation of categories and scale, please, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
Quality of Research	24
Clarity and Readability	7
Content/Quality of Ideas	30
Organization & Development	12
Manuscript Form	2
TOTAL POINTS	**75**
LETTER GRADE	**B**

Janda

Date: 2.2.2009