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– Regulations on the Election of the Doctoral Student Council at Leuphana University Lüneburg

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## **Regulations on the Election of the Doctoral Student Council at Leuphana University Lüneburg**

In accordance with the first sentence of section 41 par. 1 NHG [Lower Saxony University Act], the Senate of Leuphana University Lüneburg approved the following Regulations on the Election of the Doctoral Student Council at Leuphana University Lüneburg on 20 July 2016. The Regulations were approved by the Presidential Committee on 20 July 2016.

### **§ 1 Scope**

- (1) These Regulations apply to the election of the Doctoral Student Council at Leuphana University Lüneburg.
- (2) The elections are to be held at the same time as the elections for the Senate and faculty councils. The elections are to be held during the winter semester. Elections for the first Doctoral Student Council shall be held in the 2016/2017 winter semester.

### **§ 2 Composition and term in office**

- (1) The Doctoral Student Council at Leuphana University shall be composed of one member and two deputy members from each faculty.
- (2) The Doctoral Student Council may elect a spokesperson from amongst its members.
- (3) The regular term of office of the Doctoral Student Council shall be two years. The term of office shall commence on 01 April and end on 31 March. University regulations may specify other terms of office.
- (4) Notwithstanding par. 3, the term of office of the first Doctoral Student Council shall commence with the first constitutive meeting following the elections and shall end on 31 March 2018.

### **§ 3 Role and procedures**

- (1) The Doctoral Student Council shall discuss questions affecting doctoral students pursuant to the third sentence of section 9 par. 4 NHG and issue recommendations to the University bodies on that basis.
- (2) Pursuant to the fourth sentence of section 9 par. 4 NHG, that faculty councils shall have a duty to give the Doctoral Student Council the opportunity to respond to draft doctoral regulations.
- (3) Pursuant to the fifth sentence of section 9 par. 4 NHG, one member of the Doctoral Student Council shall in general attend the meetings of the Senate and the faculty council in an advisory capacity.
- (4) In the event that the Doctoral Student Council does not have its own rules of procedure, the Doctoral Student Council shall follow the Senate Rules of Procedure as last amended.

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#### **§ 4 Right to vote and electoral register**

- (1) Doctoral candidates who have been accepted by Leuphana University and are registered in the electoral register of the Doctoral Student Council shall have the right to vote and to stand for election to the Doctoral Student Council. All the doctoral students at a given faculty shall form one electoral body.
- (2) At the start of the winter semester in which elections are to be held, the election organisation committee shall have all doctoral students entitled to vote in those elections registered in an electoral register.
- (3) The electoral register is to be structured by faculty. The electoral register shall specify the surnames and first names of those eligible to vote. Other details (e.g. postal address and degree programme) are to be specified where necessary to avoid confusion.
- (4) The provisions of section 5 par. 4 to 8 of the Regulations for elections to academic bodies at Leuphana University Lüneburg (WahlO) as amended on 19 June 2013 (Leuphana Gazette no. 22/13) or as last amended also apply.

#### **§ 5 Elections**

- (1) Elections to the Doctoral Student Council shall be by paper ballot in person as set out in section 13 WahlO. Postal voting shall also be possible subject to the requirements in section 14 WahlO.
- (2) The members of the Doctoral Student Council shall be elected by those doctoral students eligible to vote in the relevant electoral body in a free, fair and secret ballot. Each student eligible to vote shall have one vote.
- (3) The candidate with the majority of the valid votes cast by each electoral body shall be elected. In the event of a tie, the successful candidate shall be decided by drawing lots.

#### **§ 6 Other provisions**

- (1) Sections 2, 3 and 6-22 WahlO apply accordingly.
- (2) In case of doubt, any questions on the application of these Regulations shall be decided by the election organisation committee.

#### **§ 7 Entry into force**

These Regulations shall enter into force on the day after their publication in the Leuphana University Lüneburg Gazette.

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