



**Doctoral Regulations**  
**for the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health**  
**at the University of Bayreuth**  
**dated 15 February 2022**

Article 13 para 1 in conjunction with Article 64 para 2 sentence 1 and Article 61 para 1 sentence 1 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (*BayHSchG*) forms the framework for the following doctoral regulations for the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health issued by the University of Bayreuth.

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## Section I: General provisions

### § 1 Doctoral degrees

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The University of Bayreuth awards through the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Health & Nutrition the academic degree of Doktor der Naturwissenschaften (Dr. rer. nat.), Doktor der Philosophie (Dr. phil.) and Doktor der Ökotrophologie (Dr. oec. troph.) on the basis of doctoral achievements in the disciplines belonging to the faculty. <sup>2</sup>The degree may be awarded either as “Doktorin” or “Doktor”. <sup>3</sup>The abbreviated form remains unchanged.
- (2) According to Art. 64 para 1 BayHSchG, the doctorate serves as proof of an independent academic achievement, which must go considerably beyond the achievements required in § 4 for acceptance to the doctorate.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The doctorate Dr. rer. nat. requires doctoral work with a focus on the field of natural sciences and quantitative behavioural sciences; the doctorate Dr. phil. requires doctoral work with a focus on the field of social sciences; the doctorate Dr. oec. troph. Requires doctoral work with an emphasis in the field of ecotrophology. <sup>2</sup>The doctoral work consists of an academic thesis (dissertation) written by the doctoral researcher and an oral examination (colloquium).
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The University of Bayreuth awards through the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health according to § 18 the degree of honorary doctor corresponding to the designations according to paragraph 1 (Dr. rer. nat. h.c., Dr. phil. h.c., Dr. oec. troph. h.c.) as a rare distinction to persons who have rendered outstanding scientific services in the disciplines belonging to the faculty. <sup>2</sup>Para 3 sentences 2 and 3 apply *mutatis mutandis*.

### § 2 Examination authorization

<sup>1</sup>According to the present doctoral regulations, instructors entitled to administer examinations are those university lecturers within the meaning of Art. 2 para 3 sentence 1 BayHSchPG, professors who have been released from their duties, retired professors (cf. Art. 13 BayHSchPG), and other instructors entitled to administer examinations in accordance with § 4 HSchPrüferV who belong to the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health. <sup>2</sup>The decision as to whether a justified case according to § 4 sentence 3 HSchPrüferV exists shall be made by the dean in consultation with the doctoral committee. <sup>3</sup>Instructors from other faculties of the University of Bayreuth or from other German or foreign universities may also be appointed as examiners by the dean, provided that they fulfil the qualification requirements specified in Art. 62 para 1 BayHSchG in conjunction with § 4 HSchPrüferV or equivalent requirements. <sup>4</sup>The assessment of equivalence shall be the responsibility of the dean. <sup>5</sup>In addition, § 19 applies to doctoral degrees awarded jointly with universities of applied science/HAWs, and Section V applies in the context of binational doctorates.

### **§ 3 Doctoral committee and extended doctoral committee**

- (1) The doctoral committee is responsible for the acceptance for doctoral research and conducting the doctoral examination processes, unless otherwise stipulated in the present doctoral regulations.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee consists of the dean or the dean's deputy as chairperson and four additional lecturers authorized to administer examinations, whereby at least one lecturer must belong to each of the disciplines named in § 1 para 3 sentence 1. <sup>2</sup>The committee members are elected by the faculty council for a period of two years. <sup>3</sup>Re-election is admissible.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee constitutes a quorum if all members have been duly invited and the majority of the members are present and entitled to vote; it passes its resolutions by a majority of the votes cast. <sup>2</sup>Vote abstention, secret voting, and proxy voting are prohibited. <sup>3</sup>If votes are equally divided among its members, the chair's vote shall be decisive.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The decisions of the doctoral committee are to be communicated to the applicant/ doctoral researcher in writing. <sup>2</sup>Notices of denial are to include a rationale and information on how to appeal.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>The extended doctoral committee is composed of all the faculty's lecturers who are authorized to administer examinations. <sup>2</sup>It makes decisions in the cases referred to in §12 para 6 and §18 para 2 and 3. <sup>3</sup>The chairperson is the dean. <sup>4</sup>It shall be convened within 14 days of a member's request. <sup>5</sup>Para 3 and para 4 apply *mutatis mutandis*. <sup>6</sup>If the extended doctoral committee decides on a request in accordance with § 18, the decision shall require the approval of two thirds of the lecturers authorized to administer examinations.
- (6) Exclusion due to personal involvement is based on Art. 41 para 2 BayHSchG, taking into account Art. 20 and Art. 21 BayVwVfG.

## **Section II: The ordinary doctorate**

### **§ 4 Application for acceptance for doctoral research**

- (1) In order to be accepted for doctoral research, the applicant must fulfil the following requirements:
  1. He or she must have completed a subject-related degree awarded by a higher education institution; the standard degree is the university *Diplom* or *Magister* examination, the master's examination or the first state examination for the teaching profession at Gymnasien, the first state examination for food chemistry, as well as the degree qualifying for a doctorate acquired within the framework of a medical degree course. The doctoral committee can also recognize other degrees and degrees in related disciplines as sufficient prerequisites

for the doctorate and, if necessary, require additional components. It also decides on the recognition of foreign degrees. In these cases, the doctoral committee decides according to the principle of equivalence, taking into account Art. 63 BayHSchG. The Central Office for Foreign Educational Credentials ("Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen") may be contacted if there is doubt concerning equivalency. The requirement according to sentence 1 is considered to be fulfilled if the applicant has passed the doctoral aptitude assessment according to § 6.

2. He/she must not have failed this or any other similar doctoral examination on the final attempt.
3. The applicant must have concluded a supervisory agreement pursuant to § 7 with an instructor authorized to administer examinations in accordance with § 2; there is no entitlement to the conclusion of a supervisory agreement.
4. He or she must not have not already been accepted to doctoral studies at a different body that awards doctoral degrees in the same subject, whether at the University of Bayreuth or a different higher education institution.
5. He or she must not have shown himself or herself to be unworthy of holding a doctoral degree by his or her conduct.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>Acceptance for doctoral research must be applied for in writing to the dean. <sup>2</sup>The application is to be accompanied by the documents required to prove the prerequisites specified in para 1. <sup>3</sup>With the application, the applicant must register online and the Dean's Office confirms his/her registration as an applicant to the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health. <sup>4</sup>The doctorate begins with receipt of the written confirmation of acceptance as a doctoral researcher sent by the dean.

## **§ 5 Statistical requirements**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>With the application for acceptance for doctoral studies, personal data of the doctoral researcher will be collected, automatically stored, and processed by the responsible faculty in accordance with the survey characteristics regulated in § 5 of the Higher Education Statistics Act (HStatG) dated 2 November 1990 (as amended) for the purpose of fulfilling the legal duties as well as for the purpose of legislation and planning in the higher education sector in accordance with § 1 para 1 sentences 1 and 2 of the Higher Education Statistics Act in the context of doctoral studies. <sup>2</sup>In this respect, the applicant is obligated to cooperate and to provide personal data (Art. 10 para 2 sentence 3 BayHSchG).
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Regular transmission or forwarding to the Bavarian State Office for Statistics is carried out with regard to the survey characteristics of the Higher Education Statistics Act of 2 November 1990 as well as to the university administration for the purpose of presenting the higher education statistics. <sup>2</sup>The use and processing of personal data is subject to the requirements of Art. 10 BayHSchG.

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## § 6 Doctoral aptitude assessment

- (1) Admission to the doctoral aptitude assessment requires that the applicant does not fulfil the prerequisites specified in § 4 para 1 number 1 and that
  1. he or she has completed a relevant *Diplom* or *Magister* programme at a university of applied sciences/ HAW with an overall grade of at least 2,0 or a relevant bachelor's programme at a university or university of applied sciences within the standard period of study with an overall grade of 1,0,
  2. he or she has written a bachelor's, *Diplom* or *Magister* thesis which has been assessed with the grade "very good",
  3. he or she has not yet undergone a relevant doctoral aptitude assessment or a comparable examination at another German higher education institution without success,
  4. a counselling interview has taken place with the applicant, which is conducted and recorded by an instructor authorized to administer examinations who was appointed by the doctoral committee.
  
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The application for admission to the doctoral aptitude assessment must be submitted in writing to the dean. <sup>2</sup>The applicant must enclose the following documents with the application:
  1. proof of meeting the admission requirements specified in para 1 numbers 1, 2, and 4;
  2. a statement as to the subject area in which he/she is pursuing a doctorate;
  3. a statement as to whether he/she has already taken a doctoral aptitude assessment or a comparable examination at another German higher education institution.

<sup>3</sup>In addition, the applicant may submit further documents that can be used to prove subject-related qualifications beyond the academic degrees.
  
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee decides on admission to the doctoral aptitude assessment. <sup>2</sup>Admission is to be refused if
  1. the admission requirements stipulated in para 1 are not fulfilled, or
  2. the applicant fails to submit the documents and declarations referred to in para 2 sentence 2 in full within six months of being requested to do so, or
  3. he or she has shown himself or herself to be unworthy of holding a doctoral degree by his or her conduct.
  
- (4) In the doctoral aptitude assessment, the applicant must prove that he/she has the subject knowledge and scientific aptitude required for a doctorate.
  
- (5) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral aptitude assessment consists of an oral examination of approximately one hour before an examination board. <sup>2</sup>The examination board shall be composed of three lecturers from

the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health who are authorized to administer examinations; the supervisor is not a member of the examination board.<sup>3</sup>The dean shall appoint the examination board and designate an examiner as chairperson.<sup>4</sup>He/she shall set the date of the examination and invite the members of the examination board and the applicant in writing to the appointment with a notice period of one week.<sup>5</sup>§ 14 para 7 applies *mutatis mutandis*.

- (6) <sup>1</sup>No grades are awarded in the doctoral aptitude assessment. <sup>2</sup>The examination board will determine whether the applicant's performance meets the requirements according to para 4. <sup>3</sup>If the performance does not meet these requirements, the doctoral aptitude assessment is failed. <sup>4</sup>Minutes are taken of the examination and signed by the chairperson and the examiners. <sup>2</sup>§ 9 para 3 sentence 2 applies *mutatis mutandis*.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>Any doctoral aptitude assessment that was failed on the first attempt can be repeated once. <sup>2</sup>The application for admission to the re-examination must be submitted within one year after notification of the failure of the examination, unless the dean grants the applicant a period of grace due to special reasons for which he/she is not responsible.
- (8) After successfully passing the aptitude assessment and fulfilling the requirements according to § 4 para 1 numbers 2 to 4, the applicant receives written confirmation from the faculty of acceptance for doctoral research.

## **§ 7 Supervision and supervisory agreement**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The doctorate is supervised by an instructor authorized to administer examinations according to § 2. <sup>2</sup>The latter and the applicant shall set out the key points of the doctoral relationship in a written supervisory agreement.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the supervisor leaves the group of persons according to § 2 sentence 1, he/she can continue the supervision for up to three years after his/her departure if he/she remains entitled to administer examinations under the conditions of Art. 62 para 1 BayHSchG in conjunction with § 4 HSchPrüferV. <sup>2</sup>The dean may extend the period given in sentence 1 by a maximum of two years if there are important reasons for doing so.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If the supervisor of a doctorate can no longer continue to supervise it, the doctoral committee can assist in the search for a new supervisor to continue to supervise the doctorate. <sup>2</sup>A change of supervisor requires the approval of the doctoral committee.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>In the case of doctorates with universities of applied sciences /HAWs (§ 19), the dissertation is supervised equally by the participating teaching staff of the university of applied sciences/HAW and the university who are authorized to administer examinations, and the supervisory agreement is concluded jointly between them and the doctoral researcher. <sup>2</sup>Para 1 and para 2 apply *mutatis mutandis*.

## **§ 8 Application for admission to the doctoral examination process**

<sup>1</sup>Admission to the doctoral examination process must be requested in writing to the dean and presupposes acceptance for doctoral research. <sup>2</sup>The request must include:

1. the confirmation of acceptance for doctoral research,
2. the supervisory agreement,
3. a statement by the doctoral candidate stating which doctoral degree is being sought in accordance with § 1 para 1,
4. six identical copies of the dissertation, which must meet the requirements according to § 11,
5. a German and an English abstract of no more than 800 words, with the title in a form specified by the dean and suitable for electronic delivery,
6. an affirmation in lieu of an oath that the doctoral researcher has written the thesis independently and has not used any sources or aids other than those indicated by him/her (cf. Art. 64 para 1 sentence 6 BayHSchG) as well as an updated declaration that he/she has not yet submitted the thesis for the award of an academic degree and that he/she has not yet failed this or a similar doctoral examination on the final attempt,
7. a declaration that the assistance of commercial doctoral consultants or intermediaries or similar service providers has not been used in the past and will not be used in the future,
8. a curriculum vitae of the doctoral researcher providing information in particular about his/her educational background,
9. and an official certificate of good conduct. In the case of foreign citizens, a certificate recognized as equivalent by the University of Bayreuth may be submitted. This can be an extract from the criminal record from one's home country, a certificate of good conduct, or a comparable document. If the doctoral researcher is enrolled or is a public servant, the certificate of good conduct may be waived.
10. the electronic version of the dissertation, the form of which will be specified by the dean, as well as a declaration of consent by the applicant that the electronic version of the dissertation may be subjected to a separate review in compliance with his or her copyright and data protection,
11. a declaration of consent by the doctoral researcher that in the event of suspected scientific misconduct investigations may be carried out by internal university bodies of academic self-regulation;
12. proof of any additional components to be completed in accordance with § 4 para 1 number 1.

## **§ 9 Decision on acceptance for doctoral research and admission to the doctoral examination process**

- (1) Acceptance for doctoral studies is to be refused if the requirements specified in § 4 para 1 are not fulfilled.
- (2) Admission to the doctoral examination process is to be refused if
  1. acceptance for doctoral studies has not been granted or
  2. the documents required under § 8 are incomplete, or
  3. the doctoral researcher has shown himself or herself to be unworthy of holding a doctoral degree by his or her conduct.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral committee should make a decision concerning the requests of the applicant or doctoral researcher within one month. <sup>2</sup>Decisions on applications for acceptance for doctoral research or for admission to the doctoral examination process are communicated to the applicant/doctoral researcher in accordance with § 3 para 4. <sup>3</sup>In the doctoral examination process, the chairperson of the dean should ensure that the period between the application for admission to the doctoral examination process and the final colloquium takes around four months and does not exceed six months.

## **§ 10 Withdrawal, premature termination**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral researcher may withdraw from the doctorate at any time, provided that no request for admission to the doctoral examination process has been submitted. <sup>2</sup>The statement of withdrawal shall be addressed to the dean. <sup>3</sup>Upon confirmation of withdrawal by the dean, the supervisory agreement shall be deemed to have been terminated. <sup>4</sup>The supervisor will inform the doctoral committee if the doctorate is discontinued.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If, after acceptance for doctoral research, no progress of the thesis by the doctoral candidate is shown within a period of two years, the doctoral committee may revoke the acceptance in agreement with the supervisor. <sup>2</sup> Prior to revocation, the doctoral researcher shall be given a period of six months to comment, with reference to sentence 1.

## **§ 11 Dissertation**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The dissertation must represent an independent academic achievement and contribute to solving scholarly questions. <sup>2</sup>It should lead to new scientific knowledge. <sup>3</sup>It must present the results achieved in an appropriate form.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>The dissertation consists of several individual papers by a doctoral researcher (cumulative dissertation). <sup>2</sup>In a detailed presentation (especially introduction and discussion), the connection between the individual papers as well as the doctoral researcher's own essential contribution must be explained. <sup>3</sup>At least one individual paper should already have been published or have been accepted for publication, and two others must have been submitted for review. <sup>4</sup>Alternatively, a monograph may be submitted as a dissertation. <sup>5</sup>The decision as to whether a monograph is deemed appropriate shall be made by the supervisor in consultation with the dean.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The dissertation must be signed and submitted in typescript; it must be bound, paginated, and provided with a table of contents and contain a German and English abstract of no more than 800 words providing information on the problem and results. <sup>2</sup>The literature used as well as any other aids are to be stated in full; passages taken verbatim or almost verbatim from the literature are to be identified. <sup>3</sup>The title page must state the title of the dissertation, that it is a dissertation, and the name and place of birth of the doctoral researcher.
- (4) If an already published work is submitted as a dissertation, the corresponding number of copies of the printed work may be used instead of the typed copies.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>The dissertation may be written in German or English. <sup>2</sup>In the case of a cumulative dissertations, publications in either language are permitted.

## **§ 12 Assessment of the dissertation**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>After admission to the doctoral examination process, the dean, upon proposal of the doctoral committee, shall immediately appoint at least two lecturers authorized to administer examinations, if possible from different disciplines, as reviewers of the dissertation, whereby the supervisor of the dissertation in accordance with § 7 para 1 will generally prepare the first review of the dissertation. <sup>2</sup>One reviewer must be a lecturer from the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health who is authorized to administer examinations according to § 2 sentence 1 and at least one reviewer must be a professor in the sense of Art. 2 para 1 sentence 1 number 1 BayHSchPG who is authorized to administer examinations according to § 2. <sup>3</sup>In the case of doctorates with universities of applied science/HAWs (§ 19), the two equally entitled supervisors of the dissertation of the university of applied sciences/HAW and the university are generally appointed as reviewers.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>As a rule, each reviewer submits a written review of the dissertation within one month, but no later than two months after admission to the doctoral examination process, and proposes to the dean that the dissertation be accepted or rejected. <sup>2</sup>Each reviewer will evaluate the dissertation and assign a predicate according to the following scheme:

*sehr gut* [very good] = 1 = particularly commendable work;

*gut* [good] = 2 = above-average work;

*befriedigend* [satisfactory] = 3 = work that meets the average requirements;

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*unzulänglich* [unsatisfactory] = 4 = work suffering from significant deficiencies, which is no longer usable overall.

<sup>3</sup>The use of the intermediate grades 1.3, 1.7, 2.3, 2.7 is permitted.

<sup>4</sup>In special cases, the predicate

*ausgezeichnet* [excellent] = very outstanding work

may be awarded. <sup>5</sup>When calculating the grade, this predicate is used with the value 0.

- (3) <sup>1</sup>Upon the proposal of the doctoral committee, the dean shall appoint an additional reviewer if the reviews differ by more than one grade in the evaluation and if no more than two reviewers were already involved. <sup>2</sup>If the dissertation has been reviewed by more than one supervisor, the dean shall appoint an additional reviewer. <sup>3</sup>If the dissertation has been awarded the overall grade "excellent", the dean shall appoint an additional reviewer upon the proposal of the doctoral committee. <sup>4</sup>The same shall apply if a reviewer proposes the appointment of an additional reviewer.
- (4) The dean may appoint additional reviewers at any time during the process in consultation with the doctoral committee if this appears necessary to ensure a proper evaluation, in particular if the deadline pursuant to § 12 para 2 sentence 1 has not been met.
- (5) The doctoral committee shall decide which doctoral degree is to be awarded on the basis of the statement pursuant to § 8 sentence 2 number 3 and the available reviews.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>The dean shall inform the members of the extended doctoral committee in an appropriate manner about the receipt of the reviews, the grades of the reviewers, and the decision of the doctoral committee according to para 5. <sup>2</sup>The abstract of the dissertation is sent with the notification. <sup>3</sup>Upon justified request, the electronic version of the dissertation will be sent after consultation with the signatories of the supervisory agreement, whereby copyrights and data protection must be respected. <sup>4</sup>The dean shall make the dissertation and the reviews available for inspection by the extended doctoral committee in the dean's office for a period of two weeks. <sup>5</sup>The members of the extended doctoral committee may submit a written statement to the dean or raise an objection against the thesis within the display period. <sup>6</sup>The doctoral committee will deliberate on statements and objections received in due time. <sup>7</sup>It shall give the doctoral researcher and the supervisor the opportunity to comment. <sup>8</sup>Afterwards, it can either unanimously reject the objections, or it can return the dissertation for revision, or it can obtain one or more further reviews via the dean.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is proposed for acceptance by all reviewers and has not been returned by the doctoral committee for revision, it is accepted. <sup>2</sup>If it is rejected by all reviewers, it is rejected. <sup>3</sup>If there is no unanimity among the reviewers on the acceptance or rejection of the dissertation, the decision will be made by the doctoral committee. <sup>4</sup>In the evaluation of the dissertation, the arith-

metic mean of the individual grades awarded in the reviews is calculated and only the first decimal place is taken into account without rounding.<sup>5</sup>If this results in an overall grade of less than 3 for an accepted dissertation, the dissertation will be graded 3.

- (8) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is rejected, the applicant may submit a new dissertation within two years of the announcement of rejection. <sup>2</sup>Paragraphs 1 to 7 shall apply to the further procedure. <sup>3</sup>If the doctoral researcher does not submit a new dissertation within the period specified in sentence 1 or if the new dissertation is also rejected, the doctoral examination process is terminated without success. <sup>4</sup>§ 9 para 3 sentence 2 applies *mutatis mutandis*. <sup>5</sup>The doctoral committee may return a dissertation to the doctoral researcher for revision if it would have to be rejected. <sup>6</sup>In this case, the applicant may also submit a new dissertation instead of the revision. <sup>7</sup>The revised or new dissertation must be submitted to the doctoral committee within the period specified in sentence 1. <sup>8</sup>A revised dissertation shall be assessed by the reviewers appointed for the original dissertation, insofar as they are still available; in all other respects, paragraphs 1 - 7 apply. <sup>9</sup>If the doctoral researcher does not submit the revised or the new dissertation in due time or if the revised or the new dissertation is also rejected, the doctoral examination process is terminated without success. <sup>10</sup>§ 9 para 3 sentence 2 applies *mutatis mutandis*.
- (9) <sup>1</sup>If the reviewers or the members of the doctoral committee identify deficiencies in the dissertation that do not justify rejection of the work, the doctoral researcher may be required by the doctoral committee to make appropriate corrections. <sup>2</sup>When the deposit copies are submitted, the reviewers confirm that the corrections have been made.

### **§ 13 Board of examiners**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Within a reasonable period of time after acceptance of the dissertation in accordance with § 12 para 7 sentence 1, a scientific colloquium (§ 14) will take place before the board of examiners. <sup>2</sup>The board of examiners consists of:
1. a lecturer from the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition, & Health who is authorized to administer examinations, and who may not be the reviewer, to act as chairperson,
  2. the reviewers, whereby reviewers within the meaning of § 12 para 3 and 4 are free to participate in the colloquium,
  3. one other lecturer authorized to administer examinations within the meaning of § 2.
- <sup>3</sup>If a reviewer within the meaning of sentence 2 number 2 is prevented from taking part in the rest of the process, and if this results in fewer than two reviewers taking part, a different instructor authorized to administer examinations within the meaning of § 2 will be appointed as a member of the board of examiners in his or her place.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>The chairperson and the other members of the board of examiners are appointed by the doctoral committee immediately after acceptance of the dissertation. <sup>2</sup>The members of the board of examiners will be communicated to the doctoral researcher in writing.

## § 14 Colloquium

- (1) The colloquium is a scientific discussion about the dissertation and related subject areas.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The dean will determine the date of the colloquium in consultation with the chair of examiners. <sup>2</sup>The doctoral researcher and the members of the board of examiners are to be invited in writing at least fourteen days before the start of the colloquium. <sup>3</sup>The doctoral committee may shorten this deadline in agreement with the doctoral researcher.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The colloquium lasts at least 60, but no more than 120 minutes and is open to the public. <sup>2</sup>It is held in German or English. <sup>3</sup>The colloquium is divided into a presentation on the dissertation of approx. 20 minutes up to a maximum of 30 minutes and a scientific discussion. <sup>4</sup>The colloquium is chaired by the chair of examiners. <sup>5</sup>In addition to the members of the board of examiners, all lecturers authorized to administer examinations within the meaning of § 2 sentence 2 will be invited to the colloquium. <sup>6</sup>The doctoral researcher may decide within one week after the summons that the public is to be excluded. <sup>7</sup>The supervisor according to § 7 may request the exclusion of the public if patent law concerns are affected.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>In justified exceptional cases, in particular in the case of binational doctorates (Section V), the dean upon request of the relevant doctoral committee may approve the participation of individual examiners in the colloquium via video conference. <sup>2</sup>Prior to approval, the written consent of the doctoral researcher must be obtained. <sup>3</sup>The majority of the examiners and all examiners who are members of the University of Bayreuth must be present in person. <sup>4</sup>Compliance with data protection regulations is required, in particular the use of secure transmission paths such as DFN for the video conference. <sup>5</sup>The chairperson shall ensure that the colloquium is conducted in an orderly manner.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>A record sheet must be made of the course of the colloquium and the determination of the overall grade of the doctorate. <sup>2</sup>The record sheet must contain information on
1. the date of the colloquium,
  2. the names of the chairperson and the other examiners,
  3. the name of the doctoral researcher,
  4. the topic of the examination,
  5. the grades of the dissertation and the colloquium as well as the final grade of the doctorate according to § 15.

<sup>3</sup>The record sheet is to be signed by the chairperson and / the examiners.

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- (6) <sup>1</sup>The grading of the colloquium takes place after a joint, non-public discussion between the examiners and is based on the grading scale according to § 12 para 2 sentences 2 to 5. <sup>2</sup>In the evaluation of the dissertation, the arithmetic mean of the individual grades is calculated and only the first decimal place is taken into account without rounding. <sup>3</sup>If a doctoral researcher does not achieve at least the grade *befriedigend* [satisfactory] (3.0) in the colloquium, the colloquium is failed.
- (7) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral researcher may repeat the failed colloquium once. <sup>2</sup>The request for repetition must be submitted to the dean within one year after notification of having failed the colloquium. <sup>3</sup>In exceptional cases, the dean may permit, with the approval of the doctoral committee, a second repetition of the failed colloquium; the doctoral researcher must submit an application to this effect to the dean within six months of being notified of the repeated failure of the colloquium. <sup>4</sup>The doctoral examination process will be terminated without success if the doctoral researcher does not submit a request for repetition within the deadlines specified in sentences 2 and 3 or if the doctoral committee does not permit a second repetition of the colloquium or if the doctoral researcher fails the colloquium even on the second repetition; § 9 para 3 sentence 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
- (8) <sup>1</sup>If the doctoral researcher does not appear for the colloquium or withdraws from the colloquium after it has begun, he or she must immediately notify the dean in writing of the reasons for the delay or withdrawal and provide credible evidence. <sup>2</sup>In the case of illness of the doctoral researcher, the dean may require the submission of a doctor's note or official medical certificate. <sup>3</sup>If the doctoral researcher is not responsible for the reasons for the failure or withdrawal, the dean will set a new date in accordance with para 2. <sup>4</sup>If the doctoral researcher does not immediately report and substantiate the reasons for non-appearance or withdrawal in accordance with sentence 1 or is responsible for these reasons, the colloquium shall be deemed to have been failed; § 9 para 3 sentence 2 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

### **§ 15 Final grade of the doctorate**

- (1) If the colloquium is passed, the board of examiners determines the final grade of the doctorate.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The final grade of the doctorate is calculated as follows: First, the arithmetic means of the individual grades of the dissertation and the colloquium are calculated separately. <sup>2</sup>The calculated value is cut off after the first decimal place without rounding. <sup>3</sup>The double value for the dissertation and the single value for the colloquium are then added up and divided by three. <sup>4</sup>The calculated total value is truncated after the first decimal place without rounding. <sup>5</sup>The following grading scale applies to the final grade:
- 0 to 0.5      summa cum laude (with distinction)
- 0.6 to 1.5    magna cum laude (very good)

1.6 to 2.5 cum laude (good)

2.6 to 3.0 rite (satisfactory)

- (3) The final grade and the grade of the dissertation are to be announced orally to the doctoral candidate by the chair of examiners following the colloquium.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The dean will issue a written interim notification to the doctoral researcher about the result of the passed examination. <sup>2</sup>This interim decision does not entitle the holder to bear the doctoral title.

### **§ 16 Publication of the dissertation**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>After successful completion of the colloquium, the doctoral researcher must make the dissertation available to the scientific public through reproduction and distribution. <sup>2</sup>Theses already published in accordance with § 11 para 4 do not have to be published again.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Prior to publication of the dissertation, printing approval must be obtained in the case of significant changes that are not merely editorial in nature (§12 para 9 sentence 2). <sup>2</sup>With the delivery of the electronic version or the deposit copies, the candidate must submit a written declaration that the electronic version or the deposit copies are identical in content to the version for which printing permission was granted.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>For the purpose of publication, the doctoral researcher must deliver the prescribed number of copies free of charge to the dean within one year after the colloquium according to the type of publication chosen by him/her. <sup>2</sup>This shall also apply, with a time limit that may deviate from sentence 1, in the event of an approved suspension of publication in accordance with § 17 para 2.

<sup>3</sup>The following publication types can be selected:

1. 40 copies in book or photographic print for the purpose of distribution.
2. six copies if the dissertation is published essentially unabridged in a scientific journal.
3. six copies if a commercial publisher assumes the distribution via the book trade. The publication must have an ISBN or ISSN number and be marked as a dissertation on the back of the title page, stating the location of the dissertation.
4. Three copies in printed, bound form and an electronic version, the data format and type of data transfer of which must be agreed with the University Library of the University of Bayreuth. The publication must include an abstract in German and one in the English language. The doctoral researcher grants the University Library of the University of Bayreuth and the DDB (Die Deutsche Bibliothek) the right to store the electronic version, to publish it in data networks for an unlimited period of time, and to make it accessible to other databases. The doctoral researcher is obligated to check the metadata and the network version of his/her

dissertation for completeness, correctness, and readability after processing by the University Library. The submission of files that do not meet the required specifications with regard to file format and data transmission will not be deemed to constitute publication.

- (4) The doctoral researcher grants the University of Bayreuth the right in writing to publish his/her name, the topic of the dissertation, the abstract, the date of submission and the date of the colloquium and, in the event that he/she has chosen a type of publication in accordance with para 3 number 1, also the right to produce and distribute further copies of his/her dissertation.
- (5) The doctoral committee may extend the deadline for the delivery of the deposit copies at the request of the doctoral researcher.
- (6) If the doctoral researcher misses the deadline for the delivery of the deposit copies through his or her own fault, all rights acquired through the successful completion of the examination process expire. <sup>2</sup>§ 9 para 3 sentence 2 applies *mutatis mutandis*.
- (7) In the cases of para 3 numbers 2 and 3, the dean may consider the deadline for delivery to have been met if the publication of the dissertation and the delivery of the deposit copies appear to be sufficiently assured by a binding declaration from the editor of the journal or the publisher.

### **§ 17 Diploma and completion of the doctorate**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>If the requirements specified in § 16 are met, the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health issues a certificate in the German language confirming the successful completion of the doctoral examination. <sup>2</sup>In addition, an English translation will be produced.
- (2) If the content of the dissertation is related to an intended or completed application for a patent or publication in scientific journals, the doctoral committee can suspend the publication of the dissertation for up to two years upon justified application by the doctoral researcher or the supervisor, without affecting the completion of Doctoral commission.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The diploma confirms successful completion of the doctorate and contains
  - the name of the university and the faculty,
  - the first and last names of the doctoral candidate, date and place of birth,
  - the degree conferred,
  - the title of the dissertation,
  - the date of the colloquium,
  - the final grade of the doctorate,
  - the name and signature of the President of the University of Bayreuth and dean of the faculty,
  - the seal of the University of Bayreuth.

<sup>2</sup>In the case of doctorates awarded in cooperation with universities of applied sciences/HAWs (§ 19), the university of applied sciences/HAW involved must also be stated on the diploma. <sup>3</sup>The date of the certificate is the date of the colloquium.

- (4) <sup>1</sup>The certificate will be issued by the dean together with the English translation. <sup>2</sup>The doctorate is completed and the doctorate is finished with the handing over of the certificate; the doctoral researcher thereby receives the right to use the doctoral degree according to § 1 para 1.

### **Section III: Honorary doctorate**

#### **§ 18 Honorary doctorate**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>For exceptional scientific achievement in the disciplines of the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health, the faculty may confer honorary degrees (Dr. rer. nat. h.c., Dr. phil. h.c., Dr. oec. troph. h.c.). <sup>2</sup>§ 1 para 1 sentence 2 and sentence 3 applies *mutatis mutandis*. <sup>3</sup>The honorary doctorate procedure is to be initiated on the basis of a justified request by at least three instructors authorized to administer examinations. <sup>4</sup>The request shall be addressed to the dean.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The faculty council appoints at least two lecturers who are competent in the subject and who are authorized to administer examinations to review the extraordinary academic achievement of the person to be honoured. <sup>2</sup>The proposal and the reviews are to be submitted to the members of the faculty council and the extended doctoral committee. <sup>3</sup>These may submit a written statement within one month.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>The faculty council makes a decision regarding the award of the honorary doctorate upon request of the extended doctoral committee. <sup>2</sup>The decision is made in the light of the request and the expert opinions and comments submitted.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>The President of the University of Bayreuth and the dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health confer the honorary degree by presenting a certificate to the honoured individual. <sup>2</sup>The certificate is to acknowledge the scientific achievements of the honoured person.

### **Section IV: Cooperation with universities of applied sciences (HAWs)**

#### **§ 19 Cooperation with universities of applied sciences (HAWs)**

<sup>1</sup>The Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health enables the cooperative execution of doctorates with universities of applied science/HAWs and/or joint doctorates with Bavarian higher education institutions in accordance with the agreement between Bavarian higher education institutions dated 19

October 2015 within the framework of the provisions of the present doctoral regulations. <sup>2</sup>The University of Bayreuth is in charge of cooperative doctorates and joint doctorates.

## **Section V: Binational doctorates**

### **§ 20 General information**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The doctoral degree can also be awarded within the framework of joint supervision with a foreign academic institution (partner institution). <sup>2</sup>This presupposes that
  1. an agreement regarding the cross-border joint supervision of the doctorate has been concluded with the partner institution and approved by the dean and the doctoral committee,
  2. the partner institution is authorized to award doctorates according to its national legislation and the academic degree to be awarded by it would have to be recognized in the area of application of the Higher Education Framework Act,
  3. the doctoral candidate fulfil the requirements for acceptance for the doctorate and for admission to the doctoral examination process both according to the present doctoral regulations (§§ 4, 8, and 9) and according to the corresponding regulations of the partner institution,
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The dissertation is supervised by a supervisor in accordance with § 7 para in conjunction with §2 and a member of the partner institution who is authorized to administer examinations in accordance with the regulations there and can be submitted to the University of Bayreuth's Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health or to the partner institution. <sup>2</sup>The details of the joint supervision are to be set out in the agreement pursuant to para 1 sentence 2 number 1. <sup>3</sup>A dissertation which has already been submitted to one of the participating educational institutions and accepted or rejected prior to the conclusion of an agreement in accordance with para 1 sentence 2 number 1 may not be the subject of a joint doctoral procedure.
- (3) The grading of the doctoral performance is carried out according to the regulations of the institution at which the dissertation is submitted; the other institution determines the equivalent grades according to its doctoral regulations.

### **§ 21 Examination process at the University of Bayreuth**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is to be submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health, § 11 and § 12 apply to the dissertation and its assessment. <sup>2</sup>The requirement to appoint the supervisors of the dissertation according to § 20 para 2 sentence 1 as reviewers may be waived in accordance with international practice.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation has been accepted in the process pursuant to § 12, it is forwarded to the partner institution for approval of the progress of the doctoral examination. <sup>2</sup>If the partner institution gives its consent, the oral examination takes place in accordance with § 13 and §14. <sup>3</sup>If the supervisor of the dissertation from the partner institution is not a member of the board of examiners in accordance with § 13 para 1 sentence 2 number 2, his or her appointment as a member of the board of examiners or the substitute appointment of another member of the partner institution who is entitled to administer examinations in accordance with the provisions in effect there is to be provided for in the agreement in accordance with § 20 para 1 sentence 2 number 1.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is to be submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health, but the agreement to continue the examination has been refused by the partner institution, the joint process is terminated; the doctoral examination is continued according to the provisions of the present doctoral regulations. <sup>2</sup>Sentence 1 applies accordingly if the oral examination is assessed as failed by the partner institution.
- (4) Publication of the dissertation and the delivery of the deposit copies shall be governed by § 16 and the supplementary agreements made in accordance with § 20 para 1 sentence 2 number 1.

## **§ 22 Examination process at the partner institution**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is to be submitted at the partner institution, the doctoral regulations of the partner institution apply to the examination procedure. <sup>2</sup>In the agreement pursuant to § 20 para 1 sentence 2 number 1, the appointment of the supervisor pursuant to § 20 para 2 sentence 1 shall be arranged for by the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health, or, to the extent that he or she cannot be appointed, another lecturer from the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health who is authorized to administer examinations in accordance with the present doctoral regulations to serve as a reviewer to assess the dissertation.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation has been accepted by the partner institution, it is forwarded to the extended doctoral committee for approval of the progress of the doctoral examination. <sup>2</sup>§ 12 para 6 sentence 3 and sentence 8 applies *mutatis mutandis*. <sup>3</sup>If the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health provides its consent, the oral examination will take place at the partner institution in accordance with the regulations there. <sup>2</sup>In the agreement pursuant to § 20 para 1 sentence 2 number 1, that the appointment of the supervisor pursuant to § 20 para 2 sentence 1 in that case shall be arranged for by the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health, or, to the extent that he or she cannot be appointed, another lecturer from the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health who is authorized to administer examinations in accordance with the present doctoral regulations and who belongs to the board overseeing the oral examination is to serve as a reviewer to assess the dissertation, the following holds:
  - (3) <sup>1</sup>If the dissertation is accepted at the partner institution, but the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health refuses consent to the continuation of the examination, the joint process shall

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be terminated. <sup>2</sup>The doctoral examination can be continued according to the regulations of the partner institution. <sup>3</sup>Sentences 1 and 2 shall apply accordingly if the oral examination receives a failing grade from the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health.

- (4) <sup>1</sup>For the publication of the dissertation and the delivery of the deposit copies, the regulations applicable to the partner institution apply. <sup>2</sup>The agreement pursuant to § 20 para 1 sentence 2 number 1 shall also specify how many copies are to be submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health; alternatively, publication of the dissertation can be approved analogous to § 16 para 3 sentence 3 numbers 1 to 4. <sup>3</sup>In any case, one copy of the dissertation remains in the examination files. <sup>4</sup>The issuing of the diploma for the doctorate to be provided in accordance with § 23 shall be made dependent on the fulfilment of the delivery obligations.

### **§ 23 Joint diploma**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>After the successful completion of a joint doctoral examination process, the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition & Health and the partner institution issue a joint diploma for the doctoral degree, indicating that the doctoral degree was obtained under joint supervision. <sup>2</sup>The diploma bears the signatures and seals required under the provisions of the present doctoral regulations and the regulations of the partner institution.
- (2) Instead of a joint diploma, individual diplomas of the Faculty of Life Sciences: Food, Nutrition, & Health and the partner institution may be used, clearly indicating that the two certificates together constitute one joint doctoral degree certificate.
- (3) The joint doctoral diploma shows that the bearer of the doctoral title is entitled to use the doctoral degree in Germany in accordance with § 1 para 1 and the doctoral degree awarded there in the foreign country.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>Further details on the form of the diploma are regulated by the agreement pursuant to § 20 para 1 sentence 2 number 1. <sup>2</sup>The grade equivalence can also be taken from it. <sup>3</sup>On the joint doctoral diploma, the equivalent foreign grade should be listed with the corresponding marking.

## **Section VI: Other provisions, entry into force and transitional provisions**

### **§ 24 Invalidating the doctorate**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>If it becomes apparent before the diploma is issued that the doctoral researcher has cheated in the doctoral examination, the dean will declare all previously acquired qualifications invalid and discontinue the process. <sup>2</sup>Before making such a decision, the dean will obtain the opinion of the doctoral committee.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>If the deception or other illegality only becomes known after the diploma has been issued, the doctoral examination can be subsequently declared failed by the dean. <sup>2</sup>Before making such a decision, the dean will obtain the opinion of the doctoral committee. <sup>3</sup>Withdrawal of the doctoral degree is governed by the statutory provisions (Art. 48 Bavarian Administrative Procedure Act BayVwVfG as amended). <sup>4</sup>The person concerned must be given the opportunity to comment before the decision is made (Art. 28 BayVwVfG). <sup>5</sup>With regard to the definiteness, form, and justification of the decision, the provisions on the conclusion of administrative acts (Art. 35 et seq. BayVwVfG) are to be observed.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>In the case of suspected academic misconduct, the dean and the doctoral committee will only make a joint decision once the self-regulation committee has submitted its report. <sup>2</sup>If the dean and the doctoral committee have already decided in advance in special cases, the further referral by the self-regulation committee remains unaffected. <sup>3</sup>A declared renunciation of the doctoral degree shall have no influence on the initiation and progress of the process pursuant to sentences 1 and 2.
- (4) In the event of failure of the doctoral examination in accordance with para 2 sentence 1, the doctoral diploma shall be withdrawn.
- (5) In all other respects, the withdrawal of the doctoral degree is governed by Art. 69 BayHSchG in conjunction with the relevant provisions of the BayVwVfG.

## **§ 25 Access to examination documents**

<sup>1</sup>After completion of the doctorate, the doctoral candidate may inspect all records of the doctoral process. <sup>2</sup>The time and place for granting access to the documents is determined by the dean. <sup>3</sup>The request must be submitted to the dean within one month after completion of the doctorate. <sup>4</sup>In these as well as other cases in which a request for access is made, the inspection procedure is governed by Art. 29 et seq. BayVwVfG.

## **§ 26 Consideration of extenuating life circumstances**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>The utilization of protection periods of the Maternity Protection Act (MuSchG) shall be guaranteed. <sup>2</sup>Upon request, the claiming of parental leave in accordance with the Federal Parental Allowance and Parental Leave Act (Bundeselterngeld- und Elternzeitgesetz, BEEG) as well as periods for the care of a close relative within the meaning of § 7 para 3 of the Nursing Care Act (PflegeZG) who is in need of care within the meaning of § 14 and § 15 of the Eleventh Book of the Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch, SGB XI) shall be guaranteed. <sup>3</sup>The appropriate evidence must be furnished; any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

- (2) <sup>1</sup>Upon request, periods during which the doctoral studies cannot be pursued or can only be pursued to a very limited extent for reasons for which the doctoral researcher is not responsible will not be counted towards deadlines. <sup>2</sup>Corresponding evidence must be furnished; medical certificates must be presented in the case of illness. <sup>3</sup>Any changes in status are to be reported immediately.

## **§ 27                    Consideration of the special needs of persons with disabilities or chronic illnesses**

<sup>1</sup>For the sake of ensuring equal opportunities, the particular needs of and the applicants/ doctoral researchers with disabilities or chronic illnesses are to be appropriately accommodated. <sup>2</sup>In consultation with the doctoral committee, the dean shall determine, upon written request by the applicant/doctoral researcher, according to the severity of the proven examination disability or chronic illness, the form in which the examination shall be carried out or shall grant an extension of working time or other reasonable accommodations. <sup>3</sup>Proof of the examination disability or chronic illness must be furnished in the form of a medical certificate stating that, due to a long-term or permanent disability or chronic illness, the examination cannot be taken in whole or in part in the intended form. <sup>4</sup>The application is to be enclosed with the application for acceptance for doctoral studies; if the application is submitted later, it shall only apply to future components.

## **§ 28    Effective date**

<sup>1</sup>The present regulations go into effect on 16 February 2022.

Issued on the basis of a decision made by the University of Bayreuth's Senate on 9 February 2022 and approved by the President of the University of Bayreuth on 14 February 2022, Ref. No. A -3527 I/1.

Bayreuth, 15 February 2022

UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH  
[seal]

THE PRESIDENT  
[signature]  
Professor Dr. Stefan Leible

These regulations were enacted at the university on 15 February 2022.

This was announced on 15 February 2022 by posting a notice at the university.

The date of the announcement is 15 February 2022.