

# Please note:

This version of the Regulation is a translation of the official German version and is provided for informational purpose only. It has no legally binding effect.

The legally binding version is published in our Official Notices.

This regulation was translated using a neural machine translation service. We do not guarantee the quality or accuracy of the translation.

# Regulations of the Department of Construction and Culture of the Doctoral School NRW

dated 17.02.2022 in the version dated 04.05.2023

Based on Section 4 (4) sentence 3 of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Hochschulgesetz - HG) in the version of the Act amending the Higher Education Act of July 12, 2019, Section 2 (2) of the Administrative Agreement of the Doctoral School NRW (VV) of December 14, 2020 and the Framework Departmental Regulations (RAO) of April 16, 2021, the Doctoral School NRW issues the following Departmental Regulations:

#### **Contents**

- § 1 Scope of application and tasks
- § 2 Contributors
- § 3 Recommendations Committee
- § 4 Bodies of the department
- § 5 Key Research Areas of the Department
- § 6 Cooperation and events of the department
- § 7 Departmental meeting
- § 8 Doctoral candidate spokesperson
- § 9 Equality, Person in charge of Equal Opportunities Affairs
- § 10 Commissions
- § 11 Doctoral examining committee
- § 12 Amendment of the Departmental Regulations
- § 13 Severability clause
- § 14 Entry into force

# § 1 Scope of application and tasks

- (1) The structure, procedural rules and processes of the Department of Construction and Culture are regulated in the Departmental Regulations and are based on the valid version of the Framework Departmental Regulations as well as the cooperation practiced in the department and the Department of Construction and Culture of the GI NRW as the predecessor institution.
- (2) Professors and doctoral candidates from universities of applied sciences (AUS) and universities work together in the department with the aim of carrying out and promoting doctorates, strengthening cooperation in research, promoting integration into the scientific community, ensuring a high quality of scientific work and teaching young scientists a responsible approach to science. The aim is to strengthen the combined application of methods from the natural sciences and humanities, engineering and materials science as well as design and art and to further develop the mutual exchange between the specialist

disciplines of construction, architecture and urban planning, design, art technology, conservation science and monument preservation.

- (3) In particular, the department ensures that the doctorate is compatible with the national and international scientific community and that an academic career at other institutions can be continued after completion of the doctorate.
- (4) The department represents an extended research environment for its doctoral candidates. They are included in the scientific discourse beyond university boundaries. Where possible, the facilities of the other supporting universities involved in the department are also available to them.
- (5) The department obliges all members and Affiliated Members to comply with the rules of good scientific practice in accordance with the regulations for safeguarding good scientific practice and dealing with Scientific Misconduct at the Doctoral School NRW, as amended. It shall perform the tasks assigned to it in these regulations.
- (6) The department obliges all its members and Affiliated Members to handle scientific methods and results responsibly in accordance with the regulations of the Commission on Responsibility in Science of the Doctoral School NRW as amended.
- (7) In order to provide a supportive environment for early career researchers, the members of the department coordinate their research and form research priorities. The Key Research Areas form the basis for the doctoral programs.
- (8) The department promotes cooperation with other departments of the Doctoral College, in particular with the Departments of Resources and Sustainability, Technology and Systems, Social and Health, Media and Interactions and Computer and Data Science. In addition, the department is involved in various national and international committees including CEN (Comité Européen de Normalisation), FGSV (Forschungsgesellschaft für Straßen- und Verkehrswesen), ERES (European Real Estate Society), IIC (International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works), EFN, (European Facade Network), DOCOMOMO International (Organization for the Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighborhoods of the Modern Movement) ensures constant scientific exchange and intensive networking with regard to research-relevant topics. The target-oriented transfer of research results is promoted through cooperation with municipal institutions, cultural institutions, heritage conservation institutions and other research institutions (e.g. Exponatec Cologne).
- (9) The department involves associate professors and thus gives them the opportunity to acquire membership status.
- (10) The department sees diversity as an opportunity and promotes equal opportunities and participation through various measures.
- (11) The department strives in particular to integrate socially relevant issues such as demographic change, digitalization and the effects of climate change into the doctoral programs. By participating in the doctoral programs, doctoral candidates acquire key qualifications (discipline-related skills, research skills and transferable skills) that play an

essential role in their future careers. The department will offer and support measures to reconcile family and doctorate, such as flexible and family-friendly working time models.

### § 2 Contributors

- (1) The professorial members and associate professors admitted in accordance with Section 3 of the Membership Regulations of the Doctoral School of Applied Research North Rhine-Westphalia of 29.01.202, the doctoral candidates admitted in accordance with Section 4 of the Membership Regulations and cooperation partners of universities that have assigned themselves to this department work together in the department. The admission of members and Affiliated Members is regulated in the Membership Regulations and in Sections 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Administrative Agreement.
- (2) Members and Affiliated Members of other departments may also participate in meetings and events after registering, provided there are no reasons of confidentiality or other reasons to the contrary.
- (3) In order to promote cooperation between the departments and interdisciplinary networking, members and Affiliated Members of other departments can be appointed as secondary members or Affiliated Members of the department upon request. With the exception of the right to vote, they have all opportunities to participate in the department and are invited accordingly. The appointment is made by the Department board.
- (4) The participation of guests in the department's events is subject to the availability of places. Registrations and invitations are regulated accordingly and announced in good time.

### § 3 Recommendations Committee

- (1) In accordance with §§ 3 and 5 of the framework departmental regulations, the department's Recommendations Committee prepares a scientific assessment for the admission of members and Affiliated Members to the department.
- (2) The composition and election of the Recommendations Committee are regulated in § 5 of the Framework Division Regulations.
- (3) With regard to the composition of the Recommendations Committee, the department stipulates that it comprises five professorial members of the department and that it must be ensured that the research fields of Building Technology and Construction, Infrastructure and Space and Culture defined in the Department of Construction and Culture are represented and that the members have a corresponding reputation with regard to central current research developments. Four members are elected by the Department board in accordance with Section 5 (5) RAO, one member is appointed from among the Director and his or her deputies in accordance with Section 4 (2) in accordance with Section 5 (4) RAO.

# § 4 Bodies of the department

- (1) Bodies of the department are the Department board and the director. Tasks and election are regulated in § 4 of the Framework Departmental Regulations and in § 17 and § 18 of the Constitution.
- (2) With regard to the director and deputies, it is stipulated that a director and one or two deputies shall be elected for a period of three years. The duties of the director are regulated in § 25 of the administrative agreement.
- (3) Further details are regulated in the Rules of Procedure of the Department Board.

# § 5 Key Research Areas of the Department

- (1) The Department of Construction and Culture conducts research in the four research fields of building technology/construction, infrastructure, space and culture, which overlap or complement each other in many areas. These research fields are assigned to the two clusters
  - Construction and infrastructure
  - Culture and space

assigned. Members and Affiliated Members of the department can be assigned to both clusters.

- (2) The Department board decides on the establishment or dissolution of Key Research Areas or fields of the department as well as on its general tasks. All those involved in the cluster must be consulted and the effects on the doctoral programs must be taken into account and adjustments made if necessary. The rights and obligations of professors and doctoral candidates remain unaffected.
- (3) In the event of the establishment or dissolution of Key Research Areas, the impact on the doctoral programs must be examined immediately and adjustments made if necessary.
- (4) The department is anchored in the following disciplines: Civil Engineering and Architecture, Geodesy, Cultural Studies and Art and Visual Studies.

# § 6 Cooperation and events of the department

- (1) In addition to the work of the Bodies, elements of cooperation include the Department Assembly and the implementation of the Built Environment and Cultural Heritage doctoral program. Annual lecture series are held here, which offer an exchange with regard to scientific developments in their technical and cultural facets and conditions as well as new digital methods. A full-day research colloquium is held annually. Here, participants present and discuss methodological approaches, analytical procedures and the results of their previous academic research work.
- (2) Doctoral candidates are involved in the work of the department by actively participating in the updating of the department's research concept and the doctoral programs. To this end, workshops are offered within the department in order to exchange experiences and findings.

Doctoral candidates are involved in the design of teaching, in particular new teaching content, as well as in the organization of conferences and other scientific events.

- (3) Collaboration with university cooperation partners takes place in particular through cooperation in the various specialist committees, as partners in research projects and in the organization of and participation in scientific events.
- (4) In the case of decisions with scientific or organizational implications, such as the holding of conferences, all those involved, in particular associate professors and doctoral candidates, shall be appropriately involved. This takes place through a regular exchange of information and the provision of documents from the Department of Construction and Culture.
- (5) For department events, the aim is to establish maximum exchange between the participating members and cooperation partners, for example with regard to doctoral student days, the Research Day or integration into teaching.

# § 7 Departmental meeting

- (1) The departmental assembly meets at least once a year. The departmental assembly consists of professorial members, associate professors, university cooperation partners, doctoral candidates and Staff members. The director or a deputy director should be present.
- (2) The department assembly shall discuss the scientific work of the department, the promotion of doctorates and the organization in an open discourse.
- (3) The director shall issue an invitation to the departmental meeting with four weeks' notice and announce the agenda. The director shall be supported in this by the Staff members responsible for the department. The invitation to the departmental meeting shall be sent by e-mail.
- (4) The deliberations and resolutions of the departmental meeting are recorded in minutes and forwarded to the responsible Bodies as statements or recommendations.
- (5) Votes at the departmental meeting may be taken by show of hands, verbal vote or an electronic voting program, provided there are no reasons of confidentiality to the contrary and no objection is raised.
- (6) The department meeting can be held as an in-person, online or hybrid event.

# § 8 Doctoral candidate spokesperson

- (1) The Doctoral Candidate Representatives represent the interests of doctoral candidates within the department and vis-à-vis the Executive Board of the Doctoral School NRW.
- (2) The election and term of office of the Doctoral Candidate Representatives are regulated in Section 6 of the Framework Departmental Regulations.
- (3) The department shall stipulate that the doctoral candidate spokesperson shall be consulted on all issues concerning the department.

# § 9 Equality, Person in charge of Equal Opportunities Affairs

- (1) The Equal Opportunities Officer of the department performs the tasks in accordance with Section 24 of the Higher Education Act. She participates in the meetings of the Department board and the Recommendations Committee in an advisory capacity.
- (2) The department's equal opportunities officer and deputy are elected by the Department board from among all female members of the department.
- (3) A joint Person in Charge of Equal Opportunities Affairs may also be elected across several departments. In this case, the Person in charge of Equal Opportunities Affairs shall be elected by the Department boards of the departments involved from among the female members of these departments.
- (4) The term of office of the Person in charge of Equal Opportunities Affairs of the department and the deputy is three years.
- (5) The election of the Person in charge of Equal Opportunities Affairs of the department and the deputy shall take place in separate ballots. The person who receives a simple majority of the votes cast by the members entitled to vote is elected. Abstentions count as votes not cast.

#### § 10 Commissions

The Department board can set up commissions for special tasks as well as reappoint them.

# § 11 Doctoral examining committee

The department shall set up a doctoral examining committee. Further details on the composition and election are regulated by the Framework Doctoral Degree Regulations of the Doctoral College for Applied Research in North Rhine-Westphalia dated 31.01.2023 and the Doctoral Degree Regulations of the Department of Construction and Culture of the Doctoral College for Applied Research in North Rhine-Westphalia dated 14.03.2023.

# § 12 Amendment of the Departmental Regulations

The Departmental Regulations are adopted and amended by a two-thirds majority of the voting members of the Department board.

### § 13 Severability clause

Should any provision of these regulations be invalid, this shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions. An invalid provision shall be replaced by a new, valid provision that comes as close as possible to the meaning and purpose of the original provision.

# § 14 Entry into force

These regulations shall enter into force on the day following their publication in the Official Notices of the Doctoral School NRW.

Executed on the basis of the resolution of the Department board dated 04.05.2023.

Aachen, 04.05.2023
The Chairwoman of the Department board signed. *Stöckert*(Prof. Dr. Ulrike Stöckert)