

Faculty Regulations

for the

Faculty of Life Sciences

at

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 1 June 2016
(Official Notice 13/2016)

As amended by the first amending statutes from 7 November 2016
(Official Notices 15/2017)

In accordance with Section 2 (4) sentence 1 and Section 26 (3) sentence 1 of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Hochschulgesetz – HG NRW*), as amended by Article 1 of the Act for the Future Development of Universities (*Hochschulzukunftsgesetz*) from 16 September 2014 (GV.NRW p. 547) And in conjunction with the Constitution of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences from 12 October 2015 (Official Notices 14/2015), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences has issued the following regulations:

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Section 1

General terms and conditions

(1) The Faculty of Life Sciences performs the academic tasks and responsibilities defined in Section 3 of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (HG NRW) within its authority as a faculty of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(2) The Faculty of Life Sciences prepares students for professional careers in Germany and abroad through practice-oriented teaching and degree programmes. Additional faculty responsibilities include research and development, as well as knowledge transfer.

Section 2

Members and affiliates

(1) Membership in the Faculty of Life Sciences is governed by Section 26 (4) HG NRW.

(2) The following groups are considered affiliates, but not members, of the faculty: professors who have retired or been otherwise released from their duties, honorary professors, part-time, temporary or guest employees in the faculty, research assistants not belonging to a group defined in subsection (1), visiting students and guest auditors. Affiliates are not permitted to participate in faculty elections.

(3) Professors of the faculty are in charge of assigning eligible guest professors to the faculty within the scope of available financial resources and work opportunities.

(4) Membership and affiliate status will expire upon leaving the faculty; for visiting students and guest auditors, affiliate status will expire after the scheduled end of the course(s) they are attending.

Section 3

Rights and responsibilities of members and affiliates

The rights and responsibilities of members and affiliates are derived from general public employment law in Germany, the provisions of the Higher Education Act, the Constitution of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences as well as other relevant regulations and resolutions of HSRW and the Faculty of Life Sciences.

Section 4

Faculty bodies

The Faculty Council (*Fakultätsrat*) and the Dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences are considered official faculty bodies in accordance with Section 26 (3) HG NRW.

Section 5 Organisation and tasks

- (1) The faculty is led by an Office of the Dean in accordance with Section 27 (6) HG NRW in conjunction with Section 11 (4) of the HSRW Constitution. In accordance with Section 27 HG NRW, the dean's office is responsible for managing faculty operations under its own authority.
- (2) The dean's office consists of the dean (who acts as chairperson), a vice-dean and an associate dean of studies.
- (3) The term of office for dean's office members as defined in Section 11 (4) of the HSRW Constitution commences after the president has confirmed their election. Preparations for assuming office may be made before official confirmation.
- (4) If the vice-dean or associate dean of studies decides to resign abruptly, the resignation must be offered in writing to the president via the dean. New elections will be conducted in accordance with Section 27, in conjunction with Section 26 of the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, and in conjunction with Section 11 (7) of these faculty regulations.
- (5) If the dean decides to resign abruptly, the resignation must be offered in writing to both the faculty council and the president. New elections will be conducted in accordance with Section 26 of the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in conjunction with Section 11 (7) of these faculty regulations.

Section 6 Elections for the Office of the Dean

- (1) Members of the dean's office are elected by the faculty council via simple majority in accordance with Section 27 (4) HG NRW. Further details are set forth in the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences as well as the rules of procedure of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.
- (2) The faculty council can vote to remove the dean with a three-fourths majority, but only if a new dean is immediately elected by the faculty council via simple majority vote and subsequently confirmed by the president. A minimum notice period of ten working days is required before holding a vote to remove the dean. Further details are set forth in the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences as well as Section 11 of the rules of procedure of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Life Sciences of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.
- (3) The outcome of the election will be announced on the faculty website and posted publicly inside the faculty.

Section 7

Composition and organisation of the faculty council

(1) In accordance with accordance with Section 28 (2) HG NRW and in conjunction with Section 12 (1) of the HSRW Constitution, the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Society and Economics is composed of the following members with voting power:

- Six professors
- One academic staff member
- One non-academic staff member
- Three students of the faculty
- The dean's office, but in an advisory capacity without voting power in accordance with Section 28 (3) HG NRW.

(2) The term of office for student members is one year, and two years for all other members.

(3) The dean chairs the faculty council in accordance with Section 11 (4) of the HSRW Constitution.

(4) The faculty council will adopt its own rules of procedure.

Section 8

Meetings of the faculty council

The faculty council will meet regularly and, if needed, convene during the lecture-free period. Further details are set forth in the faculty council's rules of procedure.

Section 9

Commissions

(1) The faculty council can form commissions for additional support and advising.

(2) These faculty regulations apply analogously to the procedures of these commissions.

Section 9a

Faculty Commission for the Improvement of Academic Quality

(1) A decentral (faculty-based) commission will be established in accordance with the Academic Quality Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Studiumsqualitätsgesetz*), dated 1 March 2011, in order to provide expert advice to the dean and continuously improve academic quality at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(2) The commission will perform the duties and responsibilities defined in Section 4 (1) of the Academic Quality Act NRW.

(3) The commission is composed of the following voting members:

- (a) Dean of the faculty
- (b) Two professors

- (c) Two academic staff members
- (d) Six student representatives.

(4) The members specified in subsection (3) numbers 2 to 4 will be elected by the faculty council.

(5) Commission members, with the exception of the dean, are elected by the faculty council and may nominate themselves or be nominated by another member or student representative of the faculty.

(6) The term of office for student members is one year, and two years for all other members.

(7) Members of the commission will elect a chair and deputy chair from among their members.

(8) These faculty regulations apply analogously to the procedures of this commission. Commission meetings are not open to the public.

Section 10

Equal opportunities officer

(1) A newly constituted faculty council will elect an equal opportunities officer and her deputy representative for the faculty, whose elections will be confirmed by the dean.

(2) Members of the faculty who have either a university degree or other appropriate qualifications (to be determined on a case-by-case basis) are eligible for election as equal opportunities officer and her designated representative.

(3) Both positions share the same term of office as the faculty council.

(4) The process for electing the equal opportunities officer and her designated representative conforms with Section 31 of the Election Regulations of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(5) The tasks and responsibilities of the faculty's equal opportunities officer are defined in Section 24 (3) HG NRW.

Section 11

Academic advisory board

(1) In accordance with Section 28 (8) HG NRW, the Academic Advisory Board of the Faculty of Life Sciences (*Studienbeirat*) advises the faculty council and the dean's office on teaching and academic matters, in particular matters concerning academic reforms, teacher or student evaluations, and amendments to examination regulations.

(2) The board consists of:

1. The associate dean of studies (as chairperson)
2. Three professors
3. One academic staff member with teaching duties in the faculty
4. Five student representatives.

The faculty council is responsible for electing the members defined under sentence 1, numbers 2, 3 and 4. If there is no academic staff member in the faculty who meets the

membership requirements for the academic advisory board at the time of election, then four professors will be elected instead, contrary to sentence 1 number 2.

(3) The term of office for student members (within the meaning of subsection (2) number 4 as well as Section 11 (2) number 4 HG NRW) is one year, and two years for all other members.

(4) The tasks and responsibilities of the academic advisory board are derived from Section 28 (8) and Section 64 (1) HG NRW.

(5) In the event of a tie, the chairperson has the casting vote.

Section 12 Appointment process for professors

The appointment process for new professors in the Faculty of Life Sciences is governed by the Professorial Appointment Regulations of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, as amended.

Section 13 Amendments to the Faculty Regulations

Every member of the faculty council is entitled to request amendments to these regulations. Motions to amend require a supermajority (two-thirds vote) in the faculty council to pass.

Section 14 Entry into force

(1) The Faculty Regulations of the Faculty of Life Sciences will enter into force on the day after the publication of the German original in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(2) The previous Faculty Regulations of the Faculty of Life Sciences, dated 12 November 2014 (Official Notice 1/2015), will expire upon entry into force of these regulations dated 1 June 2016.

Note: These faculty regulations entered into force in their current version on 6 July 2017.