

Faculty Regulations

for the

Faculty of Society and Economics

of

Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 12 April 2023
(Official Notice 23/2023)

Contents

Article 1: General provisions

Section 1 Tasks and responsibilities

Section 2 Code of communication

Article 2: Structure and organisation of the faculty

Section 4 Faculty bodies

Section 5 Office of the Dean

Section 6 Elections for the Office of the Dean

Section 7 Removing members from the Office of the Dean

Section 8 Faculty council

Section 9 Academic advisory board

Section 10 Equal opportunities officer

Section 11 Commission for the Improvement of Academic Quality

Section 12 Heads of degree programmes

Section 13 Link professors

Section 14 Internationalisation officer

Section 15 Commissions

Article 3: Concluding provisions

Section 16 Amendments to the faculty regulations

Section 17 Entry into force

**Article 1:
General provisions**

**Section 1
Tasks and responsibilities**

The Faculty of Technology and Bionics performs the academic tasks and responsibilities defined in the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (HG NRW) and the Constitution of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences within its authority as an official faculty of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

**Section 2
Code of communication**

The faculty pledges to act according to the code of communication that it has adopted for itself.

**Article 2:
Structure and organisation of the faculty**

**Section 3
Members and affiliates**

(1) The rules and regulations for membership in the Faculty of Technology and Bionics are set forth in Section 26 (4) HG NRW.

(2) The groups defined in Section 9 (4) HG NRW are considered affiliates of the Faculty of Technology and Bionics.

**Section 4
Faculty bodies**

The Faculty Council (*Fakultätsrat*) and the Office of the Dean (*Dekanat*) of the Faculty of Technology and Bionics are considered official faculty bodies in accordance with Section 26 (3) and Section 27 (6) sentence 1 HG NRW, in connection with Section 11 (4) of the HSRW Constitution.

Section 5 Office of the Dean

(1) The Faculty of Technology and Bionics is headed by an Office of the Dean in accordance with Section 11 (4) of the HSRW Constitution. The responsibilities and authority of the dean's office are derived from Section 27 (6) sentence 1 HG NRW in conjunction with Section 27 (1) HG NRW.

(2) The dean's office consists of the dean (as chairperson), a vice-dean, who also represents the dean, as well as an associate dean of studies.

(3) The dean represents the faculty within Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences in accordance with Section 27 (1) sentence 1 HG NRW.

(4) The four-year term of office for members of the dean's office defined in Section 11 (4) of the HSRW Constitution commences with the start of the summer semester immediately following their election (1 March).

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 (6) sentence 6 HG NRW. Further details are given in the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(2) The outcome of the election must be announced on the website of the faculty and posted publicly inside the faculty.

Section 7 Removing members from the Office of the Dean

(1) Members of the dean's office can be removed from office without their consent by a three-fourths supermajority vote in justified cases and in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 27 (5) HG NRW. Replacement members are elected for the remaining term of office of their predecessors.

(2) Requests to remove a member from the dean's office must be submitted in writing to the chairperson of the faculty council and signed by at least five-eighths of voting members of the faculty council. In addition, requests must suggest a replacement candidate for election. Section 27 (4) sentences 1 and 2 HG NRW remain unaffected. If the chairperson of the faculty council determines that the request for removal adheres to the requirements set forth in sentences 1 to 3 above, they will schedule a vote for the next meeting of the faculty council, but which may not occur until at least ten working days later due to the required notice period defined in Section 27 (5) HG NRW. Contrary to sentence 1, if the request concerns the dean, it must be instead submitted to the deputy chairperson of the faculty council; accordingly, the deputy chairperson will also be responsible for verifying the

requirements and adhering to the notice period defined in sentence 4, as well as holding the vote in the meeting of the faculty council.

(3) The member who is directly affected by the motion will be given the opportunity for a statement before voting commences.

(4) Requests for removal require a three-fourths supermajority to pass. Voting will occur either via secret ballot or digitally via a digital voting system, provided the system complies with the requirements set forth by the Online Election Regulations of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(5) The member of the dean's office is considered removed from office when a new replacement member has been elected via simple majority and confirmed by the president. The designated representative of the removed member will perform the duties of office until the elected replacement has been confirmed.

(6) The outcome of the vote must be announced on the website of the faculty and posted publicly inside the faculty.

Section 8 Faculty council

(1) The tasks and responsibilities of the faculty council are derived from Section 28 HG NRW.

(2) The faculty council is organised in accordance with Section 28 (2) HG NRW in conjunction with Section 12 of the HSRW Constitution.

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

Section 9 Academic advisory board

(1) The Academic Advisory Board of the Faculty of Technology and Bionics (*Studienbeirat*) is responsible for advising both the faculty council and the dean's office in accordance with Section 28 (8) HG NRW.

(2) The board consists of:

- a. The associate dean of studies (as chairperson)
- b. Two professors of the faculty
- c. One academic staff member with teaching duties in the faculty
- d. Four students of the faculty.

(3) The members of the academic advisory board are elected by the faculty council in accordance with Section 26 of the Election Regulations for Committees and Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. Sentence 1 does not apply to the election of the chairperson.

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

(5) Members of the academic advisory board cannot also be voting members of the faculty council simultaneously.

(6) The board will adopt its own rules of procedure.

Section 10 Equal opportunities officer

(1) In accordance with Section 13 (3) of the HSRW Constitution, the faculty council will elect an equal opportunities officer from among the female members of the faculty who have either a university degree or other appropriate qualifications (determined on a case-by-case basis) as well as her deputy representative, whose elections will be confirmed by the dean. The term of office is four years.

(2) The tasks and responsibilities for the equal opportunities officer are derived from Section 24 (3) HG NRW in connection with Section 17 of the Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Landesgleichstellungsgesetz*).

(3) The equal opportunities officer is elected by the faculty council in accordance with Section 31 of the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

Section 11 Commission for the Improvement of Academic Quality

(1) In order to advise the dean's office on matters concerning improvements to teaching and study quality, a Commission for the Improvement of Academic Quality will be established within the Faculty of Technology and Bionics in accordance with Section 9a (7) of the HSRW Constitution.

(2) The members of the Commission for the Improvement of Academic Quality are elected by the faculty council in accordance with Section 26 of the Election Regulations for Committees and Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(3) The commission will adopt its own rules of procedure.

Section 12

Heads of degree programmes

- (1) Two persons will be elected as the heads of each degree programme.
- (2) The time in office for the heads of a degree programme is five years. Heads of degree programmes will be elected at different times to ensure overlapping times of office. Re-election is permitted.
- (3) The heads of a degree programme are professors elected by the faculty council via simple majority.
- (4) If the head of a degree programme leaves office prematurely, the faculty council will immediately elect a replacement for the remaining term of office.
- (5) The tasks and responsibilities of the heads of a degree programme include:
 - a. Coordinating modules and lectures in the degree programme
 - b. Providing content-related support for quality management processes in the degree programme
 - c. Addressing questions about the degree programme from students enrolled in the degree programme
 - d. Evaluating the qualifications of sessional lecturers applying for open teaching assignments
 - e. Addressing questions from external partners
 - f. Supporting the dean in public relations and marketing for the degree programme.

Section 13

Link professors

- (1) The faculty council will elect two link professors, one male and one female.
- (2) The term of office is two years. Elections will occur at different times to ensure overlapping terms of office. Re-election is permitted.
- (3) Link professors are either professors or lecturers for special tasks that are nominated by the Faculty Student Representatives and elected by the faculty council via simple majority.
- (4) If a link professor leaves office prematurely, the faculty council will immediately elect a replacement for the remaining term of office.

Section 14

Internationalisation officer

- (1) The faculty council will elect an internationalisation officer.
- (2) The term of office is two years. Re-election is permitted.

(3) The internationalisation officer is a professor elected by the faculty council via simple majority.

(4) If the internationalisation officer resigns, the faculty council will immediately elect a replacement.

Section 15 Commissions

(1) The faculty council is authorised to form advisory commissions in accordance with Section 12 (1) HG NRW.

(2) These commissions will be composed of one professor, one academic staff member, one non-academic staff member and one student.

(3) Members of advisory commissions are elected by the faculty council in accordance with Section 26 of the Election Regulations for Committees and Governing Bodies of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(4) Advisory commissions will adopt their own rules of procedure.

Article 3: Concluding provisions

Section 16 Amendments to the faculty regulations

These regulations can be enacted, amended or annulled by the faculty council with a two-thirds supermajority of votes.

Section 17 Entry into force

(1) These regulations will enter into force on the day after their original publication in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(2) The Faculty Regulations of the Faculty of Technology and Bionics dated 17 February 2014 (Official Notice 8/2014), as amended on 6 November 2015 (Official Notice 20/2015), will expire when these regulations enter into force.

Note: These regulations entered into force in their current version on 28 April 2023.