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## **Regulations**

**for the conferral of the academic degree of “Doctor of Philosophy”  
(Ph.D.) or “Medical Doctor/Doctor of Philosophy” (MD/Ph.D.)**

**for the Departments**

**04 – University Medical Center**

**02 – Social Sciences, Media, and Sports**

**09 – Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Geography, and Geosciences**

**10 – Biology**

**within the doctoral program of Translational Biomedicine**

**dated 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**St.Anz. pp. 452-457**

**Amended by the regulation of the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**St.Anz. pp. 2119-2120**

Based on § 8 Par. 1 of the University Medical Center Statutes from 10<sup>th</sup> September 2008 (GVBl. S. 2005, BS 223-42), amended through Article 10 of the Statutes from 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (GVBl., S. 167, BS 223-42) as well as § 7 Par. 2 Nr. 2 and § 86 Par. 2 Nr. 3 of the University Statutes in the version from 19<sup>th</sup> November 2010 (GVBl. 463), amended through the statute from 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 (GVBl. S. 47, BS 223-41), the Departmental Councils of Department 04 on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2011, of Department 02 on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011, of Department 09 on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011, and of Department 10 on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 passed the following regulations. The Ministry for Education, Science, Further Education and Culture of Rhineland Palatine has approved these regulations with the communication from 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011, Az.: 9525 Tgb. Nr. 184/11. They will be made known herewith.

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## **§ 1. Goal and Scope of the Translational Biomedicine Doctoral Program, Academic Degrees**

(1) The following departments

- 04 – University Medical Center
- 02 – Social Sciences, Media, and Sports
- 09 – Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Geography, and Geosciences
- 10 – Biology

of the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (JGU) will conduct a structured and supervised doctoral program for especially qualified graduates, in particular from the master programs Biomedicine and Biomedical Chemistry of JGU or a similar program of a German or international university, and for especially qualified graduates from human medicine. The goal is to gain further research-focused interdisciplinary experience and to independently and scientifically address fundamentally important scientific and clinically relevant questions in the field of biomedicine through the application of methodologies from molecular biology, cell biology, chemistry, biochemistry, physiology, and bioinformatics.

(2) The doctoral program consists of

1. the research work and the production of a scientific work (dissertation) according to § 10 Par. 1,
2. the participation in cross-disciplinary compulsory and elective events in accordance with the supervision agreement referred to in § 6 Par. 1,
3. regular reporting of the own research work,
4. the doctoral examination.

(3) The supervision of the dissertation will be conducted by two supervisors and two further mentors and together they make up the individual supervisory team. This individual team will be established at the latest at the admittance to the doctoral program.

(4) After successful completion of the proceedings described in the protocol of this regulation, graduates of the structured doctoral program will be conferred the academic degree “Doctor of Philosophy” (Ph.D.) or “Medical Doctor/Doctor of Philosophy” (MD/Ph.D.).

**First Section:  
Prerequisites for Admission**

**§ 2. Joint Committee for Admission to the Translational Biomedicine Doctoral Program**

(1) The departments named in § 1 Par. 1 S. 1 form a joint committee (hereafter referred to as JC) in accordance with § 89 Par. 1 Nr. 2 HochSchG for admission to the translational biomedicine doctoral program. It is responsible for

- a) the admission of applicants to the doctoral program,
- b) the appointment of the examination committee for graduation from the program,
- c) the changes to the regulations of the structured doctoral program,
- d) the admission of scientists as “principal investigators” into the doctoral program. “Principal Investigators” have to fulfill the criteria according to § 7 Par. a.

(2) The JC consists of the following members:

- a) one lecturer from each of the departments involved in the doctoral program,
- b) one representative of the scientific staff,
- c) one representative of the students,
- d) one representative of the non-scientific staff.

The members of the JC must belong to the departments specified in § 1 Par. 1 S. 1. The member referred to in d) should, if possible, possess a university degree.

(3) The members of the JC will be chosen by the respective departmental boards. Their term consists of three years, while the term of the representative of the students consists of one year.

(4) The nomination of the members referred to in Par. 2 Letts. b-d will be conducted by the respective groups in the departmental boards of the departments referred to in Par. 1, S. 1. Additionally, the nomination of a member and his/her proxy will be agreed cross-disciplinarily. The choice will proceed via the departmental council of the respective departments to which the nominated persons belong.

(5) The JC will choose a lecturer from its members, as referred to in Par. 2 Lett. a, to function as the chairperson as well as his/her deputy: Both chosen members must belong to different departments. The chairperson or his/her deputy will manage the business of the JC.

### **§ 3. Application and Admittance to the Doctoral Program**

(1) The JC will be responsible for the admission to the translational biomedicine doctoral program with the goal of achieving a doctoral degree. General deadlines associated with admittance to the doctoral program will be set by the JC and will be announced in a timely fashion.

(2) A prerequisite for the admittance to the doctoral program is proof of a university degree, as specified by either

a) Par. 3 S. 2 Lett. b Nr. 1 in connection with Par. 6

or

b) Par. 4 in connection with Par. 5

(3) Usually, admittance to the doctoral program will proceed via the process described in § 4. Admittance to the doctoral program is only possible if

a) the required supervision capacity for the suggested doctoral project is available,

b) applicants have the prerequisites and personal suitability to deliver an exceptional research performance.

Required for admittance is:

1. At least an overall grade of “good” ( $\leq 2,5$ ), B-level, or a comparable level of the ECTS Grading System in a completed undergraduate degree of at least 8 semesters of regular study time in natural sciences or engineering at a German or comparable foreign university, or equivalent institute, which is eligible for admittance to the doctoral program; or at least an overall grade of “good” ( $\leq 2,5$ ) or B-level (according to ECTS Grading System) in a completed master’s degree in natural sciences or engineering at a German university or technical college; or at least an overall grade of “good” in a completed degree in human medicine at a German or comparable foreign university.
2. Interest and previous knowledge of the research topics of the doctoral program, demonstrated by a synopsis of the planned research project, which fits into the overall research concept of the doctoral program.
3. Above-average aptitude for the doctoral program, which, if necessary, should be demonstrated during the selection interview according to § 4 Par. 2 Nr. 3.
4. Proof of sufficient knowledge of the English language according to Par. 8.

(4) Admittance to the doctoral program is also possible in certain exceptional situations, if

a) 1. the applicant has completed a bachelor’s degree in natural sciences or engineering at a German university with an overall grade of “very good” or if the applicant is in the top 10% of the graduating year or fulfills an equivalent criterion

or

2. the applicant has completed studies of at least six semesters of regular study time in natural sciences or engineering with an overall grade of “very good” (1.0) at a German technical college

or

b) the applicant has completed an undergraduate degree of at least 8 semesters of regular study time with an overall grade of “very good” (<1,5) or an A-level (according to ECTS Grading System) at a German or comparable foreign university, or equivalent college, which entitles to admittance to a doctoral program, and moreover, where it is recognized that, based on the applicant’s extraordinary technical, scientific, and methodological qualifications as well as a compelling concept for a research project, it is to be expected that the doctoral program will be completed successfully. Par. 3 Lett. b. Nr. 2-4 are unchanged by this.

c) the applicant, whose overall grade deviates from one of the abovementioned grading requirements, has demonstrated exceptional aptitude in the intended field of doctorate. The JC can require an assessment of this aptitude, for example through evaluative technical discussions with scientists involved in the program.

(5) The JC makes the decision regarding admissions. If it is deemed necessary, the admission to the doctoral program according to Par. 4 can be dependent on the completion of courses offered by JGU. These additional requirements must be successfully completed within one year. The deadlines mentioned in this regulation will be extended correspondingly.

(6) A degree that has been completed at a foreign university will be recognized as being equivalent, as long as it is listed in the equivalence agreement approved by the Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs and the German Rectors’ Conference. If an equivalence agreement is not available, the JC will decide in conjunction with the university department responsible for recognizing foreign degrees. If there remains any doubt about the equivalence of the degrees, the Central Office for Foreign Education will be consulted.

(7) Applications for the admittance to the doctoral program are to be sent in written form to the chairperson of the JC. They can be submitted in German or English and have to include the following information and documents:

- a) A description of research interests and the applicant’s current knowledge, as referred to in Par. 3. Lett. b Nr. 2 (the description should be no longer than 10 pages (12pt, 1.5 line spacing)).
- b) A curriculum vitae and a description of his/her scientific career.
- c) Legally attested certificates of previous studies (if required, including attested German translations).
- d) Proof of English language abilities in accordance with Par. 8.
- e) Letters of recommendation from two lecturers who are suitable as supervisors as defined in § 7 Par. 1. In the letters of recommendation, the applicant’s scientific suitability and ability for the planned research project should be given, and if applicable the willingness to take on the supervision of the research project.
- f) A declaration that the “Statutes of the Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz assuring good scientific practice” have been taken note of and that its policies will be adhered to during the scientific work.

(8) The required English language abilities can usually be proven by the successful participation in standardized tests based on the language competency levels of the Council of Europe and the UNiCert System. Applicants who have English as their first language, as well as those who have a German Abitur are exempt from this. The reference for the required level is a TOEFL iBT test passed with at least 60 points.

#### **§ 4. Selection Process**

(1) In the selection process, only complete applications, and if applicable, only those that have been received within the appropriate deadlines, will be considered. The JC is responsible for conducting the selection process. The JC can mandate a selection group with suggesting a list of candidates.

(2) The selection process occurs in the following segments:

1. Inspection of the formal prerequisites for admission to the doctoral program.
2. Scientific assessment of the applicant as well as the suggested research project by the JC, or the selection group mandated by the JC.
3. Comparative scoring of the assessments. The JC or the mandated selection group can, in case of any doubt, invite the applicant to a selection interview, which will serve to clarify the scientific experience gained during the applicant's studies, the research interest, as well as their personal suitability for the intended doctoral project. In the case that a selection group has been mandated with suggesting a list of candidates, the decision will be made following the selection interviews.

(3) The JC, and if applicable using the suggestions of the mandated selection group, makes the decision on the admittance of an applicant to the doctoral program.

(4) All applicants will be informed in writing of the result of the selection process by the chairperson of the JC in a timely manner. A provision for appealing the decision will be made available.

#### **§ 5. Admittance to the Doctoral Program, Revocation of Admittance**

(1) Applications, for which it is determined during one of the segments of the selection process according to § 4 Par. 2 Nrs. 1-3, which do not satisfy the prerequisites, will be rejected. A provision to appeal the rejection is available. In the case of rejection, submission of a new application is permitted once only.

(2) The JC can acknowledge achievements which have been performed prior to the admission as doctoral requirements if they are equivalent in the content and manner of the to be achieved doctoral requirements of the doctoral program. The acknowledgment must be declared in the Supervision Agreement.

(3) The admission will take place provided that the JC referred to in § 4 Par. 3 reaches a positive decision in the selection process. Notification of admission will be communicated in written form. In the notification, tentative supervisors and the deadline by which the dissertation is to be submitted will be specified.

(4) Admission to the doctoral program can be revoked, if the doctoral student does not fulfill his/her duties repeatedly, which are specified in the Supervision Agreement referred to in § 6 Par. 1, without providing a satisfactory excuse. A revocation of admittance may also occur if it is demonstrated that the doctoral student will not be able to achieve the targets drafted in the research plan in the scheduled time or to the required scientific standard. In all cases, the supervisors will inform the chairperson of the JC in writing of the circumstances and reasoning for their decision. In the case of revocation of admission, admission will be rescinded at the end of the semester.

(5) The JC will make decisions regarding the revocation of admittance. The candidate will be given an opportunity before this to provide a personal statement of the situation. The revocation of admittance is

to be signed by the chairperson of the JC and a provision for appeal is available. Re-admittance to the doctoral program is not permitted.

## **Second Section: Organization and Execution of the Doctoral Program**

### **§ 6. Organization of the Doctoral Program**

(1) At the beginning of the doctoral program, a supervision agreement will be concluded between the JC and every doctoral student regarding the work to be performed and the progress that must be evidenced during the course of the doctoral program. On the basis of the recommendations of the JGU Senate “Obtaining a Doctoral Degree from JGU” the doctoral work comprises the research work (150 credit points), technical training and interdisciplinary education (20 CP), and multidisciplinary skills (10 CP).

(2) The additional requirements, in accordance with § 3 Par. 5, will also be part of the supervision agreement. The JC will decide on the nature and scope of the supervision agreement.

(3) The supervisors are responsible for the adherence of the supervision agreement as well as the progress of the doctoral project. All doctoral candidates will be evaluated by both of their supervisors at the end of the first and second year concerning the fulfillment of these criteria.

### **§ 7. Supervision of the Doctoral Program, Deadlines**

(1) For every admitted doctoral candidate, the JC will provide two specialist supervisors who must fulfill the following requirements:

- a) The supervisors must be a university lecturer and/or have a habilitation; in exceptional cases, the JC can also approve of scholars with a doctoral degree as supervisors who do not fulfill these requirements if they show special scientific excellence and therefore provide a guarantee for a specialized supervision. Leaders of junior research groups of the DFG (Emmy Noether Program), the Max Planck Institutes, the Institute of Molecular Biology or comparable junior research groups are especially regarded as such.
- b) At least one of the supervisors must be a Principal Investigator of the doctoral program.
- c) At least one of the two supervisors must be a member of the participating Departments 02, 09, 10, or of the University Medical Center of JGU and must be admitted as a supervisor or assessor in the doctoral programs of the Departments 02, 09, 10 or of the University Medical Center of JGU.

The appointment of a scientist from another German or foreign university is permitted, as long as they satisfy the requirements according to Lett. a and the required scientific and organizational supervision can be assured.

(2) The doctoral program including the oral examination should usually be completed within 3 years of admission. A change to this deadline can be granted by the JC upon request by the doctoral candidate. In addition to a written explanation, this request must also contain a detailed schedule for the completion of the dissertation and approval by the supervisors.



(3) If the doctorate, as defined in Par. 2, is not completed by the specified deadline and an extension of the deadline has been refused by the JC, admission to the doctoral program will be rescinded at the end of the semester and participation in the doctoral program will end. § 5 Par. 4 S. 3 applies accordingly. Obtaining the degree of “Doctor of Philosophy” (Ph.D.) or “Medical Doctor/Doctor of Philosophy” (MD/Ph.D.) in the doctoral program “Translational Biomedicine” is no longer possible.

### **§ 8. Conducting the Doctoral Program at another German or Foreign University**

The doctoral program can in part be conducted at another German or foreign university. In the case that a corresponding cooperation agreement between the JGU and the participating institution does not exist, approval by the chairperson of the examination committee should be obtained in a timely fashion for assurance of proper procedure.

### **Third Section: Doctoral Examination**

### **§ 9. Examination Committee**

(1) If a dissertation is submitted, the chairperson of the JC will appoint an examination committee. It will usually consist of:

- a) The supervisors referred to in § 7 Par. 1,
- b) Three further university lecturers. The doctoral candidate may also make suggestions.

Should the doctoral candidate have applied to receive a joint degree with another German or foreign university, one of the members referred to in § 9 Par 1 S. 2 Lett. a and b, if required, may be replaced by a scientist from the external institution where the doctoral candidate carried out scientific work in the course of their doctoral program.

(2) The members of the examination committee must fulfill the criteria according to § 7, Par. a. At least one of the members of the examination committee must be a Principal Investigator of the doctoral program.

(3) The chairperson of the JC will name one of the members referred to in Par. 1 S. 2 Lett. b to be the chairperson of the examination committee. The appointed chairperson will lead the activities of the examination committee. The examination committee can assign further tasks to the chairperson.

(4) The candidate shall be informed in written form with a provision of information of legal remedies in case of serious decisions of the examination committee or its chairperson. The JC will make decisions in the case of opposition.

(5) The chairperson of the examination committee will inform the doctoral candidate about the names of the examination committee members as well as the names of the assessors referred to in § 12 Par. 1. The chairperson will notify the parties involved in the examination process and of appointments or deadlines in a timely fashion.

### **§ 10. Scope of the Doctoral Examination, Prerequisites**

(1) The doctoral examination consists of the following examination segments:

1. The written scientific work (dissertation),
2. The oral examination.

(2) The admission to the doctoral examination should be applied for in writing to the chairperson of the JC. The application must include:

1. Evidence that the agreed doctoral and examination performance referred to in § 6 Par. 1 and Par. 2 have been achieved.
2. The scientific work (including the assurance referred to in § 11 Par. 4) in triplicate.
3. A written assurance that the submitted scientific work has not been submitted to any other German or foreign university or comparable institution for the conferral of an academic degree.
4. A declaration that the candidate has not unsuccessfully ended another doctoral or equivalent program in the subject area of the current doctoral program.

(3) The chairperson of the JC will decide on admission to the doctoral examination. Admission may be refused if incomplete or incorrect documentation is submitted and also if documentation is still incomplete or incorrect even after a grace period. The chairperson of the examination committee will issue a written response to the application. In the case of a rejection, reasons must be provided; a provision for appeal will be available.

(4) An application for admission to the doctoral examination can be withdrawn without reason until the submission of the first assessment, referred to in § 12 Par. 2, to the chairperson of the examination committee. A withdrawn application can be resubmitted once.

### **§ 11. Scientific Work (Dissertation)**

(1) The dissertation is an independent scientific work by the candidate about the research project. The dissertation must represent a significant scientific contribution to the progression of knowledge in the subject area of the chosen research project. The supervisors should try to ensure that all or substantial parts of the dissertation have been published in internationally renowned peer-reviewed scientific journals. Already published work or manuscripts are to be submitted with the dissertation. A cumulative dissertation can be submitted as well.

(2) If a number of candidates have worked on the same research project, each candidate must present their own contribution to the research work and its scientific significance. The individual work in the research area must be explicitly defined and clearly indicated.

(3) The dissertation is generally supposed to be written in English; an abstract in English and German has to be attached. The JC will decide on any exceptions to this.

(4) The following declaration is to be included in the dissertation: “I hereby declare that I wrote the dissertation submitted without any unauthorized external assistance and used only sources acknowledged in the work. All textual passages, which are appropriated verbatim or paraphrased from

published and unpublished texts, as well as all information obtained from oral sources, are duly indicated and listed in accordance with bibliographical rules. In carrying out this research, I complied with the rules of standard scientific practice as formulated in the statutes of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz to insure standard scientific practice.”

## **§ 12. Assessment of the Dissertation**

(1) For the assessment of the dissertation, the chairperson of the examination committee will instruct the supervisors to act as assessors. If an additional international academic degree is aimed at, the external scientists will also be instructed to act as assessors, as stipulated in the corresponding rules and agreements for assessors. At least one of the assessors must be a scientist involved in the doctoral program.

(2) The assessments should be submitted in writing and independent of one another within six weeks of submission of the dissertation. In the assessment of the dissertation, the grades referred to in § 14 Par. 1 are to be used. If the dissertation is assessed to have the grade 1.0, it can be suggested for a distinction. If both assessors recommend rejection of the dissertation, due to it not meeting the required scientific standards, the doctoral examination has been failed and the supervisory relationship has ended. If only two assessments are available and they differ by more than a whole grade or differ in their suggestion of acceptance, return for corrections, or rejection, the chairperson of the examination committee, in consultation with the chairperson of the JC, will obtain a further assessment from a scientist in a relevant subject area. If this assessment also concludes that the work should be rejected, then the doctoral examination has been failed and the supervisory relationship has ended. A dissertation that is found to have serious deficiencies, which would lead to its rejection, but which are deemed to be correctable, can be returned for re-editing once, as long as the majority of the assessors suggest this. The return of the dissertation must be accompanied by a written statement of the reasons. There will be a deadline of a year set for the resubmission. If the candidate does not resubmit the dissertation within this deadline, it will be considered rejected.

(3) Should the dissertation be awarded a grade of 1.0 by both assessors and suggested for a distinction, the grade of the dissertation can be supplemented with “passed with distinction,” as long as this is confirmed by a third, external assessment.

(4) Should the majority of the assessors recommend the acceptance of the dissertation the work will be displayed along with the assessments in the office of the doctoral program for two weeks for inspection. Scientists involved in the doctoral program as well as the academic personnel of the university with doctoral degrees can compose a written statement on the dissertation and assessments. These must be submitted to the chairperson of the JC no later than one week after the end of the display period.

(5) The examination committee will determine the final grade for the dissertation based on all of the submitted assessments. The dissertation is passed if it has been assessed as having at least the grade “satisfactory” (“genügend”).

(6) The chairperson of the examination committee will notify the candidate about the result of the assessment in writing. In the case of a rejection, the reasons are to be disclosed. A provision to appeal the decision will be made available.

### **§ 13. Oral Examination**

(1) If the dissertation has been passed, the examination committee will promptly set an appointment for the oral examination. This must take place no longer than two months after the end of the display period of the dissertation referred to in § 12 Par. 4 S. 1. The examination can be held within the first week following the end of the display period referred to § 12 Par. 4 S. 1 only with the agreement of the doctoral candidate. The chairperson of the examination committee will inform the doctoral candidate of the exact appointment as soon as it has been set.

(2) The oral examination will be conducted in front of the examination committee. It will be held in either German or English. The doctoral candidate may choose between these two languages. It will last a minimum of 60 minutes and a maximum of 90 minutes and will consist of the following assessments:

1. A presentation of the submitted dissertation and research project of at most 30 minutes open to all members of the university;

2. A defense of the research project and its scientific field in front of the examination committee.

(3) The oral performance stated in Par. 2 will be rated by the examination committee with a grade according to § 13 Par. 1. The oral examination has been passed if at least a grade of “sufficient” (“genügend”) has been achieved.

(4) In the case of an exceptional performance, the grade for the oral examination can be supplemented with “passed with distinction,” provided that all members of the examination committee agree. If one member is in disagreement, only the grade “very good” (“sehr gut”) can be issued. Abstention from specifying a grade is not permitted.

(5) A protocol of the oral examination is to be made and must be signed by the members of the examination committee. The main subject matter and result of the oral examination must be appropriately documented in the protocol.

(6) At the request of the doctoral candidate, the equal opportunities representative of the university or of one of the Departments referred to in § 1 Par. 1 or the University Medical Center can be present at the oral examination.

### **§ 14. Grading of the Examination Performance and Overall Grade**

(1) For the assessment of the dissertation and the oral examination, the following grades are to be used:

1.0; 1.3 = “sehr gut” - “very good”

1.7; 2.0; 2.3 = “gut” - “good”

2.7; 3.0; 3.3 = “genügend” - „sufficient“

>3.3 = ”ungenügend“ - „insufficient“

If the dissertation is assessed with the grade 1.0, it can be suggested for a distinction.

(2) If both the dissertation and the oral examination have been passed, the examination committee will set the overall grade. In setting the overall grade, the grade for the dissertation will account for two thirds and the grade for the oral examination for one third. Only the first decimal place will be considered in setting the overall grade; all further decimal places will be discarded without rounding.

(3) The overall result of the examination committee derives as follows:

With an overall grade of 1.0 to 1.5 (incl.): “sehr gut” – “magna cum laude” – “very good”

With an overall grade of 1.5 to 2.5 (incl.): “gut” – “cum laude” – “good”

With an overall grade of 2.5 to 3.3 (incl.): “genügend” – “rite” – “sufficient”

With an overall grade of 3.4 or worse: “ungenügend” – “insufficenter” – “insufficient”

(4) The overall grade can be supplemented with “mit Auszeichnung (summa cum laude)” or “excellent (summa cum laude)”, if this has been confirmed through the three assessments and the oral examination, referred to in § 13 Par. 4 S. 1, has been awarded the grade “excellent” (“ausgezeichnet”).

### **§ 15. Passing and Failing, Repeating a Failed Examination**

(1) The assessments have been passed if a grade of at least “sufficient” (“genügend”, 3.3) has been achieved. The overall examination has been passed if an overall grade, as referred to in § 14 Par. 3, of at least “sufficient” (“genügend”, 3.3) has been achieved.

(2) Repeating the scientific work (dissertation) is not permitted. A failed oral examination can be repeated within a deadline set by the examination committee of at least three months and at most six months. If the examination or the test performance are not completed within the specified deadline, it will be regarded as conclusively failed. A second retake is not permitted.

(3) The chairperson of the examination committee will provide written notification of the failure.

### **§ 16. Examination Fees**

The amount, due date, cancellation of or reduction of the examination fees will comply with the relevant regulations of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate. The payment will be made to the doctoral program.

## § 17. Publication of the Dissertation

(1) After the successful completion of the examination, the doctoral candidate needs to publish the final version of the dissertation which has been accepted by the examination committee and which has been duly endorsed by the chairperson. In case of a content-related modification, the doctoral candidate may only change the version of the dissertation in agreement with the chairperson before printing the final version.

(2) The duplicates referred to in Par. 3. bear the following wording on the title page:

“Dissertation submitted to attain the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)” or “Dissertation submitted to attain the academic degree of Medical Doctor/Doctor of Philosophy (MD/Ph.D.)” in the Departments:

- 04 – University Medical Center
- 02 – Social Sciences, Media, and Sport
- 09 – Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Geosciences
- 10 – Biology

of the Johannes Gutenberg University.”

In addition, the assessors’ names as well as the date of the examination according to the examination certificate must be indicated.

(3) The doctoral candidate must complete the publication in one of the following ways and must provide the obligatory copies free of charge to the University Library within a time period of two years subsequent to passing the doctoral examination: either

- a) four printed or comparably duplicated and bound copies, or
- b) four copies, if a commercial publisher undertakes the distribution through the book trade and the minimum print run features no less than 150 copies, or
- c) four copies, if the publication has been published in a scientific journal, or
- d) four copies and an electronic version, whose data format and storage medium will be determined by the University Library.

In cases a) and d), the doctoral candidate transfers the right to the JGU to produce and distribute further copies, and to make them available permanently and with unrestricted access in data networks. In the cases b) and c), the work must be identified as a dissertation from Mainz with the entry “D77” on the back of the title page or as a footnote. In these cases, the doctoral candidate also has the right to upload the dissertation, under the abovementioned conditions, onto the publication server of the University Library. The keeping of terms between the uploading and releasing of the dissertation, if requested by third-party funding providers or for proprietary reasons, will be assured. In case a), the University Library is obliged to store the copies for four years.

(4) In the case of submission according to Par. 3 Lett. d, the electronic form of the dissertation (identical to the full text), after agreement and discussion with the University Library, should be uploaded onto their publication server as well as a summary of up to 200 words in German and English languages. The doctoral candidate transfers the right to the JGU, within the context of tasks and responsibilities of the University

Library, to produce further copies and to distribute them or to make them available permanently and with unrestricted access in data networks.

(5) As well as the obligatory copies stated in Par. 3, printed copies or similarly produced duplicates must be made available to the assessors and their respective institutions free of charge.

(6) If the candidate fails to deliver the obligatory copies within the deadline, all rights gained through the examination will be lost and the examination fee will be forfeited. The chairperson of the JC can extend the deadline for delivery in special cases only. The application for such a special extension must be submitted at the latest one month before the end of the two-year delivery deadline.

### **§ 18. Consideration of the Needs of Doctoral Candidates with Disabilities**

The particular needs of doctoral candidates with disabilities will be taken into consideration to ensure they receive equal opportunities. If a doctoral candidate can credibly demonstrate that they are unable to complete the doctoral requirements entirely or partly in the intended form as the result of long-running or permanent disabilities, the chairperson of the examination committee must permit that the doctoral requirements can be rendered in an alternative way.

### **Fourth Section: Conferral and Entitlement of Use of the Academic Degree**

#### **§ 19. Conferral of the Academic Degree, Provisional Certification and Certificate**

(1) After the successful completion of the examination, the doctoral candidate will receive a provisional certification from the chairperson of the JC that the doctoral candidate has successfully completed the doctoral examination. In the certification, it is to be noted that the examination procedure is completed when the dissertation has been published and the certificate of the conferral of the academic degree has been issued.

(2) After publication of the dissertation according to § 17, the Departments referred to in § 1 Par. 1 will confer the doctoral candidates who have completed a degree in natural sciences or engineering with the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), and for doctoral candidates who have completed a degree in Human Medicine, the academic degree of Medical Doctor/Doctor of Philosophy (MD/Ph.D.).

(3) A certificate of the conferral of the academic degree will be issued in German as well as in English language. The certificate of the conferral of the academic degree is to be signed by the chairperson of the JC and the President of the JGU and in addition needs to be marked with the State's official seal. The academic title can be used only after receiving the certificate in person or by post. The examination procedure is therewith closed.

## **§ 20. Denial or Retraction of the Academic Degree**

(1) Should it come to light either prior to or following the handing over of the certificate that the doctoral candidate has deliberately falsified requirements for admission to the doctoral program or their performance in the examination, the admission to the doctoral examination can be denied or the performance in the examination to that point can be declared as invalid. The same applies if the research results underlying the dissertation have not been recorded and completely documented or stored for at least five years following the submission of the dissertation; excluded from this is the case in which a third party is responsible.

(2) The conferred academic degree can be retracted if the reasons for denial stated in Par. 1 come to light at a later date.

(3) The JC carries the responsibility for denying or retracting the academic degree. Before any decision is made, the person concerned is to be heard. The person concerned will be informed of any decision in writing. A provision for appeal will be provided.

### **Fifth section: Final Provisions**

## **§ 21. Access to Records**

(1) The doctoral candidate will, on request, be granted access to view their examination files including the assessments, and if applicable, available objections, after the completion of the doctoral proceedings.

(2) A request for inspection must be submitted to the chairperson of the JC within one year after the written notification of the examination results. The chairperson of the JC will set the place and date of the inspection.

## **§ 22. Commencement of Regulations**

The preceding regulations will come into effect on the day after their publication in the State Bulletin of Rhineland-Palatinate.

Mainz, 4<sup>th</sup> of January 2012

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Dr. Reinhard Urban  
Chief Scientific Officer and Dean of the University Medical Center

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Stefan Aufenanger  
Dean of Department 02

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hofmeister  
Dean of Department 09

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hans Zischler  
Dean of Department 10