

# UniReport



Goethe-Universität | Frankfurt am Main

Satzungen und Ordnungen

## Constitution of Goethe University Frankfurt (foundation under public law)

By virtue of §§ 36 Paragraph 2, 84 Paragraph 2 Sentence 2 of the Hessian Higher Education Act (HHG - Hessisches Hochschulgesetz) of 23 December 2009 (Gazette of Laws and Ordinances I 2009, P. 666), last amended by Article 1 of the Act of 26 June 2012 (Gazette of Laws and Ordinances I, P. 227), the following Constitution was adopted by the Senate of Goethe University Frankfurt in its session on 30 January 2013 in agreement with the Executive Board and approved by the University Council on 14 February 2013.

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### Preamble

Goethe University Frankfurt fosters the development of science and the arts. Teaching, research and studies at Goethe University Frankfurt are bound to civil and peaceful objectives. The University pursues these principles within the framework of constitutional order; in this context it feels obligated to-

wards the citizenry to account for its actions and at the same time give something in return.

#### Section I: Central University Bodies

##### § 1 General provisions

This Constitution contains those organisational provisions where Goethe University Frankfurt, in exercising its autonomy, derogates from the organisational provisions of the Hessian Higher Education Act. Repeating the regulatory content of the Act is conducive to a better understanding of the correlation between the Act and the Constitution.

##### § 2 The Senate

(1) Senate members with voting rights are:

- Nine members of the professorial staff body
- Three members of the student body
- Three members of the non-professorial academic staff body
- Two members of the administrative/technical staff body

(2) The following have the right to participate in Senate meetings in an advisory capacity over and above the rules of § 36 of the Hessian Higher Education Act:

- The deans
- The chairperson of the Students' Union
- The chairperson of the University Council
- The chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation
- The Gender Equality Officer
- The chairperson of the Staff Council
- The Disability Liaison Officer

Eligible participants may be represented by their deputies or by members of the bodies they represent. In addition, the Senate may decide by majority vote on the entitlement of further persons to attend its meetings in an advisory capacity.

(3) The Senate decides as an extended Senate composed in accordance with § 36 Paragraph 4 Sentence 2 and 3 of the Hessian Higher Education Act on the election and deselection of the President as well as the election of the vice-presidents. The committee designated for this purpose in accordance with § 86 Paragraph 2 Sentence 2 of the Hessian Higher Education Act is the extended Senate.

### **§ 3 Responsibilities of the Senate**

Further to the legal responsibilities, in particular those governed by § 36 Paragraph

1 to 3, § 39 Paragraph 2 Sentence 2, § 40 Paragraph 1 Sentence 1, § 84 Paragraph 3, § 86 Paragraph 1 Sentence 6 and Paragraph 2 of the Hessian Higher Education Act, the Senate is responsible for:

- Decisions on fundamental questions concerning the distribution of funds at the suggestion of the Executive Board
- Approval of the University's budget, including its investment plan, and of decisions of principle concerning personnel planning
- Approval of the University's Development Plan<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The University Development Plan sets forth a framework for the University's development which is filled with content by the Executive Board, the Senate, the University Council and the faculties according to their respective responsibilities. The University Development Plan applies for the following core areas:

- (1) Research
  - Priority setting
  - Principles for research funding
  - Principles for the support of early career researchers
- (2) Teaching and studies
  - Principles for the selection of students
  - Principles for the teaching and study portfolio
  - Principles for the improvement of teaching and studies
- (3) Internationalisation
  - Principles
- (4) Advancement of women
  - Principles
- (5) Quality management
  - Outline structure for a quality management system in areas 1-4
- (6) Organisation
  - Principles for the University's structure below the level of the Executive Board (e.g. faculties, centres)

- Election of a Senate representative for an advisory function in the University Council in accordance with § 86 Paragraph 1 Sentence 8 of the Hessian Higher Education Act; the Senate's decision is reached by majority vote.
- Nomination of Senate representatives in the Selection Committee pursuant to § 5.

### **§ 4 Senate proposals for the appointment of University Council members**

The Senate proposes to the Ministry in accordance with § 86 Paragraph 1 of the Hessian Higher Education Act five University Council members. Decisions in this context require a majority of 2/3 of the Senate members. Details are governed by the Election Rules.

### **§ 5 Coaction of the Senate and the University Council in the election of the President**

In accordance with § 86 Paragraph 2 Sentence 2 of the Hessian Higher Education Act, the University Council constitutes a Selection Committee to prepare its proposal for the election of the President by the extended Senate in consultation with representatives of the Senate.

The University Council and the Senate are equally represented on the Selection

Committee with three members each. The interests of the status groups represented in the Senate must be taken into account in its composition. Details are governed by the Rules of Procedure of the University Council.

## **§ 6 Dispensation with additional University bodies**

§ 37 Paragraph 9 of the Hessian Higher Education Act does not apply.

## **Section II: The Faculties**

### **§ 7 Faculty Council and Dean's Office**

(1) The duties and powers of the Faculty Council and the Dean's Office are derived from the Hessian Higher Education Act.

(2) Professors at the faculty who are not members of the Faculty Council may participate with voting rights in decisions by the Faculty Council on professorial appointment proposals and post-doctoral examination procedures (Habilitation), provided that they have notified the Dean's Office in writing of their participation at the latest one week prior to the meeting; the respective documents are made accessible to them; when determining majorities they count as members of the Council, provided that they are present at the meeting. The agenda for the meeting of the Faculty Council at which professorial appointments or post-doctoral examination

procedures are to be deliberated are sent to all professors at the faculty at the latest fourteen days before the meeting.

(3) At the suggestion of the Faculty Council, the office of dean may be exercised full-time for a temporary period. In this case, the post must be publicly advertised. The full-time dean is elected by the Faculty Council at the suggestion of the Executive Board.

(4) With the agreement of the Executive Board, the Faculty Council may decide that further members are included in the Dean's Office in addition to those prescribed by law. These members should be assigned specific responsibilities.

### **§ 8 Appointment of professors**

The Senate issues a Code of Practice for Appointment Procedures which governs procedures for the appointment of professors.

## **Section III: Cross-faculty and Cross-university Institutions**

### **§ 9 Cross-faculty academic and technical institutions**

Cross-faculty academic and technical institutions are established by the Executive Board under consideration of the Senate's opinion. In so doing, the Executive Board must at the same time issue rules for the respective institution. External scholars as

well as outstanding representatives from practice may join the institution as members with voting rights or as members in an advisory capacity, provided that the professorial majority is respected.

### **§ 10 Cross-university institutions**

Academic institutions may also be established as cross-university institutions. Details must be governed by an agreement which requires the approval of the Executive Board and the Senate. § 47 Sentence 3 of the Hessian Higher Education Act applies. This agreement must also regulate the institution's internal organisation, procedures for amendments to it as well as staff representation.

### **§ 11 Teacher training**

§ 48 of the Hessian Higher Education Act does not apply. The Executive Board, in agreement with the Senate, determines the organisation of the joint institution for teacher training.

## **Section IV: Final Provisions**

### **§ 12 Entry into Force**

This Constitution enters into force following its approval by the University Council on the day after its publication.

Frankfurt, den

Prof. Dr. Birgitta Wolff

### **Impressum**

UniReport Satzungen und Ordnungen erscheint unregelmäßig und anlassbezogen als Sonderausgabe des UniReport. Die Auflage wird für jede Ausgabe separat festgesetzt.

Herausgeber Die Präsidentin der Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main