NOTICE OF ELECTION
for the elections for the doctoral candidates’ representatives
of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg 2020

Please note that only the German version is legally binding

I. General provisions and legal basis

According to Section 29a of the Constitution of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (Grundordnung der Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, GrO) the doctoral candidates’ representatives are chosen by election. The details of the election procedure are stated in this notice of election pursuant to Section 29a (2)(3) GrO. In addition, the Electoral Regulations for State Universities in Bavaria (Wahlordnung für die staatlichen Hochschulen, BayHSchWO) shall apply accordingly, unless the following deviations from the general university election procedure stipulate otherwise.

All regulations that are of significance to the university election can be found via the Elections Office’s (Wahlamt) web page (see below).

II. Doctoral candidates’ representatives

According to Section 29a (2) GrO, one speaker and one deputy speaker will be elected from the doctoral candidates of each faculty. The persons from each faculty who are elected in this manner form the Doctoral Candidates’ Council (Promovierendenkonvent), which elects one of its members who is both a doctoral candidate and a member of research staff (Article 17 (2)(1)(2) BayHSchG) as the chairperson of the Doctoral Candidates’ Council along with a deputy.

The term of office is one year, beginning on 1 October 2020 and ending on 30 September 2021. The chairperson of the Doctoral Candidates’ Council belongs to the Senate as a non-voting member (Section 3 (2) HSchABwV, Section 7 (2)(2) GrO).

Doctoral candidates who are also a member of one of the other member groups given in Section 17 (2) BayHSchG also take part in the general university election, independently of the election for the doctoral candidates’ representatives.

III. Nominations

Nominations may be submitted from 28 April 2020 to 4pm on 11 May 2020.

Nominations must be submitted to the Elections Office or the Returning Officer using the appropriate form. Only candidates whose nominations have been accepted may be elected. Nominations consist of one candidate from the corresponding faculty who is eligible to vote and must be supported with signatures from at least two other people who are eligible to vote from the same faculty.

Further information can be found on the information sheet about submitting nominations which is available on the Elections Office’s website (wahlen.fau.de) along with the nomination forms.

Nominations accepted for the election by the Elections Committee will be published on the Elections Office’s notice board (Halbmondstr. 6, 91054 Erlangen) and on the Elections Office’s website.

IV. Right to vote and electoral register

All individuals pursuing a doctoral degree at FAU and registered as such are eligible to vote and stand as candidates (Sections 29a, 17b GrO). Individuals must be entered in the electoral register at the time when it is closed in order to exercise their right to vote and stand as a candidate. The electoral register is generated from the electronic register of doctoral candidates (docDaten). All persons who are registered in docDaten as active doctoral candidates are automatically included in the electoral register. Doctoral candidates are allocated to a faculty based on the type of doctoral degree they are pursuing as specified in docDaten.

Those eligible to vote can check their registration in docDaten (www.docdaten.fau.de) – and therefore in the electoral register – themselves online up until the electoral register is closed (9am on 20 May 2020) and, if necessary, may request that the Graduate Centre updates their postal address (contact: Dr. Schmitt-Engel, phone: +49 9131 8520722, graduierzentrum@fau.de).

The electoral register will not be displayed in public; there is no right to legal remedy for missing or incorrect entries in the electoral register.

V. Voting

The election for the doctoral candidates’ representatives will be held at the same time as the general university election. Votes in the election for the doctoral candidates’ representatives may only be cast by postal vote. The voting letter with the completed ballot paper must be received by the Elections Office by 3pm on 14 July 2020 at the latest (day of the general university election).

Votes are cast on separate ballot papers for each faculty. The election uses a majority voting system. Those eligible to vote have two votes. Each vote may be allocated to a separate candidate or both votes may be allocated to one candidate. The person who obtains the most votes in each faculty is elected speaker for that faculty, and the person who obtains the second most votes is appointed deputy speaker for that faculty. Furthermore, the remaining candidates are named substitutes in the order of the number of votes that they have received.

VI. Election result and challenges

The election result will be made public together with the result of the general university election. A copy of the announcement of the election result will be posted on the Elections Office notice board at Halbmondstraße 6 in Erlangen. The election result will also be published on the Elections Office’s web page.

Challenges to the result are regulated by the Bavarian University Election Regulations. Challenges on the basis of missing or incorrect entries in the electoral register are not permitted.

Erlangen, 24 April 2020
Christian Zens
Chancellor