

**Doctoral Degree Regulations (Rules)
for the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences
at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel**

of 10 September 2015

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Based on Section 52 (1) in conjunction with Section 54 (3) of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act (HSG) of 28 February 2007 (GVOBl. Schl.-H. (Law and Ordinance Gazette of Schleswig-Holstein), p. 184) and last amended by Section 2 Number 4 of the Act from 17 June 2015 (GVOBl. Schl.-H. p. 162), after resolutions were passed by the Convention of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences of 21 January and 15 July 2015, and a fast-track decision by the Dean of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences of 8 September 2015, the following Rules were issued:

1. Section - General information

Section 1

Doctoral degree

- (1) The Faculty awards the title of Doctor of Business, Economics- and Social Sciences (Doctor scientiarum politicarum - Dr. sc. pol.) on the basis of an academic essay (dissertation) and an oral examination.
- (2) Completion of the dissertation and the oral examination shall serve as evidence of particular competence for independent scientific work.

Section 2

Honorary doctorate

- (1) At the suggestion of the Doctoral Degree Committee, the Faculty may award the title of Honorary Doctor of Business, Economics and Social Sciences (Dr. sc. pol. h. c.) taking into consideration the organisational rules (constitution) of Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel. A majority vote of two thirds of the members with voting rights is required for approval.
- (2) The procedure for conferral of an honorary doctorate shall consist of the presentation to the honorary degree recipient of a certificate proclaiming his or her accomplishments.

Section 3

Doctoral Degree Committee

- (1) The Doctoral Degree Committee is responsible for making specialist decisions in doctoral degree matters as well as performing individual doctoral degree procedures (hereinafter referred to as the Committee).
- (2) The Faculty Convention chooses six full-time professors and deputies as proposed by members who are university lecturers and two research associates with doctoral degrees and deputies as proposed by members of the academic staff as members of the Committee. The Dean is an ex officio member and chairs the Committee.
- (3) Members with petition right and advisory capacity are:
 - the heads of the doctoral degree programmes
 - two Faculty members taking part in a doctoral degree programme who are selected as proposed by the Faculty Convention's academic staff.
- (4) The Committee makes its decisions based on a simple majority vote. A tied vote is regarded as a rejection.
- (5) The supervisors and assessors are invited to be present at decisions on individual doctoral degree procedures. If a member of the Committee in a doctoral degree procedure is himself/herself the supervisor or assessor or if for another reason partiality is suspected, the voting right in this procedure is transferred to the deputy.

Section 4

Supervision

- (1) Full-time, retired and emeritus professors, junior professors of the Faculty, as well as Faculty habilitation graduates - provided they regularly hold lectures at the Faculty, are authorised to supervise doctoral candidates. In exceptional cases, the Committee may also authorise individuals with relevant qualifications working at Kiel University, its affiliated institutes or other universities, or professors working at a university of applied sciences that are affiliated with the Faculty, to supervise doctoral candidates.
- (2) A written agreement on supervision for creating a dissertation shall be concluded when the provisional subject for the dissertation is assigned. This agreement shall be signed by the supervisor (hereinafter referred to as the Supervisor) and the doctoral candidate. A template for such an agreement, with which the parties to the agreement should comply, shall be created by the Committee.
- (3) Supervisors as well as doctoral candidates are entitled to terminate the supervision, either by mutual consent or, in justified cases, independently of each other. If agreements are terminated, the Chairperson of the Committee must be notified and informed of the reasons for such terminations.
- (4) If supervision is terminated for reasons for which the doctoral candidate is not responsible, the Committee shall ensure, at the request of the doctoral candidate, that further supervision is provided within the Faculty's possibilities.

Section 5

Acceptance as a doctoral candidate

- (1) Within 2 months of concluding the agreement in accordance with Section 4 (2) the doctoral candidate must submit an application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate at the Faculty to the Chairperson of the Committee.
- (2) The Chairperson of the Committee shall accept the doctoral candidate if
 1. the agreement on supervision for creating a dissertation in accordance with Section 4 (2) is in place,
 2. the doctoral candidate has declared that he/she has never submitted a dissertation, without success, in the same or another subject in Germany or abroad, and that he/she is not currently involved in a corresponding doctoral degree procedure,
 3. the requirements stated in Section 7 have been met,
 4. specialist assessment under the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences is possible; this may be assumed, in particular, if a Faculty member authorised to provide supervision is willing to do so, and
 5. there are no reasons to justify the withdrawal of an academic degree or no academic degree has been withdrawn.
- (3) If documents were not submitted in accordance with paragraph 2, even after a deadline set by the Chairperson of the Committee, the doctoral candidate shall not be accepted and the agreement concluded in accordance with Section 4 (2) shall be regarded as not concluded.
- (4) If the doctoral candidate has already submitted a dissertation, without success, in the same or another subject, or is currently involved in a corresponding doctoral degree procedure, he/she must declare this, providing details on the subject, the university and the faculty. The Committee shall decide whether to accept the doctoral candidate.
- (5) Acceptance implies the declaration that the requirements stated in Section 7 have been met at the time of acceptance.
- (6) The Chairperson of the Committee may revoke the acceptance if
 1. the work schedule provided for in Section 6 (1) is not produced on time or if, based on the thesis report, it is declared that the doctoral examination procedure is not expected to be successful, or
 2. the report named in Section 6 (2) is not produced on time or it is declared that the work done to produce the dissertation is inadequate.

The declarations in Sentence 1 are usually made by the Supervisor.

Section 6

Reporting by the doctoral candidate

- (1) The doctoral candidate must submit a work schedule for the planned dissertation to the Supervisor after the end of the first year of being accepted as a doctoral candidate, at the latest. This work schedule must specify the content and methodological basics, as well as a detailed time schedule.
- (2) Two years after acceptance the doctoral candidate shall report to the Supervisor on his/her working progress.

2. Section - Doctoral examination procedure and doctoral examinations

Section 7

Requirements for admission to the doctoral examination procedure

- (1) In order to be admitted to the doctoral examination procedure, the doctoral candidate must have completed studies worth at least 300 ECTS credit points, or if no ECTS credit points were awarded he/she must have spent at least 8 semesters studying at a German university, German university of applied sciences or comparable foreign institution of higher education. Overall, the content of the studies must not be substantially different to the content of the Faculty's degree programmes. Successfully completed studies are to be evidenced
 1. in the subjects of Business, Economics and Social Sciences by a Master's degree certificate or a comparable diploma certificate
 2. in the subject of the Didactics of Economics and Politics by a Master's degree certificate for Studies in Secondary Education (Lehramt) or the first state examination for Studies in Secondary Education (Lehramt) or an equivalent qualification.
- (2) The overall grade of the qualification stated in paragraph 1 must be "good" (2.5) or better.
- (3) The Committee may make exceptions regarding the minimum grade, subject relevance and minimum number of ECTS credit points for the qualification, if the doctoral candidate's coursework and examinations demonstrate appropriate aptitude. The admission of exceptions may be linked to certain conditions in terms of study, in particular, participation in the doctoral degree programme.
- (4) Graduates of a relevant degree programme at a university of applied sciences with a diploma qualification are admitted if they
 1. have proof of an overall grade of at least 1.5 and
 2. demonstrate in an interview that they have the same aptitude for academic work as is required in the Master's degree examinations of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences; the Committee shall decide the date and structure of the interview; as examiners the Committee shall employ a professor

or junior professor of Business Administration, of Economics and of Statistics or Econometrics; minutes are to be taken of the interview and the main subjects of the interview and signed by the examiners.

Section 8

Dissertation

- (1) The subject of the doctoral dissertation must fall within the fields of business, economics or social sciences or the didactics of economics or political education. It must be a considerable academic achievement and must make a contribution to the advancement of science. The dissertation can be compiled as a cumulative dissertation. The details are decided by the Doctoral Degree Committee.
- (2) The dissertation must be produced in German or English.
- (3) The dissertation must contain a summary of resources used. The Committee can determine by resolution the form in which the resources used are to be cited.
- (4) With the approval of the Committee, an essay that has already been published, but has not already been used in a doctoral degree procedure, can be submitted as a doctoral dissertation.
- (5) If acceptance in accordance with Section 5 (6) has been revoked, the supporting thesis cannot be submitted as a doctoral dissertation.

Section 9

Cross-faculty doctoral degree

- (1) If the Chairperson of the Committee has determined during the doctoral candidate's acceptance procedure that a cross-faculty dissertation is involved, or if this is established during the application for admission to the doctoral examination procedure, the current provisions of the principles of the Doctoral Degree Regulations of Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel shall apply.
- (2) The Committee makes the necessary Faculty decisions.

Section 10

Admission to the doctoral degree examination

- (1) The application for admission to the doctoral degree examination must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Committee. The application is subject to the applicant's prior acceptance as a doctoral candidate in accordance with Section 5. The application must include:
 1. evidence of fulfilment of the requirements stated in Section 7,
 2. a Curriculum Vitae written in German or English, providing information on, in particular, the doctoral candidate's education and degree programme

3. evidence of the successful completion of the doctoral degree programme, if the doctoral candidate studied the doctoral degree programme in accordance with Section 24 et seqq.,
 4. a declaration stating that the dissertation has been written independently, listing the resources used, and confirming that academic rules have been observed as well as any other doctoral degree procedures.
 5. a certain number (decided by the Committee by resolution) of bound copies of the dissertation which must be enclosed with other academic works by the doctoral candidate if these are referenced in the dissertation, as well as an electronic version of the dissertation.
 6. confirmation that the doctoral candidate has taken note of the Committee's provisions regarding the reproduction of dissertations.
- (2) The decision on admission to the doctoral degree examination rests with the Chairperson of the Committee. The decision is made by the Committee if the doctoral candidate has begun another doctoral degree procedure since his/her acceptance or is currently involved in one.
- (3) Admission must be denied if
1. the application for admission is incomplete and if the doctoral candidate has let the application period elapse unused.
 2. there are reasons to justify the withdrawal of an academic degree or an academic degree has been withdrawn.
- (4) Reasons must be provided for rejecting the application for admission.
- (5) The application for admission may be withdrawn insofar as the dissertation is not rejected or the oral examination has not yet begun. If the application is withdrawn after the dissertation has been assessed, a copy is to be kept at the Faculty.

Section 11

Appointing assessors for the dissertation

- (1) If the application for admission is approved, the Chairperson of the Committee shall appoint two assessors for the dissertation. Individuals eligible to be supervisors according to Section 4 (1) may be appointed as assessors. At least one assessor must be a full-time professor of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences and must not have co-written the dissertation.
- (2) A former member of the Faculty may be appointed as an assessor if he/she was appointed as a supervisor before leaving the Faculty.
- (3) With the approval of the Committee, a member of another faculty or another university may be appointed as an assessor for special reasons.

- (4) The Chairperson of the Committee shall request that the assessors produce their reports within three months.

Section 12

Assessment of the dissertation

- (1) The assessors shall recommend the acceptance or rejection of the dissertation in their reports.
- (2) A dissertation recommended for acceptance should be graded as follows:

summa cum laude	(excellent = 0.7)
magna cum laude	(very good = 1.0)
cum laude	(good = 2.0)
rite	(satisfactory to sufficient = 3.0 - 3.7)
- (3) If the dissertation is graded by an assessor as "summa cum laude", the Chairperson of the Committee must obtain another report by a full-time professor of another university.
- (4) Members of the Committee are to be given the opportunity to view the dissertation and the reports. For this purpose, the dissertation and the reports are to be displayed for three weeks during the lecture period or six weeks during the lecture-free period. If the viewing period spans the lecture period and lecture-free period, this should be divided proportionally between the two periods. The Chairperson of the Committee can shorten the viewing period in particular justified cases.
- (5) Objections, which must be submitted in writing and justified, are decided on by the Committee. The Committee can request additional reports. The reports can also be obtained from members of other faculties or universities as well as retired and emeritus professors of the Faculty.
- (6) If the assessors agree on the acceptance or rejection as well as on the grade of the dissertation and if there are no contrary reports in accordance with paragraph 5, the Chairperson of the Committee shall decide in accordance with the proposal of the assessors.
- (7) If the assessors do not agree on the acceptance of the dissertation, the decision shall rest with the Doctoral Degree Committee. Paragraph 5 Sentence 2 applies accordingly. If the assessors have recommended the acceptance of the dissertation, but do not agree on the grade, the lowest grade shall apply. If an assessor objects to this and recommends a better grade, the decision shall rest with the Committee.

Section 13

Improving the dissertation

- (1) If the dissertation has been described as ready for acceptance but requiring improvement, it shall be accepted subject to appropriate additions or changes before it is deemed ready for publication.

- (2) If another member of the Committee calls for amendments to be made to the dissertation, this must be done in accordance with paragraph 1, if there is no objection by the assessor.
- (3) In the case of serious criticism, the Committee may return the dissertation to the doctoral candidate once for revision within a certain period. If the dissertation is not resubmitted within this period, the examination is considered failed.

Section 14

Rejecting the dissertation

If the dissertation is rejected, the candidate has then failed the examination. A copy of the dissertation and the reports shall be retained on file by the Faculty. If the dissertation is to be rewritten, it must be on a different subject.

Section 15

Oral examination

- (1) If the dissertation is accepted, the doctoral candidate must take an oral examination.
- (2) After successful completion of the doctoral degree programme in accordance with Section 24 et seqq. the oral examination is taken as a defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation) that is open to members of the Faculty. The defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation) comprises a specialist presentation on the main results of the dissertation lasting between 30 and 45 minutes, followed by a discussion. The discussion must not be limited to the subject of the dissertation. The oral examination shall last 120 minutes maximum.
- (3) If the doctoral candidate has not completed a doctoral degree programme, the oral examination comprises a non-public doctoral viva (Rigorosum) lasting at least 90 minutes and a subsequent defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation) that is open to members of the Faculty in accordance with paragraph 2. The doctoral viva (Rigorosum) covers three of the specialist fields selected by the doctoral candidate, of which at least two must be represented by the Faculty. A maximum of two of the subjects can be chosen from the fields of Economics or Business Administration; a minimum of one subject must be taken from Economics or Business Administration. The selected subjects must be checked by different examiners.
- (4) The oral examination will be held in German or English. By request and with the agreement of the doctoral candidate and the members of the Examination Committee, named individuals that are not members of the Faculty may be admitted as audience members for the defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation).

Section 16

Examination Committee

- (1) An Examination Committee is responsible for conducting the oral examination. In the case of Section 15 (2), the Examination Committee comprises a chairperson chosen by

the Chairperson of the Committee, an assessor and an additional member who is an authorised supervisor in accordance with Section 4 (1). Assessors cannot be appointed as the chairperson. In the case of Section 15 (3), the Chairperson of the Committee must choose one examiner for each specialist field as members of the Examination Committee. This Examination Committee comprises at least four members. Of the three examiners of the specialist fields, at most one may also be an assessor. The members of the Examination Committee must be invited in writing to the oral examination.

- (2) The Examination Committee decides by a simple majority vote. A tied vote is considered a rejection.

Section 17

Conducting the oral examination

- (1) After accepting the dissertation, the Chairperson of the Examination Committee shall set the date for the oral examination.
- (2) The oral examination is to be held within a month after the end of the viewing period in accordance with Section 11 (3), or, if the appointed date falls during the lecture-free period, within another three months at the latest. Oral examinations may also be held in the lecture-free period by agreement between members of the Examination Committee and the doctoral candidate.
- (3) During the oral examination, members of the Examination Committee must be present at all times.
- (4) Minutes are to be taken documenting the course of the oral examination.
- (5) Admission to the defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation) for members of the Faculty and non-members as audience members does not also include admission to the consultation and announcement of the examination result.

Section 18

Deciding the grade for the oral examination

- (1) After the oral examination the Examination Committee shall decide the grade for the oral examination performance. If the doctoral candidate has completed a doctoral degree programme, the grade for the oral examination is made up of the grades obtained during the doctoral degree programme and the grade for the defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation). If the doctoral candidate has not completed a doctoral degree programme, the grade is made up of the grade for the doctoral viva (Rigorosum) and the grade for the defence of the doctoral dissertation (disputation).
- (2) If the candidate's performance at the oral examination was satisfactory, the Examination Committee shall determine the overall grade for the doctoral degree, taking into account the grades for the dissertation and the oral examination.
- (3) Section 12 (2) applies accordingly.
- (4) If the candidate's performance at the oral examination was inadequate, the candidate has then failed the examination completely.

- (5) The Examination Committee shall also declare the oral examination as failed if the doctoral candidate receives a proper invitation but fails to attend the oral examination without good reason.

Section 19

Repeating the examination

- (1) If the doctoral candidate fails the examination, he/she can repeat it, but not until six months have passed.
- (2) If the dissertation is accepted, but the oral examination is failed, the existing grades for the dissertation and doctoral degree programme are usually recognised when repeating the examination. The submission of a new dissertation can only usually be requested, if more than two years have passed since the date of the failed examination. A new dissertation can only be requested before this time if the Committee considers it necessary for special reasons. In each case, the Committee may request that the dissertation be updated in line with current academic thinking.

Section 20

Reproduction of the dissertation

- (1) After passing the examination, the doctoral candidate must have copies made of the dissertation after making any changes to it as required by the Committee. The Chairperson of the Committee shall grant the doctoral candidate permission for reproduction of the dissertation after consultation with the assessors. This permission only certifies that the work has been presented in this form as a dissertation. On agreement with the assessors, the Chairperson of the Committee may permit the dissertation to be published under a different title.
- (2) Usually, 40 copies of the dissertation are to be submitted free of charge to the Faculty. If the dissertation is published in bookshops as an independent publication, as a monograph, in a series of papers or (essentially unabridged) as an essay in a scientific journal, in addition to the copy required for the examination files, a certain number (decided by the Committee) of copies/special editions are to be submitted free of charge to the Faculty. The publication requirement is also deemed fulfilled if the dissertation is made available in generally accessible electronic media via the University Library. In this case, the files to be submitted must be created in line with the University Library's requirements. In addition, a certain number (decided by the Committee) of copies must be submitted free of charge to the Faculty. These must be submitted within one year after the date of the oral examination. If this deadline is not met, all rights obtained through the examination are forfeited. In special cases, the Chairperson of the Committee may extend the deadline, at most by another year. The doctoral candidate must apply for and justify such an extension.
- (3) Detailed requirements regarding the reproduction of dissertations are decided by the Committee.

Section 21

Conferral of the doctoral degree

- (1) After the doctoral candidate has fulfilled all the requirements, the doctoral degree is conferred with the issuing of a certificate awarding the title of Doctor. The doctoral degree certificate will be produced in German and English.
- (2) A copy of the certificate is to be kept in the Faculty's records. Special mention of the dissertation grade and the overall grade is to be made on this certificate.
- (3) Once the certificate has been issued, authorisation is granted to use the title of Doctor. Prior to this, the doctoral candidate is not permitted to use the title of Doctor, including in the form of Dr. des.
- (4) If a contract guaranteeing the publication of the dissertation is presented, the certificate can be issued in accordance with paragraph 1.

Section 22

Invalidity of the doctoral degree

- (1) The Doctoral Degree Committee must declare the doctoral studies invalid if, before handing out the certificate, it turns out that, due to reasons for which the doctoral candidate is responsible, essential requirements for admission to the doctoral degree have been assumed erroneously.
- (2) The Faculty must revoke the award of the doctoral degree if, after handing out the certificate, it turns out that, through the wilful deceit of the doctoral candidate, essential requirements for admission to the doctoral degree have been assumed erroneously by the Faculty.
- (3) Before a decision in cases described in paragraphs 1-3 is taken, the accused must be heard.
- (4) If the award of the doctoral degree is revoked, all related certificates must be surrendered.

Section 23

Violations against the “Rules of Good Scientific Practice – standards of scientific work pursuant to the recommendations of the German Research Foundation (DFG)” (University Senate resolution of 28 May 2002) in their current version

- (1) In severe cases, the Committee must declare the doctoral studies invalid, if, before handing out the certificate, it turns out that the doctoral candidate is guilty of gross violations against the Rules of Good Scientific Practice. In the case of minor violations, it decides on measures for punishment of such behaviour in its discretion following consultation.
- (2) In severe cases, the Faculty must revoke the award of the doctoral degree if, after handing out the certificate, it turns out that the degree has been obtained by means of gross violations against the Rules of Good Scientific Practice.

- (3) In severe cases, the Faculty can revoke the award of the doctoral degree if the doctoral candidate commits gross violations against the Rules of Good Scientific Practice in his or her scientific work after the doctoral degree.
- (4) Before a decision in cases described in paragraphs 1-3 is taken, the accused must be heard. As a rule, external reports are requested for preparation of the decision in cases described in paragraphs 2-3.
- (5) If the award of the doctoral degree is revoked, all related certificates must be surrendered.

3. Section - Doctoral degree programme

Section 24

Doctoral degree programme

- (1) The Faculty offers doctoral degree programmes that serve as an introduction to the subject of the dissertation and provide doctoral candidates with the necessary skills for successfully completing independent academic research work.
- (2) The content of the doctoral degree programmes is oriented towards the Faculty's research focus areas and is derived from degree-specific curricula.
- (3) The doctoral degree programme covers around 22 hours per week per semester (SWS) and is worth 55 ECTS credit points.
- (4) The doctoral degree programmes are structured so that the doctoral degree can be completed within three years.

Section 25

Proof of academic achievements in the doctoral degree programme

- (1) ECTS credit points can be obtained through
 - a) a written examination lasting between 45 minutes and 2 hours,
 - b) an oral examination lasting no more than 30 minutes,
 - c) an assignment, possibly with a seminar paper, or a seminar paper that requires the same preparation as an assignment.
- (2) The type of examination to be taken is decided by the head of the relevant course according to his/her best judgement. The examinations are to be graded.
- (3) A certificate shall be issued for the academic achievements made in the doctoral degree programme.

Section 26

Recognition of study achievements

- (1) Examinations worth up to 45 ECTS credit points can be recognised, dispensed with, or replaced with proof of participation if other equivalent study achievements have been made.

Equivalent achievements include, in particular, proof of

1. teaching carried out at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel,
 2. work on academic projects at institutes of or at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel that are funded by recognised research funding institutions (e.g. German Research Foundation (DFG), the Volkswagen Foundation),
 3. one or several publications in major scientific journals,
 4. participation in academic seminars or further academic training events for doctoral candidates.
- (2) This decision on recognition of or dispensing with examinations rests with the Chairperson of the Committee.

Section 27

Grading of study achievements and examination results in doctoral degree programmes

- (1) Achievements from individual lectures in the doctoral degree programme are each combined under one grade according to the following grading scale:

very good (1.0)	=	an excellent achievement,
good (2.0)	=	an achievement that is well above average,
satisfactory (3.0)	=	an average achievement,
sufficient (4.0)	=	an achievement that is sufficient despite certain deficiencies,
not sufficient (5.0)	=	an achievement that is insufficient due to serious deficiencies.

- (2) The individual grades can be lowered or increased by 0.3 to form intermediate grades in order to provide differentiated grades for examinations. The grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are not permitted.
- (3) The student has passed an examination if this is graded at least "sufficient" (4.0).
- (4) Failed examinations can be resat. The permitted number of resits is stated in the Examination Procedure Regulations.

4. Section - Fast-track doctoral degrees

Section 28

Requirements for admission to fast-track doctoral degrees

Notwithstanding Section 7, doctoral candidates may be admitted to the doctoral examination procedure if they

1. have achieved an outstanding Bachelor's degree in the first degree studies, usually with an overall grade of 1.5 or better,
2. are registered on a Master's degree programme at the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel in a subject relevant to the subject of the doctoral degree,
3. have concluded an agreement in accordance with Section 4 (2) with at least one full-time professor of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences,
4. can present a letter of recommendation certifying his/her outstanding aptitude for academic work by the supervisor named in the agreement in accordance with No. 3.

Section 29

Applying for a fast-track doctoral degree

- (1) The applicant must complete an application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate in accordance with Section 5, unless otherwise ruled below.
- (2) The application must also include:
 1. the Bachelor's degree certificate,
 2. the registration certificate for Section 28 No. 2.,
 3. the agreement according to Section 28 No. 3.,
 4. the letter of recommendation according to Section 28 No. 4.,
 5. proof of academic achievements to date in the Master's degree programme,
 6. a motivational letter stating the reasons why the applicant considers him/herself a suitable candidate for a fast-track doctoral degree.

Section 30

Acceptance as doctoral candidate in the fast-track doctoral degree

- (1) The Chairperson of the Committee shall appoint two full-time professors to hold an interview with the applicant to check his/her outstanding aptitude for academic work. Supervisors do not take part in the interview. The professors report back to the Doctoral Degree Committee.
- (2) The Doctoral Degree Committee shall decide on the application for acceptance on the basis of the documents submitted in accordance with Section 29, the interview report and the rules in paragraph 3.
- (3) In the Master's degree phase of the fast-track doctoral degree programme, at least 60 ECTS credit points covering all the compulsory courses of the relevant Master's degree programme must be obtained by the end of the second semester. At least 60 ECTS credit points obtained within the framework of the Master's degree programme are not permitted to be incorporated into the doctoral degree programme. The doctoral

candidate may be accepted subject to conditions, if this requirement is not met at the time of acceptance. If the required ECTS credit points are not obtained by the end of the second semester of the Master's degree programme, the acceptance as a fast-track doctoral candidate shall expire.

Section 31

Completing a fast-track doctoral degree

- (1) Upon successful completion of the fast-track doctoral degree, a Master's degree is awarded as well. The Master's thesis is not required. Please refer to the degree-specific examination regulations for more details.
- (2) If the doctoral candidate continues his/her Master's degree programme, a dissertation that is rejected in accordance with Section 14 may be submitted as a Master's thesis in a revised form in line with the scope of a Master's thesis. Please refer to the degree-specific examination regulations for more details.

5. Section - Final provisions

Section 32

Disadvantage compensation for doctoral candidates with a disability or a chronic illness

- (1) If a doctoral candidate provides credible evidence that, owing to a chronic illness or a disability, he or she is not in a position to meet all or some of the doctoral examination requirements in the prescribed form, the Chairperson of the Doctoral Degree Committee can authorise equivalent examinations in a form appropriate to the candidate's needs.
- (2) The university's Disability Officer can be involved when the Chairperson of the Doctoral Degree Committee makes decisions pursuant to paragraph 1.
- (3) Suitable documentation shall be submitted as credible evidence of a chronic illness or a disability.

Section 33

Objection and complaint

- (1) Objections against decisions made by the Committee may be submitted to the Chairperson of the Committee in accordance with current statutory provisions.
- (2) Objections are decided on by the Committee. A complaint may be raised against the objection decision in accordance with statutory provisions.

Section 34

Entry into force, expiry and transitional provisions

- (1) These Rules enter into force on the day after the date they are published.
- (2) At the same time, the Doctoral Degree Regulations of 2 July 2004 (Bulletin of the Ministry for Education, Science, Research and Cultural Affairs of the Land Schleswig-Holstein (NBl. MBWFK Schl.-H., page 629), amended by statute of 14 May 2010 (Bulletin of the Ministry of Science, Economic Affairs and Transport of the Land Schleswig-Holstein (NBl. MWV Schl.-H., p. 39), cease to be in force.
- (3) If the applicant was accepted as a doctoral candidate before these Rules entered into force, he/she can request that the Doctoral Degree Regulations that ceased to be in force in accordance with paragraph 2 continue to apply, with the exception of the procedural rules.

The University Board at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel granted its approval in accordance with Section 54 (3) Sentence 1 of the Schleswig-Holstein Higher Education Act (HSG) in its letter of 07 September 2015.

Kiel, 10 September 2015

Prof. Dr Achim Walter
Dean of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences
at Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel