

# Protokoll / Minutes

## Reguläre Sitzung des Doktorandenkonvents

### Regular Meeting of the Doctoral Students Convention (DSC)

Datum / Date: 14.03.2018 – 19:00 Uhr / 7 p.m.  
Ort / Place: Akademiestr. 4-8, 1. OG / 1st floor, Raum 136 / room 136  
Institut für Japanologie / Institute of Japanese Studies

#### **TOP 0 – Begrüßung / welcome [end 19:05]**

#### **TOP 1 – Administratives / administrative [end 19:10]**

– Feststellung der Beschlussfähigkeit / verification of the quorum  
8 out of 9 members of the committee are present, the quorum is fulfilled

– Wahl der Sitzungsleitung / election of session chair  
Proposed is Jan, unanimously accepted

– Protokollant/in / recorder of minutes  
Proposed is Celia, no complains

– Festlegung der Tagungssprache / choice of language for the meeting  
English

#### **TOP 2 – Informationen / information [end 19:40]**

– Überblick über den Doktorandenkonvent und Repräsentation von Doktorand/innen / Introduction of the DSC and doctoral representation

Every doctoral student and researcher is part of the DSC. We, as its Executive Committee (ExCo), represent the doctoral students and researchers.

Representation in university bodies:

The DSC has an advisory seat in the senate, a seat in the Directorate of the Graduate Academy (GAD), and a seat at the Council for Graduate Studies (CfGS). All the work related to doctoral research is set in place by the council for graduate studies. Further we can sit in or nominate people to attend Faculty Council meetings.

Structure of the DSC:

The Executive Committee is the executive organ of the DSC and is elected once a year in the general assembly. It is concerned to take care to interact between the University and the DSC. The Executive Committee represents the four big fields of study (2 each and 2 each in the different ways you can do your PhD). There should be two regular meetings per semester and once a year a general assembly.

The main occupation of the DSC is done by so called working groups which work on issues which interest the doctoral students. They can be decided at the regulars meetings. To install a working group, three people have to gather and be officially accepted at a regular meeting.

– Bericht über die Arbeit des Doktorandenkonvents im vergangenen Semester / report on the work of the DSC in the last semester

Most important activity was related to the university state law and communication with the minister of science. In December there was a meeting with Minister Bauer. She informed us of implementing many of our complaints. Most importantly the social benefits for Phd students (Mensa, University sport, public traffic) will not be canceled, international students will not lose their student visa.

Every Phd needs to register either as a student or as a member of the scientific staff. This will allow statistics on the group of Phds.

The DSC will receive money from the enrolment of the Phd (7.50 € per person). The money will be distributed by the united student body. They are asking us to develop a 'Finanzordnung' (finance regulation) in order to assign money. It is not yet clear how the money will be used.

The doctoral students will get their own representation in the senate (a full seat with voting rights). The representative will be elected in the central votes for the senate. In principle no cooperation of the representative with the DSC is necessary. Of course we hope that cooperation will take place.

The law in question was passed last week. The implementation of the law in the university will be one of the main tasks for the future semester.

We have put up the legislative text on the DSC website.

In constant contact with the Graduate Academy, the money for scholarships got cut substantially leading to financial problems. We will follow developments there. The course program will be changed to a more flexible modular system.

The DSC have representatives in the Directory of Graduate Academy and the Council for Graduate studies and the senate.

### **TOP 3 – Arbeitsgruppen / working groups [end 20:10]**

#### **Survey group** ('needs and wants of doctoral students')

The group existed for two years with the purpose of collecting more information about needs and wants. It was founded during the first ExCo to find out more about the diverse groups of Phd researchers in different subjects. They designed a survey asking for different criteria like subject, language issues, supervision, study environment, financial situation. It was implemented and hosted on the StuRa server.

But contacting Phd researchers was difficult and help from the university was needed. The survey and implementation were given to the legal department to check data security and legal issues and recommendations were implemented. Contact with Quality Management and 'Zentrales Doktorandenbüro' hoping to use the HeiDocs information. They were against the implementation of the survey due to unsure data security and because an official survey inside HeiDocs was planned.

Afterwards (about one year ago) the project was put on hold and the information forwarded to the DSC. At the moment it is not on the StuRa website, it is unclear if it was deleted. There was an idea to send the survey to ZENDAS (highest data security institution in BaWü).

All the work will be handed over to the ExCo, with the hope of a later implementation. Svetlana is asked to write a short summary of the work done so far and ideas for the future and pass on contacts for the EDV responsible in StuRa.

Ideas to start discussion groups within faculties, getting a qualitative impression of needs and wants (instead of a quantitative with the survey).

Proposal to dissolve the group for now. Unambiguously accepted. Survey group is hereby dissolved.

**Med Survey** headed by Raban who is not present.

#### **International students**

Not much work took place in the last semester. More effort should be put to advertise this group (both for people joining the work and people in need of help). How this advertisement should take place will be discussed in future ExCo meetings.

#### **HeiDocs**

Elias the head of the group finished and left Heidelberg. Luca and Jan are leading the group now.

In the last month work was mainly focused on information about the status of the different faculties. The faculty of Social and Economical science is the first to finish the process. The next faculty in line for evaluation are Physics and Empirical Behavioral and Cultural Sciences.

There were talks with every person responsible for Quality Management in the faculties to get a broader view on HeiDocs. There were no big differences between the Quality Managers' statements and the deans' offices. The only critical voices are coming from Biology.

There was a conflict within Modern Languages that could luckily be resolved.

Still not sure if we are in favor, neutral or against the process or whether we should communicate our criticism to the rectorate.

Check who is in the Senate AG for HeiDocs.

We can already ask for basic data from the HeiDocs survey (like how many Phds are enrolled in the different subjects and so on). But the data base is still not operating fully automated, so it is difficult to extract information.

### **Smart Card**

Smart Card is still not implemented. No big developments in the last half year. ZENDAS did not reply to the Rektorat (presidents' office) yet. The production of the card has issues. It is not sure if the card will be implemented with all the features the presidents' office would like it to have. The group will keep monitoring the developments.

### **Communication**

Robert will also leave Heidelberg. Jan will take over the group. It is very important to get this working group running and get more resonance among the group of Phds. The ExCo will talk about it in the upcoming meetings.

– Vorschläge für neue Arbeitsgruppen / proposals for new working groups

Proposal of a working group ,**Interdisciplinary network of Russian and German doctoral students**'. Idea to exchange ideas between German and Russian students, professors. Shared publications, articles, lectures and so on. The working group would think about how to found a registered association. Three persons want to participate: Diana von Pentz, Maximilian Jungmann, Raban Heller

In favor for establishing the working group: 6

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2.

### **TOP 4 – Vorschläge der Doktorand/innen / suggestions from doctoral students [end 20:15]**

None

### **TOP 5 – heiDOCS, Statusgruppe und das neue Landeshochschulgesetz / heiDOCS, status group, and the new state university law [end 20:20]**

– Infos zum Stand des heiDOCS-Prozesses / info about the heiDOCS process  
already covered in workinggroup heiDocs

– Überblick über unser Engagement am neuen Landeshochschulgesetz / summary of our involvement in the new state university law  
already covered in the introduction

– Diskussion über die Entwicklungen zum Thema Statusgruppe / discussion about status group  
already covered in the introduction

### **TOP 6 – Diskussion / discussion [end 20:25]**

There is a Heidelberg branch of the Mittelbauinitiative. They established one year ago and can be found on <http://mittelbau-hd.org>, [Mittelbau.hd@gmail.com](mailto:Mittelbau.hd@gmail.com), #MittelbauHD.

Ralph will invite them to our meeting to establish contact.

### **TOP 7 – Verschiedenes / misc [end 20:30]**

None

Meeting closes at 20:30