

Pursuant to Article 63 paragraph 6 of the Act on Scientific Activity and Higher Education (Official Gazette 123/03, 198/03, 105/04, 154/04, 174/04, 02/07- Decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Croatia, 46/07, 63/11, 94/13, 139/13, 101/14, 60/15, 131/17), Article 24 paragraph 1 of the Statute of the University of Rijeka, and Article 28 of the Statute of the Faculty of Maritime Studies in Rijeka, on the 259<sup>th</sup> Session held on 25 February 2021, the Faculty Council brought the following

## **REGULATIONS ON THE POSTGRADUATE DOCTORAL (PHD) PROGRAMME "MARITIME STUDIES"**

### **1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### Article 1

The Regulations define the organization and implementation of the Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" (hereinafter: The Programme) from the scientific area of technical sciences, scientific field of technology of traffic and transport, as well as the procedure for obtaining the academic degree of Doctor of Science (PhD) from that field.

### **2. ORGANIZATION OF THE PROGRAMME**

#### Article 2

The Programme is organized as a study for obtaining the academic degree of a doctor of science in accordance with the Act on Scientific Activity and Higher Education.

The Programme is organized for candidates from various fields of the scientific area of technical sciences, including other scientific areas, provided they pass additional exams.

#### Article 3

The Programme is an integrated and collaborative study of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime Studies (hereinafter: The Faculty), as the holder of the study – authorized scientific organization from Article 34 of the Act on Scientific Activity and Higher Education and the collaborating institutions of the University of Dubrovnik, University of Zadar, Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia in Split, Croatian Military Academy "Dr. Franjo Tuđman" and the Croatian Navy.

#### Article 4

The Faculty shall be responsible for carrying out the Programme.

The composition of the Faculty of Maritime Studies Council (hereinafter: Faculty Council) shall be determined by the Faculty Council Rules of Procedure in cases when the Faculty Council decides about the issues of the Programme.

#### Article 5

The Programme shall be carried out full-time or part-time and it is concluded by the preparation and public defence of the doctoral dissertation.

The Programme shall be conducted through scientific-research work and teaching carried out according to the credit system.

The teaching process and the scientific-research work are conducted in the premises of the study holder, and with its consent, in the premises of the collaborating institutions or in another scientific-research institution.

#### Article 6

The Programme for candidates attending the full-time study at the Faculty of Maritime Studies in Rijeka, collaborating institutions or other higher education or scientific-research institutions (full-time students), shall last three years.

The Programme for candidates attending the part-time study programme shall last six years.

### 3. THE PROGRAMME WORKING PARTIES

#### Article 7

The Faculty Council shall establish and appoint the following permanent working parties:

- Committee for Science and Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies",
- The Programme Council.
- For the needs of performing the Programme, the following shall also be appointed:
  - The Head of the Programme;
  - Heads of the Programme Modules;
  - The Programme Secretary.

#### Article 8

The Committee for Science and Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" (hereinafter: The Committee) shall be composed of: Vice-Dean for scientific research activities in the capacity of the Committee Chairperson, the Head of the Programme, and Heads of the Programme Modules.

The duties of the Committee are:

- carrying out the Programme;
- determining a list of candidates applying for the Programme and delivering such list to the Faculty Council for making the final decision regarding study enrolment;
- proposing the programme of the Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" (hereinafter: the Study Programme) as well as its amendments to the Faculty Council;
- reviewing, analysing and evaluating the implementation of the Study Programme;
- reviewing the Annual Report on the Programme and forwarding it to the Faculty Council for its adoption;
- analysing annual mentor's and student's reports;
- proposing mentors and co-mentors to the Faculty Council;
- proposing the composition of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee and the Defence Committee to the Faculty Council;
- performing other tasks in accordance with the Regulations.

The Committee shall meet at least twice per semester and, if necessary, invite the Dean, heads of collaborating institutions, mentors and Faculty Secretary to their meetings.

#### Article 9

The Programme Council shall consist of: Vice-Dean for scientific research activity of the Faculty as the Chairperson, Faculty Dean, heads of the collaborating institutions and the Head of the Programme.

The Programme Council shall propose to the Faculty Council the Study Programme, its amendments and enrolment quotas.

#### Article 10

The Programme is managed by the Head of the Programme.

The Head of the Programme shall be chosen among the Faculty's teaching staff and appointed by Faculty Council, all according to Dean's proposal.

The Head of the Programme shall be responsible for the following:

- managing the Programme and helping with the organization of Committee meetings;
- determining the schedule, consultations and exams in agreement with the course heads;
- participating in the creation of the Study Programme and its amendments;
- establishing student enrolment results for the Programme;
- presenting the results of students' reports on all aspects of the classes;
- preparing the Annual report on the Programme containing the Annual report on classes held and the review of mentors' and students' annual reports and delivering it to the Committee.

#### Article 11

The Programme has the Heads of the Programme Modules.

The Heads of the Programme Modules shall be members of the Faculty teaching staff who are the heads of the courses of the module in question.

The Heads of the Programme Modules shall be appointed by the Faculty Council for a term of three years at the proposal of the Dean, taking into consideration the number of published scientific papers of the highest category, all according to the Ordinance on Academic Promotion and Advancement Requirements and Proceeding in technical sciences, the citations of these papers and the prior co-mentoring or mentoring experience.

The Heads of the Programme Modules shall:

- lead the appropriate Programme Modules set out in the Study Programme,
- help in modernizing and internationalizing the module course,
- direct the candidate in their research within the appropriate module,
- assist the candidate in selecting the field of doctoral dissertation and mentor, and
- participate in conducting an assessment interview of candidates for the enrolment in the Programme.

#### Article 12

The Programme has a Secretary.

The Programme Secretary is appointed by the Faculty Council on the Dean's proposal.

The Programme Secretary shall:

- establish the results of students' enrolment;
- organize the management of administrative work related to the Programme;
- prepare the documents for the Faculty Council meeting when the Council discusses the Programme, as well as the materials for the Committee sessions;
- participate in the work of the Committee and keep the minutes;
- perform other duties as instructed by the Faculty Council and the Head of the Programme.

The Programme Secretary shall be assisted by an administrator appointed by the Dean, according to the proposal by the Head of the Programme.

#### **4. ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME**

##### **Article 13**

The admission to the Programme shall be carried out on the basis of a public tender.

The Decision on announcing the tender for the admission of candidates to the Programme shall be made by the Faculty Council, usually three months before the beginning of the course, at the proposal of the Committee.

The tender shall also include the Guidelines for the admission to the Programme containing a list of current research topics and the corresponding potential mentors.

The public tender for admission to the Programme shall be published in the daily press, on the Faculty web site and the Euraxess portal.

##### **Article 14**

A candidate shall submit the application for the Programme on the prescribed form.

Before enrolling the Programme, the candidates who have acquired their qualifications in a foreign educational institution, shall submit a decision of the competent body regarding the recognition of the foreign educational qualification.

##### **Article 15**

Croatian citizens, as well as foreign citizens and stateless persons shall have the right to apply to admission tender under the same conditions, provided they:

1. have completed university graduate studies in the scientific field of technical science (with 300 ECTS credits including undergraduate studies) or, exceptionally, have completed graduate or integrated study from other scientific areas, provided they pass additional exams;
2. have acquired the academic degree of the Master of Science on the basis of study programmes started before higher education reform in 2005;
3. have completed university undergraduate studies from the scientific field of technology of traffic or transport on the basis of study programmes initiated prior to the higher education reform in 2005, or have completed undergraduate studies from other science fields, provided they pass additional exams.

##### **Article 16**

The candidates may be released from the obligation to attend classes or take exams according to the provisions of the University of Rijeka Regulations on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies.

A candidate cannot be released from the obligation of gaining ECTS credits related to writing the doctoral dissertation.

In case the Committee requires a candidate to take additional exams from the scientific field of technology of traffic and transportation, the Faculty Council shall at the proposal of the Committee adopt the courses that the candidate shall enrol for the Programme, thus earning up to 60 ECTS.

The costs of additional exams shall be borne by the candidate.

#### Article 17

When submitting the application for the tender, the candidates shall state and explain the desired area of research on the prescribed form.

#### Article 18

The candidate shall acquire the enrolment right according to the ranking list established by the Postgraduate Admissions Committee based on the results of the admission procedure.

The Admissions Committee shall consist of: Vice-Dean for scientific research activity, Head of the Programme, Head of the corresponding Programme Module and the Programme Secretary.

The Vice-Dean for scientific research activity shall be the Chairperson of the Admissions Committee.

#### Article 19

The Admissions Committee shall assess the candidate's ability through an interview.

Ability assessment aims to determine the candidate's scientific interest, direct the candidate towards the appropriate module and connect the candidate with the mentor.

In addition to the assessment of ability through an interview, candidates are assessed on the basis of success at the previous level of study, completed postgraduate scientific or specialist studies, published scientific papers and recommendations of at least one university professor with the scientific-teaching title familiar with the candidate's academic achievements.

The success at the previous level of study cannot be less than 3.5.

Exceptionally, candidates who have completed the previous study with an average grade less than 3.5 may enrol the postgraduate university study, provided that the Admissions Committee has positively evaluated their previous scientific research and/or professional activity.

#### Article 20

Enrolment ranking list is defined in a manner that students performing full-time research (full-time students) are ranked first, followed by students performing research part-time (part-time students).

Within each of the groups, students are ranked on the basis of:

- success on the previous study level,
- completion of a postgraduate scientific or specialist study,
- published scientific papers of the highest category according to the Ordinance on Academic Promotion and Advancement Requirements and Proceeding in technical sciences,
- published scientific papers of other categories according to the Ordinance on Academic Promotion and Advancement Requirements and Proceeding in technical sciences,
- abilities assessed during the interview.

#### Article 21

The ranking list of candidates shall be confirmed by the Faculty Council at the proposal by the Committee.

The Faculty Council shall make the final decision on the commencement of the Programme for which a public tender has been announced if there is a sufficient number of candidates who meet the conditions for enrolment.

The candidate has the right to submit an appeal on the decision of the Faculty Council regarding the admission of the candidate within seven days from the date of publishing the decision on the Faculty's notice board and on the Faculty website.

The Programme Committee shall decide on the appeal.

#### Article 22

Candidates shall enclose a signed consent of the potential mentor when enrolling in the study.

#### Article 23

A study contract shall be concluded with the candidate who realizes the right to enrol in the Programme, regulating mutual rights and obligations

### **5. STUDY PERFORMANCE AND STUDY OBLIGATIONS**

#### Article 24

The Programme shall be conducted in Croatian or English language, all according to the Study Programme, brought by the Faculty Council on the proposal of the Committee for each Programme cycle.

The Study Programme shall contain a list of courses and corresponding modules. Each course shall be related to the corresponding module.

Exceptionally, upon the proposal of the course head, the Committee shall decide on the inclusion of the course in two or more modules.

#### Article 25

Course heads shall hold classes and perform other duties in accordance with the Study Programme.

The course with less than 5 students enrolled shall be conducted in the form of consultative course.

#### Article 26

During the application of the topic and the preparation of the doctoral dissertation, students who are not employed at the Faculty shall spend 5 working days at the Faculty on two occasions.

The mentor shall keep a record of the student's stay and their activities and submit it to the Head of the Programme.

#### Article 27

Enrolment in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester shall take place according to the Programme enrolment requirements.

Enrolment requirements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester shall be attending lectures from the 1<sup>st</sup> semester.

Enrolment requirements for the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester shall be passing the exams from the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and attending lectures from the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

Enrolment requirements for the 4<sup>th</sup> semester shall be passing the exams from the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

Enrolment requirement for the 5<sup>th</sup> semester shall be submitting the topic of the doctoral dissertation.

Enrolment requirement for the 6<sup>th</sup> semester shall be defending the topic of the doctoral dissertation.

Verification of the previous semester is required for the enrolment of the following semester.

#### Article 28

The student shall pay the costs of the Programme before the beginning of a particular semester in established shares of the total tuition fee, or in full before enrolling the Programme.

#### Article 29

Study obligations are divided into:

1. teaching obligations, by which the candidate shall earn 36 ECTS credits,
2. scientific research work, by which the candidate shall earn 144 ECTS credits.

#### Article 30

Teaching duties shall consist of attending classes and passing exams from mandatory and elective courses from the basic modules and the core module prescribed in the Study Programme.

#### Article 31

Scientific research work shall consist of previous research regarding the topic of doctoral dissertation, definition of hypothesis, a detailed elaboration of the hypothesis which logically demonstrates its affiliation to the field of research and evidence of sustainability of such hypothesis.

Scientific research work shall be evaluated through mandatory and optional activities.

Mandatory scientific research activities shall provide 124 ECTS credits and consist of the following:

- writing, publication or acceptance for the publication of scientific paper in the international magazine with the impact factor (IF) indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection (WoSCC), which provides 20 ECTS credits,
- preparation, application and public defence of the topic of doctoral dissertation, which provides 10 ECTS credits,
- writing the doctoral dissertation and accepted positive grade of the doctoral dissertation, which provides 90 ECTS credits,
- public defence of the doctoral dissertation, which provides 4 ECTS credits.

Elective scientific research activities shall provide 20 ECTS credits and they are effectuated by selecting one or more of the following activities:

- a research stay in a foreign institution for at least 3 months, which provides 20 ECTS credits,

- a collaborative research with a research group in a foreign institution for at least 3 months (evidenced by the work plan and the written confirmation of the project leader), which provides 20 ECTS credits,
- writing, publishing, or accepting a scientific paper for a publication made in co-authorship with scientists from other university or scientific institutions in an international journal indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection (WoSCC) with an impact factor (IF), which provides 20 ECTS credits,
- writing, publishing or accepting for publication the B category scientific paper according to the Ordinance on Academic Promotion and Advancement Requirements and Proceeding in technical sciences, made in co-authorship with scientists from other university or scientific institutions, which provides 10 ECTS credits,
- presentation of scientific work made in co-authorship with scientists from other university or scientific institutions at international scientific conferences and corresponding proceedings, which provides 7 ECTS credits,
- attendance of an international Ph.D. summer school in the field of research topics which provides up to 5 ECTS credits.

#### Article 32

In the first semester, a student shall enrol 3 courses having a total value of 18 ECTS credits, 2 of them from the list of the basic module (A) and 1 from all the other courses listed in the Programme.

In the second semester, the student shall enrol 3 courses from the list of courses of the selected core module having the total value of 18 ECTS credits and shall begin with his/her scientific research work through preliminary research of the area and the design of the thesis hypothesis.

In the third semester, the student shall begin with the research work on the doctoral dissertation and continue such work through the remaining semesters. The research work shall be related to active scientific or research projects where the student's mentor/co-mentor is engaged.

The student shall submit the topic of his/her doctoral dissertation when enrolling the fifth semester, which shall be presented on his/her public defence before enrolling the sixth semester.

### **6. MENTOR AND CO-MENTOR**

#### Article 33

On student's proposal when applying for the study or no later than the enrolment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, the Committee shall propose to the Faculty Council the decision on appointing a mentor.

The request for appointing a mentor shall be submitted on the prescribed form. The student and/or mentor may also suggest a co-mentor.

#### Article 34

The mentor and the co-mentor shall be employed by the Holder of Studies or collaborative institutions, holding a scientific or scientific-teaching title.

Mentor and co-mentor shall meet the minimum criteria for mentors and co-mentors prescribed by the Regulation on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies of



the University of Rijeka, as well as the Minimum criteria for the selection of mentors at postgraduate university study programs at the University of Rijeka.

Exceptionally, a *professor emeritus* may be appointed as a mentor.

#### Article 35

Mentor and co-mentor shall assist and provide professional guidance to the student while they are writing their doctoral dissertation.

The mentor shall refer the student to the literature and the application of appropriate scientific research methods related to the scientific field of research and shall assist the student in choosing and precisely defining the research field of the doctoral dissertation.

#### Article 36

The mentor shall submit the Annual Report on Student's Work by the end of September to the Head of the Programme.

In the event that the quality of student's work is evaluated as unsatisfactory in the Mentor's Report, the student must be familiar with it and may report to the Head of the Programme before submitting the Annual Report on the Programme.

If, at the proposal of the Committee, the Faculty Council adopts the mentor's report with an insufficient grade, the mentor is obliged to prepare a student work plan for the next year and monitor the implementation of the plan.

If in the subsequent mentor's annual report, the quality of student's work is assessed as insufficient, the Faculty Council may make a decision on the loss of the student's right to continue his/her studies.

### **7. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE STUDENTS**

#### Article 37

The student shall submit the annual report on his/her work on the prescribed form to the Head of the Programme until the end of September.

#### Article 38

The student has the right to propose a subsequent appointment of a co-mentor, but no later than the application of the topic of the doctoral dissertation.

The student has the right to propose a change of mentor, but no later than the submission of the topic of the doctoral dissertation.

Exceptionally, a student may request a change of a mentor after making a decision about accepting the topic of a doctoral dissertation, but with the obligation to reinitiate the application process for the defending the topic of the doctoral dissertation.

The student may request a change of the topic of the doctoral dissertation with the obligation of reinitiating the application process for the defending the topic of the doctoral dissertation.

The request to change the mentor and/or the topic of the doctoral dissertation shall be submitted on the prescribed form.

#### Article 39

Loss of student status is regulated by the Regulation on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies of the University of Rijeka.

#### Article 40

A postgraduate part-time student who has interrupted his/her studies may continue his/her studies if no more than four years have passed since the day of enrolment in the study.

The Faculty Council shall make a decision about continuing the study according to the proposal of the Committee to which the student shall submit the reasoned request.

A student, who has lost the right to study by the decision of the Faculty Council, cannot continue with his/her studies.

### **8. APPLICATION OF THE TOPIC OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION**

#### Article 41

The student shall submit the application of the topic of doctoral dissertation on the prescribed form.

The application shall be submitted to the Head of the Programme.

#### Article 42

If the Committee determines that a student meets the requirements, it shall propose the following to the Faculty Council:

- initiation of the procedure for accepting the topic of doctoral dissertation,
- appointing the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee,
- the date of defence of the topic of doctoral dissertation.

#### Article 43

The Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee shall consist of at least three members in the scientific-teaching or scientific title, who have published scientific papers from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic, at least one of which comes from a university or scientific institution outside the University.

Besides Committee members, a substitute member with scientific-teaching or scientific title who has published scientific papers from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic shall also be appointed among the teaching staff.

The mentor and co-mentor cannot be the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.

In the event of an equal number of votes, the vote of the Chairperson of the Committee shall decide on the acceptance of the topic when making a proposal for a decision.

#### Article 44

The Faculty Council shall decide on the following:

- acceptance of the application of the topic and
- appointing the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.

By the same decision, the Faculty Council shall determine the location and date of the public defence of the topic of doctoral dissertation.

The decision shall be delivered to the Programme Secretary and Administrator, to the student himself/herself and to the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.

#### Article 45

The student shall publicly defend the topic of his/her doctoral thesis before the Committee from the Article 43 of this Regulation, mentor, co-mentor and Vice-Dean for scientific research activities or the Head of the Programme.

The Programme administrator shall publicly announce the place and time of the public defence and the suggested topic of doctoral dissertation via Faculty notice board and website.

#### Article 46

The Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee shall deliver the joint report on the performed public defence to the Faculty Council with the proposal for acceptance of the dissertation topic within one month from the date of the public defence of the topic.

The report on the performed public defence shall be submitted on a prescribed form.

#### Article 47

The Faculty Council shall, no later than two months from the date of submitting the report on the public defence of the topic, issue a decision on the submission of the dissertation topic.

According to the proposal of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee, the Faculty Council may request the student to revise the application.

If the Committee evaluates the application for the dissertation topic as negative even after its revision is requested, the Faculty Council shall make a decision to suspend the procedure for obtaining a doctorate and inform the student or, if there are conditions, approve the application for a new topic.

### **9. EVALUATION AND DEFENCE OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION**

#### Article 48

The doctoral dissertation is a genuine and independent scientific work, and according to the methodology of processing and the degree of scientific contribution, such work is suitable for determining the student's ability to act as an independent researcher in science.

#### Article 49

Doctoral dissertation shall be written and defended in Croatian language or English language.

#### Article 50

The student may submit the doctoral dissertation for evaluation after completing all the study obligations established by the Regulations and after the expiry of at least 10 months after the day of the defence of the doctoral dissertation topic.

#### Article 51

The student shall submit the doctoral dissertation for evaluation within a maximum of five years from the date of acceptance of the doctoral dissertation topic by the Faculty Council.

If a doctoral dissertation is not submitted for the evaluation within the period prescribed in paragraph 1 of this Article, the doctoral dissertation topic shall be subject to re-assessment procedure.

#### Article 52

The student shall start the procedure for the evaluation of doctoral dissertation by submitting a written request to the Head of the Programme on the prescribed form.

The application shall be accompanied by:

- written statement by the mentor that the work meets the criteria of a doctoral dissertation,
- report on conducted verification of dissertation originality,
- unbound copy of the dissertation,
- CV on the standardized Europass form,
- certificate of proofreading the dissertation title,
- short summary of the dissertation (20-30 lines),
- Declaration of consent for publication of electronic version of doctoral dissertation and personal data stated in the doctoral dissertation.

#### Article 53

At the proposal of the Committee, the Faculty Council shall appoint the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.

The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall consist of at least three members with a scientific-teaching or scientific title, or equivalent title in case of a Committee member gaining their qualifications abroad, with published scientific papers from the field of the doctoral dissertation, whole at least one member is from a university or scientific institution outside the University.

Mentor and co-mentor cannot be members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.

The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall decide on the doctoral dissertation by a majority of the votes.

In the case of an equal number of votes in the decision making, the vote of the Committee Chairperson shall be the decisive one.

#### Article 54

During the process of the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation until submitting the bound copies of the doctoral dissertation, the public can get an insight into the doctoral dissertation at the Programme administrator.

#### Article 55

Each Committee member shall make his own independent report.

The Committee Chairperson shall make a joint report on the prescribed form, with individual reports enclosed.

The Committee shall submit the report to the Faculty Council within two months from the receipt of the doctoral dissertation for evaluation.

In case of non-submission of the report within the prescribed time limit, the Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall provide a comment in writing on the reasons for the absence of such report.

Further procedure for dissertation evaluation shall be determined by the Committee.

The period from 16<sup>th</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August shall not be included in the said period.

#### Article 56

The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall deliver the Report on the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation to the Faculty Council in the written form.

In its Report, the Dissertation Evaluation Committee may suggest:

- the acceptance of the doctoral dissertation,
- rewriting and re-evaluation of doctoral dissertation,
- refusal of the doctoral dissertation.

In all three cases, the Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall explain their decision.

#### Article 57

The conclusion referring to the positive evaluation shall contain the explicit statement about the achieved original scientific contribution and the scientific area and the field to which the doctoral dissertation belongs.

#### Article 58

If the Faculty Council concludes that the report of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee does not provide a safe basis for making a decision on the evaluation of doctoral dissertation, it may request the Committee to review or supplement the report or appoint a new Dissertation Evaluation Committee to re-examine and evaluate the doctoral dissertation and submit the report to the Faculty Council.

#### Article 59

The Faculty Council may, upon the proposal of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee, request from the student to review his/her doctoral dissertation.

If the Committee evaluates the doctoral dissertation negatively after requesting its revision, the Faculty Council shall decide to suspend the process for obtaining the PhD title and notify the student thereof.

#### Article 60

If the Faculty Council adopts a positive evaluation of the doctoral dissertation, as a rule it shall appoint the Dissertation Defence Committee at the same session.

Members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee may also be members of the Dissertation Defence Committee.

Mentors and co-mentors cannot be members of the Dissertation Defence Committee.

The Dissertation Defence Committee shall have at least three members in scientific-teaching or scientific title or equivalent title in case that a member of the Committee earned a degree abroad, all of whom have published scientific papers from the field of the dissertation topic, and at least one of them is from a university or scientific institution outside the University.

In addition to the members of the Committee, a substitute member is appointed from among the employees in the scientific-teaching or scientific title or equivalent title in case a member of the Committee obtained a degree abroad and has published scientific papers from the field of the dissertation topic.

In case of an equal number of votes in the decision making, the vote of the Committee Chairperson shall be the decisive one.

#### Article 61

The defence of the doctoral dissertation shall be held no later than three months from the day when the Faculty Council accepted the positive evaluation of the doctoral dissertation.

The defence of the doctoral dissertation shall be public.

A doctoral dissertation that has been evaluated positively shall be made available to the public at least 15 days before the defence.

The Faculty Council shall determine the day and place of defence of the doctoral dissertation, taking into account the proposal of the mentor and the student, and shall appoint the recorder from among the employees in associate title at the Faculty.

The name and the last name of the student, the title of the doctoral dissertation, the composition of the Dissertation Defence Committee, and the time, date and place of defence of the doctoral dissertation shall be published on the notice board of the University of Rijeka Faculty of Maritime Studies and at the Faculty website at least 8 days before the date of defence.

The notice about the defence of the doctoral dissertation shall also be published in written and electronic form in all collaborative institutions.

The doctoral dissertation can be defended only once.

If a student fails to approach to the defence the doctoral dissertation in the announced term without a justified reason, the Faculty Council shall, on the proposal of the Dissertation Defence Committee, cease the procedure for acquiring the doctorate in science and inform the student thereof.

#### Article 62

The procedure of the defence of the doctoral dissertation shall be conducted in accordance with the prescribed form – Protocol for the defence of doctoral dissertation.

Minutes shall be kept on the defence of the doctoral dissertation. The recorder shall be appointed by the Faculty Council.

#### Article 63

After completing the defence of the doctoral dissertation, the Dissertation Defence Committee shall make the decision on the results of the defence that can be as follows:

- defended, by unanimous decision of the Committee,
- defended, by majority of votes of the Committee,
- not defended.

The Committee Chairperson shall publicly announce the Committee decision.

#### Article 64

The doctoral dissertation shall be made according to the Regulations on Writing and Formatting of Doctoral Dissertations at the University of Rijeka.

The doctoral dissertation shall be bound and deposited according to the Regulation on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies of the University of Rijeka.

#### Article 65

When a research is carried out as a part of the Programme for the needs of the economy or in collaboration with the research centre in economy, the Faculty Council may

exclude the public from the defence of doctoral dissertation and delay its publication in order to protect intellectual property rights, up to three years at the latest, or until the moment of the public release of the patent application.

The doctoral dissertation with delayed publication shall be defended before the Committee consisting of at least three members from the University of Rijeka.

The Committee members shall sign the statement on data confidentiality.

#### Article 66

The doctoral dissertation can also be done by integrating four thematically related and published scientific papers (the so-called Scandinavian model).

Scientific papers shall be thematically related, published and accompanied by a critical review chapter consisting of the introduction, published works with comments, integral discussion, conclusion and a scrupulous overview of the relevant literature.

Critical overview shall place the results of the doctoral dissertation in the context of the existing scientific knowledge.

Preparation of a doctoral dissertation from paragraph 1 of this Article is possible only as part of research work at the postgraduate university study, while the scientific papers shall be published after the enrolment in the postgraduate university study.

In the Scandinavian model of the dissertation, the student shall be the sole author, or one of the authors, whereby the co-author(s) shall be exclusively the mentor (and/or co-mentor).

The scientific paper shall be clearly affiliated to the University of Rijeka.

Scientific papers shall be published in journals with an impact factor according to the Journal Citation Report (JCR) in the year of the publication, while at least two papers shall be published in journals that are, according to the impact factor, above the median of the corresponding category; from these two papers, at least one has to be published in the first quartile (Q1) of the relevant category.

Papers may not be published in journals published or co-published by the holder of the study and the parent institution of employment.

A maximum of one paper may be published in journals in the Republic of Croatia.

Doctoral dissertation shall be subject to assessment and defence.

#### Article 67

The student who defends his/her doctoral dissertation shall obtain the academic degree of the Doctor of Science.

#### Article 68

On the basis of the decision of the Defence Committee, the University shall issue the diploma of PhD in science (doctorate in science).

Diploma shall be awarded by the Rector of the University of Rijeka at the graduation ceremony.

### **10. WITHDRAWAL OF THE DOCTORAL DEGREE**

#### Article 69

The procedure of withdrawal of the doctoral degree shall be carried out according to the Regulation on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies of the University of Rijeka.

## **11. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 70**

The University of Rijeka Faculty of Maritime Studies Council shall be competent for the interpretation of the provisions of the Regulations.

### **Article 71**

On the day that the Regulations shall take effect, the Rulebook on postgraduate university study "Maritime studies" from 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 shall cease to be valid.

### **Article 72**

The provisions of Art. 26 to 33, and Art. 50, 51 and 66 of the Regulations shall not apply to students who enrolled in the Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" before the entry into force of these Regulations, but the relevant provisions of the Regulations on the Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" in effect at the time of their enrolment in postgraduate university studies shall apply.

### **Article 73**

The Regulations shall enter into force from the eighth day of its publication on the notice board and website of the Faculty of Maritime Studies in Rijeka.

Class: 602-04/18-01/30

Ref.no: 2170-57-18-01/1

Dean  
Full prof. Alen Jugović, PhD  
(own sign.)

The Regulations were published on the notice board and website of the Faculty of Maritime studies in Rijeka on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.

Secretary  
Maša Šarar Nežić, dipl.iur.  
(own sign.)