

Pursuant to Article 19 paragraph 3 indent 2 of the Act on Higher Education and Scientific Activity (Official Gazette 19/22) and Article 25 of the Statute of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime Studies, upon suggestion of the Committee for Science and Doctoral (PhD) Programme, at its 293rd session held on 17th July 2023, the Faculty Council adopted the following

REGULATIONS ON THE DOCTORAL (PHD) PROGRAMME "MARITIME STUDIES"

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

- (1) The Regulations on the Doctoral Programme "Maritime Studies" (hereinafter: the Regulations) define the rules of the organization and implementation of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" (hereinafter: Doctoral Programme) and the procedure for obtaining the academic degree of Doctor of Science (PhD) in the scientific area of technical sciences, scientific field of traffic and transport technology.
- (2) Notwithstanding their grammatical gender, the terms used in this Act are gender-neutral and shall apply equally to male and female gender.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

Article 2

- (1) The Doctoral Programme is organized as a study programme for obtaining the academic degree of a Doctor of Science (PhD) in accordance with the current Act on Higher Education and Scientific Activity.
- (2) The Doctoral Programme is established for applicants from various fields of the scientific area of technical sciences, as well as other scientific areas, in which case the candidates are subject to passing additional exams.

Article 3

- (1) The Doctoral Programme is an integrated and collaborative study of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime Studies (hereinafter: Faculty), as the study programme holder and the collaborating institutions; the University of Dubrovnik, Maritime Department, University of Zadar, Maritime Department, Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia in Split, Croatian Military Academy "Dr. Franjo Tuđman" and the Croatian Navy.
- (2) The Faculty shall be responsible for conducting the Doctoral Programme.

Article 4

- (1) The duration of the Doctoral Programme is a minimum three years, and a maximum six years and is completed by writing and publicly defending a doctoral dissertation.
- (2) The duration of the Doctoral Programme shall not include the period of approved leave of absence and standstill rights and obligations of the doctoral student.

Article 5

- (1) The Doctoral Programme shall be conducted through scientific-research work and teaching conducted according to the credit system.
- (2) The teaching process is conducted on the premises of the Faculty, and if so required, on the premises of the collaborating institutions or in another scientific-research institution.

3. THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME BODIES

Article 6

The Faculty Council shall appoint the following working parties:

- **Committee for Science and Doctoral (PhD) Programme,**
- **Doctoral (PhD) Programme Council,**
- **Head of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme,**
- **Heads of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme Modules and**
- **Doctoral (PhD) Programme Secretary.**

Article 7

Committee for Science and Doctoral (PhD) Programme

- (1) The Committee for Science and Doctoral (PhD) Programme (hereinafter: Committee) shall be composed of: Vice-Dean for scientific research in the capacity of the Committee Chairperson, the Head of the Doctoral Programme, and Heads of the Doctoral Programme Modules.
- (2) The duties of the Committee are:
 - carrying out the Doctoral Programme,
 - determining a list of candidates applying for the Programme and delivering such list to the Faculty Council for making the final decision regarding enrolment,
 - proposing the Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime Studies" (hereinafter: Programme) as well as its amendments to the Faculty Council,
 - reviewing, analysing and evaluating the implementation of the Programme,
 - reviewing the Annual Report on the Programme and forwarding it to the Faculty Council for its adoption,
 - analysing annual mentor and doctoral student reports,
 - proposing mentors and co-mentors to the Faculty Council,
 - proposing members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee and the Defence Committee to the Faculty Council,
 - performing other tasks in accordance with the Regulations.
- (3) 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 8

Doctoral (PhD) Programme Council

- (1) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme Council shall consist of: Vice-Dean for scientific research of the Faculty as the Chairperson, Faculty Dean, heads of the collaborating institutions and the Head of the Doctoral Programme.
- (2) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme Council shall propose to the Faculty Council the Study Programme, its amendments and enrolment quotas.

Article 9

Head of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme

- (1) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme shall be managed by the Head of the Programme.
- (2) The Head of the Programme shall be chosen among the Faculty teaching staff and appointed by the Faculty Council, all according to Dean's proposal.
- (3) The Head of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme shall:
 - manage the Programme and help with the organization of Committee meetings,
 - determine the schedule, consultations and exams in agreement with the course heads,
 - coordinate activities pertaining to the creation of the Programme and its amendments,
 - establish doctoral student enrolment results for the Programme,
 - prepare the Annual report on the Programme containing the Annual report on classes held and the review of mentors and doctoral students annual reports and deliver it to the Committee,
 - present the results of doctoral student annual reports on mentors and reports on doctoral students advancement in Doctoral Programme to the Committee,
 - is a member of the Expert Council of the Doctoral School of the University of Rijeka.

Article 10

Heads of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme Modules

- (1) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme shall have Heads of Modules.
- (2) The Heads of the Programme Modules shall be members of the Faculty teaching staff who are the heads of the courses of the Doctoral Programme.
- (3) 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 prior co-mentoring or mentoring experience.
- (4) The Heads of the Doctoral (PhD) Programme Modules shall:
 - manage the appropriate Programme Modules set out in the Programme,
 - help in modernizing and internationalizing the courses within the module,
 - participate in creating the Doctoral Programme and its amendments,
 - direct the candidate in their research within the appropriate module,
 - suggest additional exams for candidates who have a prior education in area other than technical sciences, field of traffic and transport technology,
 - participate in conducting an assessment interview of candidates for the enrolment in the Doctoral Programme.

Article 11

Doctoral (PhD) Programme Secretary

- (1) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme shall have a Secretary.
- (2) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme Secretary is appointed by the Faculty Council at the Dean's proposal.
- (3) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme Secretary shall:

- ascertain the results of doctoral student enrolment,
 - organize the management of administrative work related to the Doctoral 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.
- (4) The Doctoral (PhD) Programme Secretary shall be assisted by an administrator appointed by the Dean, at the proposal of the Head of the Programme.

4. ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME

Article 12

- (1) The admission to the Programme shall be carried out on the basis of a public tender.
- (2) The Decision on announcing the tender for the admission of candidates to the Programme shall be made by the Faculty Council, as a rule two months before the beginning of the classes, at the proposal of the Committee.
- (3) 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.
- (4) The public tender for admission to the Programme shall be published in the daily press, on the Faculty web site and elsewhere as appropriate.

Article 13

- (1) The candidate shall submit the application to the Programme on the prescribed application form.
- (2) The prescribed application form contains a list of mandatory documents for application.

Article 14

- (1) Croatian citizens and foreign citizens shall have the right to apply to admission tender, provided they:
 1. have completed university graduate studies or university integrated undergraduate and graduate studies or university specialist studies in the scientific field of technical sciences (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 traffic and transport technology 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.
- (2) Before enrolling in 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

- (1) In case the Committee requires a candidate to take additional exams from the scientific field of traffic and transport technology, the Faculty Council shall, at the proposal of the Committee, adopt the courses that the candidate shall enrol and pass.
- (2) The costs of additional exams shall be borne by the candidate.
- (3) The candidates may be fully or partially exempted from the obligation to attend classes or take exams according to the provisions of the Regulations on Doctoral Study Programmes of the University of Rijeka.
- (4) A candidate cannot be exempted from the obligation of acquiring ECTS credits related to writing the doctoral dissertation.

Article 16

When submitting the application for the tender, the candidate shall state and explain the desired area of research on the prescribed application form and submit a signed agreement of a potential mentor.

Article 17

- (1) The candidate shall acquire the enrolment right according to the ranking list established by the Doctoral Programme Admissions Committee based on the results of the admission procedure.
- (2) The Doctoral Programme Admissions Committee shall consist of: Vice-Dean for scientific research, Head of the Programme, Head of the corresponding Programme Module and the Programme Secretary.
- (3) The Vice-Dean for scientific research shall be the Chairperson of the Doctoral Programme Admissions Committee.

Article 18

- (1) The Doctoral Programme Admissions Committee shall assess the candidate's ability through an interview so as to determine the candidate's scientific interest and the appropriate module and appoint a potential mentor for the candidate. In addition to the assessment of ability through an interview, candidates are assessed on the basis of submitted documents as defined in Article 13 paragraph 2 of this Regulation.
- (2) The success at the previous level of study cannot be less than 3.5.
- (3) Exceptionally, candidates who have completed the previous study with an average grade less than 3.5 may enrol the Doctoral Programme, provided that the Doctoral Programme Admissions Committee has positively evaluated their previous scientific research and/or professional activity.

Article 19

Enrolment ranking list is defined on the basis of:

- success on the previous study level,
- published scientific papers categorized according to the Ordinance on Academic Promotion and Advancement Requirements and Proceeding in technical sciences,
- abilities assessed during the interview.

Article 20

- (1) The ranking list of candidates shall be confirmed by the Faculty Council at the proposal of the Committee.
- (2) The Faculty Council shall make the final decision on the commencement of the Programme for which a public tender has been announced, provided there is a sufficient number of candidates who meet the requirements for enrolment.
- (3) 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.
- (4) The Committee shall decide on the appeal.

Article 21

A study contract shall be concluded with the candidate who realizes the right to enrol in the Doctoral Programme, regulating mutual rights and obligations in accordance with the Regulations on Doctoral Study Programmes of the University of Rijeka.

5. DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND STUDY OBLIGATIONS

Article 22

- (1) The Doctoral Programme shall be conducted in Croatian or English, all according to the Programme adopted by the Faculty Council at the proposal of the Committee for each Programme cycle.
- (2) The Programme shall contain a list of modules and course descriptions within each module.
- (3) Exceptionally, upon the proposal of the course head, the Committee shall decide on the inclusion of the course in two or more modules.

Article 23

- (1) Course heads shall hold classes and perform other duties in accordance with the Programme.
- (2) The course with less than 5 enrolled doctoral students shall be conducted in the form of consultative course.

Article 24

Study obligations are divided into:

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

Article 25

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 Programme.

Article 26

- (1) Scientific research work shall be evaluated through mandatory and optional activities.
- (2) Mandatory scientific research activities shall provide 124 ECTS credits and consist of the following:

- publication or acceptance for publication of a scientific paper in co-authorship with mentor (and co-mentor) only, whereby the doctoral student is the first author, in an international journal with an impact factor (IF) indexed in the *Web of Science Core Collection* (WoSCC), thus the acquisition of 20 ECTS credits,
 - preparation, application and public defence of the doctoral dissertation topic, thus the acquisition of 10 ECTS credits,
 - writing the doctoral dissertation and accepted positive grade of the doctoral dissertation, thus the acquisition of 90 ECTS credits,
 - public defence of the doctoral dissertation, thus the acquisition of 4 ECTS credits.
- (3) Elective scientific research activities shall carry 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, thus the acquisition of 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 written confirmation of the project leader), thus the acquisition of 20 ECTS credits,
 - publication or acceptance for publication of a scientific paper in an international journal indexed in the *Web of Science Core Collection* (WoSCC) base with an impact factor, whereby the maximum number of co-authors is four, thus the acquisition of 20 ECTS credits,
 - publication or acceptance for publication of a scientific paper in an international journal indexed in *Emerging Sources Citation Index* (ESCI) and/or *Scopus* whereby the maximum number of co-authors is four, thus the acquisition of 10 ECTS credits,
 - presentation of research at international scientific conferences and publication in corresponding proceedings, whereby the maximum number of co-authors is four, thus the acquisition of 7 ECTS credits,
 - attendance of an international doctoral summer school in the field of research topic, thus the acquisition of up to 5 ECTS credits.

Article 27

- (1) During the period of preparation and application of the topic and preparation of the doctoral dissertation, doctoral students who are not employed at the Faculty are obliged to spend ten working days at the Faculty (5 working days twice).
- (2) The mentor shall keep a record of the stay and activities of the doctoral student and submit it to the Head of the Doctoral Programme.

Article 28

- (1) The first study year shall consist of the 1st and 2nd semester.
- (2) Enrolment in the 1st semester takes place in accordance with the conditions of enrolment in the Doctoral Programme. In the 1st semester, the doctoral student enrolls 3 courses with a total value of 18 ECTS credits, 2 from the list of core module (A) and 1 from all other courses listed in the Programme.

- (3) The requirement for enrolment in the 2nd semester is attendance of courses of the 1st semester and approved request for appointment of a mentor/co-mentor. In the 2nd semester, the doctoral students enrol 3 courses from the list of courses within the selected core module with a total value of 18 ECTS credits. The doctoral student starts scientific research supervised by the mentor.
- (4) The second study year shall consist of the 3rd and 4th semester.
- (5) The requirement for enrolment in the 3rd semester is completion of courses from the 1st semester and attendance of courses from the 2nd semester, along with a positive Semester report by the mentor on the work of the doctoral student in the previous semester.
- (6) The requirement for enrolment in the 4th semester is completion of courses from the 2nd semester, a positive semester report of the mentor on the work of the doctoral student in the previous semester and the fulfilment of the obligation referred to in Article 26 paragraph 3 of the Regulations.
- (7) The third study year shall consist of the 5th and 6th semester.
- (8) The requirement for enrolment in the 5th semester is the defended dissertation topic, a positive semester report of the mentor on the work of the doctoral student in the previous semester and fulfilment of the obligation referred to in Article 26 paragraph 2 indent 1 of this Regulation.
- (9) The requirement for enrolment in the 6th semester is a positive semester report of the mentor on the work of the doctoral student in the previous semester. In the 6th semester, the doctoral student shall finalize his/her doctoral dissertation.

Article 29

- (1) The doctoral student shall pay the costs of the Programme in established shares of the total tuition fee before the commencement of each study year.
- (2) The candidate may cover full tuition at once before enrolling in the Doctoral Programme.
- (3) The doctoral student is obliged to pay the enrolment fee before the beginning of each study year in accordance with the applicable regulations of the University.

6. MENTOR AND CO-MENTOR

Article 30

- (1) The Committee shall propose to the Faculty Council the decision on appointing a mentor to a doctoral student at the latest by enrolment in the 2nd semester.
- (2) The request for appointing a mentor shall be submitted by the doctoral student on the prescribed form to the administrator of the Doctoral Programme.
- (3) The doctoral student and/or mentor may also suggest a co-mentor, accompanied by an explanation in written form.

Article 31

- (1) The mentor shall be a head of the course within the Doctoral Programme. The co-mentor does not necessarily have to be the head of a course within the Doctoral Programme.

- (2) Exceptionally, a renowned world expert or a *professor emeritus* may be appointed as a mentor or co-mentor, who are not heads of courses within the Doctoral Programme, with the agreement of the Committee and the Faculty Council.
- (3) If the mentor is not an employee of the Faculty, a co-mentor holding a scientific and teaching title at the Faculty shall be appointed to the doctoral student.
- (4) The mentor and co-mentor shall meet the criteria for mentors and co-mentors prescribed by the Regulation on Doctoral Study Programmes of the University of Rijeka, as well as the valid decision of the Senate of the University of Rijeka.

Article 32

- (1) The mentor and co-mentor shall assist and provide professional guidance to the doctoral student while studying and writing their doctoral dissertation, supervise the quality of their work, encourage the publication of scientific papers and support the participation at scientific and research projects,
- (2) The mentor shall refer the doctoral student to the literature and the application of appropriate scientific research methods related to the scientific field of research.

Article 33

- (1) The mentor shall submit an annual report on doctoral student work on a prescribed form by the end of current academic year to the Head of the Programme.
- (2) In the event that the quality of doctoral student work is evaluated as unsatisfactory in the Mentor's Report, the doctoral student must be familiar with it and shall report to the Head of the Programme within 8 days of receipt of the report.
- (3) 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 work plan for the next year and monitor the implementation of the plan.
- (4) If in the subsequent annual report written by the mentor, the quality of doctoral student work is assessed as insufficient, the Faculty Council may make a decision on the loss of the doctoral student's right to continue his/her studies.

7. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL STUDENT

Article 34

- (1) The doctoral 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.
- (2) The doctoral student has the right to propose a change of mentor, but no later than the application of the doctoral dissertation topic, accompanied by an explanation in written form.
- (3) Exceptionally, a doctoral student may request a change of a mentor after a decision on acceptance of doctoral dissertation topic has been made, but with the obligation to reinitiate the application process for doctoral dissertation topic.
- (4) The doctoral student may request a change of the topic of the doctoral dissertation with the obligation of reinitiating the application process for doctoral dissertation topic.
- (5) The request to change the mentor and/or the topic of the doctoral dissertation shall be submitted on the prescribed form.

Article 35

- (1) The doctoral student shall submit an annual report on his/her work on the prescribed form by the end of the current academic year to the Head of the Doctoral Programme.
- (2) In the event that the doctoral student fails to submit a report on his/her work referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article for two consecutive years, the Faculty Council may decide on the loss of the doctoral student's right to continue his or her studies.

Article 36

Loss of doctoral student status is regulated by the valid Regulation on Doctoral Study Programmes of the University of Rijeka.

8. APPLICATION OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION TOPIC

Article 37

- (1) The doctoral student shall submit the application of the doctoral dissertation topic on the prescribed form.
- (2) The application of the topic shall be submitted to the administrator of the Programme.
- (3) In research where there are ethical concerns, and whenever the research is conducted on humans or animals and material of human or animal origin, the application should be accompanied by a reasoned consent of the Ethics Committee of the Faculty and, if necessary, by the Ethics Committee of the other institution involved in the research.

Article 38

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

- initiation of the procedure for evaluating the doctoral dissertation topic,
- appointing the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee,
- the place, date and time of defence of doctoral dissertation topic.

Article 39

- (1) The doctoral student shall publicly defend the topic of his/her dissertation in front of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.
- (2) The Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee shall consist of at least three members employed in a scientific-teaching or scientific position, or chosen as a title teacher or a title scientist, or a teacher or scientist of an adequate rank, in the case of a member who has obtained a vocation abroad, who have published scientific papers the field of the doctoral dissertation topic, at least one of which comes from a university or scientific institution outside of the University of Rijeka.
- (3) Gender equality should be considered when appointing members of the Committee for the evaluation of the dissertation topic.
- (4) In addition to the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee, a substitute member is appointed among the teaching staff employed in a scientific-teaching or scientific position, or elected as a title teacher or a title scientist, who has published scientific papers in the field of the topic of doctoral dissertation.

- (5) The mentor and co-mentor cannot be the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.
- (6) In the event of an equal number of votes when deciding on the acceptance of the topic, the vote of the Chairperson of the Committee shall be the decisive one.

Article 40

- (1) The Faculty Council shall decide on the following:
 - commencement of the procedure for the evaluation of the dissertation topic and
 - appointing the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.
- (2) By the same decision, the Faculty Council shall determine the place, date and time of the public defence of the doctoral dissertation topic.
- (3) The decision shall be delivered to the Programme Secretary and administrator, to the doctoral student and to the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.

Article 41

- (1) The doctoral student shall publicly defend the topic of his/her doctoral dissertation before the Committee from the Article 40 of this Regulation, mentor, co-mentor and Vice-Dean for scientific research or the Head of the Programme.
- (2) The Programme administrator shall publicly announce the place, date and time of the public defence of the doctoral dissertation topic on the Faculty notice board and website of the Faculty.

Article 42

- (1) The Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee shall deliver the joint report on the performed public defence to the Faculty Council within one month from the date of the public defence of the topic.
- (2) The report on the performed public defence shall be submitted on a prescribed form.

Article 43

- (1) 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.
- (2) When the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee positively evaluates the topic, the Faculty Council may decide to accept or reject the topic.
- (3) When the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee negatively evaluates the topic, the Faculty Council may decide on the revision of the topic application or rejection of the topic.
- (4) When the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee negatively assesses the topic of doctoral dissertation after its revision has been requested, the Faculty Council may, if conditions so require, approve the application of a new topic or decide to suspend the procedure for obtaining a Doctorate of Science degree and inform the doctoral student thereof.

9. EVALUATION AND DEFENCE OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Article 44

The doctoral dissertation is an original and independent scientific work, and according to the methodology of analysis and the degree of scientific contribution it attests to the doctoral student's ability to conduct research as a scientist.

Article 45

The preparation and formatting of doctoral dissertation is prescribed by the University of Rijeka's Guidelines for Completing and Equipping Doctoral Theses.

Article 46

- (1) The doctoral student shall submit a request for the assessment of the doctoral dissertation to the Head of the Doctoral Programme on the prescribed form, after having fulfilled all the obligations laid down in this Regulation.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by:
 - written statement by the mentor that the work meets the criteria of doctoral dissertation,
 - a similarity report,
 - an unbound copy of the doctoral dissertation,
 - CV in a standardized *Europass* form,
 - certificate proving that the title of the doctoral dissertation has been proof-read,
 - short summary of the doctoral dissertation (20-30 lines).

Article 47

- (1) Upon the proposal of the Committee, the Faculty Council shall appoint the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (2) The Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall consist of at least three members employed in a scientific-teaching or scientific position, or chosen as a title teacher or a title scientist, or in an equivalent position in the case of a member who has obtained a vocation abroad, and who have published scientific papers in the field from which the dissertation is based and of which at least one member is from a university or scientific institution outside the University of Rijeka.
- (3) Members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee may also be members of the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (4) Gender equality should be considered when appointing members of the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (5) The mentor and co-mentor cannot be the members of Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (6) The Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee decides on the grade of the dissertation by a majority of votes.
- (7) In case of an equal number of votes in the decision making, the vote of the Committee Chairperson shall be the decisive one.

Article 48

- (1) Each member of the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall prepare an independent report.
- (2) The Chair of the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall draw up a joint report on the assessment of doctoral dissertation on the prescribed form, accompanied by individual reports.

- (3) The report shall be submitted to the Faculty Council no later than two months after receipt of the doctoral dissertation for evaluation.
- (4) In the event of failure to submit a report within the prescribed time period, the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall submit a written statement to the Committee listing reasons for the failure to submit a report.
- (5) Further procedure for dissertation evaluation shall be determined by the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (6) The period from 16th July to 31st August shall not be included in the said period.

Article 49

- (1) The Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall deliver the Report on the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation to the Faculty Council in written form.
- (2) In its Report, the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee may suggest that:
 - the doctoral dissertation be accepted,
 - the doctoral dissertation be rewritten and re-evaluated,
 - the doctoral dissertation be rejected.
- (3) In all three cases, the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall justify their decision.

Article 50

The conclusion of a positive evaluation shall contain the explicit statement about the achieved original scientific contribution in the scientific area of technical sciences, scientific filed traffic and transport technology.

Article 51

If the Faculty Council concludes that the report of the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee does not provide a sound 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 Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee to re-examine and evaluate the doctoral dissertation and submit the report to the Faculty Council.

Article 52

- (1) If the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee negatively evaluates the doctoral dissertation, the Faculty Council may issue a request for revision of the doctoral dissertation or decide to suspend the procedure for obtaining the PhD title.
- (2) If the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation 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 doctoral student thereof.

Article 53

- (1) 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.
- (2) Members of the Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee may also be members of the Dissertation Defence Committee.
- (3) Gender equality should be considered when appointing members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (4) Mentor and co-mentor cannot be members of Dissertation Evaluation Committee.

- (5) The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall have at least three members in scientific-teaching or scientific title, or appointed as title teacher or a title scientist, or a teacher or scientist of an adequate rank, in the case of a member who has obtained a vocation abroad, who have published scientific papers in the field from which the dissertation is based, and of which at least one member is from a university or scientific institution outside the University of Rijeka.
- (6) In addition to the members of the Committee, a substitute member is appointed among the employees in the scientific-teaching or scientific title teacher or a title scientist, or a teacher or scientist of an adequate rank in case a member of the Committee obtained a degree abroad and has published scientific papers from the field of the dissertation topic.
- (7) In case of an equal number of votes in the decision making, the vote of the Committee Chairperson shall be the decisive one.

Article 54

- (1) The draft of the doctoral dissertation that has been evaluated positively by the Dissertation Evaluation Committee and adopted at the Faculty Council shall be made available to the public on the Faculty website at least 30 days before the defence.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The Faculty Council shall determine the place, date and time of defence of the doctoral dissertation, taking into account the proposal of the mentor and the doctoral student, and shall appoint the recorder among the employees holding an associate title at the Faculty.
- (4) The name and the last name of the doctoral 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 and website of the Faculty at least eight days before the date of defence.
- (5) The notice on the defence of the doctoral dissertation shall also be published in written and electronic form in all collaborative institutions as well.
- (6) The defence of doctoral dissertation shall be public.
- (7) The defence of the doctoral dissertation is held on the premises of the Faculty and usually in the language in which the dissertation was written.
- (8) The doctoral dissertation can be defended only once.
- (9) If a doctoral student fails to approach to the defence the doctoral dissertation in the announced term without a justified reason, the Faculty Council shall, at the proposal of the Dissertation Defence Committee, suspend the procedure for obtaining a doctorate in science and inform the doctoral student thereof.

Article 55

- (1) 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.
- (2) The defence of the doctoral dissertation shall be attended by members of the Dissertation Defence Committee, the doctoral student, mentor and/or co-mentor, recorder of minutes and interested outside members.

Article 56

- (1) After completing the defence of the doctoral dissertation, the Dissertation Defence Committee shall make a 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.
- (2) The Committee Chairperson shall publicly announce the decision of the Dissertation Defence Committee.

Article 57

- (1) The doctoral dissertation shall be made according to the University of Rijeka's Guidelines for Completing and Equipping Doctoral Theses.
- (2) The doctoral dissertation shall be bound and deposited according to the Regulation on University Studies of the University of Rijeka.

10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION

Article 58

- (1) If the results of the research for obtaining a Doctor of Science degree include an element suitable for the protection of intellectual property rights (invention, industrial design, etc.), the doctoral student and his/her mentor may report this to the Centre for Innovation Initiatives of the University. In such a case, the doctoral student may, with the agreement of the mentor, request that the submitted doctoral dissertation be treated in secret until such time as is necessary to meet the requirements for legal protection, regardless of Article 55 and Article 58 of this Regulation.
- (2) The Centre for Innovation Initiatives shall comply with the Regulation on Intellectual Property Management at the University of Rijeka.

Article 59

- (1) When research within the Doctoral Programme is carried out for the needs of the economy or in collaboration with the research centre in economy, for the purposes of or in cooperation with state institutions in charge of defence and security, or in the case referred to in Article 59 of the Regulations, the Faculty Council may exclude the public from the defence of doctoral dissertation and delay the dissertation publication in order to protect intellectual property rights, up to three years, or until the moment of public publication of data in the procedure of registration of intellectual property rights.
- (2) The request for exclusion of the public from the defence of doctoral dissertation for reasons stated in Article 59 of this Regulation should be accompanied by a certificate from the Centre for Innovation Initiatives of the University
- (3) The Doctoral Dissertation Evaluation Committee and the Dissertation Defence Committee members appointed to evaluate a dissertation which has been granted request for exclusion of public, shall sign a statement on data confidentiality before receiving a copy of the dissertation to be evaluated. This statement shall also be

signed by other participants in the evaluation and defence process who have access to the text of the dissertation.

Article 60

- (1) The doctoral dissertation can also be done by integrating four thematically related and published scientific papers (the so-called Scandinavian model).
- (2) 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.
- (3) Critical overview shall place the results of the doctoral dissertation in the context of the existing scientific knowledge.
- (4) 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.
- (5) In the Scandinavian model of the dissertation, the doctoral 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).
- (6) The scientific paper shall be clearly affiliated to the University of Rijeka.
- (7) 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.
- (8) A maximum of one paper may be categorized as a review article.
- (9) Papers may not be published in journals published or co-published by the holder of the study and the parent institution of employment.
- (10) A maximum of one paper may be published in journals in the Republic of Croatia.
- (11) Doctoral dissertation from Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be subject to evaluation and defence.

Article 61

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

Article 62

- (1) On the basis of the decision of the Doctoral Defence Committee, the University shall issue a diploma of the acquired Doctor of Science degree.
- (2) The diploma shall be awarded by the Rector of the University of Rijeka at the graduation ceremony.

10. WITHDRAWAL OF THE DOCTORAL DEGREE

Article 63

The procedure of withdrawal of the Doctor of Science degree shall be carried out according to the Regulations on Doctoral Study Programmes of the University of Rijeka.

11. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 64

The Faculty Council shall be competent for the interpretation of the provisions of the Regulations.

Article 65

On the day that the Regulations shall take effect, the Regulations on the Postgraduate Doctoral (PhD) Programme "Maritime studies" from 25th February 2021 shall cease to be valid.

Article 66

The provisions of Article 4 paragraph 1, Articles 24 to 28, Article 30 paragraph 1, Article 35 and Article 60 of the Regulations shall not apply to doctoral 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 67

The Regulations shall enter into force within eight days of their publication on the Faculty notice board and website.

Dean
Prof. Ana Perić Hadžić, PhD

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Rijeka, 17th July 2023

The Regulations were published on the website of the Faculty on 18th July 2023 and entered into force on 26th July 2023.

Faculty Secretary
Maša Šarar Nežić, J. D.