

The Charter of TU Dortmund University

In accordance with Section 2(4) of the Higher Education Act pertaining to the Universities in the federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Gesetz über die Hochschulen des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, Hochschulgesetz – HG*) of 16 September 2014 (GV NRW p. 547), last amended by law of 14 April 2020 (GV NRW p. 218b), the Senate of TU Dortmund University has issued the following charter:

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Preamble

TU Dortmund University is a technical university with a high level of expertise in research and teaching. Under the overarching principle of “People – Technology”, it develops and implements its program by pursuing interdisciplinary activities in engineering and natural sciences as well as the humanities and social sciences. The university also envisages its future development as part of the University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr), together with its partners Ruhr University Bochum and the University of Duisburg-Essen. The three major universities in the Ruhr area seek to establish a consistent common quality system, to continue developing excellent focus areas in research and teaching, and to cooperate wherever appropriate.

TU Dortmund University promotes international academic exchange. As a research hub, it participates in the international contest for science and introduces its students to the international dimension of research, teaching and work. The university fosters and develops its academic, economic, political and cultural ties with the City of Dortmund and the region, also fulfilling its scientific mission in full appreciation of the economic and cultural changes in the region.

Insofar as the provisions of this charter refer to science, they are equally applicable to art. Research in terms of this charter means scientific and artistic research.

Article I

Section 1 Legal status and mission

(1) TU Dortmund University is a public corporation; in accordance with the laws based on Article 16(1) of the Constitution of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, it shall pursue its

mission by self-governance, provided that it does not involve the administration of state affairs. It shall bear the name “Technische Universität Dortmund” (TU Dortmund University).

(2) The university shall serve to foster and develop sciences through research, teaching and studies as well as further academic training. Research shall be the basis on which teaching and studies are designed and developed. The university shall comprehensively assure the quality of its institutions and proceedings and employ appropriate measures to ensure good scientific practice. It shall prepare students for occupations which require the autonomous, independent and critical application of academic knowledge and methods and promote junior researchers. Sentences 1 to 6 shall apply equally to art insofar as it is part of the university's portfolio.

(3) The university shall guarantee its members the freedom to conduct their activities in research, teaching and studies and to exercise their constitutional rights as laid down in the first sentence of Article 5(3) of the Basic Law for the Federal Republic of Germany. In doing so, it shall take account of the differing opportunities deriving from personal and social conditions and strive to break down barriers. This shall include complying with appropriate building requirements and ensuring access to information.

(4) The university shall promote the quality of university teaching through the didactics of university teaching.

(5) The university shall promote cross-disciplinary cooperation in research, teaching and studies as well as in academic reform.

(6) The university shall promote international collaboration in research, teaching and studies as well as exchange with universities at home and abroad.

(7) The university shall promote regional networking among science, business, politics and culture. To foster its comprehensive regional cooperation, it shall appoint an Advisory Board composed of outstanding personalities representing the City of Dortmund and the region.

(8) In conducting its business, the university shall promote the actual implementation of equal opportunities for women and men at the university.

Section 1a Accountability to society and the environment

(1) In fulfilling its mission, the university shall be conscious of its accountability to society and the environment and thus contribute to protecting the natural foundations of life as well as the sustainable and resource-friendly development of a peaceful, democratic world.

(2) When conducting academic activities, members of the university involved in research and teaching shall always consider whether their academic methods or insights could have serious implications for constitutionally-protected individual or common goods.

(3) By means of an integrated election whereby all four status groups represented in the Senate (university teachers, academic staff, technical and administrative staff, and students) vote jointly, the Senate shall elect a voting member of the university to become Sustainability Officer for a period of two years. The elected member may be re-elected. If the elected member resigns before the end of the term of office, another member shall be elected for the remaining duration. The Sustainability Officer may issue recommendations and statements on matters relating to the university's accountability to society and the environment. The committees and members of the university may consult the incumbent who shall also be involved in university development planning.

Article II

Section 2 Central university bodies

TU Dortmund University leadership shall comprise:

- (a) The Rectorate
- (b) The President
- (c) The University Council
- (d) The Senate
- (e) The University Elective Assembly

Section 3 The Rectorate

(1) The Rectorate shall manage the university and be composed of two full-time positions: a President and a Chancellor. The President or President Designate may also nominate up to two further full-time Vice Presidents. The University Council may decide that additional, part-time Vice Presidents should join the Rectorate. If the Rectorate is composed of several part-time Vice Presidents, one part-time Vice President may be a junior professor, member of the academic staff or the student body. The other part-time Vice Presidents shall be professors belonging to the teaching staff at the university.

(2) The initial term of office for the full-time members of the Rectorate shall be eight years, followed by further periods of office of four years respectively. The initial term of office for the part-time members of the Rectorate shall be six years, followed by further periods of office of

four years respectively; the term of office for student members of the Rectorate shall be two years. The term of office for part-time members of the Rectorate shall end when the President's term of office expires at the latest.

(3) Without prejudice to Section 19 of the Higher Education Act, the President may determine the rules for conducting the business of the Rectorate.

(4) Resolutions by the Rectorate may not be issued against the vote of the President.

(5) On a proposal by the President, the Rectorate shall allocate defined areas of business to its members.

(6) The Rectorate shall appoint an Advisory Board for International Affairs to advise on matters relating to international academic exchange in research and teaching. The member of the Rectorate responsible for international affairs shall nominate the members of the Council.

(7) If in doubt, the Rectorate shall decide on the responsibilities of the committees and functionaries. It shall prepare the meetings of the Senate, support the University Council and implement the resolutions taken by these bodies. The Rectorate shall be accountable to the university for its conduct in office. Once a year, it shall report to the University Council and the Senate on the conduct of its business; the statement of accounts shall be published. The Rectorate shall be obliged to report to the University Council and the Senate and be accountable for implementing these bodies' resolutions.

(8) At least once per semester, the Rectorate shall give the representatives of the student body in the Senate the opportunity to seek information and advice on study matters.

Section 3a Election of the Rectorate

(1) The elections of the President and Chancellor shall be prepared by a Pre-Selection Committee of ten members, five of whom shall be nominated from within their own ranks by the Senate and five by the University Council. Of the five members to be nominated by the Senate, three shall be representatives of university teachers in the Senate and the other two representatives of other status groups in the Senate. The elections of the Vice Presidents shall be prepared by a Pre-Selection Committee of six members, three of whom shall be nominated from within their own ranks by the Senate and the University Council respectively. Of the three members to be nominated by the Senate, two shall be representatives of university teachers in the Senate and the other a representative of other status groups in the Senate. The Pre-Selection Committee shall elect a Chairperson from within its ranks. On the recommendation of the Pre-Selection Committee, the University Elective Assembly shall define the job profile,

the way in which candidates are to be approached and, if applicable, the text of the announcement; the positions of the full-time members of the Rectorate shall be advertised publicly. In preparation for the election of the President and Chancellor, the Pre-Selection Committee shall make a nomination to the University Elective Assembly.

(2) The members of the Rectorate shall be elected individually by the University Elective Assembly at an open meeting by the majority vote of the members of the entire assembly as well as by majority vote of the members within its two constituent parts. If an election pursuant to sentence 1 is not successful, a second and, if necessary, a third ballot may be held. In the third ballot, the person shall be elected who garners the majority of the votes of the members of the University Elective Assembly being present and at the same time the majority of the votes of the members of its two halves who are present. A Vice President shall be elected on a proposal by the President or President Designate, the Chancellor in agreement with her/him. If none of the candidates is elected outright pursuant to the first sentence, a second round of voting shall be held. If more than two candidates stand for election, the second round shall be conducted as a run-off election between the two candidates with the highest number of votes in the Assembly; in the absence of a majority, the candidates in the run-off election shall be determined by a maximum of three interim rounds of voting. In the absence of a majority in the second round of voting pursuant to the first sentence or in the run-off election in the interim rounds of voting, a third round of voting takes place. If even in the third round of voting none of the candidates achieves a majority pursuant to sentence 3, the University Elective Assembly shall decide how to proceed; in particular, it may either conduct further rounds of voting or demand a new nomination.

(3) If a third of the voting members of the University Elective Assembly, who are also members of the Senate, or a third of the members of the University Elective Assembly, who are also members of the University Council, demand the de-selection of one or more members of the Rectorate, the University Elective Assembly shall be convened immediately. A member of the Rectorate shall be deemed de-selected if the University Elective Assembly passes the relevant de-selection motion with a five-eighths majority; in case of multiple de-selection motions, each shall be decided individually. The term of office of the de-selected member of the Rectorate shall cease on de-selection.

(4) The rules of procedure governing the University Elective Assembly further elaborate the procedure for preparing elections and the procedure for selecting and de-selecting members of the Rectorate.

Section 4 The President

(1) The President shall represent TU Dortmund University externally. In accordance with the rules of procedure governing the Rectorate, she/he shall be represented by the Vice Presidents. In legal and administrative matters she/he shall be represented by the Chancellor.

(2) The President may transfer the right to exercise the house rules to other members of the university.

Section 5 The University Council

(1) The University Council shall be composed of eight members. The members of the University Council may not be members of TU Dortmund University. Section 21(8) HG shall be observed.

(2) The members of the University Council shall be appointed by the responsible ministry for a five-year term of office.

(3) The University Council shall elect a Chairperson as well as a Deputy Chairperson on a majority vote of those present. The term of office shall begin on the day of the election and cease when the University Council member's term of office comes to an end.

(4) The University Council shall advise the Rectorate and supervise its management practice. In particular, its duties shall involve:

1. Participation by its members in selecting and de-selecting members of the Rectorate in the University Elective Assembly;
2. Approval of the draft Target Agreement between TU Dortmund University and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) as well as the draft university development plan;
3. Approval of the business plan, the university business activities, the establishment of a foundation, an institution or an association of universities, of the submission of the application according to Section 2(8) HG, insofar as this is directed towards the transfer of the building owner's property and the owner's responsibility for the entirety of the ceded real estate, and of the assumption of further duties according to Section 3(8) HG;
4. Supervision of the Rectorate's economic management;
5. Recommendations and statements on the Rectorate's statement of accounts and on the evaluation reports;

6. Recommendations and statements on matters of research, art, teaching and studies that pertain to the entire university or central university facilities or are of fundamental importance;
7. Approval of the annual accounts, resolution on the appropriation of net profits for the year or treatment of a net deficit for the year, and discharge of the Rectorate.

(5) The University Council shall convene at least four times a year and always when at least half of its members call for a meeting. The members of the Rectorate shall participate in the meetings in an advisory capacity; within the bounds of appropriate reporting they shall not be obliged to maintain confidentiality.

Section 6 The Senate

(1) The members of the Senate shall comprise:

1. twelve representatives of the group: university teachers
2. five representatives of the group: academic staff
3. five representatives of the group: technical and administrative staff
4. five representatives of the group: student body

The votes of the members in groups 1 to 4 shall be of equal value. This shall be achieved by weighting the votes of the members in groups 2 to 4 by multiplying them by 12 and dividing them by five. With respect to resolutions on matters relating to the second sentence of Section 22(4) HG and Section 11(2) HG, the members of the group of university teachers shall have a voting majority. To achieve this, each vote of this group shall be multiplied by 16 and divided by 12.

(2) The Senate shall elect a Chairperson from within its ranks.

(3) The Senate shall be responsible for

1. helping to select and de-select the members of the Rectorate through its members at the University Elective Assembly,
2. the statement on the Rectorate's statement of accounts
3. enacting and amending the University Charter, regulatory frameworks and regulations pertaining to the university insofar as the Higher Education Act and this charter do not stipulate otherwise,
4. approving planning principles for the university development plan,
5. issuing recommendations and statements on the draft university development plan and draft Target Agreement between TU Dortmund University and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the evaluation reports, the business plan, the principles on which positions

and funds shall be assigned to the departments, central scientific facilities, central operating units and medical facilities,

6. issuing recommendations and statements on matters relating to research, art, teaching and studies that pertain to the entire university or central university facilities or are of fundamental importance.

A faculty's proposal for appointing a professor shall require the agreement of the Senate if the Rectorate does not intend to ratify the appointment proposal, or not without amendments.

(4) The Senate shall approve the University Charter and amendments to the University Charter by a two-thirds majority of its weighted votes.

(5) The non-voting members of the Senate shall be composed of the President, the Vice Presidents, the Chancellor, the Deans, the spokesperson for severely disabled people, the representative of students with disabilities or chronic diseases, the chairperson of the staff council of non-academic staff and of the staff council of academic and artistic staff as well as the speaker of the Student Association.

(6) The term of office for the deputies of the groups pursuant to Section 1(1) and (2) shall be two years; the term of office for the deputies of the group pursuant to Section 1(3) shall be four years; the term of office for the deputies of the student body shall be one year.

Section 7 Standing Committees

(1) To prepare statements, recommendations and resolutions within its portfolio of responsibilities the Senate shall appoint standing committees. The Rectorate may invite the committees to take part in consultations during a decision-making process.

(2) The standing committees shall comprise:

1. The Committee on Teaching, Studies and Academic Reform, advising on matters of teaching and studying, including further academic training, of fundamental or university-wide significance, especially on questions of teaching quality and the structures of the range of degree programs. The Committee on Teaching, Studies and Academic Reform shall be composed of three representatives of university teachers, two representatives of academic staff and two students. The member of the Rectorate responsible for teaching and studies shall also belong to the committee in a non-voting capacity.
2. The Committee on Research and Junior Researchers, advising on matters of research of fundamental or university-wide significance, especially on questions of cross-faculty

research focus areas, the promotion of junior researchers and the transfer of research results. The Committee on Research and Junior Researchers shall be composed of three representatives of university teachers, two representatives of academic staff and one student. The member of the Rectorate responsible for research and junior researchers shall also belong to the committee in a non-voting capacity.

3. The Finance Committee, advising on preparing the university's guiding principles for the allocation of funding and budgeting. The Finance Committee shall be composed of four representatives of university teachers, two representatives of academic staff, one representative of technical and administrative staff and two students. The member of the Rectorate responsible for finances shall also belong to the committee in a non-voting capacity.
4. The Joint Committee of the Rectorate and the Senate on Structural Issues, advising on principles of university planning, structural development and quality management as well as appointment procedures. The Joint Committee shall be composed of members of the Rectorate and the Senate, three representatives of university teachers and one representative of academic staff, technical and administrative staff, and students respectively.
5. The Equal Opportunity Committee, advising and supporting the university and the Equal Opportunity Officer. The Equal Opportunity Committee shall monitor the introduction of and compliance with plans for promoting women, assist in the allocation of performance-related funding and comments on objections by the Equal Opportunities Officer, in accordance with Section 19 of the Equal Opportunities Act of North Rhine-Westphalia (*Landesgleichstellungsgesetz - LGG*). The Equal Opportunity Committee shall be composed of two representatives of university teachers, two representatives of academic staff, two representatives of technical and administrative staff and two students. The Equal Opportunity Officer and her deputies shall be members of the Equal Opportunity Committee with proposal rights and speaking rights.
6. The Committee on Quality Improvement in Teaching and Studies. By way of derogation from Section 1, the Committee shall perform the duties foreseen in Section 4(1) of the Law on the Improvement of Quality in Teaching and Studies at university level in North Rhine-Westphalia. Moreover, the Committee shall advise the Senate on all matters relating to teaching, studying and research, particularly matters relating to academic reform and the evaluation of studies and teaching; in this context, the Committee shall be authorized to launch its own initiatives and issue recommendations, statements and draft resolutions. Recommendations, statements and draft resolutions pursuant to the third sentence must be effected by the Senate. The committee shall be composed of the following voting members: three representatives of university teachers, two

representatives of academic staff and six representatives of the student body: one representative of technical and administrative staff shall also belong to the committee in a non-voting capacity. One representative of the student body shall be appointed by the Student Association and the Students' Representative Committee respectively. The other members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Senate. A member of the Rectorate appointed by the Rectorate shall also belong to the committee in a non-voting capacity.

(3) The standing committees shall elect a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson from within their ranks.

(4) In accordance with Section 11(1) sentence 1(1 and 2) HG, the term of office for the group representatives shall be two years; in accordance with Section 11(1) sentence 1(3) HG four years and the term of office for the representatives of the student body shall be one year.

(5) The members of the standing committees to be appointed by the Senate shall be elected separately by group by the representatives of the groups belonging to the Senate in accordance with Section 11(1) HG.

Section 7a University Elective Assembly

(1) The University Elective Assembly shall be composed of two halves: all members of the Senate and all members of the University Council. The voting members of the Senate shall also be eligible to vote in the Assembly as shall be the members of the University Council. The votes of the half of the assembly composed of the members of the Senate shall be weighted in accordance with the fifth sentence of Section 6(1).

(2) The University Elective Assembly shall elect a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson from amongst the voting members of the circle of representatives of university teachers.

(3) The votes of the members of both halves of the University Elective Assembly shall be equally proportioned, i.e. every vote by a member of the University Council shall be weighted by being multiplied by the number of weighted votes among the voting members of the Senate and divided by the number of members of the University Council.

Section 8 Equal Opportunity Officer

(1) A female voting member of the university shall be appointed as the central Equal Opportunity Officer. In her remit for studies, science and administration/technical matters the

central Equal Opportunity Officer shall be supported by a deputy. Female voting members of the university shall be eligible to be elected as Deputy Equal Opportunity Officer for studies in accordance with Section 11(1) sentence 1(4) HG, for science in accordance with Section 11(1) sentence 1(1 and 2) HG and for administrative and technical matters in accordance with Section 11(1) sentence 1(3) HG.

(2) The central Equal Opportunity Officer and her deputies shall be elected by the female voting members of the university. Those elected shall be ratified by the Senate and appointed by the Rectorate. The term of office for the central Equal Opportunity Officer shall be four years, for the deputy two years. Re-election shall be possible. Details of the election shall be governed by the electoral regulations.

(3) Furthermore, an Equal Opportunity Officer and a deputy shall be elected in each faculty. The Faculty Equal Opportunity Officer shall strive for the inclusion of gender-related aspects in the work of the faculty. She may deputize for the central Equal Opportunity Officer at meetings of the Faculty Council, the Appointments Committee and other faculty bodies.

Section 8a Spokesperson for matters pertaining to students with disabilities or chronic diseases

(1) The Spokesperson for students with disabilities or chronic diseases and a deputy shall be elected by the Senate and appointed by the Rectorate on a proposal by the voting representatives of the student body in the Senate. The term of office shall be four years; the re-election is possible. If the spokesperson resigns before the end of the term of office, another member shall be elected for the remaining duration.

(2) Every voting member of the university shall be eligible to be elected.

(3) The Spokesperson shall strive to ensure that the special needs of students with disabilities or chronic diseases shall be considered and, in particular, that prevailing legislation shall be observed in their favor. She/he shall deal with complaints from the parties concerned. If the spokesperson makes a complaint about a measure, the complaint shall have suspensory effect. If no remedial action is taken, the Rectorate shall be invoked.

(4) Within the remit pursuant to Section 3, the Rectorate, the leadership of the scientific institutions and operating units as well as the Deans' Offices shall be obliged to report to the Spokesperson. The Spokesperson shall be entitled to issue recommendations and statements to all bodies within the university.

Section 9 Faculty Conference

(1) The Faculty Conference shall be composed of the Deans.

(2) The Faculty Conference shall advise the Senate and the University Council on matters relating to research, art and studies that pertain to the entire university or central university facilities or are of fundamental importance.

Section 10 (*deleted*)

Article III

Section 11 Faculties

(1) The university shall be divided into faculties. Without prejudice to the overall responsibility of the university and the responsibility of the central departments and committees, they shall carry out the duties of the university in their fields. They shall cooperate on matters of cross-disciplinary research and teaching, particularly on the development of new, cross-disciplinary research focus areas and joint course offerings.

(2) The faculty shall be managed by a Dean's Office, which shall perform all the duties and hold all the powers of the Dean, unless a majority of the voting members on the Faculty Council shall decide prior to the Dean's Office's term of office that the faculty shall be managed by a Dean.

(3) The Dean's Office shall be composed of a Dean and two Vice Deans. The Dean shall represent the faculty within the university. One Vice Dean shall act as the Dean of Studies. The Dean as well as the Vice Dean representing the Dean shall be appointed from the group of university teachers. The members of the Dean's Office shall be elected for a period of four years by the majority vote of the voting members of the Faculty Council. The Vice Deans shall usually be proposed by the Dean Designate. If a member of the student body is elected as Vice Dean, her/his term of office shall last for one year; if the person elected to succeed the student Vice Dean is not a member of the student body, her/his term of office shall end concurrently with that of the other members of the Dean's Office. If the Dean or one of the Vice Deans resigns, a special election shall be held for the remaining term of office or, in the event of sentence 7, clause 2, for a term of office ending concurrently with that of the other members of the Dean's Office; if a Vice Dean is elected from the student body, this special election shall be held for a period of one year unless the remaining term of office terminates earlier. Re-election shall be possible.

(4) If the Faculty Council decides against establishing a Dean's Office, the Dean and the Vice Dean shall be elected from the circle of professors within the group of university teachers for a period of four years by the majority vote of the voting members of the Faculty Council. Section 3 sentences 6 and 8-9 shall apply accordingly.

(5) A candidate who is not a member of the faculty but fulfills the requirements set out in the first sentence of Section 17(2) HG may be elected as Dean or Vice Dean representing the Dean. If the Faculty Council decides against establishing a Dean's Office, sentence 1 shall only apply to the election of the Dean.

(6) The election of a Dean shall be ratified by the President.

(7) The voting members of the Faculty Council shall comprise:

1. eight representatives of the group: university teachers
2. three representatives of the group: academic staff
3. one representative of the group: technical and administrative staff
4. three representatives of the group: student body

In faculties with fewer than 16 voting members from the group of university teachers, the Faculty Council shall be composed on the basis 6:2:1:2.

(8) Pursuant to Section 7(1-3), the members' term of office shall be two years: for members appointed under Section 7(4), one year. The non-voting members of the Faculty Council shall be the members of the Dean's Office or the Dean and Vice Dean. The non-voting members shall have proposal rights and speaking rights. The Dean shall chair the Faculty Council.

(9) When the Faculty Council considers habilitations and Habilitation and Doctoral Regulations, all members of the group of university teachers belonging to the faculty shall be eligible to participate in a non-voting capacity. When professorial appointments are being considered, all professors within the group of university teachers belonging to the faculty shall be eligible to participate in a non-voting capacity. The same shall apply to all members of the group of university teachers when other appointment proposals are being considered. In other respects, TU Dortmund University's appointment regulations shall govern appointment procedures.

(10) The faculties shall appoint committees to improve the quality of teaching and studies, which shall carry out the duties foreseen in Section 4(1) of the Law on the Improvement of Quality in Teaching and Studies at faculty level. The members of the committees shall be elected separately by the representatives of the groups on the Faculty Councils in accordance with Section 11(1) HG. The Dean or a member determined by the Dean's Office shall belong to the commissions in a non-voting capacity. In other respects pertaining to the

chairpersonship, composition and term of office of members of the commissions, Section 7(2) no. 6 sentence 2 and Section 7(3 and 4) shall apply accordingly. The faculty rules may stipulate regulations differing from the second and fourth sentences provided that they observe Section 4(2) of the Law on the Improvement of Quality in Teaching and Studies.

Section 12 Facilities

(1) Under the aegis of a faculty or several faculties, scientific facilities and operating units may be established, where appropriate. If such establishment under the faculties is not appropriate, the Rectorate may establish central scientific facilities or central operating units. Pursuant to Section 77(2) HG, TU Dortmund University may establish joint facilities with one or more other universities.

(2) Pursuant to Section 1, scientific facilities may be established, in particular, to pool research activities and incorporate post-graduate course offerings.

(3) If a scientific facility is established under the aegis of one or more faculties for the purpose of facilitating doctoral studies, the right to confer doctorates may be transferred to this facility on the agreement of the faculty/faculties. The same shall apply to inter-university facilities pursuant to Section 1(3).

(4) The rules governing the administration and usage of the faculties' scientific facilities and operating units shall be resolved by the Faculty Councils; the rules governing the administration and usage of the central scientific facilities and operating units shall be resolved by the Senate. The rules governing the administration and usage of inter-university facilities shall be determined by the bodies responsible in accordance with Section 1(3).

Section 13 Members

In addition to those named in Section 9(4) HG, graduates of TU Dortmund University shall also be members of the university.

Section 13a Representing the interests of student assistants

(1) The interests of student assistants in terms of Section 46a HG shall be represented by two representatives of the interests of student assistants.

(2) Acting on a proposal by the student body, the representatives of the interests of student assistants and their four deputies shall be elected by the voting students in compliance with the regulations on gender mainstreaming and shall be appointed by the Rectorate for a term of office of two years. Re-election shall be possible.

(3) All voting members of the student body shall be eligible to be elected and to vote. Details of the election shall be governed by the electoral regulations.

(4) The representatives of the interests of student assistants shall monitor the implementation of current legislation in selecting and employing student assistants and shall strive for appropriate working conditions. The representatives shall deal with complaints from the parties concerned. If they register a complaint about a measure, the complaint shall have suspensory effect. If no remedial action is taken, the Rectorate shall be invoked.

(5) If the representatives of the interests of student assistants pursuant to Section 1 have an employment relationship with the university, they shall be released from these duties to an appropriate extent.

Article IV

Section 14 General rules for university self-government and university leadership

(1) The composition of university leadership committees as well as the type and extent of participation by members of the university shall be determined by those committees' duties, the structure of disciplines at the university and the qualifications, function, responsibility and involvement of the members; details shall be governed by special regulations insofar as no other regulation has been provided for in law or in this charter. The members shall have the right to use university facilities. This right may be restricted by administrative or usage regulations. The examination boards appointed or elected according to the provisions of the respective examination regulations do not have to include representatives of the group according to Section 11(1) no. 3 HG. In deviation from Section 12(1) sentence 5 HG, members of the faculty who are not members of the faculty council may also belong to the examination boards.

(2) The chairperson shall represent the respective committee and conduct its business on her/his own authority. She/he shall prepare the meetings and implement the decisions. In particular, she/he shall have the following duties:

1. to convene the committee when business demands,
2. to draw up the agenda,
3. to chair the meetings,
4. to ensure the prompt performance of the committee's duties.

(3) The committee shall be convened immediately if a third of the voting members call for this, stating the points on the agenda to be discussed.

(4) The representatives of the status groups in the Senate and the Faculty Councils shall be elected separately in a free, immediate, equal, secret ballot by the respective status groups, usually on the principle of proportional representation; proportional representation may be swayed if the number of individuals entitled to vote is so modest that a majority ballot becomes appropriate. Concurrently, an appropriate number of deputies shall be elected for each group and the order in which they deputize for the representative shall be determined. If, after the election, the group of teaching staff in the Faculty Council does not have the majority of votes of the members of the body, a further round of voting shall take place in this respect. If this further round of voting is still unsuccessful in this respect, the rectorate is authorized to appoint the required number of representatives. All further details of the election procedure for elections to the Senate and the Faculty Councils, also with regard to the deputies on these committees, are governed by the election regulations.

5) Members of the groups pursuant to Section 11(1) nos. 1-3 HG may amalgamate and elect one spokesperson each. The university shall provide the spokespersons with the appropriate material resources required for their voluntary activities. They shall not have any rights to human resources.

Section 15 Rules of procedure for the committees

(1) The committee shall discuss and pass resolutions at a duly-convened and chaired meeting; if the committee does not have its own rules of procedure, the Senate's rules of procedure shall apply accordingly. In certain cases, the rules of procedure shall allow for decisions to be taken by circular resolution.

(2) The committee shall be considered quorate when at least half of its voting members are present. At the beginning of the meeting the chairperson shall formally confirm the quorum; it shall be assumed to remain valid until the absence of a quorum is determined on a member's motion. The rules of procedure shall allow for a committee to be declared quorate, irrespective of the number of members present, if consideration of the matter under discussion has already been deferred due to the absence of a quorum, and the committee has been re-convened for the purpose of discussing this matter. In such a case, when the meeting is called, attention shall be explicitly drawn to the implications for the resolution.

(3) Members who may be advantaged or disadvantaged or whose relatives may be advantaged or disadvantaged by a committee's discussions or resolution, shall be excluded from participating.

(4) Provided that legally no other provisions are stipulated by this charter or by any rules of procedure, a motion shall be considered passed if the majority of voting committee members present is in agreement. In the event of a tied vote the motion shall be considered defeated. Only for the purposes of calculating the majority shall abstentions and invalid votes not be counted.

(5) Resignations on serious grounds shall be possible.

Section 16 Official announcements

(1) Regulations and resolutions that the university is obliged to communicate shall be published in the “Official Communications of TU Dortmund University” which shall appear when required and be numbered consecutively. The “Official Communications” as an official promulgation journal are additionally published in the form of an electronic edition which is available in the publicly accessible network of TU Dortmund University.

(2) All university regulations shall be drawn up by the President. Unless the regulations stipulate when they will come into force, they shall come into force one day after they have been published in the Official Communications.

Section 17 Annual accounts

TU Dortmund University’s budgetary year shall be identical with the calendar year. At the end of the budgetary year, the annual accounts shall be drawn up. The annual audit shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Directive on the Economic Management of Universities in North Rhine-Westphalia

Article V

Section 18 Adjustments to internal regulations

The responsible bodies shall align the regulations pertaining to TU Dortmund University with the provisions of this charter without delay. In faculties that may wish to be headed by a Dean rather than a Dean’s Office, an explicit regulation to this effect shall be included in the rules of the faculty with reference to Section 11. Until such time as the other regulations are aligned with this charter, the provisions of this charter in combination with the Higher Education Act pertaining to the Universities in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia (HG) shall apply directly insofar as they are contradicted by provisions in other regulations.

Section 19 *(deleted)*

Section 20 Entry into force

This Charter shall come into force on the day after its publication in the Official Communications of TU Dortmund University. The Charter of TU Dortmund University of 19 September 2001 (AM 9/2001) ceases to be in force.

**This is the English translation of an original German legal text.
In the event of a discrepancy, the German text shall prevail.**