Doctoral degree regulations
for the Departments of Physics at the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern

On the basis of § 7, Para. 2, No. 2 and § 86, Para. 2, Sentence 1, No. 3 in conjunction with § 76, Para. 2, No. 6 of the Higher Education Act in the version of 19 November 2010 (GVBl. p. 463), last amended by Article 4 of the Act of 18 June 2019 (GVBl. p. 101), BS 223-41, the Departmental Council of the Department of Physics of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern adopted the following doctoral regulations on 10 May 2019 with the approval of the Senate on 5 June 2019. The Ministry of Science, Further Education and Culture approved the regulations in a letter dated 12.11.2019, ref: 15423 Tgb.-Nr. 2738/19. They are hereby made public.

Contents

I. General provisions
   § 1 Doctorate and required components
   § 2 Admission requirements for doctoral degree programme
   § 3 Aptitude assessment procedure
   § 4 Acceptance and supervision of doctoral candidates

II. Application for doctorate
   § 5 Application for initiation of the doctoral procedure
   § 6 Required documents, dissertation
   § 7 Retention of documents

III. Doctoral procedure
   § 8 Doctoral examination committee
   § 9 Reports
   § 10 Display
   § 11 Oral defence
   § 12 Assessment
   § 13 Publication, deposit copies
   § 14 Doctoral certificate
   § 15 Termination of the doctoral procedure

IV. Other
   § 16 Revocation of the doctoral degree
   § 17 Decision-making procedure
   § 18 Honorary doctorate
   § 19 Joint doctoral degree programme with other universities and universities of applied sciences
   § 20 Coming into force and transitional regulation
I. General provisions

§ 1 Doctorate and required components

(1) The Technische Universität Kaiserslautern may award the academic degree "Doctor of Natural Sciences" (Doctor rerum naturalium, abbreviated: Dr. rer. nat. or Doctor philosophiae naturalis abbreviated: Dr. phil. nat.) through the Department of Physics on the basis of an ordinary doctoral procedure or an honorary doctorate (Doctor rerum naturalium honoris causa, abbreviated: Dr. rer. nat. h.c.).

(2) Proof of the scientific qualification required for the ordinary doctorate shall be fulfilled in the form of the required doctoral components. These consist of a scientific paper (dissertation) on a field represented in the Department, the completion of an oral examination (disputation) and the publication of the dissertation.

(3) The academic degree "Doctor of Natural Sciences" shall be awarded only once to an applicant by the Department of Physics.

§ 2 Admission requirements for doctoral degree programme

(1) Admission to a doctoral degree programme requires an application before the start of the doctoral project. The Department provides information on the current documents to be submitted on the official website.

(2) Admission further requires the written support from a member of the Department of Physics with examination authorisation (§ 8) who is expected to conduct active research in the Department for the intended duration of the doctorate. In case of acceptance, this member is the supervisor for the doctorate and the written support is considered as a supervisory commitment.

(3) The admission requirement for the doctoral procedure is proof of a degree entitling the holder to enter a doctoral degree programme:

1. Degree that directly entitles the holder to directly pursue a doctorate:
   a) A Master's degree or a university degree equivalent to a Master's degree in a natural science subject from a university in Germany,
   b) a degree from an accredited teacher-training Master's programme or a teacher-training programme with the First State Examination
for the Teaching Profession at Gymnasium from a German university with physics as the first or second subject.

or

c) another degree from a university in Germany or a recognised university abroad, provided there is no substantial difference to the aforementioned degrees. These degrees are reviewed by a three-member board, which includes the supervisor, the Dean and the chairperson of the subject examination board Master's Physics or their representatives. The three-member board makes a recommendation to the departmental council. The departmental council makes the decision on recognition as an admission requirement, which in this case may be subject to conditions and/or initially limited in time. The conditions should be individually designed and aim to compensate for a lack of equivalence, e.g. through participation in courses and examinations. The requirements should not exceed a total of 18 ECTS credits and should be fulfilled within the first 18 months. The provisions of the examination regulations of the Master's degree programmes of the Department of Physics apply in their most current versions.

2. Degree which, upon application, entitles the holder to pursue a doctorate in conjunction with proof of special qualification:

   aa) A diploma degree in physics completed with the grade "very good" (at least 1.5) or an equivalent grade from a university of applied sciences in Germany or a diploma degree in physics completed with the grade "good" (2.0) at a university of applied sciences provided that the diploma thesis was evaluated with the grade "very good" and indicates the ability for a successful doctoral programme, or

   bb) a Bachelor's degree in physics from a university in Germany with a grade of "very good" (at least 1.5) or an equivalent grade, or

   cc) another degree from a university in Germany or abroad, provided there is no substantial difference to the aforementioned degrees.

The application must be addressed to the departmental council and must contain a justification showing the potential for special qualification. The application must be accompanied by the written support according to § 2 (2) and another letter of support from the group of those entitled to oversee the examination (§ 8). If the application is supported, the departmental council shall set up a three-member board in accordance with § 2 (3) (c) to determine the necessary contents for the aptitude assessment procedure. The special qualification is proven
by the successful completion of a special aptitude assessment procedure. Further details are regulated in § 3.

§ 3 Aptitude assessment procedure

(1) The aim of the aptitude assessment procedure is to prove the special aptitude of graduates in accordance with § 2 (3) No. 2. The aptitude assessment procedure is to be completed in two semesters. The aptitude assessment procedure consists of:

1. a qualifying course of study (Para. 3), which demonstrates the subject-specific fundamentals and
2. an oral examination (Para. 4).

(2) The qualification study consists of a selection of individual modules and is determined by the three-member board. The scope shall be at least 18 and at most 60 credit points.

(3) At the end of the qualification studies, there shall be an oral examination on the overall content of the qualification studies. The oral examination is overseen by the members of the three-member board and lasts 45 to 60 minutes. § 13, paragraphs 5 to 7 of the Master's Examination Regulations in Physics shall apply accordingly.

(4) Doctoral candidates in the qualification study programme must enrol at the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern as regular students.

(5) If the aptitude assessment procedure is not completed within one year, the doctoral procedure will not be initiated.

§ 4 Acceptance and supervision of doctoral candidates

(1) If the Dean determines that the requirements in § 2 are fulfilled, he or she shall issue the applicant with written confirmation of acceptance as a doctoral candidate. The specified date on which the confirmation takes effect is deemed to be the start of the doctorate. The supervisor in § 2 (2), the doctoral candidate and the departmental council are always informed about acceptances and terminations of doctoral relationships.

(2) In consultation with the doctoral candidate, the supervisor in § 2 (2) shall determine the topic of the dissertation and support the research project. The topic should be set in such a way that the work can be completed within three years. A new orientation of the topic can be made at any time in agreement between the supervisor and the doctoral candidate without notification. If an agreement cannot be reached, the departmental council makes the final decision.
(3) A doctorate shall be carried out in constant contact with the supervisor, who must ensure availability of the technical and material equipment necessary for the scientific work during the period of the doctorate. The special needs of doctoral candidates with disabilities shall be taken into account to ensure equal opportunities for them. The departmental council shall ensure that a doctoral candidate with a long-term or permanent physical disability does not suffer any disadvantage in the doctoral procedure. It shall define appropriate measures in specific individual cases.

(4) The Department of Physics and the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern offer further education measures for key qualifications of doctoral students. Continuous active participation in a research-oriented seminar to the extent of 3 credit points according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) per semester is expected. If specific further education measures, external research stays or participation in a coordinated doctoral programme are required for the dissertation, the supervisor shall inform the doctoral candidate of this at an early stage, if possible, already during confirmation of supervision. A supervision agreement is possible.

(5) A change of supervisor can be made by mutual agreement between the old and new supervisor and the doctoral candidate and must be notified to the Dean’s Office in writing. In the case of applications for a change of supervisor without agreement, the departmental council shall decide on the assignment of a suitable supervisor. If the supervisor leaves the department, he or she retains the right to complete the supervision of a doctorate that has already been started for up to three years.

(6) The doctoral candidate shall be informed that the rules of good scientific practice according to the DFG guidelines in their most recent version must be observed. The doctoral relationship may be terminated by the departmental council if the doctoral candidate
   a) commits gross violations of the rules of good scientific practice or cheats or
   b) grossly disregards safety rules or
   c) does not sensibly work on the agreed doctoral topic for reasons for which he or she is responsible despite three written warnings or
   d) damages the relationship of trust in the department through gross misconduct.
The doctoral candidate must be given the opportunity to submit a statement.

(7) If an application for the opening of the doctoral procedure pursuant to § 5 and § 6 is not filed within 5 years, the doctoral relationship shall end. Upon application by the doctoral candidate, it may be extended for a limited period by the departmental council. The application must state the extent to which an extension is necessary. Repeated applications for extensions can only be granted in justified exceptional cases for a maximum of 6 months each. This does not apply to extensions of the deadline according to § 26 Para. 5 HochSchG; these must be reported to the Dean’s Office.

(8) A person who has received confirmation of acceptance is obliged to register as a doctoral candidate at the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern. She or he will furthermore be registered as a doctoral candidate by the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern upon her or his application. Further details are regulated by the enrolment regulations.

II. Application for doctorate

§ 5 Application for initiation of the doctoral procedure

The application for the initiation of the doctoral procedure (admission) must be submitted by the doctoral candidate in writing to the Dean of the Department of Physics of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern. The application must contain:

1. a declaration that the doctoral candidate is aware of the applicable doctoral degree regulations,

2. a declaration by the doctoral candidate that the submitted dissertation was written independently, the aids used for the work are named, the results of any collaborators and other authors involved have been clearly marked and whether the dissertation or parts of the dissertation have already been submitted to another department as an examination paper, or whether a
doctoral procedure has already been applied for at a university, together
with full details of its outcome, if applicable.

§ 6 Required documents, dissertation

The application for a doctorate must include:

a) a curriculum vitae of the doctoral candidate, which provides information on the
educational background and professional development,

b) Proof of authorship or co-authorship of a publication on own research work that
has been published or accepted for publication after scientific quality assurance
(pre-publication). The departmental council may waive this proof in justified
exceptional cases. In this case, the application must be accompanied by a detailed
written justification by the doctoral candidate and a statement by the supervisor.

c) 6 copies of the dissertation in German or English. The dissertation must be a
scientific paper that represents an advance in scientific knowledge at the time of
the doctoral application and which demonstrates the applicant’s ability to work
independently in scientific research. Another examination paper cannot be
submitted as part of the dissertation. The dissertation shall contain an abstract in
German and an abstract in English of no more than two pages each. The copies
shall have a title page which must state "dem Fachbereich Physik der Technischen
Universität Kaiserslautern zur Erlangung des akademischen Grades ‘Doktor der
Naturwissenschaften’ eingereichte Dissertation" (dissertation submitted to the
Department of Physics of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern for the award
of the academic degree of ‘Doctor of Natural Sciences’), mentioning the name of
the supervisor and the date of the application for the opening of the doctoral
examination procedure. A short CV shall also be added. With the consent of the
supervisor, the dissertation may be written in a cumulative manner, based on
publications by the doctoral candidate that have a recognisable thematic
connection. In this case, it consists of a comprehensive introduction to the topic
of the dissertation in the larger scientific context, a summary showing the doctoral
candidate’s contribution to the individual publications and copies of the
publications. The publications must have been made accessible to the scientific
public.

d) proof of payment of the doctoral fee in accordance with the
Landesgebührenordnung.
§ 7 Retention of documents

(1) The submitted documents shall remain with the department in any case. The documents shall be retained in compliance with the doctoral candidate's data protection interests.

(2) The doctoral candidate may inspect the files after completion of the procedure.

III. Doctoral procedure

§ 8 Doctoral examination committee

(1) If the requirements for opening the doctoral procedure are met, the departmental council shall appoint a doctoral examination committee. It consists of a chairperson, two examiners and a member of the department with an examination authorisation and an advisory vote. If necessary, a further examiner with an advisory vote shall be included (see Para. 7). Professors and junior professors of the Technische Universität as well as lecturers of the department who have habilitated in Germany and who regularly offer courses in the department are entitled to take examinations. The departmental council may grant examination authorisation to other members of the department who hold a doctorate, to external examiners in Para. 4 and to members of partner universities in § 19.

(2) The chairperson shall be appointed from among the professors of the department on a rotating basis.

(3) The supervisor according to § 2 (2) and § 4 (5) is always the first examiner.

(4) The second examiner shall be a member of the department or a member of the professorial body of another department at the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern who is entitled to conduct examinations. If the type of the dissertation deems it appropriate, he or she may also be chosen from among renowned scientists at scientific institutes and universities.

(5) None of the examiners may simultaneously be the chairperson of the doctoral committee.
(6) The Dean shall inform the applicant of the members of the doctoral committee.

(7) The doctoral candidate has the right to appoint another examiner according to Para. 1 with an advisory vote with their consent. If this option is used, this must be done no later than one week after the announcement of the members of the doctoral committee.

(8) The doctoral candidate has the option of submitting an application to the departmental council for the precautionary appointment of the doctoral committee if it can be assumed that the documents in § 6 can be submitted before the next meeting. If the documents are not available by the next meeting, the precautionary appointment shall lapse. A further precautionary nomination for the same person is not possible. In this case, the doctoral committee is only established by the departmental council after the documents have been submitted.

(9) The departmental council determines whether the subject area of the submitted thesis should be considered in the following procedure for the degree Doctor rerum naturalium, abbreviated: Dr. rer. nat. or Doctor philosophiae naturalis abbreviated: Dr. phil. nat. The title Dr. phil. nat. is usually awarded for doctoral theses with a focus on didactic research.

§ 9 Reports

(1) After examination of the dissertation, the examiners shall each submit a written report to the Dean independently of each other. The examiners assess the thesis as

- excellent (assessment grade 0)
- very good (assessment grade 1)
- good (assessment grade 2)
- sufficient (assessment grade 3)
- or insufficient (assessment grade 4)

Intermediate values between 0 and 3 by increasing or decreasing the assessment grade by ± 0.3 are permissible.

(2) As a rule, the reports shall be submitted within four weeks. In case of delay, the Dean shall ensure that the reports are received.
(3) If the two examiners with voting rights assess the dissertation as insufficient, the dissertation shall be rejected.

(4) If only one of the examiners with voting rights assesses the dissertation as insufficient, a further report shall be obtained. The doctoral candidate may make suggestions for this if he or she has not already appointed an examiner in accordance with § 8 (7). The third examiner shall be appointed by the Dean from among the persons entitled to conduct examinations § 8 (1). If the third report also rates the dissertation as "insufficient", the dissertation shall be rejected. If the grade of the third report is at least "sufficient", the grade of the dissertation is also sufficient (3.0).

(5) If the average of the two reports is 0.5 or better, the doctoral committee (§ 8) shall be extended to include one member of the department with examination rights and an advisory vote. The additional member shall be appointed on a rotational basis from the list of persons authorised to examine in the department.

(6) Examiners who award a distinction (0.0 or 0.3) must enclose a separate summary justification showing which assessment criteria justify a distinction, whereby technical details should be omitted. The justification is distributed to the members of the department authorised to examine, to the doctoral committee and to the departmental council before the defence.

(7) The dissertation is passed if none of the examiners with voting rights assesses the dissertation as "insufficient". The chairperson of the doctoral committee shall immediately inform the doctoral candidate and the Dean of the decision and, if accepted, of the grade of the dissertation.

(8) If the dissertation is rejected (Para. 3 and Para. 4 Sentence 4), the Dean's Office shall notify the doctoral candidate in writing of the decision with reasons and instructions on how to appeal and inform the Departmental Council at its next meeting.

§ 10 Display

(1) The dissertation must be available for inspection by all members of the department, including doctoral candidates, in the Dean's Office for at least 14 days prior to the defence in §11.
During this time, all members of the departmental council, the doctoral committee and all doctoral members of the department may inspect the reports. The examiners take into account and evaluate written comments on the dissertation or the reports from this group of persons and can then revise their reports accordingly.

If the reports in § 9 are not available in time or if reports are revised on the basis of comments, the Dean shall set a new date for the defence in accordance with § 11 (1).

The doctoral candidate is given the opportunity to revise the dissertation for the final version (§ 13 (2)) based on recommendations of the examiners and available comments.

§ 11 Oral defence

(1) If the dissertation has been assessed with at least "sufficient", the Dean shall set the date for the defence. Invitations to this shall be posted.

(2) The defence is open to the university public. Upon application by the doctoral candidate, the chairperson of the doctoral committee shall decide on exceptions. These shall be granted in the presentation for relatives and acquaintances, in the discussion only in professionally justified cases. Upon application by the doctoral candidate, the equal opportunities officers may attend the defence in accordance with § 26 (3) No. 5 HochschG.

(3) The defence shall take place in German or English. It shall be chaired by the chairperson of the doctoral committee. The presence of all members of the doctoral committee is required during the entire defence. If the chairperson or another member of the doctoral committee is unable to attend, the Dean shall decide on a substitute in urgent cases or determine a new date in accordance with Para. 1.

(4) At the beginning of the defence, the doctoral candidate shall give a presentation on the dissertation, which shall be followed by a scientific discussion. The presentation should not last more than 30 minutes, the scientific discussion should last one hour. The main part of the scientific discussion should cover questions related to the field of the dissertation. In the last part of the scientific discussion, questions should also be asked in the broader context of the
field of the dissertation. The doctoral candidate may use both blackboard or electronic presentation tools for the presentation. In the scientific discussion, no other prepared slides etc. may be used apart from the materials shown in the presentation. All members of the doctoral committee are entitled to ask questions. In addition, members present who are authorised to examine (§ 8 (1)) may also ask questions.

(5) Minutes shall be kept of the course of the defence by a member of the department who holds a doctorate.

§ 12 Assessment

(1) Immediately after the defence, the doctoral examination committee shall meet and assess the defence as

   excellent (assessment grade 0)
   very good (assessment grade 1)
   good (assessment grade 2)
   sufficient (assessment grade 3)
   or insufficient (assessment grade 4)

Intermediate values between 0 and 3 by increasing or decreasing the assessment grade by ± 0.3 are permissible.

The doctorate is passed if the defence has been assessed as at least sufficient. The doctoral committee simultaneously determines the approved version of the dissertation. The public is excluded from this meeting, with the exception of persons authorised to examine (§ 8 (1)).

(2) If the doctorate has been passed, the overall grade shall consist of the arithmetic mean, calculated to two decimal points, of the double-weighted grade of the dissertation and the grade of the defence. The overall assessment is:

   with distinction (assessment grade 0 to 0.33)
   very good (assessment grade 0.34 to 1.50)
   good (assessment grade 1.51 to 2.50)
   sufficient (assessment grade 2.51 to 3.00)
The assessments of the dissertation and the defence as well as the overall grade shall be recorded in the minutes. The committee may make suggestions for amendments to the dissertation, which are to be taken into account in the deposit copies for publication in § 13.

(3) The doctoral candidate shall be informed of the result in the presence of the doctoral examination committee.

(4) The chairperson of the doctoral committee shall inform the Dean of the result.

(5) If the doctorate is not deemed to have been passed after the result of the defence, the doctoral candidate may repeat it once, at the earliest three months later and at the latest before the expiry of one year, if the repetition was applied for within one month after the date of the defence.

(6) If no repetition has been requested after an unsuccessful defence or if the doctorate cannot be completed even after a repeated defence, the doctoral procedure shall be discontinued. The doctoral candidate shall be informed accordingly.

§ 13 Publication, deposit copies

(1) The results of the dissertation shall be made available to the scientific public in an appropriate manner through reproduction and dissemination. The dissertation shall be deemed to have been made accessible to the academic public in an appropriate manner if, after the doctorate has been completed, the doctoral candidate delivers the approved version of the dissertation within twelve months to the Dean's Office or the university publications office for the benefit of the university library, in addition to the copy required for the examination files, four copies for archiving, which must be printed on non-ageing wood-free and acid-free paper and bound in a permanently durable manner (deposit copies) and also ensures distribution in one of the following ways:

a) By submitting publications in scientific publication organs that reflect the essential content of the work. The examiners shall determine whether the publication of the dissertation complies with this condition. Where appropriate, the publications may be made jointly with other participating scientists.
b) By publication of the dissertation with a proven ISBN number via the book trade by a commercial publisher with a minimum print run of 150 copies; the publication must be identified as a dissertation on the reverse of the title page,
stating the location of the dissertation. Alternatively, publication by a publisher via "print-on-demand" is possible. Here, too, distribution via the book trade must be ensured. A written declaration by the publisher on the availability of at least 150 copies for at least two years must be submitted.

c) The delivery of four further copies, each in book or photo print. In addition, a file containing the complete dissertation in a generally electronically readable portable document format must be submitted.

(2) The deposit copies of the dissertation must be provided with a special title page on which it must state "vom Fachbereich der Physik der Technischen Universität Kaiserslautern zur Verleihung des akademischen Grades ‘Doktor der Naturwissenschaften’ genehmigte Dissertation" (dissertation approved by the Department of Physics of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern for the award of the academic degree of 'Doctor of Natural Sciences'), mentioning the name of the supervisor and the date of the defence. The mark of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern for library use, DE-386, shall be indicated on the title page. A brief description of the author's curriculum vitae shall be attached to the dissertation.

§ 14 Doctoral certificate

(1) The doctorate shall be finalised by the awarding of a certificate if the dissertation has been made accessible to the public in an appropriate manner in accordance with §13. The certificate shall contain the title of the dissertation and the overall grade. It bears the signature of the Dean and the President as well as the seal of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern. It shall be issued immediately after the defence bearing the same date.

(2) Only after receipt of the certificate is the doctoral candidate entitled to use the academic degree "Doctor of Natural Sciences" (Doctor rerum naturalium, abbreviated: Dr. rer. nat. or Doctor philosophiae naturalis abbreviated: Dr. phil. nat.).

§ 15 Termination of the doctoral procedure

(1) A doctoral candidate's application for withdrawal of the doctoral application shall be granted as long as the dissertation has not yet been rejected.

(2) The doctoral procedure shall be discontinued,
a) if the doctoral candidate fails to appear at the date set for the defence without good cause or
b) if the publication does not materialise or the doctoral candidate fails to hand in the deposit copies of the dissertation within the set time limit §13 (1) and not in the prescribed form and number.

(3) If it is established that the doctoral candidate has knowingly made misleading statements or has deceived the doctoral committee or one of its members, the departmental council shall advise whether the doctoral procedure is to be discontinued; in case of doubt, the procedure shall be suspended until clarification. The doctoral candidate shall be given the opportunity to comment on the allegations.

(4) If the doctorate has not been awarded for one of the reasons stated in Para. 2 and § 9 Paras. 3 and 4, the doctoral candidate may apply for a new doctoral procedure for the award of the academic degree of "Doctor of Natural Sciences" after one year at the earliest. This shall also apply in the case of a doctorate which was not awarded by another higher education institution. For the repetition, an application in accordance with § 5 and § 6 must be submitted with a new topic. A third application for a doctorate in natural sciences cannot be granted.

IV. Other

§ 16 Revocation of the doctoral degree

The academic degree of "Doctor of Natural Sciences" shall be revoked if it is found that it was obtained by deception. The person concerned shall be heard beforehand.

§ 17 Decision-making procedure

(1) The departmental council shall be responsible for all decisions in doctoral matters, unless these regulations state otherwise.
(2) If the doctoral candidate is a member of the departmental council, he or she shall be excluded from the deliberations on his or her doctorate. He or she shall not take part in voting. The statutory number of members of the departmental council shall not change as a result.

(3) The departmental council shall be the appeal body.

(4) Decisions of the departmental council or the doctoral committee shall, if they adversely affect the doctoral candidate, be substantiated in writing and accompanied by instructions on how to appeal.

§ 18 Honorary doctorate

(1) The Department of Physics may award the academic dignity of "Doctor of Natural Sciences honoris causa" (Doctor rerum naturalium honoris causa, abbreviated: Dr. rer. nat. h. c.) as a rare distinction for outstanding scientific achievements in the field of natural sciences. The person to be honoured may not be an active member of the university.

(2) An honorary doctorate must be discussed in two departmental council meetings not too soon after each other according to the agenda and approved by a three-quarters majority.

(3) The honorary doctorate shall be conferred by the ceremonial presentation of a certificate in which the merits of the person to be honoured are acknowledged.

§ 19 Joint doctoral degree programme with other universities and universities of applied sciences

(1) A doctoral procedure may also be carried out in joint supervision with a department of a university of applied sciences or another recognised university (hereinafter referred to as partner university) if there is academic cooperation between the participating universities and an added value arises for the doctoral candidate that would not be provided by a doctorate at a single university. The doctoral candidate is supervised by an authorised member of each of the two participating institutions.
(2) The prerequisite is that a written agreement (individual agreement or framework agreement) is made with the partner university on the implementation of a doctorate in joint supervision, which requires the approval of the Physics Faculty Council of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern.

(3) The rules for the provision and assessment of the required doctoral performance shall continue to follow the present doctoral regulations, whereby the group of persons authorised to examine may be extended by corresponding members of the partner universities in accordance with § 8 (1). The agreement, Para. 2, may stipulate that further requirements must be fulfilled for a joint doctorate.

(4) If the partner university has the right to award doctorates, the submission of the dissertation and the examination may be carried out in accordance with the unrestricted doctoral regulations of the partner university, notwithstanding Para. 3, if this has been stipulated in the agreement. The dissertation and all associated reports must be made available to the department at the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern in English or German for display and inspection in accordance with § 10 in due time. The participation of members of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern who are entitled to take examinations in the corresponding disputation may not be restricted. Participation may also take place by means of broadcasting within the scope of technical possibilities. A dissertation that has already been submitted to the partner university and accepted or rejected there cannot be resubmitted to the Department of Physics at the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern.

(5) After successful completion of the doctoral procedure in accordance with the agreement with the partner university, a joint doctoral certificate signed by both universities and bearing the seals of both institutions may be handed out, in derogation of §14, stating that it is a doctoral degree jointly awarded by the participating universities for a scientific achievement. The agreement between the partner higher education institutions must stipulate which higher education institution is responsible for issuing and handing over the certificate and that it is not possible for a second certificate to be issued by the respective other higher education institution.

§ 20 Coming into force and transitional regulation
(1) These regulations shall enter into force on the day after publication in the Gazette of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern. At the same time, the doctoral regulations of the Department of Physics of 19.09.1975 (Staatsanzeiger 1975, p. 879), last amended by the regulations of 01.04.1998 (StAnz. No. 14, of 04.05.1998, p. 629), shall cease to be in force.

(2) Doctoral candidates who have already been accepted or admitted to the doctoral procedure may, for a period of 2 years after entry into force, complete their doctoral project on application in accordance with the former doctoral regulations. Otherwise, the period of § 4 (7) sentence 1 shall begin with the promulgation of these regulations.

Kaiserslautern, 18.05.2021

Dean of the Department of Physics
of the Technische Universität Kaiserslautern

Prof. Dr. Herwig Ott