

## TRANSLATION

The present English translation of the official document *Promotionsordnung der International Graduate School of Neuroscience* is not legally binding and serves for information purposes only.

### Doctoral Programme of the International Graduate School of Neuroscience of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum of 13 October 2003

Based on § 2, Sec. 4 and § 97, Sec. 4 of the Law Relating to Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of North Rhine Westphalia (Law Relating to Institutions of Higher Learning [Hochschulgesetz=HG]) of 14 March 2000 (Statutes of North Rhine Westphalia, p. 190), last revised by law on 28 January 2003, the Ruhr-Universität Bochum has enacted the following doctoral programme:

#### Table of Contents

§ 1	The Doctoral Degree
§ 2	Purpose of the Doctoral Programme
§ 3	Doctoral Examining Board
§ 4	Requirements for Admission
§ 5	Acceptance as a Doctoral Candidate
§ 6	Guidance of Doctoral Candidates
§ 7	Admission to the Doctoral Programme
§ 8	The Doctoral Committee
§ 9	The Dissertation
§ 10	Assessment of the Dissertation
§ 11	The Oral Examination
§ 12	Evaluation of the Doctoral Candidate's Performance
§ 13	Legal Recourse
§ 14	Required Copies and Publication of the Dissertation
§ 15	The Doctoral Diploma, Right to Hold the Degree, Disqualification
§ 16	The Honorary Doctorate
§ 17	Interim Regulations
§ 18	Date on Which the Regulations Take Effect

#### Preamble

The training of doctoral candidates and the implementation of the procedure leading to the doctorate at the International Graduate School of Neuroscience are the sole responsibility of the International Graduate School of Neuroscience (IGSN).

#### § 1

##### The Doctoral Degree

(1) The "International Graduate School of Neuroscience" of the Ruhr-University of Bochum confers the degree of "Philosophiae doctoris" (PhD) in Neuroscience" on both male and female candidates on the basis of a formal procedure after the successful completion of a doctoral study programme at the International Graduate School of Neuroscience.

(2) For special neuroscientific achievements or equivalent intellectual accomplishments in the promotion of the neurosciences, the School awards the degree of "PhD in Neuroscience honoris causa (PhD h.c.) (Ruhr-University of Bochum)" to male and female candidates on the basis of a decision of the Governing Board of the International Graduate School of Neuroscience (IGSN).

#### §2

##### Purpose of the Doctoral Programme

The conferral of the doctorate certifies the ability to carry out independent scientific work going beyond the general goals of study. The following achievements are required to gain this certification.

1. Successful completion of the doctoral study programme of the IGSN (plus proof of completion of the required 57 semester hours of course work). Specific requirements are regulated by the curriculum of the doctoral study programme;
2. a dissertation in English in the field of the neurosciences;
3. an oral examination in English (presentation and disputation), and
4. delivery of the required copies of the dissertation and proof of its dissemination in the scientific community in accordance with § 12.

#### §3

##### Doctoral Examining Board

(1) The doctoral examining board has the power of decision with regard to the implementation of the procedure leading to the doctorate and all questions concerning the doctoral programme. The doctoral examining board can authorise its chairperson to act on all current matters. The doctoral examining board acts as the court of appeal according to the law governing the administrative court system.

(2) The doctoral examining board is composed of five members of the curriculum committee, the chairperson and one student and will be appointed by the governing board. One member of each of the departments participating in the IGSN (Medicine, Biology, Chemistry and Psychology), as well as a member of the Institute for Neuroinformatics, will be represented. As a rule, the doctoral examining board consists of professors, junior professors, and up to two persons with doctorates. The student member is selected upon the recommendation of fellow-students. With regard to pedagogical or academic decisions, the student member has an advisory function without the right to vote.

(3) The chairperson of the doctoral examining board is the academic dean of the IGSN. A representative will be named from the doctoral examining board.

(4) The period of service of the members of the doctoral examining board is the same as that of the curricular committee. A new doctoral examining board is automatically formed when the curricular committee is re-elected.

(5) The meetings of the doctoral examining board are not public; they will be called by the chairperson. A quorum of the doctoral examining board is constituted when a simple majority of the members is present. The board takes decisions by a majority of the voting members. If the vote is tied, the vote of the chairperson is decisive. It is the responsibility of the chairperson to have minutes of every meeting written, in which the points of discussion and decisions are presented.

(6) The doctoral examining board has the following special functions:

1. Deciding about the admission of doctoral candidates and the opening of the procedure leading to the doctorate,
2. Determination of supplementary studies according to § 4 Sec. 1b, or § 7 Sec. 2.
3. Assigning the doctoral committee to name the chairperson, the reader or readers of the dissertation, and, where required, a professor, a junior professor or the holder of a post-doctoral qualification of the IGSN in accordance with § 8 Sec. 2 Item 1.
4. Determination of the date of the oral examination and, in case of failure, of the deadline for a repetition of the examination.
5. Conclusion of the procedure leading to the doctorate through completion of the doctorate, or a decision to halt

the procedure, or termination of an unsuccessful procedure.

(7) A decision by the doctoral examining board to halt the procedure leading to the doctorate, or to terminate it without success, must be communicated to the doctoral candidate in writing and include a statement of the reasons and instructions as to legal recourse.

#### §4

##### Requirements for Admission

(1) Admission to the doctoral programme is based upon fulfilment of the following requirements:

- a) Successful completion of an appropriate course of university study lasting at least 8 semesters and concluding with the degree "diploma, state examination, or master's", or
- b) Successful completion of an appropriate course of university study lasting at least 6 semesters in addition to at least one year of successful study at the International Graduate School of Neuroscience, or
- c) Successful completion of medical studies with the third state examination or the international equivalent (e.g., M.D.), or completion of the second state examination in addition to at least one year of study in the Graduate School, or
- d) The completion of an appropriate supplementary programme of study in accordance with § 88, Sec. 2 of the Law Relating to Institutions of Higher Learning [Hochschulrahmengesetz=HG]

As a rule, studies in the natural sciences, medicine, psychology and neuroinformatics are considered appropriate, in addition to neurosciences.

(2) Completion of studies in the sense of Sec. 2 a and 2 b will be regarded as accredited if the overall grade upon completion is no worse than an accredited "gut [good]" (at least 1.7) and the grade for the "Diplomarbeit " [senior thesis] is no worse than "sehr gut [very good]" (at least 1.5).

(3) For equivalent degrees attained at foreign institutions, the same basic requirements for admission apply as for German degrees. The doctoral examining board will determine equivalence based upon international agreements, the evaluation of the Central Office for Foreign Education of the Permanent Council of the Ministers of Education of the Federal States [Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen der ständigen Konferenz der Kultusminister der Länder] or of the Council of Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning [Hochschulrektorenkonferenz], and upon the basis of agreements with affiliated institutions.

(4) Candidates in the sense of § 4 Sec. 1, a—d, and of Sec. 3, are required to indicate to the doctoral examining board their intention to pursue the doctorate and to present to the board documentation of their successful completion of studies before beginning their doctoral studies. Admission is only possible if the application is accompanied by proof that a member of the IGSN is providing guidance for the candidate and if the area of the planned dissertation can be approved by the doctoral examining board.

(5) With regard to command of the English language: For the purposes of the doctoral study programme at the IGSN, adequate knowledge of English will be determined by the committee on studies of the IGSN.

#### § 5

##### Acceptance as a Doctoral Candidate

(1) At the outset of work on the doctorate, a written application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate at the IGSN is to be sent to the chairperson of the doctoral examining board. Following acceptance, the applicant will be entered in the list of doctoral candidates of the IGSN.

(2) The application must include the following:

1. A curriculum vitae with an account of the applicant's formal education.
2. A leaving certificate as defined in § 4.
3. A leaving certificate qualifying the applicant to study at a German institute of higher learning, or some other certification allowing study at a German institute of higher learning.
4. The working title of the dissertation and a description of no more than one page of the goals of the dissertation.
5. The certification of a graduate school as to the successful defense of the concept of the dissertation.
6. A written statement by two members of the IGSN declaring that they will direct the dissertation.
7. In principle, applications to pursue the doctorate (§ 7, Sec. 3) can be made if the dissertation has been partly or entirely completed at another graduate school of scientific research, as long as the director of the project is also a member of the IGSN of the Ruhr-Universität Bochum.

(3) The doctoral examining board determines the acceptance of the applicant.

Acceptance as a doctoral candidate will be refused if:

- a) there is no member of the IGSN available who is qualified to direct the project,
- b) in the case of experimental projects the necessary equipment and workspace cannot be provided,
- c) the formal requirements for a doctoral project laid down in the doctoral programme are not fulfilled.

(4) The doctoral examining board cannot compel a member of the IGSN to accept or reject specific applicants as doctoral candidates, nor can doctoral candidates be assigned to a member of the IGSN as their director against their will.

(5) A rejection of the application in the sense of Sec. 1 must be given to the applicant by the chairperson of the doctoral examining board in writing and include the reasons for the rejection as well as indications of legal recourse.

#### § 6

##### Guidance of Doctoral Candidates

(1) Acceptance as a doctoral candidate confers the right to counselling by the doctoral examining board and guidance by two professorial members of the IGSN, including the provision of adequate workspace and equipment and written assessments of the dissertation. With the approval of the doctoral examining board, a co-worker at the IGSN with a doctorate can, in agreement with a professorial member of staff, take over the guidance. This agreement must be communicated to the doctoral examining board in writing. The first director will function as the direct counsellor. The second director will serve in an advisory capacity.

(2) Preliminary publication of important results from work on the dissertation is permissible with the approval of the director. The doctoral examining board must be informed.

(3) The termination of the relationship between a member of the doctoral examining board acting as dissertation director and a candidate may be effected by either party, but must in every case be reported to the doctoral examining board in writing. The doctoral examining board can require a written explanation.

(4) If such a relationship is terminated for reasons not requiring explanation by the candidate, the doctoral examining board is obliged to exhaust all possibilities enabling the continuation of the dissertation.

#### §7

##### Admission to the Doctoral Programme

(1) The successful completion of the IGSN-curriculum at the IGSN in accordance with the study programme of the IGSN is the prerequisite for admission.

For the successful completion of the curriculum of the IGSN, the following requirements must be fulfilled:

1. Documented participation in the lecture series of the IGSN as well as successful completion of the concluding test.
2. Successful completion of the intermediate examinations.
3. Completion of the 57 semester hours required by the study programme, as credited by participation in the IGSN-curriculum (as well as documented participation by associate members in courses equivalent to those in the curriculum according to Par. 2).

(2) Members of a graduate institute (Graduiertenkolleg), a Max Planck Research School, or a graduate school can be admitted to the doctoral programme. If the graduate institute, the Max Planck Research School, or the graduate school offers an equivalent to the study programme of the IGSN, then this course of study can, with adequate documentation, be recognised by the IGSN. Successful completion of a test on the entire contents of the lecture series of the IGSN "From Molecules to Cognition" is the prerequisite for admission. The doctoral examining board will decide about exceptions (i.e., the equivalence of substitute credits).

(3) After finishing the Ph.D.- study programme, usually at the end of the third year, someone who presents a dissertation and fulfils the requirements stated in § 4 and § 7, Sec. 1 and 2, will be admitted to the doctoral course of study.

(4) The application for admission to the doctoral programme must be presented in writing to the chairperson of the doctoral examining board. The application must include the following:

either:

1. five copies of the dissertation, bound or in pamphlet format, concluding with a tabular curriculum vitae describing the candidate's formal education. The dissertation must be written in English and include the research project carried out in the area of the doctoral studies with an abstract, introduction, description of methods, results and discussion. The thesis must present an essential scientific contribution to the chosen subject matter of the research project.

or:

2. upon application of the student a cumulative dissertation consisting of publications in internationally reputable scientific journals with a system of evaluators (peer review). In this case the doctoral candidate must be the principal author. Written confirmation by the director that the candidate is in fact the author of the publications must accompany the application. An application for a cumulative dissertation must be presented to the doctoral examining board in writing. The doctoral examining board will decide whether a cumulative dissertation is acceptable in view of the application, and the quality and number of the publications. The cumulative dissertation must be written in English and present the research project undertaken within the framework of the doctoral study programme, and must also include an abstract, an introduction, and a discussion.

Further, the following are to be included in the application for admission to the doctoral programme:

3. All certificates documenting academic qualifications according to § 4, Sec. 1 through 3.
4. In the case of § 4, Sec. 1 b) and § 7, Sec. 2, certification of the successfully completed supplementary tests and course work.
5. A statement by the applicant that the dissertation was completed and written independently and without outside assistance, that the "Guidelines for Good Scientific Practice" (Leitlinien guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis) according to § 9, Sec. 3 were adhered to, and that it has never been submitted in this or a similar form at this or any other domestic or foreign institution of higher learning as a dissertation.
6. Information as to the members of the IGSN with doctorates who directed the dissertation.
7. An official statement of the applicant's police record, unless the applicant is a member of the civil service or the clergy.

8. Written proof (certificate of completion of studies) of the regular and successful participation in courses and seminars of the IGSN according to the curriculum, or documentation of the successful completion of a graduate study programme of at least 57 semester hours at another graduate school of natural sciences as required for the intended degree.
9. Proof that the intermediate examination of the IGSN study programme has been passed in accordance with the curriculum of the doctoral study programme of the IGSN

## §8

### The Doctoral Committee

(1) In the case of each doctoral candidacy the Doctoral Examining Board will appoint a Doctoral Committee with a Chairperson selected from among the professors who are members of the Governing Board. The Doctoral Committee is responsible for evaluating the performance of the doctoral candidate and for administering the oral examination. Members of the Doctoral Committee will be professors, pro-temporary professors, professors who have honorary positions and faculty members with the postdoctoral lecturing qualification. At least two members of the Doctoral Committee must be faculty of the IGSN.

(2) The Doctoral Committee will as a rule consist of the chairperson and three examiners, as well as one professor, pro-temporary professor, honorary professor or postdoctoral lecturer who is a member of the IGSN and whose area of specialization is not that in which the dissertation is written. The Doctoral Committee can be expanded if this is deemed necessary for reasons having to do with the subject matter. If in accordance with Section (4) a fourth examiner is appointed, this examiner will be a member of the Doctoral Committee if he or she is a professor, a pro-temporary professor, an honorary professor or a postdoctoral lecturer. If this is not the case, he or she can be named an official member of the Doctoral Committee.

(3) The first examiner is as a rule the dissertation director. The second examiner is as a rule the auxiliary dissertation director with an advisory function. The doctoral candidate may make a proposal regarding the appointment of the third examiner. The third examiner should if possible be someone with an international background and experience. The examiners are required to submit written assessments based on their independent appraisal of the candidate and the dissertation.

(4) If the dissertation has been written in another department of the Ruhr-University or outside of the Ruhr-University, the (external) dissertation director may be requested to submit an additional assessment. The (external) dissertation director will be made a member of the Doctoral Committee.

(5) All five or (in accordance with § 8 Sec. 4) six members of the Doctoral Committee are eligible to cast a vote. The decision of the Doctoral Committee is reached according to the simple majority. In case of a tie the vote of the chairperson will be the determining vote. Abstentions are not allowed.

(6) If an already appointed member of the Doctoral Committee is not able to see the procedure through to its conclusion (for example for medical reasons), the chairperson will name a replacement.

## §9

### The Dissertation

(1) In writing the dissertation the doctoral candidate must demonstrate the ability to perform independent research work in the area of Neuroscience. The dissertation must contain scientific findings which the candidate has arrived at through his own work, and the presentation of these findings must conform to the standards and demands of scientific research. The dissertation must be classifiable according to the areas of speciality covered in the IGSN. The Doctoral Committee will make a final ruling concerning possible exceptions to this regulation. If parts of the dissertation have been previously published, this must be indicated.

(2) The dissertation must be written in English.

(3) The doctoral candidates must comply with the regulations laid down in the latest version of "Guidelines for Good Scientific Practice" in the Official Publications of the Ruhr-University No. 476 (July 23, 2002): Guidelines for Good Scientific Practice and Procedural Principles for Dealing with Suspected Infringements in Academic Research Work [Leitlinien guter wissenschaftlicher Praxis und Grundsätze für das Verfahren bei vermutetem wissenschaftlichen Fehlverhalten].

(4) The dissertation must be submitted to the chairperson of the Doctoral Examining Board in a binding and in a form prepared for printing. It must contain references to all sources, secondary works and publications used.

(5) If the research was carried out in conjunction with others, the doctoral candidate must submit a dissertation in which he or she documents his or her own contribution.

(6) The dissertation can be withdrawn by the doctoral candidate as long as no written assessments have yet been submitted by the examiners. If the dissertation is withdrawn under these circumstances, it will be regarded as not having been submitted and the procedure as not having been initiated. If the doctoral candidate withdraws the dissertation at a later point, the procedure will be regarded as having been concluded unsuccessfully.

(7) A copy of the dissertation will be retained as part of the official files, even in cases in which the procedure has been declared unsuccessfully concluded.

## §10

### Assessment of the Dissertation

(1) The dissertation will be made available to the three examiners. The examiners will write independent assessments in which they recommend that the dissertation be accepted and given a mark in accordance with Section (2), that it be rejected, or that it be returned to the doctoral candidate to be reworked or expanded. If the examiners differ by more than one mark in their evaluations of the dissertation, the Dean of Studies of the IGSN or his or her deputy will have the right to have the dissertation assessed by other experts before a majority decision is taken. An additional assessment must be obtained if three assessments have been submitted by members of the Doctoral Committee and one of the examiners has voted to reject it whereas the others have voted to accept it. The additional reader of the dissertation will then be named a member of the Doctoral Committee if he or she is a professor, an honorary professor or a postdoctoral university lecturer. If two examiners reject the dissertation, the procedure is concluded.

(2) The dissertation can be given the marks "very good" (*magna cum laude*), "good" (*cum laude*), "satisfactory" (*rite*) or "unsatisfactory" (*immaturus*). The assessment can contain the proposal that the Doctoral Committee consider giving the mark "with distinction" (*summa cum laude*) in accordance with § 12, Sec. (3) when making the final evaluation.

(3) If an examiner recommends that the dissertation be returned to the doctoral candidate with suggestions for revision or expanding, the Doctoral Committee will make a ruling on this recommendation and set a suitable time limit for re-submitting the dissertation after it has been returned to the candidate. If the dissertation is not re-submitted within the time limit, it is considered rejected.

(4) The dissertation can only be returned to the candidate and re-submitted once in accordance with Section (3). The dissertation must be re-submitted to the original examiners.

(5) The examiners can make their acceptance of the dissertation subject to conditions of revision or expansion which have to be fulfilled before the dissertation is published.

(6) The examiners must submit their assessments to the chairperson of the Doctoral Examining Board at the latest one month after the dissertation has been made available to them for review.

(7) The dissertation and the written assessments will be made available in the Dean of Studies' Office of the IGSN for two weeks so that the members of the Doctoral Committee as well as all

professors, pro-temporary professors, honorary professors, postdoctoral lecturers and academic staff with doctorates who are members of the Doctoral Examining Board can have access to them. During the same time period the dissertation will be made available in the Dean of Studies' Office for inspection by the members of the Doctoral Examining Board of the IGSN.

(8) All staff members of the IGSN who have doctorates have the right to make a written statement about the dissertation and the assessments. Members of staff wishing to avail themselves of this right must give notice of their intention of doing so within the two-week period during which the dissertation is made available for inspection, and the statement must be submitted to the Dean of Studies during the same two-week period.

(9) The Doctoral Committee will make the final decision to accept or reject the dissertation on the basis of the examiners' assessments and the statements which may be submitted in accordance with Section (8).

(10) If the dissertation is rejected, the procedure is concluded. Another dissertation or a thoroughly revised version of the original dissertation on the same topic can be submitted after a half year at the earliest. If the result is again a rejection, no further attempt by the candidate to obtain a doctorate can be made at the IGSN.

## §11

### Oral Examination

(1) If the dissertation is accepted, the Doctoral Examining Board, at the suggestion of the chairperson, will set a date for the oral examination

(2) The oral examination is conducted by the Doctoral Committee, chaired by the chairperson.

(3) The members of the Doctoral Examining Board, the Doctoral Committee and, if applicable, the external director (in accordance with § 8, Section 4) are invited to the oral examination.

(4) In the oral examination the doctoral candidate must demonstrate that he or she is capable of explaining his or her findings in a comprehensible manner, of defending their accuracy in response to questions and objections, and of discussing them in an academic forum; he or she must also show an appropriate knowledge of his or her area of speciality.

(5) The oral examination consists of a 25-30 minute talk delivered by the candidate, a discussion open to participation by all present concerning the most important findings of the dissertation and a subsequent disputation between the candidate and the Doctoral Committee about the dissertation and the candidate's area of speciality. The disputation must as a rule last for an hour. The oral examination of the candidate is open to attendance by faculty members and staff of the IGSN. Guests may be present by invitation.

(6) The number of people in attendance can be restricted by the chairperson if there is limited space.

(7) Only members of the Doctoral Committee are permitted to ask questions during the disputation.

(8) A transcript of the proceedings must be prepared. It must be signed by the chairperson of the Doctoral Committee.

(9) If the candidate is judged to have failed the oral examination, it can be repeated once, at the earliest in six months, at the latest in twelve months.

(10) A further repetition of the oral examination is possible only in exceptional cases if a good reason is given and the Doctoral Examining Board grants its approval.

## §12

### Evaluation of the Doctoral Candidate's Performance

(1) Immediately after the oral examination is concluded, the Doctoral Committee decides in a closed session whether the candidate has met the requirements laid down in § 11, Section 4. Members of the Doctoral Examining Board may participate in the consultation but have no right to cast a vote.

(2) If the Doctoral Committee decides in favour of the candidate, a mark in accordance with § 10, Sec. 2 is assigned to the oral examination as well as the dissertation.

(3) The Doctoral Committee then determines an overall mark for the candidate's performance in accordance with § 10, Sec. 2. In this process the dissertation must carry greater weight. If the individual marks are all determined to be "very good", the Doctoral Committee can, in cases of exceptional achievement and in consideration of the total impression made, set aside the categories stipulated in § 10, Sec. 2 and grant the degree "with distinction" (summa cum laude). Only the overall mark is to be recorded in the doctoral diploma.

(4) As soon as a decision has been reached by the Doctoral Committee, the chairperson informs the candidate in a closed session of the result of the Committee's deliberations and the overall mark.

(5) If the candidate has achieved a passing mark, the chairperson of the Doctoral Examining Board can, provided the candidate so requests, issue a provisional certificate subject to the depositing of the required copies of the dissertation (§ 14). This certificate does not entitle the candidate to officially use the doctoral title.

### **§13 Legal Recourse**

(1) The candidate can file an objection to the decisions of the Doctoral Committee and the Doctoral Examining Board within one month and in compliance with the regulations laid down by the Administrative Court. The objection must be filed in writing and directed to the chairperson of the Doctoral Examining Board.

(2) The Doctoral Examining Board can alter decisions against which an objection has been filed. If the objection concerns the evaluation of the doctoral candidate's performance by the Doctoral Committee, a decision to alter that evaluation can only be taken with the approval of the Doctoral Committee which made the disputed evaluation.

(3) After the end of the degree-granting procedures, the candidate or someone acting on his or her behalf is entitled to examine all of the documents pertaining thereto. These documents are not to be made available to third parties.

### **§14 Required Copies and Publication of the Dissertation**

(1) If the candidate passes the examination, the chairperson of the Doctoral Committee informs him or her if changes have to be made in compliance with § 10, Sec. 5 before the dissertation can be published. If that is the case, the revised manuscript must be submitted to the examiners for their approval before the required copies are produced.

(2) The doctoral candidate is required to make his or her dissertation available to the academic community in an appropriate form. This obligation is met if, in addition to depositing the required copy of the dissertation with the archives of the IGSN, the author also donates to the University Library free of charge three copies ("Required Copies") which are printed on durable, acid-free paper with no wood content and bound in a sturdy binding, and if furthermore he or she ensures that the findings will be made accessible to a broad public by taking one of the following steps:

- a) depositing 40 more copies free of charge in the form of books or photostatic copies, or
- b) providing evidence of publication in a journal, or
- c) providing evidence that the material has been distributed by booksellers in an edition of at least 150 copies; in this case the reverse of the title page must contain an indication that the work is a dissertation and a reference as to where the dissertation was accepted, or
- d) depositing free of charge a microfiche of the dissertation and 40 more copies, or

e) making available an electronic version, whose format and data carrier must be agreed upon with the University Library.

In cases a), d) and e) the doctoral candidate gives the University the right to produce further copies of his or her dissertation within the legal rights and responsibilities of the university library system, and to distribute these copies or make them available in data networks. If the dissertation is distributed by agents of the book trade and if a grant has been awarded from public funds to defray the costs of printing it, an appropriate number of copies must be turned over to the University Library for purposes of exchange.

(3) Within one year after the oral examination the doctoral candidate must make the required copies to be turned over to the university available and provide evidence that the dissertation has been made accessible to the academic community in compliance with Sec. 2.

(4) The deadline stipulated in Sec. 3 can be extended by the Doctoral Examining Board if the candidate shows good reason why this should be done. If the candidate fails to meet these deadlines, he or she will forfeit all the rights and privileges awarded on the basis of his examination

(5) The three required copies and the copy to be deposited with the archives of the IGSN in accordance with Sec. 2 must contain a particular title page and a curriculum vitae of the candidate. If it is determined that the copies do not meet these requirements, they will be categorically rejected. A dissertation that has been rejected for these reasons will be regarded as unpublished..

### **§15 The Doctoral Diploma, Right to Hold the Degree, Disqualification**

(1) If the candidate passes the examination, the chairperson of the Doctoral Examining Board issues a provisional certificate to this effect. After the candidate has fulfilled the requirements laid down in § 14, Sec. 2, the doctoral diploma will be given to him or her by the Dean of Studies of the IGSN in a ceremony which takes place on Graduation Day. If the candidate cannot be present on that occasion, he or she will be given the opportunity to receive the doctoral diploma in another appropriate way. The doctoral diploma will contain no mark except the overall evaluation (§12, Sec. 3). The additional doctoral certificate will contain the names of the examiners as well as the other members of the Doctoral Committee, the title of the dissertation, the marks awarded for the dissertation, for the disputation, or the repeated oral examination, as well as the overall evaluation. Both of these documents must be signed by the Dean of Studies.

(2) When the doctoral diploma is given to the candidate, the degree-granting procedure is concluded. From this point on he or she is entitled to hold the degree "Ph.D. in Neuroscience".

(3) If it is determined before the doctoral diploma has been conferred upon the candidate that he or she was guilty of cheating in the degree-granting procedure, the Doctoral Examining Board can refuse to award the degree and declare the procedure null and void.

(4) The doctoral degree can be rescinded, with the result that the doctoral diploma must be returned, if the candidate

- a) earned the degree by cheating or making false statements about matters of substantial significance,
- b) is found guilty of a crime committed wilfully and sentenced to imprisonment for at least one year,
- c) is convicted of a wilful crime in which he or she made use of the doctoral degree in preparing or carrying out the misdeed.

The Governing Board of the IGSN will make a ruling about the revoking of a doctoral degree.

(5) The Rector of the Ruhr-University will inform the appropriate ministry about the revocation or withdrawal of a doctoral degree.

## **§16**

### **The Honorary Doctorate**

(1) The Governing Board of the IGSN can award the degree "Honorary Ph.D. in Neuroscience" (Ph.D. h.c. (Ruhr-University)) for particular achievements in the area of Neuroscience or for making significant contributions in furthering the Neurosciences.

(2) The procedure can only be started by a petition made by one or more professors of the IGSN of the Ruhr-University and addressed to the elected representative of the Governing Board. Two-thirds of the IGSN professorial faculty must give their approval to the petition.

(3) If the Governing Board is in favour of initiating the procedure, it will set up a committee consisting of the Dean of Studies of the IGSN as chairperson and four professors. The Dean of Studies will deliver a report in a public meeting about the merits of the honouree.

(4) To award an honorary doctorate a two-thirds majority of the Governing Board must vote in favour of it. All the members of the Governing Board are entitled to cast a vote. Members entitled to cast a vote but unable to be present at the ballot can submit their votes in writing.

(5) The honorary doctorate will be conferred upon the honouree in the form of a doctoral diploma given to him or her. The doctoral diploma must contain a statement describing the merits of the honouree.

## **§ 17**

### **Interim Regulations**

Degree-granting procedures opened after these regulations have gone into effect will be conducted according to the stipulations of these regulations.

## **§18**

### **Date on which the Regulations Take Effect**

These regulations take effect on October 1, 2003. They will be published in the Official Publications of the Ruhr University Bochum.

Prepared in compliance with a resolution passed on August 14, 2003, by the Governing Board of the International Graduate School of Neuroscience of the Ruhr-University Bochum.

Bochum, October 13, 2003

The Rector  
of the Ruhr-University Bochum  
Professor Dr. Gerhard Wagner