

Pursuant to the Regulation on amendments to the Regulations on the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies (CLASS: 007-01/24-01/6; REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-24-1, of 17 June 2024), on 1 July 2024 the Secretary of the University of Rijeka Faculty of Maritime Studies established a consolidated text of the Regulations on the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies.

The consolidated text of the Regulations on the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies includes the Regulations on the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies (CLASS: 007-01/23-01/9; REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-23-1, of 17 July 2023) and the Regulation on amendments to the Regulations on the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies (CLASS: 007-01/24-01/6; REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-24-1, of 17 June 2024) indicating the time of their entry into force.

**REGULATIONS ON THE POSTGRADUATE UNIVERSITY STUDY  
MARITIME STUDIES  
(consolidated text)**

**1. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1**

- (1) The Regulations on the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies (hereinafter: Regulations) define the rules for the organization and implementation of the postgraduate study Maritime Studies (hereinafter: Postgraduate Study) and the procedure for obtaining the academic degree of Doctor of Science from the scientific area of technical sciences, scientific field of technology of traffic and transport.
- (2) The terms used in the Regulations that have gender-specific meaning are used in accordance with the principles of gender-sensitive and gender-neutral language, taking into account the clarity of the provisions and the readability of the text. It is considered that all forms of language in this Regulation refer to persons, regardless of gender identity.

**2. ORGANIZATION OF THE POSTGRADUATE STUDY**

**Article 2**

- (1) The Postgraduate Study is organized as a study for obtaining the academic degree of a doctor of science in accordance with the valid Act on Scientific Activity and Higher Education.
- (2) The Postgraduate Study is organized for candidates from various fields in the scientific area of technical sciences, including other scientific areas, provided they pass additional exams.

**Article 3**

- (1) The Postgraduate Study is an integrated and collaborative study of the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Maritime Studies (hereinafter: the Faculty), as the holder of the

postgraduate study and the collaborating institutions; the Maritime Department of the University of Dubrovnik, the Maritime Department of the University of Zadar, Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia in Split, Croatian Defense Academy “Dr. Franjo Tuđman”, the University of Defense and Security “Dr. Franjo Tuđman” and the Croatian Navy.

- (2) The Faculty shall be responsible for carrying out the Postgraduate Study.

#### **Article 4**

- (1) The Postgraduate Study shall last a minimum of three and a maximum of six years and shall end with the preparation and public defense of the doctoral dissertation.
- (2) The duration of the study program shall not include the period of an approved moratorium on the rights and obligations of the doctoral candidate.

#### **Article 5**

- (1) The Postgraduate Study shall be conducted according to a system of credits through scientific-research work and teaching.
- (2) The teaching process at the Postgraduate Study is conducted in the Faculty premises, or if necessary in the premises of the collaborating institutions or in another scientific-research institution.

### **3. POSTGRADUATE STUDY BODIES**

#### **Article 6**

The Faculty Council appoints the following:

- **Committee for Science and Postgraduate Study,**
- **Postgraduate Study Council,**
- **Postgraduate Study Head,**
- **Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules and**
- **Postgraduate Study Secretary.**

#### **Article 7**

##### ***Committee for Science and Postgraduate Study***

- (1) The Committee for Science and Postgraduate Study (hereinafter: the Committee) is composed of: Vice-Dean for scientific research activities in the capacity of the Committee Chairperson, Postgraduate Study Head and Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules.
- (2) The duties of the Committee are:
  - management of the Postgraduate Study,
  - determining a list of candidates applying for the postgraduate study and delivering such list to the Faculty Council for making the final decision regarding study enrolment,
  - proposing the Postgraduate Study program (hereinafter: the Program) as well as its amendments and admission quotas to the Faculty Council,
  - revising, analyzing and evaluating the implementation of the Program,
  - revising the Annual Report on the Postgraduate Study and forwarding it to the Faculty Council for its adoption,

- analyzing annual mentor’s and doctoral student’s reports,
  - proposing mentors and co-mentors to the Faculty Council,
  - proposing the members of the committees for evaluation and defense of the dissertation topic and doctoral dissertation to the Faculty Council,
  - performing other tasks in accordance with the Regulations.
- (3) The Committee shall meet at least twice per semester and, if necessary, invite the Dean, heads of collaborating institutions, mentors and Faculty Secretary to their meetings.

## **Article 8**

### ***Postgraduate Study Council***

- (1) The Postgraduate Study Council (hereinafter: Council) shall consist of: Vice-Dean for scientific research activity of the Faculty as the Counselor Chairperson, Faculty Dean, heads of the collaborating institutions and the Postgraduate Study Head.
- (2) The activities of the Council shall include the following:
- promoting the Postgraduate Study,
  - proposing the heads of the courses at the Postgraduate Study,
  - approving the proposal of the Program, its amendments and admission quotas.
- (3) The Council shall meet at least once a year, and if necessary invite the Committee members and the Faculty Secretary.

## **Article 9**

### ***Postgraduate Study Head***

- (1) The Postgraduate Study is managed by the Postgraduate Study Head.
- (2) The Postgraduate Study Head shall be appointed by Faculty Council from the Faculty’s scientific-teaching staff according to Dean’s proposal.
- (3) The Postgraduate Study Head shall be responsible for the following:
- managing the Postgraduate Study and helping with the organization of Committee meetings,
  - determining the schedule, consultations and exams in agreement with the course heads,
  - coordinating the activities related to the creation of the Program and its amendments,
  - establishing results of enrolment to the Postgraduate Study,
  - preparing the Annual Report on the Postgraduate Study containing the Annual Report on Classes Held and the review of mentors’ and doctoral candidates’ annual reports and delivering it to the Committee,
  - presenting the results of mentors’ and doctoral candidates’ annual reports about the progress on the postgraduate study to the Committee,
  - is a member of the Expert Council of the University of Rijeka Doctoral School.

## **Article 10**

### ***Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules***

- (1) The Postgraduate Study has the Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules.

- (2) The Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules shall be Faculty employees appointed to the scientific-teaching position, who are the heads of the courses at the Postgraduate Study.
- (3) The Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules shall be appointed by the Faculty Council for a term of three years at the proposal by the Dean, taking into consideration the number of published scientific papers of the highest category according to the applicable national criteria for selection to a scientific-teaching position, the citations of these papers and the prior co-mentoring or mentoring experience.
- (4) The Heads of the Postgraduate Study Modules shall:
  - lead the appropriate Postgraduate Study Modules set out in the Program,
  - help in modernizing and internationalizing the module courses,
  - participate in creating the Program and its amendments,
  - direct the candidate in his research within the appropriate module,
  - suggest additional courses for the candidates who have acquired previous education outside the scientific area of technical sciences, scientific field of technology of traffic and transport,
  - participate in conducting an assessment interview of candidates for the enrolment in the Postgraduate Study,
  - participate in the promotion of the Postgraduate Study.

#### **Article 11**

##### ***Postgraduate Study Secretary***

- (1) The Postgraduate Study shall have a Secretary.
- (2) The Postgraduate Study Secretary shall be appointed by the Faculty Council on the Dean's proposal.
- (3) The Postgraduate Study Secretary shall:
  - establish the results of doctoral candidates' enrolment,
  - organize the management of administrative work related to the Postgraduate Study,
  - prepare the documents for the Faculty Council meeting when the Council discusses the Postgraduate Study, as well as the materials for the Committee sessions,
  - participate in the work of the Committee and keep the minutes,
  - perform other duties as instructed by the Faculty Council and the Postgraduate Study Head.
- (4) The Postgraduate Study Secretary shall be assisted by an administrator appointed by the Dean, according to the proposal by the Postgraduate Study Head.

#### **4. ADMISSION TO POSTGRADUATE STUDY**

##### **Article 12**

- (1) The admission to the Postgraduate Study shall be carried out on the basis of a public tender.
- (2) The decision on announcing the tender for the admission of candidates to the Postgraduate Study shall be made by the Faculty Council, two months before the beginning of the program, on the proposal of the Committee.
- (3) The tender shall also include the Guidelines for the admission to the Postgraduate Study containing a list of current research topics and the corresponding potential mentors.

- (4) The public tender for admission to the Postgraduate Study shall be published in the daily press, on the Faculty web site and elsewhere as needed.

#### **Article 13**

- (1) A candidate shall submit the application for the Postgraduate Study on the prescribed form.
- (2) The proscribed form shall contain the list of mandatory documents needed to apply for the tender.

#### **Article 14**

- (1) Croatian citizens and persons who are not citizens of the Republic of Croatia shall have the right to apply to admission tender under the same conditions, provided they:
  1. have completed university graduate studies or university integrated undergraduate and graduate study or university specialist study in the scientific field of technical sciences (with 300 ECTS credits including the undergraduate study) or, exceptionally, have completed graduate or integrated or university specialist study from other scientific areas, provided they take additional courses;
  2. have acquired the academic degree of the Master of Science on the basis of study programs started before higher education reform in 2005;
  3. have completed university undergraduate studies from the scientific field of technology of traffic or transport on the basis of study programs initiated prior to the higher education reform in 2005, or have completed undergraduate studies from other science fields, provided they take additional courses.
- (2) Before enrolling the Postgraduate Study, the candidates who have acquired their qualifications in a foreign educational institution, shall submit a decision of the competent body regarding the recognition of the foreign educational qualification.

#### **Article 15**

- (1) In the case of candidates for whom the Committee requires additional knowledge from the scientific field of technology of traffic and transport, the Faculty Council shall on the proposal of the Committee, determine additional courses to be taken by the candidate, taking into consideration his previous studies and the study module which he is enrolling.
- (2) The candidate shall earn up to 18 ECTS credits with additional courses.
- (3) The costs of additional courses shall be borne by the candidate.
- (4) The candidates may be fully or partially exempt from attending classes or taking exams according to the provisions of the University of Rijeka Regulations on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies.
- (5) A candidate cannot be released from the obligation of gaining ECTS credits related to writing the doctoral dissertation.

#### **Article 16**

When submitting the application for the tender, the candidates shall state and explain the desired area of research on the prescribed form accompanied by a written consent by the potential mentor.

#### **Article 17**

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

#### **Article 18**

- (1) The Postgraduate Study Admissions Committee shall assess the candidate's ability through an interview, with the purpose of establishing the candidate's scientific interest, the appropriate study module and connect the candidate with the potential mentor. In addition, the candidates are assessed on the basis of delivered documentation defined in Article 13, paragraph 2 of the Regulations.
- (2) The success at the previous level of study cannot be less than 3.5.
- (3) Exceptionally, candidates who have completed the previous study with an average grade less than 3.5 may enroll the Postgraduate Study, provided that the Admissions Committee has positively evaluated their previous scientific research and/or professional activity.

#### **Article 19**

Enrolment ranking list is determined on the basis of the following:

- success on the previous study level,
- published scientific papers categorized in accordance with the applicable national criteria for selection to a scientific-teaching position,
- abilities assessed during the interview.

#### **Article 20**

- (1) The ranking list of candidates shall be confirmed by the Faculty Council at the proposal by the Committee.
- (2) The Faculty Council shall make the final decision on the commencement of the Postgraduate Study for which a public tender has been announced if there is a sufficient number of candidates who meet the conditions for enrolment.
- (3) The candidate has the right to submit an appeal on the decision of the Faculty Council regarding the admission of the candidate within seven days from the date of publishing the decision on the Faculty's notice board and on the Faculty website.
- (4) The Committee shall decide on the appeal.

#### **Article 21**

A study contract shall be concluded with the candidate who realizes the right to enroll in the Postgraduate Study, regulating mutual rights and obligations in accordance with the University of Rijeka Regulations on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies.

## **5. CONDUCT OF THE STUDY AND OBLIGATIONS**

#### **Article 22**

- (1) The Postgraduate Study shall be conducted in Croatian or English language, all according to the Program brought by the Faculty Council on the proposal of the Committee for each postgraduate study cycle.
- (2) The Program shall contain the study modules and course descriptions in each module.
- (3) Exceptionally, upon the proposal of the course head, the Committee shall make a decision on the inclusion of the course in two or more modules.

#### **Article 23**

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

#### **Article 24**

The study obligations shall include:

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

#### **Article 25**

Course attendance shall include attending classes and passing exams from mandatory and elective courses from the basic modules and the core module prescribed in the Program.

#### **Article 26**

- (1) Scientific research work shall be evaluated through mandatory and optional activities.
- (2) Mandatory scientific research activities shall provide 124 ECTS credits and consist of the following:
  - publication or acceptance for the publication of a scientific paper, in co-authorship with only the mentor (and co-mentor), with the candidate being the first author, in an international journal with an impact factor of the highest qualitative category in accordance with the applicable criteria for the selection to the scientific-teaching position, belonging at least to the third quartile (Q3) according to WOSCC and/or Scopus citation database, which provides 20 ECTS credits,
  - preparation, application and public defense of the topic of doctoral dissertation, which provides 10 ECTS credits,
  - writing the doctoral dissertation and accepted positive grade of the doctoral dissertation, which provides 90 ECTS credits,
  - public defense of the doctoral dissertation, which provides 4 ECTS credits.
- (3) Optional scientific research activities shall provide 20 ECTS credits and they can be realized by selecting one or more of the following activities:
  - a research stay at a foreign scientific or university institution for at least 3 months, which provides 20 ECTS credits,
  - a collaborative research with a research group at a foreign institution for at least 3 months (evidenced by the work plan and a written confirmation by the project leader), which provides 20 ECTS credits,
  - publication or acceptance for the publication of a scientific paper in the international journal with an impact factor of the highest qualitative category in accordance with the applicable criteria for the selection to the scientific-teaching position, belonging

- at least to the third quartile (Q3) according to WOSCC and/or Scopus citation database, with no more than four co-authors, which provides 20 ECTS credits,
- publication or acceptance for the publication of a scientific paper in a journal indexed in WOSCC and/or Scopus citation database, with no more than four co-authors, which provides 10 ECTS credits,
  - presenting a scientific paper at international scientific conferences and publication of the full paper in the conference proceedings, with no more than four co-authors, which provides 7 ECTS credits,
  - public presentation or poster presentation on scientific conferences, which provides up to 4 ECTS credits,
  - publication or acceptance for the publication of a scientific paper in a journal indexed outside WOSCC and/or Scopus citation database, with no more than four co-authors, which provides 7 ECTS credits,
  - attending the YUFE DIOSI model for doctoral learning, which provides up to 5 ECTS credits,
  - attending an international doctoral conference in the area of the research topic, which provides up to 5 ECTS credits.

#### **Article 27**

- (1) During the period of preparation and application of the topic and preparation of the doctoral dissertation, doctoral students who are not employed at the Faculty are required to spend ten working days at the Faculty.
- (2) The mentor shall keep records of the doctoral student's stay and activities and submit the same to the Postgraduate Study Head.

#### **Article 28**

- (1) The first year of the study consists of the first and second semester.
- (2) Enrolment in the 1st semester shall take place according to the Postgraduate Study enrolment requirements. In the first semester, a candidate shall enroll 3 courses having a total value of 18 ECTS credits, 2 of them from the list of the basic module (A) and 1 from all the other courses listed in the Program.
- (3) Enrolment requirements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester shall be attending lectures from the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and approved Request for appointing a mentor/co-mentor. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, the candidate shall enroll, in agreement with the mentor, 3 courses from the list of the selected core module having a total value of 18 ECTS credits. Exceptionally and if justified, one of the three courses can be chosen from among all other courses listed in the Program. With the assistance of the mentor, the candidate shall begin his scientific research work.
- (4) The second year of the study consists of the third and fourth semester.
- (5) Enrolment requirements for the 3<sup>rd</sup> semester shall be passing the exams from the 1<sup>st</sup> semester and attending lectures from the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, along with a positive Semestrial progress report by the mentor on the student's work in the previous semester.
- (6) Enrolment requirements for the 4<sup>th</sup> semester shall be passing the exams from the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, a positive Semestrial progress report by the mentor on the student's work in the previous semester and fulfilment of the obligation stipulated in Article 26, paragraph 3 of the Regulations.
- (7) The third year of studies consist of the fifth and sixth semester.



- (8) Enrolment requirement for the 5<sup>th</sup> semester shall be defending the topic of the doctoral dissertation, a positive Semestrial progress report by the mentor on the student's work in the previous semester and fulfilment of the obligation stipulated in Article 26, paragraph 2, indent 2 of the Regulations.
- (9) Enrolment requirement for the 6<sup>th</sup> semester shall be a positive Semestrial progress report by the mentor on the student's work in the previous semester. The candidate shall complete his doctoral dissertation in the 6<sup>th</sup> semester.

#### **Article 29**

- (1) The doctoral student shall pay the determined share of the total tuition fee before the beginning of each study year.
- (2) The candidate can pay the total tuition fee as a lump sum before enrolling the Postgraduate Study.
- (3) The candidate shall pay the enrolment fee before the beginning of each year of study in accordance with the applicable regulations of the University.

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

#### **Article 30**

- (1) The Committee shall propose to the Faculty Council the decision on appointing a mentor for the doctoral student no later than the enrolment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.
- (2) The request for appointing a mentor shall be submitted on the prescribed form to the Postgraduate Study administrator.
- (3) The doctoral student and/or mentor may also suggest a co-mentor with a reasoned written request.

#### **Article 31**

- (1) The mentor shall be the head of a course at the Postgraduate Study. Co-mentor does not necessarily have to be the head of a course at the Postgraduate Study.
- (2) Exceptionally, a recognized world expert or a *professor emeritus* who is not the head of course at the Postgraduate Study may be appointed as a mentor or co-mentor, provided that the Committee and the Faculty Council give their consent.
- (3) If the mentor is not an employee of the Faculty, the doctoral student shall be appointed a co-mentor from the scientific-teaching staff of the Faculty.
- (4) The mentor and co-mentor shall meet the minimum criteria for mentors prescribed by the applicable Regulations on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies of the University of Rijeka and the applicable decision by the Senate of the University of Rijeka.

#### **Article 32**

- (1) The mentor shall guide the doctoral student during his studies and the preparation of his doctoral dissertation, monitor the quality of his work, encourage the publication of scientific papers and enable him to participate in scientific research projects.
- (2) The mentor shall refer the doctoral student to the literature and the application of appropriate scientific research methods related to the scientific field of research.

### **Article 33**

- (1) The mentor shall submit the Annual Report on Student's Work on a prescribed form to the Postgraduate Study Head by the end of the current academic year.
- (2) In the event that the quality of student's work is evaluated as unsatisfactory in the Mentor's Report, the report shall be delivered to the doctoral student who shall report to the Postgraduate Study Head within 8 days of receipt.
- (3) If, at the proposal of the Committee, the Faculty Council adopts the mentor's report with an insufficient grade, the mentor shall prepare a work plan for the doctoral student for the next academic year and monitor the implementation of the plan.
- (4) If in the subsequent mentor's annual report, the quality of student's work is assessed as insufficient, the Faculty Council may make a decision on the loss of the student's right to continue his studies.

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

### **Article 34**

- (1) The doctoral student has the right to propose a subsequent appointment of a co-mentor, but no later than the application of the topic of the doctoral dissertation, with a reasoned written request.
- (2) The doctoral student has the right to propose a change of mentor, but no later than the application of the topic of the doctoral dissertation, with a reasoned written request.
- (3) Exceptionally, a doctoral student may request a change of a mentor after the decision on accepting the topic of a doctoral dissertation, with the obligation to reinitiate the application process for the topic of the doctoral dissertation.
- (4) The student may request a change of the topic of the doctoral dissertation with the obligation of reinitiating the application process for the topic of the doctoral dissertation.
- (5) The request to change the mentor and/or the topic of the doctoral dissertation shall be submitted on the prescribed form.

### **Article 35**

- (1) The doctoral student shall submit the annual report on his work on the prescribed form to the Postgraduate Study Head until the end of the current academic year.
- (2) In the event that a doctoral student fails to submit a report on his work from paragraph 1 of this article for two consecutive years, the Faculty Council may issue a decision on the loss of the doctoral student's right to continue his studies.

### **Article 36**

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

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

### **Article 37**

- (1) The doctoral student shall submit the application of the doctoral dissertation topic on the prescribed form.
- (2) The application shall be submitted to the Postgraduate Study administrator.

- (3) In research in which there are ethical doubts, and always when the research is carried out on humans or animals and material of human or animal origin, the application shall be accompanied by the reasoned consent by the Faculty Ethics Committee and, if necessary, the Ethics Committee of another institution involved in the research.

#### **Article 38**

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

- initiating the procedure for the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation topic,
- appointing the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee,
- place, date and time of the public defense of the doctoral dissertation topic.

#### **Article 39**

- (1) The doctoral student shall publicly defend the doctoral dissertation topic before the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.
- (2) The Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee shall consist of at least three members in the scientific-teaching or scientific position, or appointed as an adjunct lecturer (assistant professor or higher) or adjunct scientist, or lecturer or scientist of appropriate rank if he has gained his title abroad, who have published scientific papers from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic, with at least one of the members from a university or scientific institution outside the University of Rijeka.
- (3) Gender equality should be taken into account when appointing the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.
- (4) Besides the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee, a substitute member who is employed at scientific-teaching or scientific position, or appointed as an adjunct lecturer (assistant professor or higher) or adjunct scientist, who has published scientific papers from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic shall also be appointed.
- (5) The mentor and co-mentor cannot be the members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee.
- (6) In the event of an equal number of votes when making a proposal for a decision on the acceptance of the topic, the vote of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee Chairperson shall decide.

#### **Article 40**

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

#### **Article 41**

- (1) The student shall publicly defend the doctoral dissertation topic before the Committee from the Article 40 of the Regulations, mentor and/or co-mentor and Vice-Dean for scientific research activities or Postgraduate Study Head.
- (2) The Postgraduate Study administrator shall publicly announce the place, date and time of the public defense of the doctoral dissertation topic via Faculty notice board and website.

#### **Article 42**

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

#### **Article 43**

- (1) The Faculty Council shall issue a decision no later than two months from the date of submitting the report on the public defense of the topic.
- (2) When the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee evaluates the topic positively, the Faculty Council can make a decision on accepting or rejecting the topic.
- (3) When the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee evaluates the topic negatively, the Faculty Council can make a decision on the revision of the topic application or its rejection.
- (4) If the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee deems the doctoral dissertation topic to be negative after its revision has been requested, the Faculty Council may, if such conditions exist, approve the application of a new topic or pass a decision to suspend the procedure for obtaining a doctorate of science and inform the doctoral student thereof.

### **9. EVALUATION AND DEFENSE OF DOCTORAL DISERTATION**

#### **Article 44**

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

#### **Article 45**

The doctoral dissertation shall be completed and equipped according to the University of Rijeka Guidelines for completing and equipping doctoral theses.

#### **Article 46**

- (1) The doctoral student shall submit a request for the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation to the Postgraduate Study Head on the prescribed form, after completing all the study obligations established by the Regulations.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by:
  - report on conducted verification of dissertation originality,
  - unbound copy of the dissertation, or an electronic version of the dissertation,
  - CV on the standardized Europass form,
  - certificate of proofreading the dissertation title.

- (3) If the research is to a certain extent based on completing surveys, the reasoned consent by the Faculty Ethics Committee and, if necessary, the Ethics Committee of another institution involved in the research shall be attached.

#### **Article 47**

- (1) At the proposal of the Committee, the Faculty Council shall appoint the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (2) The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall consist of at least three members in the scientific-teaching or scientific position, or appointed as an adjunct lecturer (assistant professor or higher) or adjunct scientist, or lecturer or scientist of appropriate rank if he has gained his title abroad, who have published scientific papers from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic, with at least one of the members from a university or scientific institution outside the University of Rijeka.
- (3) Members of the Dissertation Topic Evaluation Committee may be members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (4) Gender equality should be taken into account when appointing the members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (5) Mentor and co-mentor cannot be members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (6) The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall decide on the doctoral dissertation by a majority of the votes.
- (7) In the case of an equal number of votes in the decision making, the vote by the Dissertation Evaluation Committee Chairperson shall be the decisive one.

#### **Article 48**

- (1) Each member of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall make his own independent report and submit it to the Dissertation Evaluation Committee Chairperson.
- (2) Dissertation Evaluation Committee Chairperson shall make a joint report about the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation on the prescribed form, with individual reports enclosed.
- (3) The report shall be submitted to the Faculty Council within two months from the receipt of the doctoral dissertation for evaluation.
- (4) In case of non-submission of the report within the prescribed time, the Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall indicate in writing the reasons for the absence of such report to the Committee. Further procedure for dissertation evaluation shall be determined by the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (5) The period from 16 July to 31 August shall not be included in the said period.

#### **Article 49**

- (1) The Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall deliver the Report on the evaluation of the doctoral dissertation to the Faculty Council in written form.
- (2) In its Report, the Dissertation Evaluation Committee may suggest:
  - the acceptance of doctoral dissertation,
  - revision and re-evaluation of doctoral dissertation,
  - rejection of doctoral dissertation.
- (3) In all three cases, the Dissertation Evaluation Committee shall explain their decision.

#### **Article 50**

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

#### **Article 51**

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

#### **Article 52**

- (1) If the Dissertation Evaluation Committee deems the doctoral dissertation to be negative, the Faculty Council may pass the decision on revision or suspension of the procedure for obtaining a doctorate in science.
- (2) If the Dissertation Evaluation Committee deems the doctoral dissertation to be negative after requesting its revision, the Faculty Council shall decide to suspend the procedure for obtaining a doctorate of science and notify the student thereof.

#### **Article 53**

- (1) If the Faculty Council accepts a positive evaluation of the doctoral dissertation, as a rule it shall appoint the Dissertation Defense Committee at the same session.
- (2) Members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee may also be members of the Dissertation Defense Committee.
- (3) Gender equality should be taken into account when appointing the members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee.
- (4) Mentors and co-mentors cannot be members of the Dissertation Defense Committee.
- (5) The Dissertation Defense Committee shall consist of at least three members employed in the scientific-teaching or scientific position, or appointed as an adjunct lecturer or adjunct scientist, or lecturer (assistant professor or higher) or scientist of appropriate rank if he has gained his title abroad, who have published scientific articles from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic, with at least one of the members from a university or scientific institution outside the University of Rijeka.
- (6) Besides the members of the Committee, a substitute member who is employed at scientific-teaching or scientific position, or appointed as an adjunct lecturer or equivalent title if the member has gained his title abroad, who has published scientific articles from the field of the doctoral dissertation topic shall also be appointed.
- (7) In case of an equal number of votes in the decision making, the vote of the Dissertation Defense Committee Chairperson shall be the decisive one.

#### **Article 54**

- (1) A doctoral dissertation that has been evaluated positively by the Dissertation Evaluation Committee and accepted at the Faculty Council shall be made available to the public on the Faculty web site at least 30 days before the doctoral dissertation defense.

- (2) The defense of the doctoral dissertation shall be held no later than three months from the day when the Faculty Council accepted the positive evaluation of the doctoral dissertation.
- (3) The Faculty Council shall determine the place, date and time of defense of the doctoral dissertation, taking into account the proposal by the mentor and the student, and shall appoint the recording secretary from among the members of the teaching staff employed at the Faculty.
- (4) The student's first name and last name, the title of the doctoral dissertation, the members of the Dissertation Defense Committee, and the time, date and place of defense of the doctoral dissertation shall be published on the Faculty notice board and website at least eight days before the date of defense.
- (5) The notice about the defense of the doctoral dissertation shall also be published in written and electronic form in all collaborative institutions.
- (6) The defense of the doctoral dissertation is public.
- (7) The defense of the doctoral dissertation is as a rule held on the Faculty premises and in the language the doctoral dissertation is written.
- (8) The doctoral dissertation can be defended only once.
- (9) If a doctoral student fails to approach to the defense of the doctoral dissertation in the announced term without a justified reason, the Faculty Council shall, on the proposal of the Dissertation Defense Committee, suspend the procedure for obtaining the doctorate of science and inform the student thereof.

#### **Article 55**

- (1) The procedure of the defense of the doctoral dissertation shall be conducted in accordance with the prescribed form – Protocol for the defense of doctoral dissertation.
- (2) The defense of the doctoral dissertation shall be attended by the members of the Dissertation Defense Committee, the doctoral student, the mentor and/or co-mentor, the recording secretary and the interested public.

#### **Article 56**

- (1) After completing the defense of the doctoral dissertation, the Dissertation Defense Committee shall make the decision on the results of the defense that can be as follows:
  - defended, by unanimous decision of the Dissertation Defense Committee,
  - defended, by majority of votes of the Dissertation Defense Committee,
  - not defended.
- (2) The Dissertation Defense Committee Chairperson shall publicly announce the decision by the Dissertation Defense Committee.

#### **Article 57**

- (1) The doctoral dissertation shall be made according to the University of Rijeka Guidelines for completing and equipping doctoral theses.
- (2) The doctoral dissertation shall be bound and deposited according to the Regulation on Postgraduate (Doctoral) University Studies of the University of Rijeka.

## **10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

#### **Article 58**

- (1) If the research results of the doctoral dissertation include an element eligible for protection by intellectual property rights (invention, industrial design, etc.), the doctoral student and the mentor may report this to the University Centre for Innovation Initiatives. In that case, the doctoral student may, with the consent of the mentor and before submitting the doctoral dissertation for evaluation, request that the submitted doctoral dissertation be handled confidentially, until the moment necessary to fulfill the conditions for legal protection, notwithstanding Article 55 and Article 58 of the Regulations.
- (2) Centre for Innovation Initiatives shall act in accordance with the Regulation on Intellectual Property Management at the University of Rijeka.

#### **Article 59**

- (1) When, as part of a doctoral study, research is carried out for the needs of the economy or in cooperation with a research center in the economy or for the needs of or in cooperation with state institutions in charge of defense and security, i.e. in the case referred to in Article 59 of this Regulation, the Faculty Council may exclude the public from the defense of the doctoral dissertation and postpone the publication of the dissertation for the protection of intellectual property for a maximum of three years, or until the publication of data in the process of registering intellectual property rights.
- (2) A certificate by the University Center for Innovation Initiatives shall be attached to the request for the exclusion of the public from the defense of the doctoral dissertation for the reasons specified in Article 59 of this Regulation.
- (3) Before receiving a copy of the doctoral dissertation, members of the Dissertation Evaluation Committee and Dissertation Defense Committee in case of the dissertation for which the public is excluded and its publication delayed, shall sign a statement on the confidentiality of data from the dissertation in question. This statement shall also be signed by other participants who have access to the text of the dissertation in the process of evaluation and defense of the doctoral dissertation.

#### **Article 60**

- (1) The doctoral dissertation can also be done by integrating four thematically related and published scientific articles (i.e. Scandinavian model).
- (2) Scientific articles shall be thematically related, published and accompanied by a critical review chapter consisting of the introduction, published works with comments, integral discussion, conclusion and a comprehensive review of relevant literature.
- (3) Critical review shall place the results of the doctoral dissertation in the context of the existing scholarly insights.
- (4) The form of dissertation from paragraph 1 of this Article is allowed only within the context of the research conducted in the doctoral study, and the scientific articles included must be published since the enrolment in the doctoral study.
- (5) In the scientific articles in the Scandinavian model of the dissertation, the student shall be the sole author or principal author, whereby the co-author(s) shall be exclusively the mentor and/or co-mentor.
- (6) The scientific articles shall be clearly affiliated to the University of Rijeka Faculty of Maritime Studies.
- (7) Scientific articles shall be published in journals with an impact factor according to the *Journal Citation Report* (JCR) in the year of the publication, while at least two papers shall



be published in journals that are, according to the impact factor, above the median of the corresponding category; at least one of these two articles has to be published in the first quartile (Q1) of the relevant category.

- (8) A maximum of one article may be categorized as a scientific review article.
- (9) Articles shall not be published in journals published or co-published by the holder of the study and the parent institution of employment.
- (10) A maximum of one article may be published in the journals in the Republic of Croatia.
- (11) Doctoral dissertation from paragraph 1 of this Article shall be subject to evaluation and defense.

#### **Article 61**

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

#### **Article 62**

- (1) On the basis of the decision of the Dissertation Defense Committee, the Faculty Council shall issue the diploma of PhD in science (doctorate in science).
- (2) The diploma shall be awarded by the Rector of the University of Rijeka at the graduation ceremony.

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

#### **Article 63**

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

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

***- From the Regulations on the postgraduate university study "Maritime Studies" (CLASS: 007-01/23-01/9; REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-23-1, of 17 July 2023)***

#### **Article 64**

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

#### **Article 65**

On the day that the Regulations shall take effect, the Regulations on postgraduate university study "Maritime Studies" of 25 February 2021 shall cease to be valid.

#### **Article 66**

The provisions of Article 4, paragraph 1, Article 24, Article 25, Article 26 except paragraph 3, indent 6, Article 27, Article 28, and Article 30, paragraph 1 of the Regulations shall not apply to doctoral students who enrolled in the postgraduate university study Maritime Studies before the entry into force of the Regulations, but the relevant provisions of the Regulations

on postgraduate university study *Maritime Studies* in effect at the time of their enrolment in the postgraduate university studies shall apply.

**Article 67**

The Regulations shall enter into force from the eighth day of the publication on the Faculty notice board and website.

**- From the Regulation on amendments to the Regulations on the postgraduate university study "Maritime Studies" (CLASS: 007-01/24-01/6; REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-24-1, of 17 June 2024)**

**Article 17**

The Faculty Secretary is authorized to edit and issue the consolidated text of the Regulations on the postgraduate university study *Maritime Studies* in terms of amendments to this Regulation.

**Article 18**

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication on the notice board of the University of Rijeka Faculty of Maritime Studies.

DEAN

Full prof. Ana Perić Hadžić, PhD

CLASS: 007-01/24-01/6  
REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-24-2  
Rijeka, 1 July 2024

Pursuant to the Regulation on amendments to the Regulations on the postgraduate university study "Maritime Studies" (CLASS: 007-01/24-01/6; REG.NO.: 2170-1-37-01-24-1, of 17 June 2024), on 1 July 2024 the Secretary of the University of Rijeka Faculty of Maritime Studies established a consolidated text of the Regulations on the postgraduate university study *Maritime Studies*.

FACULTY SECRETARY

Maša Šarar, dipl. iur.