

# The status group of enrolled doctoral students (*Statusgruppe Doktoranden*) at Heidelberg University

## What is a status group?

Under the provisions of University State Law (*Landeshochschulgesetz*), **university members are grouped by their status and generalized interest**, structuring representation in bodies and councils accordingly.

Existing status groups are

- professors,
- Academic Employees,
- students,
- enrolled doctoral students,
- non-academic employees.

## Who belongs to the status group “enrolled doctoral students”?

Every **enrolled doctoral student** is in the status group of doctoral students and therefore represented in the Senate and in their respective Faculty Council.

Note that **employed enrolled doctoral students** are simultaneously part of the status group of Academic Employees. By default, they vote in the status group of Academic Employees. If they want to vote in the status group of doctoral students, they must send a formless letter to the electoral office.

In contrast, the Doctoral Convention (*Doktorandenkonvent*) represents all admitted doctoral candidates, i.e. all doctoral candidates admitted by a faculty under the provisions of the University State Law (*Landeshochschulgesetz*).

## How do I vote?

Enrolled doctoral students vote every year; the next elections will be in summer 2020. In contrast, Academic Employees only vote every four years, the next time in 2023.

March **Run for elections:**

Enrolled doctoral students can run for Senate and Faculty Council elections. For doing so, they must submit a candidature form to the electoral office.

April **Choose status group:**

Employed doctoral students must inform the electoral office if they want to vote in the status group of enrolled doctoral students. Else, they vote as Academic Employees, who only vote every four years.

May **Receive ballots:**

The elections for enrolled doctoral students are conducted as postal vote.

June **Vote:**

The ballots must be sent back to the electoral office.

If you are interested in running for the Senate or a Faculty Council, please contact the current representatives or send an email to [doktorandenkonvent@uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:doktorandenkonvent@uni-heidelberg.de) for further information.

## Who was elected for 2019/20?

### Senate

- 1) Linda Shen (Physics)
- 2) Theresa Möke (History)
- 3) Maximilian Kellner (Law)
- 4) Martin Schröter (Chemistry)



All four candidates ran on the list “Freie Doktoranden”, which provides further information on <https://freie-doktoranden.de>.

### Faculty Council of the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy

- 1) Linda Shen
- 2) Maurus Hans

More information about the election results can be found under <https://www.doktorandenkonvent.uni-heidelberg.de/Wahlen2019.en.html>.

## Working group of the DC

The working group **Doctoral Representation in University Politics** (*Hochschulpolitische Repräsentation der Promovierenden*) of the Doctoral Convention (*Doktorandenkonvent*) seeks to foster the representation of doctoral candidates at the University, especially in its bodies and councils.

The working group aims to strengthen the representation of admitted doctoral candidates and to improve practical activity. Therefore, it ameliorates doctoral candidates' knowledge, empowering them to make active use of their representative opportunities, by any form of commitment, especially by voting and running for seats. The group constitutes a networking-forum for doctoral candidates involved in university politics and provides them with information and assistance. For these purposes, it also stays in touch with relevant university agents.

Exercising the Convention's representative competences, the working group assists it the Executive Committee of the Doctoral Convention.

We are very happy if you want to join us! Please contact us via [doktorandenkonvent@uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:doktorandenkonvent@uni-heidelberg.de).

## What am I voting for?

### Senate

The Senate is the highest decision-making body of the university. According to law the Senate shall take decisions in matters concerning research, the practice of the arts, artistic development schemes, teaching, courses of study and further education, provided these matters have not been assigned to another central body or to the faculties.

Enrolled doctoral students have four out of 39 voting seats in the senate.

### Faculty Councils

Faculty Councils make decisions about all faculty affairs of major importance. Particularly, this includes

- structural and development plans of the faculty,
- the formation, alteration and abolition of faculty facilities,
- study and examination regulations of the faculty.

The number of seats for enrolled doctoral candidates have varies between the faculties (two seats in the Faculty of Physics and Astronomy).