Explanatory note concerning the Model Faculty Regulations for 2025-2026

Any amendments to the Faculty Regulations should be presented to the Board of the University for approval. The Board deals with these changes in clusters. This can mean that it will take some time before the Board makes a decision. The details of any changes can be emailed to: abjz@rug.nl
To limit the number of changes, the Board requests that the names of professors should not be included in the Faculty Regulations.

Table of contents

Chapter I GENERAL PROVISIONS
Chapter II ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION
Chapter III THE DEGREE PROGRAMMES
Chapter IV TEACHING AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS
Chapter V RESEARCH INSTITUTES
Chapter VI THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
Chapter VII APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES
Chapter VIII STUDY ADVICE
Chapter IX ETHICS COMMITTEE
Chapter X FINAL PROVISIONS

MODEL FACULTY REGULATIONS

Chapter I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1
In these regulations, HRA is understood to refer to: the Higher Education and Research Act.
All other terms in these Regulations, to the extent that they are also mentioned in the Act, have the same definition as that assigned to them by the Act.
Definitions that appear in these Regulations but not in the Act:
a. ....
b .....etc.

Chapter II ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

Section 1 Faculty Board

Article 2
1. The Faculty Board has three members, appointed by the Board of the University in consultation with the Faculty Board.
2. When appointing the Faculty Board, the Board of the University appoints the Chair and the Deputy Chair and determines the allocation of portfolios among the board members, without prejudice to the responsibility of the board as a whole for its decisions and actions.
3. The term of office for the Faculty Board is in accordance with the Policy Memorandum for Faculty Board members of the University of Groningen.

Article 3
1. The Faculty Board invites the student members of the Faculty Council to appoint a student who will attend the Faculty Board meetings in an advisory capacity, for a period of one year.
2. The student referred to in paragraph 1 cannot also be a member of the student section of the Faculty Council.
3. Before appointing a student as referred to in paragraph 1, the student section of the Faculty Council must first consult the Chair of the Faculty Board.

Article 4
1. Subject to Article 2.2, the Faculty Board may proceed to a further allocation of duties.
2. The Faculty Board must notify the Board of the University and the Faculty Council of its division of duties and the decision as referred to in paragraph 1 and publish these widely within the Faculty.

Article 5
The Faculty Council will draw up Rules of Procedure for its meetings and report on this to the Faculty Board.

Article 6
The meetings of the Faculty Board are not public.

Section 2 The Faculty Council

Article 7
1. The Faculty Council has … members:
   … staff members elected by staff
   … student members elected by students
   - Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE): 18;
   - Faculty of Arts: 18;
   - Faculty of Law: 18;
   - Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences (GMW): 18;
   - Faculty of Medical Sciences: O&O (Teaching and Research) Council 7;
   - Faculty of Economics and Business (FEB): 18;
   - Faculty of Philosophy: 10;
   - Faculty of Religion, Culture and Society: 10;
   - Faculty of Spatial Sciences: 10;
   - University College: 6;
   - Campus Fryslân: 6.
2. The term of office is two years for staff members and one year for students.
3. The individual elected to fill an interim vacancy will step down at the same moment that their predecessor would have stepped down.
4. The term of office begins on 1 September of the year in which the elections for the section in question have taken place.
5. Members of the Board of the University, the Supervisory Board and the Faculty Board may not be members of the Faculty Council.
6. At the end of their term of office, the sections will step down in their entirety, unless, due to special circumstances, no successors have been selected.
7. Resigning members of the Faculty Council may stand for re-election immediately.
8. The elections for the Faculty Council are organized in accordance with the University's Electoral Regulations.
9. The meetings of the Faculty Council are open to the public, unless the Council decides otherwise, subject to the relevant provisions in the Rules of Procedure.

Article 8
In accordance with Article 9.34.3 h HRA, the powers of the Faculty Council are included in the Regulations for the University Council under Chapter 7.

Article 9
Membership of the Faculty Council can be terminated due to:
a. resignation at the end of a term;
b. death;
c. written notification;
d. leaving the Faculty community;
e. transfer to another section as referred to in Article 7.

Article 10

1. The Faculty Council shall elect a Chair and one or more deputy chairs from among its members.
2. In preparation for meetings of the Faculty Council, the Chair of the Faculty Council and the Chair of the Faculty Board will meet to discuss the agenda.
3. The Faculty Board provides administrative support to the Faculty Council.

Chapter III THE DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Section 1 Programme Director

Article 11
1. The Faculty Board appoints one Programme Director for each of the Faculty's degree programmes.
2. The Faculty Board may appoint the same Programme Director for more than one degree programme.
3. The program director cannot also be a member of the program committee pursuant to Article 9.17(4) HRA.

Article 12
1. The Programme Director is responsible for coordinating the Teaching and Examination Regulations, on behalf of the Faculty Board. The Programme Director, in consultation of the Chair of the relevant department of teaching and research, determines who will be involved in the implementation of the Teaching and Examination Regulations and will provide the necessary directions. If no agreement can be reached, the Faculty Board will decide.
2. The Programme Director issues advice to the Faculty Board on the content, composition, and programming of the Teaching and Examination Regulations.
3. The Programme Director issues advice to the Faculty Board about the system of internal quality assurance and the follow-up of external quality assurance.

Article 13
The Programme Director is accountable to the Faculty Board. The details of that accountability are as follows.....*(fill in details)*

Section 2 Programme Committees

Article 14
1. Each of the Faculty's degree programmes or clusters of degree programmes has its own Programme Committee. The Faculty Board may decide that one Programme Committee can be responsible for several degree programmes.
2. In consultation between the Degree Programme Board or the Dean of Faculty and the Faculty Council these regulations may stipulate a different procedure for selecting members of the Programme Committee than by vote. It will be decided each year whether the new procedure for selecting members will be continued. The chosen selection procedure must be established in the Faculty Regulations.
3. Half of the members of the Programme Committee are students and half are other members.

Article 15
1. Under Article 9.18, it is the Programme Committee's duty to give advice on how

to guarantee and improve the quality of the degree programme. The Programme Committee also has:

a. the right of consent with regard to the Teaching and Examination Regulations, as referred to in Article 7.13 HRA, with the exception of the subjects referred to in Article 7.13.2 a, f, and h up to and including u and x, and with the exception of the requirements referred to in articles 7.284, 7.28.5, and 7.30b 2,
b. the task of annually assessing how the Teaching and Examination Regulations are implemented,
c. the right of consultation with regard to the Teaching and Examination Regulations, as referred to in Article 7.13 HRA, with the exception of subjects with regard to which the committee has the right of consent by virtue of 7.13 a, and
d. the task of issuing advice or making proposals if requested, or on its own initiative, it can issue advice or make proposals to the degree programme board as referred to in Article 9.17.1 of HRA, and to the Dean of Faculty on all teaching-related matters in the relevant degree programme (or programmes). The Board or the Dean of Faculty, respectively, will respond within two months of receiving this proposal. The Programme Committee will send the advice and proposals referred to in this paragraph to the Faculty Council for information purposes.

2. The Faculty Board and the degree programme board must ensure that whenever a decision to be taken must first be submitted to the Programme Committee for advice or consent by virtue HRA and these Regulations:
   a. the Programme Committee is given the opportunity to consult with them before advice is issued or consent given;
   b. the Programme Committee is informed as soon as possible of how this advice or consent will be acted upon.
3. The Programme Committee will send the advice referred to in paragraph 1 to the Faculty Council for information purposes.
4. The Faculty Board will send a copy of the messages referred to in Article 15.2 b of these Regulations to the Faculty Council for information purposes.
5. The Faculty Board will permit the Programme Committee to use all of the facilities that are available to it, and those that the Programme Committee considers necessary, within reason, to fulfil its duties.
   In accordance with Article 9.48 HRA, the Faculty Board will give the members of the Programme Committee the opportunity to follow training courses which the members need to fulfil their duties for a period to be jointly determined by the Faculty Board and the Programme Committee. Faculty staff members will be allowed to follow such training courses during working hours and with full pay.

Article 16

Programme Committee members are appointed for a term of office of … years. Members can be reappointed or re-elected in accordance with Article 14.2 of these Regulations.

Article 17

1. The Programme Committee is authorized to invite the Faculty Board to discuss proposed policies at least twice a year, in the presence of the Programme Director in question, based on an agenda drawn up by the Committee.
2. The Programme Director will consult with the relevant Programme Committee

about the implementation of the Teaching and Examination Regulations at least twice a year.

Article 18
The Faculty Council may adopt a Programme Committee's (or Committees') advisory authority in order to lodge a dispute, to the extent that this is in line with the advice of the Programme Committee.

Section 3 Admissions Boards

Article 19

1. The Faculty Board stipulates that admission to the degree programme and the various tracks is at the discretion of the Admissions Board of the degree programme. This Board consists of:
   - a member, who is also the Chair, selected from among the professors who teach in the degree programme;
   - one member/two members selected from among the academic staff teaching in the degree programme.
2. The study advisor for the degree programme (or an equivalent member of faculty staff) will be appointed as an advisory member and also secretary.
3. The Faculty Board is responsible for appointing members.

Section 4 Board of Examiners

Article 20
1. Each degree programme or cluster of degree programmes within the institution has its own Board of Examiners.
2. The Board of Examiners is the body responsible for determining, in an objective and expert manner, whether individual students satisfy the conditions set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations with regard to the knowledge, understanding and skills required to gain a degree.

Article 21
1. The Board of Examiners is established by the Faculty Board, and its members are appointed based on their expertise in the field of the degree programme or cluster of degree programmes involved. At least one member must be a lecturer in the relevant degree programme or programmes, and at least one member must be from outside the relevant degree programme or cluster of degree programmes. The other appointed members are experts in the subjects relevant to the degree programme, teaching content and testing.
2. The term of appointment for members of the Board of Examiners is three years. Members may be reappointed once.
3. The Board of Examiners may always consult with third parties to enhance its expertise.
4. Programme Directors or a degree programme's study advisors may not be members of the Board of Examiners.
5. The Faculty Board is responsible for ensuring that the Board of Examiners can function independently and in an expert manner.

6. The Faculty Board will consult the members of the relevant Board of Examiners before appointing new members.

Article 22

1. In addition to the duties and powers set out in Article 20, a Board of Examiners has the following duties and powers:
   a. subject to Article 7.11 HRA and the model certificate and associated documents adopted by the Board of the University, issuing a certificate or statement;
   b. guaranteeing the quality of examinations and final assessments, without prejudice to Article 7.12c HRA;
   c. adopting guidelines and directions within the framework of the Teaching and Examination Regulations, as referred to in Article 7.12b HRA, to assess and determine the results of examinations and final assessments;
   d. the most suitable Board of Examiners may grant permission to a student to follow a degree programme designed by that student, within the meaning of Article 7.3d HRA, the final assessment of which leads to the conferral of a degree, whereby the Board of Examiners also indicates to which of the institution's degree programmes that programme is considered to belong under the Act, and
   e. granting exemptions from one or more examinations;
   f. to issue advice to the Board of the University regarding the Board's intention to terminate a student's registration as referred to in Article 7.42a HRA.
   g. ensuring the quality of the organization and procedures surrounding examinations and final assessments.
2. The chairmanship or membership of a member of the Board of Examiners will terminate if
   a. the appointment term expires and the Chair/member in question cannot be reappointed or does not wish to be reappointed;
   b. the Chair/member takes on a position that is incompatible with membership of the Board of Examiners;
   c. their employment contract ends (for the Chair/internal members);
   d. the Chair/member starts teaching in one of the degree programmes covered by the Board of Examiners (for external members);
   e. the Chair/member wishes to terminate their membership;
   f. the Chair/member demonstrably acts in contradiction of the legal frameworks and duties of the Board of Examiners and the Faculty Board relieves the Chair/member of their duties on substantiated grounds.
3. If a student or external student cheats during an examination, the Board of Examiners may exclude the individual concerned from taking part in one or more examinations or final assessments to be determined by the Board of Examiners, for a period of time also to be determined by the Board of Examiners up to a maximum of one year. In serious cases of cheating, the Board of the University, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, may definitively terminate the registration for the degree programme of the individual concerned.
4. The Board of Examiners adopts rules regarding the performance of the duties and powers referred to in Article 22.1 b, c and e and Article 22.3, and concerning the measures it can take in that regard. Subject to conditions that it sets, the Board of Examiners may determine that it is not necessary to pass every examination in order to conclude that the final examination has been passed.
5. If a student submits a request or complaint to the Board of Examiners concerning an examiner who is a member of the Board of Examiners, the

examiner concerned will not participate in the handling of the request or complaint by the Board of Examiners.

6. The Board of Examiners will prepare an annual report of its activities. The Board of Examiners will submit the report to the Faculty Board. In addition, the Board of Examiners may report to the Faculty Board whenever this is deemed necessary.
7. With regard to the assessment policy adopted by each Faculty Board, the Board of Examiners has a number of specific duties. These are:
   - to draw up and/or confirm the test design procedures, assessment procedures, assessment criteria and the pass mark for tests and examinations
   - appointing officials who will be responsible for the implementation of the various assessment components;
   - determining the method of periodic evaluation and the entire assessment procedure; replaced by: periodic evaluation of the assessment procedure.
   - evaluating the Assessment Plan in terms of the feasibility of the degree programme's learning outcomes;
   - monitoring that testing is in accordance with the Assessment Plan approved by the Faculty Board.

Article 23

1. The Board of Examiners appoints examiners to set examinations and determine results. The Board of Examiners is responsible for ensuring that the examiners can function independently and in an expert manner.
2. The Board of Examiners only appoints examiners who meet the professionalization requirements, as laid down in the University Assessment Policy.

Chapter IV TEACHING AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENTS

Article 24

1. The Faculty Board establishes teaching and research departments to promote the interrelationships between teaching and research, discussion among people working in the same field, and the expertise needed to make responsible decisions in the field of teaching and research within the faculty.
2. Those who are not designated as members of the teaching and research departments by virtue of Article 24 will be placed in general Faculty service units/departments by the Faculty Board.
3. The Faculty has the following teaching and research departments:
   a. .....
   b. .....
   c..... etc.

Article 25

1. The Faculty Board appoints the members of the teaching and research departments.
2. The Faculty Board will appoint one professor from each department who is responsible for organizing the activities of that department.

Article 26

The teaching and research departments issue advice to the Faculty Board and the Programme Director (or Directors) in all matters related to teaching within the Faculty or the individual degree programmes, both on request and on their own initiative.

Article 27
The teaching and research departments issue advice to the Faculty Board about agreement on mutual regulations concerning interfaculty degree programmes, both on request and on their own initiative.

Article 28
The teaching and research departments issue advice to the Faculty Board about adopting general guidelines for academic research and about adopting the Faculty's research programme, both on request and on their own initiative.

Article 29
The teaching and research departments meet with the Programme Director (or Directors), Programme Committees or the boards/directors of the research institutes or research schools once a year, and whenever they request a meeting.

CHAPTER V RESEARCH INSTITUTES

Article 30
The Faculty has the following research institutes:
...
...

Article 31
1. The board of each research institute consists of a Chair and no more than four other members, to be appointed by the Faculty Board for a period of ... years.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph, the Faculty Board may appoint a Director to head the research institute for a period that it determines.
3. A Director is appointed by the Faculty Board for a period of ... years.
4. Wherever Article 32 refers to the Director of a research institute, this may also be interpreted as meaning the Board of the research institute in question.

Article 32
1. The Director of a research institute is charged with the management of the institute on behalf of the Faculty Board, and implements the policy intended for that institute. In consultation with the Chair of the relevant teaching and research department, the Director decides who is involved in the implementing the institute's research, and provides the necessary instructions.
   If no agreement can be reached, the Faculty Board will decide.
2. The Faculty Board and the Director of the institute make agreements about the number of FTE available for temporary and permanent staff at the institute for a certain period, and about how the relevant staff members are selected.
3. The Director issues advice to the Faculty Board on the programming of research.
4. The Director will advise the Faculty Board about the system of internal quality

assurance and the follow-up of external quality assurance.

5. In accordance with the University of Groningen Administrative Regulations, the Faculty Board can entrust its administrative mandate to the Director of the institute for a period of time that it determines.
   This should in any case cover how contracts involving indirect government funding and contract research are to be drawn up.

Chapter VI THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Article 33

1. The Graduate School of ..... has been established within the faculty.
The Graduate School has the following tasks:
   a) providing education for the research master's programme ..... and the doctoral programme within the faculty.
   b) organising and supervising the supervision of students in the research master's programme and PhD students

2. The Graduate School has a director who is appointed for a period of ..... years by the Faculty Board with the approval of the Board of the University. The director may be reappointed.

3. The director is accountable to the faculty board and has the following tasks:
   a) advising the faculty board on education for the research master's programme and the PhD programme
   b) chairing the admissions committee for the research master's programme
   c) chairing the admissions committee for the PhD programme
   d) being responsible for the adequate registration of PhD programmes in Hora Finita and, upon request, providing the faculty board with the information it needs to perform its statutory duties with regard to education and research.

Chapter VII APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Article 34

The Faculty Board will appoint an Appointment Advisory Committee, in accordance with the University of Groningen's Professor Policy and in preparation for its recommendation to the Board of the University with regard to the appointment of professors to the Faculty.

CHAPTER VIII STUDY ADVICE

Article 35

1. No later than the end of the first year of enrolment in a full-time or part-time bachelor's programme, the Faculty Board or a BSA committee appointed by this board will issue study advice to each student regarding the continuation of the bachelor's programme and any related programme(s).
2. Notwithstanding the previous paragraph, the advice may be postponed if, due to personal circumstances as referred to in the WHW 2008

Implementation Decree, no judgement can be made about the student's suitability for the programme. The advice may be postponed until a later date, as long as the student has not yet completed the first year (the first 60 ECTS) of the programme.

3. If a student has received a negative binding study advice for a programme, the student may not enrol in that Bachelor's programme and related programme(s) for a period of two years.
4. The rules of a procedural nature for the binding study advice are included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

Chapter IX ETHICS COMMITTEE

Article 36
1. The Faculty has an Ethics Committee.
2. The Ethics Committee advises the Faculty Board member for Research on the ethical admissibility of research projects, guided by the Code of Conduct for Academic Integrity, discipline-specific ethical standards, and the applicable legal frameworks.
3. The members of the Ethics Committee are appointed by the Faculty Board. The term of office is…. years.
4. The Ethics Committee will draw up an annual report of its activities. The Ethics Committee will submit that report to the Faculty Board. In addition, the Ethics Committee may report to the Faculty Board whenever this is deemed necessary.

Chapter X FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 37
In the event of a difference of opinion concerning the interpretation of one or more articles in these regulations, the Faculty Board will have the final say.

Article 38
1. These regulations come into effect on the day after the Faculty Board has received notification that the Board of the University has approved the regulations.
2. The previous Faculty Regulations will expire when these Regulations enter into force.

Article 39
These Regulations may be cited as the 'Faculty Regulations for the Faculty of ….. '.

As decreed by the Board of the Faculty of …….. on……, following consent by the Faculty Council on …… ,
and approval by the Board of the University on …..