

In accordance with § 3, para. 2, nos. 3 and 6 of the Statutes of Philipps-Universität Marburg (GrundO) of Oct. 9, 2018, and § 36, para. 2, nos. 2 and 4 of the Hessian Higher Education Act (HHG) of Dec. 14, 2009 (GVBl. I, p. 666) as amended on Dec. 18, 2017 (GVBl. I, p. 482), the Senate of Philipps-Universität Marburg has adopted the following Statutes on Jan. 20, 2021:

Statutes of the
MARburg University Research Academy (MARA)
of Philipps-Universität Marburg
of January 20, 2021

With the aim of promoting junior scholars in all stages of academic qualification,

in awareness that junior scholarship encompasses both doctoral candidates and postdoctoral scholars, and

on the basis of an understanding that the term “doctoral candidate” refers to all doctoral students admitted to pursue a doctoral degree at a university and “postdoctoral scholars” to all junior scholars who have obtained a doctorate and are members of a university and are employed there,

Philipps-Universität Marburg has adopted the following MARA Statutes.

§ 1 Legal status, name, objectives, and responsibilities

- (1) MARA is an additional institution of Philipps-Universität Marburg in accordance with § 20, para. 4 of the Statutes of Philipps-Universität Marburg (GrundO) in conjunction with § 4, para. 1, sent. 3 HHG. It shall be named “**MARburg University Research Academy (MARA).**”
- (2) MARA is a university-wide institution spanning all disciplines and faculties that has the objective of assisting junior scholars in the best possible pursuit of their career opportunities in all stages of academic qualification by providing a framework, both structurally and in terms of content, that meets national and international quality standards and is aligned with future developments. This objective shall be pursued in ways that take into consideration the various academic career pathways both inside and outside academia. MARA shall facilitate an institutionalized dialogue among junior scholars across academic cultures and disciplinary boundaries. In pursuing these objectives, MARA is committed to promoting equal opportunity and making the reconciliation of academic career and family a reality.
- (3) The core tasks of MARA are providing cross-disciplinary extracurricular continuing education, programs for funding, and advisory services for junior scholars as well as support for interdisciplinary networking. Through its extracurricular training program to promote junior scholars, MARA contributes to the doctoral studies programs at Philipps-Universität Marburg. MARA is committed to quality assurance and the continuous development of its

training, funding, and advisory programs and is obligated to do so by consulting its target group of junior scholars and engaging in a regular dialogue with the faculties and the Office of the President.

§ 2 Membership

- (1) The membership of MARburg University Research Academy consists of the following groups:
 - (a) all professors, including all assistant professors and tenure-track professors, of Philipps-Universität Marburg (professorial group); members of this group may object to MARA membership,
 - (b) all doctoral candidates admitted to pursue a doctoral degree at Philipps-Universität Marburg (doctoral candidate group); members of this group may object to MARA membership,
 - (c) all scholars holding a doctorate who are employed at Philipps-Universität Marburg and do not belong to the professorial group (postdoc group); members of this group may object to MARA membership,
 - (d) all administrative-technical staff of MARA (employee group).

- (2) Members or affiliates of other universities and non-university institutions whose status corresponds with one of the membership groups (a)–(c) listed in para. 1 and who are involved in joint projects with or in projects at Philipps-Universität Marburg can become an associated member of MARA upon application for the duration of the respective project.

Scholars holding a doctorate who are engaged in academic work at Philipps-Universität Marburg but have no employment contract with the university can become an associated member of MARA upon application for the duration of this engagement.

Associated membership in MARA does not constitute membership or affiliation status with Philipps-Universität Marburg in accordance with § 32 of the Hessian Higher Education Act. In particular, associated members possess neither passive nor active voting rights. Apart from this, they are subject to the same rights and obligations as regular members within the limits of the objectives of the institution.

- (3) The Board of Directors of MARA renders decisions on applications for associated membership. It may delegate this decision to the Steering Committee. Granting membership can be refused provided that there is reason for refusal in accordance with § 3, para. 3 in conjunction with para. 2. The decision to refuse membership lies with the Board of Directors.
- (4) Membership of professors ends automatically upon leaving Philipps-Universität Marburg in accordance with § 32 HHG, membership of doctoral candidates ends upon completion or discontinuation of doctoral studies at Philipps-Universität Marburg, and membership of postdoctoral scholars ends with their employment contract with Philipps-Universität Marburg in accordance with § 32 HHG. In addition, membership ends upon application by the respective member or upon termination of membership for other reasons. The same applies in the case of associated members from other universities or non-university institutions who are involved in joint projects with Philipps-Universität Marburg. In such

cases, membership also ends as soon as collaboration ends. Former members can become alumni provided that they agree to being granted this status.

§ 3 Membership rights and obligations

- (1) Membership includes eligibility to use MARA infrastructure and resources within the limits of the opportunities provided.
- (2) Members are required to commit to the objectives of MARA (see § 1, para. 2) and principles of good scientific practice in accordance with the provisions currently in force. They are further requested to engage in collaboration and provide mutual support.
- (3) Members who fail to meet their obligations in accordance with § 3, para. 2 can be excluded from membership in MARA by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. They are to be heard prior to the Board decision. Members who have been excluded may not become alumni.

§ 4 Organs

Organs of MARA are

- (a) the Board of Directors and
- (b) the Steering Committee.

§ 5 Composition and election of the Board of Directors

- (1) The Board of Directors consists of regular, deputy, and advisory members.
- (2) Regular and deputy members of the Board of Directors are
 - (a) four professorial representatives from the humanities and social sciences and four professorial representatives from the life and natural sciences and their respective deputies,
 - (b) three representatives from the group of doctoral candidates and their respective deputies,
 - (c) three representatives from the group of postdoctoral scholars and their respective deputies,
 - (d) one representative from the group of administrative-technical staff and their deputy.
- (3) Advisory members of the Board of Directors are
 - (a) the Vice-President responsible for junior scholars at Philipps-Universität Marburg,
 - (b) the Managing Director of MARA,
 - (c) the MARA program and funding coordinators,

(d) the Head of the Junior Scholars Office at Philipps-Universität Marburg,

The number of advisory members can be expanded if necessary.

- (4) Passive and active voting rights are limited to members of Philipps-Universität Marburg only (members of a status group in accordance with § 32, para. 3 HHG). Provided that there exists a central body for the representation of doctoral candidates, all doctoral students admitted to pursue doctoral studies at Philipps-Universität (in accordance with § 32, para. 7, in combination with § 1a GrundO) also possess active and passive voting rights.
- (5) Board members from the professorial group and their deputies are elected for four-year terms, all other Board members for two-year terms. The professorial representatives are delegated by the Faculty Councils of the respective faculties from among the members of their faculty. The representatives of the other groups are elected online, where appropriate, by the respective groups from among their members. Cumulative voting is not permitted. Re-election is allowed. It is permitted to delegate the representatives of the doctoral candidate group from among the representatives of an elected central body of representatives in accordance with § 1a GrundO, provided that there is such a central body of representation.
- (6) The Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director are regular members of the Board of Directors during their entire term of office. The other professorial representatives are required to switch positions between regular membership and deputy membership halfway through their term of office so that hitherto regular members are now last in line, and the other members move up one position in the sequence. At the beginning of a term, the other six regular members and eight deputies are determined by lot from the remaining group of professorial members in each disciplinary field. For each disciplinary field, the seats of regular and deputy members are assigned in the order of lot-drawing. After newly electing an electable member of the Steering Committee, the member of the Steering Committee who has resigned their seat or the member who has been newly delegated by the Faculty Council is now last in line, and the other members move up one position accordingly.

In the case of the groups under para. 2, letters (b) and (c), the candidates are elected in the order of the number of votes received. In the case of the group under para 2, letter (d), the candidate receiving the most votes is elected. The deputies are determined in the order of the next highest number of votes received. Should there be a parity of votes, the decision is made by lot. In the event that the representative is delegated in accordance with para. 2, letter (b) from among the representatives of an elected central body for the representation of doctoral candidates, the seats of regular and deputy members for the representation of the doctoral candidates is assigned by lot-drawing.

The Managing Director of MARA acts as the Election Chair responsible for determining by lot the composition of the Board of Directors.

- (7) If a professorial representative withdraws from office, the respective faculty delegates a new representative who takes the seat of the withdrawing member for the remaining term of office or moves into the last position in line while the other members move up one position in the sequence accordingly. If a candidate of any of the groups under para. 2, letters (b), (c), or (d) withdraws, the next elected candidate takes their seat. In the event that no other elected candidate is listed, a new member must immediately be elected for the remaining

term of office. In the case that a member of one of the groups under para. 2, letters (b), (c), or (d) succeeds another on the Board of Directors, each of the remaining representatives and deputies move up one position. In the event that a representative delegated in accordance with para. 2, letter (b) from among the representatives of an elected central body for the representation of doctoral candidates withdraws from office, the elected central body for the representation of doctoral candidates delegates a new representative for the remaining term of office, who moves into the last position in line while the other members move up one position in the sequence accordingly.

- (8) §§ 1, para. 6 of the Statutes of Philipps-Universität Marburg and § 38, para. 1, 2, and 4, and para. 11–12 of the Election Regulations apply accordingly.

§ 6 Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

- (1) The Board of Directors is responsible for matters of essential significance to MARA (cf. § 1) provided that general law or the Statutes of Philipps-Universität Marburg do not determine otherwise.
- (2) Among the responsibilities of the Board of Directors are, in particular,
- (a) electing the Executive Director and their deputy,
 - (b) adopting the MARA Statutes in consultation with the MARA membership and rendering decisions on additional provisions and modes of procedure,
 - (c) deciding on measures to implement the objectives stated in § 1, in particular, concerning the interdisciplinary, extracurricular training program, programs for funding, and advisory services for junior scholars, which are to be developed on the basis of continuous quality assurance and in cooperation with the MARA membership,
 - (d) pursuing the continuous advancement of MARA in light of future developments, including its medium-range conception, in cooperation with the MARA membership,
 - (e) issuing statements in regard to the reports by the Steering Committee,
 - (f) if applicable, issuing statements on the structure of the doctoral and postdoctoral phase and the general conditions that surround them, on the promotion of junior scholars outside of MARA, or on measures that target international junior scholars.
 - (g) rendering decisions on institutional cooperations with other divisions of Philipps-Universität Marburg or other entities outside the university; institutional cooperation with partners outside of Philipps-Universität Marburg requires the approval of the Office of the President,
 - (h) planning and monitoring the use of financial resources that are allocated and available for personnel and operating costs, without prejudice to the authority of the budget officer in accordance with § 41, para. 1 HHG in conjunction with § 12, para. 1 of the Statutes of Philipps-Universität Marburg.
 - (i) rendering decisions on the admission of members — provided that the decision has not been delegated — and on the exclusion of members as well as on the cooptation of additional advisory members to the Board of Directors, and

- (j) raising funds to promote the objectives of MARA.
- (3) The Board of Directors may establish committees to fulfill certain tasks.
- (4) The Board of Directors may delegate tasks to the Steering Committee or individual members of the Board.

§ 7 Composition and election of the Steering Committee

- (1) The Steering Committee consists of the Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director. The two come from different disciplinary fields (humanities and social sciences, life and natural sciences) and switch positions halfway through their term of office. The Managing Director of MARA (cf. § 9) is also part of the Steering Committee and supports the latter in an advisory function.
- (2) The Board of Directors elects the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director from among the professorial group delegated by the Faculty Councils, as defined in § 5, para. 2, letter (a), for a term of four years. Re-election is allowed. They are elected by all members in accordance with § 5, para. 2, and their appointment must be confirmed by the President of Philipps-Universität Marburg. The election takes place in two separate rounds of voting. The candidate who receives the most votes is elected. Should there be a parity of votes, the decision is made by lot. The Managing Director of MARA acts as the Election Chair. If an electable member withdraws from the Steering Committee, a new member must immediately be elected for the remaining term of office.

§ 8 Responsibilities and powers of the Steering Committee

- (1) The Steering Committee manages MARA and represents it externally. The Steering Committee is responsible for all operations that do not fall under the responsibility of the Board of Directors.
- (2) Among the responsibilities of the Steering Committee are, in particular,
 - (a) calling and running the meetings of the Board of Directors,
 - (b) preparing and implementing the decisions of the Board of Directors,
 - (c) regular reporting to the Board of Directors in all matters of significance to MARA,
 - (d) planning the MARA program and budget use on the basis of continuous quality assurance and the decisions of the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Vice-President responsible for junior scholars at Philipps-Universität Marburg.
 - (e) annual reporting to the Board of Directors and the members on the development of MARA, in consultation with the Vice-President responsible for junior scholars at Philipps-Universität Marburg; these reports are to be submitted to the President and Senate of Philipps-Universität Marburg,

- (f) developing a medium-range conception for MARA, in agreement with the Vice-President responsible for junior scholars at Philipps-Universität Marburg.

§ 9 Managing Director

The Board of Directors and Steering Committee are supported by a Managing Director who assists them in attending to their responsibilities. The Steering Committee can delegate the performance of individual tasks to the Managing Director.

§ 10 Principles of procedure

The meetings of the Board of Directors are to be conducted in accordance with § 1, para. 2, 3, 7 and § 2 of the Statutes of Philipps-Universität Marburg and the Rules of Procedure for Bodies of Philipps-Universität Marburg.

§ 11 Resources and funding

MARA is funded and its resources provided through the central university budget, fees for the services provided by its program, and fundraising and donations.

§ 12 Entry into force

These Statutes enter into force the day upon publication in the Official Notices of Philipps-Universität Marburg. On the same day, the Statutes of the MARburg University Research Academy (MARA) of Philipps-Universität Marburg of March 25, 2015, cease to be in force.

Marburg, January 27, 2021

Prof. Dr. Katharina Krause

President of Philipps-Universität Marburg