

Please note: This is an unofficial translation provided for information purposes only. The official version was published in Official Notices No. 28/2007, p. 2808, last amended by resolution of the Students Parliament of 17.03.2022 (Official Notices I 20/2022, p. 399).

## **Election Statutes of the Student Body of the Georg August University Göttingen (WO)**

### **§ 1 Scope**

(1) The regulations of these statutes apply to the elections to the following organs of the student body: student parliament, foreign student parliament, Subject Parliament, Subject Group Speaker.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The elections shall be prepared and held simultaneously as combined elections. <sup>2</sup>The election period shall be during the lecture period of the winter semester and shall be determined at the beginning of the winter semester; the lecture period equals the lecture period decided by the Presidential Board of the University ( in the following: Presidential Board).

(3) <sup>1</sup>The elections will be held as a ballot box election with the possibility of postal voting. <sup>2</sup>The Election Administration may, in agreement with the election committee, determine that, in deviation from sentence 1, the election shall be conducted as an internet-based online election (digital election) with the possibility of postal voting.

### **§ 2 Election Committee**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Election Committee supervises the correctness of the elections of the organs of the student body and is responsible for these elections in cooperation with the election administration. <sup>2</sup>It shall have authority to the extent established by this statute.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Election Committee has seven members. <sup>2</sup>The election committee is composed of members of the student body who are appointed in accordance with § 10 subsection 4 OrgS. <sup>3</sup>The election administration and the President of the Student Parliament may participate in an advisory function. <sup>4</sup> The FSRV may appoint a representative who may participate in an advisory function.

(3) (Not applicable)

(4) <sup>1</sup>The term of office of the members of the Election Committee begins with the winter semester and ends after one year. <sup>2</sup>If a member of the Election Committee retires prematurely and there is no longer a substitute, a new member and a substitute shall be appointed for the remainder of the term of office.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration shall invite and lead the first meeting of the Election Committee until the Election Committee has appointed a Chairperson from among its members or, if necessary, until the Election Committee has appointed a substitute Chairperson. <sup>2</sup>The Chairperson of the Election Committee shall invite and lead the meetings. <sup>3</sup>This person is obliged to summon the Election Committee if this is demanded by the Presidential Board of the Student Parliament (in the following: StuPa-Presidential Board), the AStA, at least three members of the Election Committee or the Election Administration. (6) <sup>1</sup>Die Wahlleitung bestellt für die Koordinierung der Aufgaben in den Wahllokalen eine\* einen Wahlkoordinator\*in und jeweils wenigstens eine Stellvertretung, die im Falle eines fakultären Wahllokals durch den Fachschaftsrat vorzuschlagen sind.

(7) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration and the Election Coordinators may appoint election assistants to supervise the election and to count the votes. <sup>2</sup>All divisions of the student body are obliged to appoint election assistants.

(8) (Not applicable)

### **§ 3 Sessions and Resolutions of the Election Committee**

(1) The invitation must be sent in text form at least one week before the meeting of the Election Committee.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Election Committee will have a quorum if the majority of the members entitled to vote are present after proper invitation. (Sentence 2 not applicable)

(3) A Resolutions in circulation is inadmissible in the following cases, unless otherwise stipulated in these statutes:

- a. Admission or non-admission of election proposals; Feststellung des Wahlergebnisses;
- b. Determination of the election result;
- c. insofar as a personal vote is mandated.

### **§ 4 Wahlleitung**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration is the responsibility of a member of the university, appointed by the student parliament with a simple majority. <sup>2</sup>They are responsible for the proper preparation and conduct of the election. <sup>3</sup>They must agree to be appointment. <sup>4</sup>If this declaration is not made or if no nomination is made, the presidential board of the student parliament shall be responsible for election administration and shall make its decisions in accordance with § 8 subsection 4 sentence 3 und sentence 4 OrgS.. <sup>5</sup>If the StuPa presidential board is the elections administration, the President of the Student Parliament may, in urgent cases, make decisions for this function alone, which may be revoked by the StuPa presidential board or the Election Committee at any time by resolution for the future. <sup>6</sup>If no agreement can be reached according to § 1 subsection 3 sentence 2, the Election Administration has the possibility to withdraw its agreement according to sentence 3.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration has the right and the obligation to attend the sessions of the Election Committee. <sup>2</sup>The Election Administration shall prepare the meetings of the Election Committee with its Chairperson, submit proposals for decisions, have the protocol written and ensure that the decisions are published and carried out. <sup>3</sup> The Election Administration shall determine the timetable for the preparation of the election with the inspection-, objection- and submission deadlines after the statement of the Election Committee. <sup>4</sup>The digital voting requires that the applicable principles of electoral law, in particular the principles of free, equal and secret ballot and of the publicity of the election, are upheld in its execution.

(3) If the election administration is authorised to do so, it may call upon the University's employees to carry out its tasks and delegate tasks to them in full, including the receiving of ballot papers in accordance with § 17 subsection 4.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The election administration is entitled to correct mistakes, inconsistencies or spelling mistakes ( in the following collectively: mistakes) in election proposals, election lists, announcements, election announcement or results at any time; this does not apply to the determination of the election result, insofar as the correction changes the allocation of seats to a candidate and the mistake is not obvious. <sup>2</sup>The correction shall be recorded on the record and shall be dated and initialled.

## **§5 Elective fields**

(1) <sup>1</sup>All members of the student body who are entitled to vote for the same body shall form an electoral area for its election. <sup>2</sup> An electoral field shall be subdivided into electoral sub-fields; unless otherwise determined by the electoral administration, a Subject Representation shall form an electoral sub-field.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Election nominations can only apply to one elective field. <sup>2</sup>Each candidate of an election nomination must be eligible to vote in this elective field.

## **§ 6 Establishment of the electoral register**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Only those who are entered in the electoral register may vote and be elected. <sup>2</sup>Whoever is a member of several subject groups or Subject Representation may exercise their right to vote only within one subject group or one Subject Representation, unless otherwise determined.

(2) <sup>1</sup>At the beginning of the lecture period of the semester in which an election takes place, the Election Administration shall have all persons who are entitled to vote in this election according to the law or OrgS entered in an electoral register. (Sentence 2 not applicable)

(3) <sup>1</sup>The electoral register must show the electoral field, the Subject Representation as well as the subject Group affiliation and the affiliation to the foreign student body for each person entitled to vote. <sup>2</sup>Members of the student body who cannot be assigned to a Subject Representation are listed separately. <sup>3</sup> The electoral register must state the surname and first name of the person entitled to vote. <sup>4</sup> Further details (e.g. date of birth, address, matriculation number or, subject of study) shall be listed if this is necessary in order to ensure that there is no confusion or to be able to determine with certainty the entitlement to vote for an organ.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Those who are members of several subdivisions (e.g. Subject Representation, Subject Groups) can determine in which sub-division the right to vote is to be exercised by submitting a declaration of affiliation to the Election Administration. <sup>2</sup>A candidature in such cases shall be a declaration of affiliation. <sup>3</sup> The Election Administration may request the submission of a declaration of affiliation within a specified deadline. <sup>4</sup> If a declaration of affiliation has not been submitted after expiry of the deadline, the Election Administration may make the affiliation at its discretion; the same shall apply if a request in accordance with sentence 3 has not been issued. <sup>5</sup> An application for later registration (§ 7) shall be considered as a declaration of affiliation. <sup>6</sup>Sentences 1-5 shall apply accordingly if these Election Statutes apply to the conduct of another election.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Exemplars or excerpts of the electoral register, together with the text of the election statutes, shall be made available for inspection at least at one location at the University, in compliance with data protection regulations, or shall be made available for viewing digitally against proof of membership. <sup>2</sup>In the election announcement, the persons entitled to vote shall be invited to inspect the electoral register, stating the manner in which and the period during which inspection is possible. <sup>3</sup> The period for the possibility of inspection (inspection time limit) must include at least the week after the announcement of the election notice.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Any person entitled to vote may submit a written objection to the Election Administration against the content of the registration or against a non-registration in the electoral register. <sup>2</sup>If an objection is raised against the registration of third parties, these must be informed of the objection by the election administration and involved in the further procedure if the electoral register is to be changed in response to the objection. <sup>3</sup> The objection period (deadline for exclusion) may end no earlier than eight weeks before the first day of the election period, but not before the end of the inspection period, and must be announced in the election announcement; after the expiry of the objection period, an objection to the electoral register is not possible. <sup>4</sup> The decision on the objection is made by the

Election Administration after the statement of the Election Committee at the latest on the tenth lecture day after the expiry of the objection deadline.

(7) <sup>1</sup>After the decision on the objections and after the statement of the Election Committee, the Election Administration shall establish the preliminary electoral register, which shall be the determining basis for the decision on the admission of the election proposals and the calculation of the seats of a body, irrespective of whether the final electoral register differs therefrom. <sup>2</sup>Whoever becomes a member of the student body after expiry of the objection period shall not be eligible for election.

(8) Any member of the student body or persons authorized by the Election Administration may view the electoral roll even after the end of the inspection period.

(9) <sup>1</sup>By-elections, supplementary elections, and new elections may be held on the basis of an election register established in the same semester without renewed opportunity for inspection and appeal procedures. <sup>2</sup>Updates according to § 7 remain possible.

### **§ 7 Confirmation of the final electoral register**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration shall update the electoral register by the fourteenth day before the beginning of the election period; there is no claim to this. <sup>2</sup>Determinations made by the Election Committee or the Election Administration prior to the update shall remain unaffected. <sup>3</sup> After expiry of the period according to sentence 1, the election administration shall establish the final electoral register for the exercise of the active voting right. <sup>4</sup> Anyone who becomes a member of the student body after this deadline is not entitled to vote. <sup>5</sup> The update may also concern the change of subject group or Subject Participation affiliation. <sup>6</sup> In the case of a digital election, a digital election register is generated in the digital voting system from the election register stored on a university server (including servers of the GWDG) by encrypting it into hash values.

(2) If the membership for a electoral field ends or is inactive after the provisional electoral register has been established, the person concerned loses the right to vote in contrast to subsection 1. (remainder not applicable)

(3) In the event of a later registration, the election administration may issue a voting card to the eligible voter concerned if this is suitable for the purpose of proving eligibility to vote in the election.

### **§ 8 Election notification**

<sup>1</sup>The person entitled to vote shall receive notification of the entry in the electoral register no later than three weeks before the election, if possible by digital means. <sup>2</sup>The election notification shall contain the application form for the postal vote.

### **§ 9 Election announcement**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The election management shall publicly announce the election by issuing an election announcement. <sup>2</sup>The election announcement must state:

1. the election procedure,
2. the bodies to be elected,
3. the election period determined by the Election Committee in agreement with the Election Administration, the invitation to inspect the electoral register according to § 6 subsection 5 with the indication of the possibility to make an objection, of the objection deadline as well as of the place and time for the submission of objections,
4. the deadline for late registrations,

5. the invitation to submit election proposals in accordance with section 10 subsection 2, stating
  - a) the total number of seats of the body, if possible
  - b) the electoral fields,
  - c) the deadline and form for submission, and
  - d) the place and time for the submission of election proposals,
6. the regulations for postal voting, stating the deadline for postal voting requests.

(2) Other public announcements may be combined with the election announcement, in particular

1. the notification in which electoral fields an election is likely to be omitted because the number of eligible voters does not exceed the total number of seats in the institution,
2. the form of public notices pursuant to § 22.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The election announcement may be published in parts one after the other. <sup>2</sup>All notices required under subsection 1 shall be published five weeks before the first day of the election period.

### **§ 10 Submission of election proposals**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The election shall be based on election proposals which may nominate several candidates (list election proposals) or one candidate (individual election proposals). <sup>2</sup>Each election proposal may only refer to the election of one body.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The election proposals shall be submitted to the Election Administration. <sup>2</sup>The submission deadline (cut-off period) may not end earlier than one week after the notification of the election announcement and not later than two weeks before the first day of the election period.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Candidates must be eligible to stand for election to the bodies for which they are nominated. <sup>2</sup>Eligibility to vote can only be proved by the electoral register established (including the digital electoral register in the case of digital voting). <sup>3</sup> Each candidate may be nominated for election to the same body on only one nomination. <sup>4</sup> The nomination of a candidate named on several nominations with their consent shall be valid only for the nomination designated by them up to the expiry of the time limit for submission, otherwise for the nomination submitted last or the nomination designated more precisely by a separate declaration of intent; in the case of simultaneous receipt of nominations, the decision shall be taken by drawing lots in accordance with § 14 subsection 2, sentence 2.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The voting nomination must list the candidates in a clear order with surname, first name, date of birth, address, university e-mail address, Subject Representation affiliation or matriculation number. <sup>2</sup>Voluntary information (e.g. official title, degree course, occupation) may be added up to a maximum of 250 characters (including spaces); it may be added at the request of the election management even after the election proposal has been admitted if this is necessary to prevent mix-ups. <sup>3</sup> If a candidate's nomination contains voluntary information, this should be included in the election notice at the applicable place; this does not apply to contact details (e.g. telephone number, address). <sup>4</sup> The nomination must be accompanied by a declaration of each candidate of this nomination that the respective candidate agrees with the candidature and the information concerning them and that they will accept it in case of their election. <sup>5</sup> A key word may be indicated under which the election proposal is to be listed in the election notice and on the ballot paper.

(5) <sup>1</sup>In each election proposal, a person of trust should be nominated, stating his/her address and, if possible, also his/her telephone number and e-mail address. <sup>2</sup>This person must be a member of the student body, but not a candidate. <sup>3</sup>If no special nomination is made, the sender of the election proposal, otherwise the candidate named first in the order of precedence, shall be deemed to be the person of trust for the election proposal. <sup>4</sup>The person of trust must sign the submitted election proposal and thereby confirms the conformity of the written version with the digital version of the election proposal. <sup>5</sup>The person of trust is entitled and obliged to make and receive declarations to the

electoral bodies as the representative of all candidates. <sup>6</sup>The individual candidates shall be entitled to make and receive declarations to the electoral bodies, provided that only they themselves are concerned.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The election proposal form must be submitted by the end of the submission period in addition to the written form (signed printout) in digital form by e-mail or on a physical data carrier, e.g. CD-Rom, DVD, USB stick. <sup>2</sup>For the preparation of the election proposal, only the election proposal form approved by the Election Administration for the election and the consent form approved by the Election Administration for the election are to be used. <sup>3</sup> These forms shall be made available by the Election Administration in an appropriate manner.

(7) Any person entitled to vote shall have the right to view submitted proposals at the times specified in the election announcement and at the place assigned by the Electoral Administration.

(8) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration may, in agreement with the Election Committee, determine that election proposals are to be submitted exclusively digitally or may be submitted exclusively digitally and in which form (e.g. via a portal) this is to be done. <sup>2</sup> The formal requirements shall be announced in the election announcement. <sup>3</sup> If digital submission is not possible during the submission period for technical reasons for which the university is responsible, the election management may extend the submission period appropriately and inform the applicant of this on the internet; if the disruption for which the university is responsible occurs on the last day of the submission period, the submission period shall be extended by one day.

#### **§ 11 Admission of election proposals**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration shall note the date and time of receiving for each election proposal submitted. <sup>2</sup>They check for the Election Committee whether the election proposals have been submitted in due time and in the correct form; they are not obliged to check the information for the benefit of the candidates ex officio. <sup>3</sup>Election proposals may be withdrawn, changed or supplemented up to the expiry of the submission deadline.

(2) The Election Committee shall decide on the acceptance or non-acceptance of the election proposals no later than on the fifteenth lecture day after the submission deadline.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Not to be accepted are election proposals which

1. have not been submitted or have not been submitted in full by the appointed deadline,
2. do not indicate the election or the electoral field for which they are intended,
3. do not clearly identify the applicants,
4. not contain the declarations of consent of the candidates,
5. list candidates who, according to the established electoral register, are not electable in the relevant area,
6. contain conditions or restrictions.

<sup>2</sup>As far as the reasons for non-admission refer only to individual candidates of a list election proposal, only these candidates are not to be accepted and are to be deleted from the election proposal. <sup>3</sup>To meet the deadline, it is sufficient to send the complete documents digitally or by fax if the documents are submitted in original as soon as possible, at the latest, however, on the second day of lectures after the deadline has expired.

(4) If the Election Committee does not admit a nomination in whole or in part, the Election Administration shall immediately inform the person of trust of this nomination, stating the reasons.

(5) <sup>1</sup>If the key words of several election proposals give rise to confusion, the election committee shall be entitled to add a distinguishing marking to the key word of an election proposal after the trusted persons of the election proposals concerned have given their statement. <sup>2</sup>When weighing the conflicting interests, special consideration shall be given to the legitimate interest in the continued use of the keyword; the distinguishing marking shall be attached to the election proposal which - also taking into account previous elections - has appeared later than the competing election proposal. <sup>3</sup>Whether there is an overriding interest is to be evaluated according to whether the candidates of an election proposal have already run unopposed under the same keyword in the previous year, and then whether the number of candidates who have already run under the same keyword in previous years is predominant on an election proposal. <sup>4</sup>If the overriding legitimate interest of an election proposal cannot be determined with reasonable effort, the decision shall be made by drawing lots.

## **§ 12 Decision of the election bodies for the election publication**

(1) On the basis of the established electoral register, the Election Administration shall finalize whether there are no more electable members or approved candidates for an electoral field than the total number of seats of the body, so that an election is not held.

(2) <sup>1</sup>If there are only individual nominations or only one list nomination for a body, the Election Administration shall determine that elections are to be held in the body concerned in accordance with the principles of majority voting. <sup>2</sup>In accordance with the principles of majority voting, elections shall also be held as determined by the Election Administration if a body consists of only one member or if only one member of an electoral field is to be elected. <sup>3</sup>In all other cases, list voting shall take place.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration, after receiving the statement of the Election Committee, shall determine for the individual election fields or election subfields the polling places and the times of day at which voting is possible during the election period. <sup>2</sup>In the case of a digital election, the Election Administration and the Election Committee shall determine by mutual agreement the Internet address of the election portal as well as the beginning and the end of the election period (beginning and end of the possibility to vote). <sup>3</sup>The election management shall determine at least one location where voting in digital form is possible during the office hours specified in the election announcement using a computer provided by the University.

(4) <sup>1</sup>By means of an addendum to the electoral announcement, the Election Administration shall repeat the electoral announcement in whole or in part, and in particular shall again call for the submission of election proposals for individual election areas if

1. the number of candidates of all nominations for an election area falls short of the total number of seats of this body, or
2. otherwise a by-election in accordance with § 20 subsection 1 would become necessary and new election proposals may be submitted for this purpose after determination by the Election Committee.

<sup>2</sup>The previously submitted approved election proposals need not be resubmitted, but may be changed within the new election proposal deadline. <sup>3</sup>In the case of sentence 1 no. 1, a new call for election proposals shall be issued only once by means of a supplement to the electoral announcement. <sup>4</sup>In the event of a time extension, the Election Administration is responsible for deciding on the admission of election proposals; the person concerned may appeal against a rejection decision to the Election Administration within two days of notification of the decision, on which the Election Committee must decide within five lecture days.

## **§ 13 Election Publication**

(1) The Election Administration publishes in the Election Publication

1. the appeal to vote with the indication of
  - a) the voting period, the polling places and the times of day for voting, or
  - b) in the case of digital voting, the Internet address of the voting portal, the beginning and end of the election period (beginning and end of the possibility to vote) and the place where voting is possible using a computer provided by the university,
2. the regulations for voting,
3. the approved election proposals,
4. the decision of the election management in accordance with § 12.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The election publication shall be published at least one week before the first day of the election period. <sup>2</sup>If the public announcement according to § 22 is made by posting, the posting may not end until after the end of the time set for holding the election.

## **§ 14 Ballot Paper**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The ballot papers (paper or digital) shall be prepared separately for the election of each body and separate for each electoral area and shall bear an appropriate heading. <sup>2</sup>In the case of election proposals that are provided with a key word, the key word must be stated on the ballot paper. <sup>3</sup>Paper ballots must be marked with the University seal design, or if not allowed, with one determined by the Election Administration. <sup>4</sup>In the case of a digital election, the digital ballot and the paper ballot can be designed differently.

(2) <sup>1</sup>In the case of list elections, the election proposal lists shall be printed on the ballot paper in the order in which they are received. <sup>2</sup>In the event of simultaneous receipt, the decision shall be made by drawing lots by the Election Administration. <sup>3</sup>Unless the Election Administration decides otherwise, the election proposals received at the same time shall be considered to have been received as follows

- a) Mondays to Thursdays on the same day up to and including 3:00 p.m.; election proposals received thereafter shall be attributed to the following day,
- b) Fridays up to and including 12:00 noon, or
- c) from Friday after 12:00 noon until the following Monday at 09:00 <sup>4</sup>Within a list election proposal, the names and first names of the candidates shall be listed according to the order in the submitted election proposal. <sup>5</sup>The ballot paper must provide space for the individual candidates of the list election proposal to be marked with a cross.

(3) <sup>1</sup>In the case of majority voting, all candidates must be listed on the ballot paper in alphabetical order and, if applicable, with the key word as an addition. <sup>2</sup>For each candidate, space must be provided for marking with a cross.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The ballot paper shall clearly indicate the maximum number of candidates to be marked with a cross. <sup>2</sup>In the case of list voting, it must also be pointed out that the vote for a candidate is also counted in favor of the entire list.

## **§ 15 Voting by ballot box election**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Each person entitled to vote shall cast his/her vote personally on the ballot paper by marking with a cross or by other means in the space provided for this purpose next to the name of each candidate. <sup>2</sup>A voting person who is unable to read or is prevented by physical impairment from marking the ballot paper or placing it in the ballot box may use the assistance of another person. <sup>3</sup>At the request of the electing person, one of the supervising persons shall assist. <sup>4</sup>In the case of a list election, each voter



has only one vote. <sup>5</sup> In the case of majority voting in an electoral area, the maximum number of electable candidates corresponds to the total number of seats in the body; the pile-up of votes on one candidate is ineffective.

(2) <sup>1</sup>It must be ensured that the voter can mark and cast the ballot paper in the voting room without being observed. <sup>2</sup>The Election Administration shall make appropriate arrangements in consultation with the Election Coordinators. <sup>3</sup>Ballot boxes shall be used to receive the ballots. <sup>4</sup> Before voting begins, the empty ballot boxes shall be sealed so that the folded ballots can only be inserted through a slot in the lid.

(3) <sup>1</sup>As long as the voting room is open for voting, at least two election assistants (supervisors) must be present in the voting room and must sign an attendance list. (Sentence 2 Not applicable) <sup>3</sup>A copy of these Election Statutes shall be available for inspection in the polling room.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Before issuing the ballot, the supervisors shall determine whether the eligible voter is registered in the electoral register. <sup>2</sup>The vote shall be recorded in a copy or extract of the electoral register. <sup>3</sup> If the right to vote is proven by a voting card, this must be included in the election documents with the note that the right to vote has been exercised. <sup>4</sup> Upon request of the supervisors, the eligible voter must identify themselves by means of an official or university photo ID.

(5) <sup>1</sup>If the voting is interrupted or if the result is not determined immediately after voting, then a ballot box shall be kept in a locked room. <sup>2</sup>The Election Coordinator, in consultation with the supervisors, shall ensure that the ballot box is stored in a locked area outside of voting hours if the voting period extends over several days. <sup>3</sup> At the beginning and at the resumption of the voting and at the removal of the ballots for counting, the election coordinator and at least one supervisor shall make sure that the closure of the ballot box is intact.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The voting room must be accessible to all persons entitled to vote there. <sup>2</sup>The supervisors shall arrange access to the voting room in the event of a rush and shall otherwise ensure that no election campaign influence is carried out during the voting process.

(7) <sup>1</sup>In the voting room and at a distance of 5 m from the voting room or 2 m from the entrance to the voting room, any influence on voters by word, sound, writing or image is prohibited. <sup>2</sup> This does not apply to announcements of the electoral bodies. <sup>3</sup> The placement of election advertising must be registered in advance with the authority responsible for the area or building. <sup>4</sup> The university should allow election campaigning. <sup>5</sup>The placement of election advertising may be subject to conditions in advance or afterwards, or may be prohibited, if there is a risk that

- a) existing or possible advertising measures of other university groups are impaired or excluded to a not only insignificant extent by the type and scope of the registered advertising in a manner that violates the principle of equality,
- b) the academic and lecture activities are impaired in a not only insignificant manner or security regulations are impaired in any way. After the end of the time of day set for voting, only those eligible voters who are in the voting room at that time may vote.

<sup>6</sup> Access to the voting room shall be blocked until the voters present have cast their votes.

### **§ 15a Voting in digital election**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The persons entitled to vote shall receive their election notification in accordance with § 8. <sup>2</sup> In addition to the information on eligibility to vote, the application for declaration of affiliation and the application for postal voting, this includes information on authentication, how to vote and how to use the voting portal. <sup>3</sup>Das The voting portal enables voting by accessing a digital ballot.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Voting in electronic form must be carried out freely and secretly by the voter. <sup>2</sup>The authentication of eligible voters takes place by logging into the election portal with their personal authentication information (e.g. matriculation number or student e-mail address and password), via which the voter is forwarded to the digital election directory via a secure link to verify their eligibility to vote. <sup>3</sup> The electronic ballot paper must be completed and submitted digitally in accordance with the instructions contained in the election notification and on the election portal. <sup>4</sup>The electronic voting system used must ensure that voting rights cannot be exercised more than once. <sup>5</sup> The storage of the votes submitted must be anonymized and in such a way that the order in which the votes were received cannot be traced. <sup>6</sup> The eligible voters have the opportunity to view their entry, correct it or cancel the vote until the vote is sent. <sup>7</sup> A vote can only be sent on the grounds of a digital confirmation by the voter. <sup>8</sup> The transmission must be recognizable for the voter on the screen. <sup>9</sup>With the notice of the confirmed vote, the vote shall be considered to have been cast.

(3) <sup>1</sup> When voting, the digital voting system used must not result in the voters' votes being stored in the computer they use for this purpose. <sup>2</sup>It must be ensured that unnoticed changes to the voice entries by third parties are impossible. <sup>3</sup> On the screen, the ballot must be hidden immediately after sending the vote. <sup>4</sup> The digital voting system used shall not allow the possibility for a paper printout or comparable perpetuation of the submitted vote after the final vote has been cast. <sup>5</sup> The storage of votes in the digital ballot box must be based on an untraceable random principle. <sup>6</sup> The successful login to the digital voting system after authentication at the voting portal and the IP addresses of the eligible voters may not be recorded; external service providers may not process any non-anonymized personal data of the eligible voters. <sup>7</sup> When votes are cast, the digital voting system must not carry out any further processing than is technically necessary for the vote to be cast; it must be ensured that the content of the voting decision cannot be associated with voters at any time.

(4) Voting in digital form is also possible during the office hours specified in the election announcement at at least one location specified by the election administration using a computer provided by the university.

#### **§ 15b Start and end of the digital election**

<sup>1</sup> The start and end of digital election is only valid with simultaneous authorization by at least two eligible persons and must be protocolled. <sup>2</sup> Eligible persons are the Election Administration and the Chairperson of the Election Committee. <sup>3</sup> In the event that an individual is unable to attend, the Election Administration may appoint an employee and the Election Committee may appoint a person from among its members.

#### **§ 15c Digital election disturbance**

(1) <sup>1</sup>If digital voting is not possible for eligible voters during the election period for technical reasons for which the university is responsible, the Election Administration may extend the election period in agreement with the Election Committee. <sup>2</sup>The extension must be made public.

(2) <sup>1</sup> If, during the electronic voting, malfunctions become known that can be corrected without the risk of premature disclosure or deletion of the votes already cast, and if the possibility of vote manipulation is excluded, the election administration may correct such malfunctions or have them corrected and continue the election; if the further proper conduct of the election is not ensured, the election shall be terminated without counting the votes. <sup>2</sup>If the election is continued, the disturbance and its duration shall be recorded in the protocol of the election. <sup>3</sup> In the event of termination of the election, the Election Administration shall decide on the further procedure in agreement with the Election Committee.

### **§ 15d Postal voting in digital election**

(1) If the election is conducted as a digital election, voting is also permitted in the form of postal voting.

(2) <sup>1</sup> The terms of § 16 shall apply.

(3) Upon mailing or delivery of absentee ballots, eligible voters are excluded from voting electronically.

### **§ 15e Technical requirements**

(1) <sup>1</sup> Digital elections may only be conducted if the digital voting system used complies with current technical standards, in particular the security requirements for online voting products of the Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (Federal Office for Information Security). <sup>2</sup> The digital voting system must have the technical specifications listed in the following subsections. <sup>3</sup> The fulfillment of the technical requirements must be proven by appropriate documents. <sup>4</sup> The University may use external service providers to conduct the digital election and to establish sufficient security standards; these service providers must be contractually obligated to comply with the provisions of the Election Statutes and to enable the University to monitor the assurance of data protection.

(2) <sup>1</sup> To maintain the secrecy of the ballot, the digital ballot box and the digital electoral register must be maintained on different server hardware. <sup>2</sup> The election directory is stored on a university server (including servers of the GWDG).

(3) <sup>1</sup>The election servers must be protected against attacks from the web; in particular, only authorized accesses may be permitted. <sup>2</sup> Authorized accesses are, in particular, the verification of voting eligibility, the storage of the votes of authorized voters, the registration of votes and the checking for multiple exercise of the right to vote (voting data). <sup>3</sup> Suitable technical measures must be taken to ensure that no votes can be irretrievably lost in the event of the failure or malfunction of a server or a server area.

(4) <sup>1</sup> The transmission procedure of the election data shall be designed in such a way that it is protected against attempts to spy out or decrypt it. <sup>2</sup> The transmission paths for verifying the voter's eligibility to vote and for registering the vote in the digital electoral register and the vote in the digital ballot box must be separated in such a way that it is not possible at any time to assign the content of the voting decision to voters.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Data transmission must be encrypted to prevent unnoticed modification of the voting data. <sup>2</sup>When transmitting and processing the election data, it must be ensured that no access to the content of the vote is possible when registering the vote in the digital electoral register.

(6) <sup>1</sup> Voters shall be informed of suitable security measures to protect the computer used for voting against third-party interference in accordance with the current state of that technology; reference shall be made to free sources of suitable software. <sup>2</sup>Awareness of the security instructions must be confirmed by the voter in binding digital form before the vote is cast.

### **§ 16 Postal voting**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Every person entitled to vote may make use of the possibility of postal voting if the person applies for it in person or in writing to the Election Administration within the deadline set by the election publication. <sup>2</sup>The deadline for the application (deadline for exclusion) may not end earlier than the seventh day before the beginning of the election period. <sup>3</sup> The deadline for applying for and receiving absentee ballots in person ( deadline for exclusion) may not end earlier than the fourth day before the start of the election period. <sup>4</sup>If a person entitled to vote proves that he or she missed the application deadline through no fault of his or her own, the personal absentee ballot application and receipt of the absentee ballot documents may still be made until 12:00 noon on the last election day. <sup>5</sup>In

exception to sentences 3 and 4, in the case of a postal vote combined with a digital election, the deadline for the written and personal application for a postal vote shall end two weeks before the start of the voting period (deadline for exclusion). <sup>6</sup>Eligibility to vote must be verified. <sup>7</sup>After an postal vote notice has been included in the electoral register, the postal voting documents shall be handed out or sent. <sup>8</sup>Postal voting documents are

- the ballot papers,
- the voting card,
- the particular ballot paper envelope, which identifies the body to be elected,
- the return envelope and
- the postal voting explanation.

<sup>9</sup> The postal voting documents may only be handed over or sent to a person other than the person entitled to vote in person if a written power to receive has been submitted.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The voter casts their vote in a postal ballot in such a way that they personally and unobserved marks one ballot paper for each election and seals it in the ballot paper envelope provided for this specific purpose; the responsibility for this lies with the voter. <sup>2</sup>The ballot paper, completed and signed with a corresponding declaration, is to be handed in personally to the election administration or sent to it together with the ballot paper envelopes in the return envelope (hereinafter jointly: election letter).

(3) <sup>1</sup>Voting shall be considered to have taken place in timely manner if the election letter has been received by the Election Administration by the end of the time of day set for the casting of votes. <sup>2</sup>The day of receipt and, in the case of receipt on the last day of voting, the time of receipt must be noted on the election letter envelope. <sup>3</sup>Late election letters shall be added to the election documents by the Election Administration, unopened, with a note of the time of receipt.

(4) <sup>1</sup> The election administration shall ensure that, in the presence of at least two supervisors, the proper postal vote is checked during the election period or immediately thereafter and noted in the electoral roll and that the ballot paper envelopes are placed unopened in a generally used ballot box. <sup>2</sup>In the case of an postal vote combined with a digital election, the verification of the proper postal vote, the note in the electoral register and the counting of the postal vote shall take place immediately after the end of the election period.

(5) Ballots shall not be placed in the ballot box and a vote shall be deemed not to have been cast if

1. the election letter is not received by the Election Administration in time,
2. the voter is not listed in the electoral register as eligible to vote by postal vote,
3. the ballot letter does not contain a valid ballot paper completed by the declaration according to paragraph 2,
4. the election letter contains several ballot paper envelopes but not the same number of valid voting cards,
5. the postal voter has violated the postal voting regulations and therefore it is not ensured that their ballot paper envelope can be brought to the ballot box unopened, in particular if the ballot paper is in an unofficial or unsealed ballot paper envelope or open in the ballot letter,
6. the ballot paper or the ballot paper envelope contains a feelable object in addition to the ballot paper.

(6) The university has to exempt the postal voters from postage costs of domestic German postal traffic on request as long as a member of the Presidential Board of the University is in charge of the election; otherwise the student body has to exempt the postal voters from postage costs of domestic German postal traffic on request.

(7) <sup>1</sup>Lost postal voting documents shall not be replaced. <sup>2</sup>If a person entitled to vote credibly asserts that they did not receive the absentee ballot papers through no fault of their own, new absentee ballot papers may be issued to them until 12:00 noon on the last day of voting. <sup>3</sup>The Election Administration shall establish the invalidity of the non-delivered absentee ballots and add a note to the electoral roll.

## **§ 17 Count**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Election Committee or the election coordinators shall count the votes submitted in their area of responsibility with the assistance of election assistants immediately after conclusion of the voting, at the latest on the working day following the last day of voting; if the counting does not take place immediately, § 15 subsection 5 shall apply accordingly. <sup>2</sup>First, the number of ballots contained in the ballot boxes shall be compared with the number of votes recorded in a copy or extract of the electoral roll. <sup>3</sup>If the number of ballots is higher than the number of votes recorded, the election committee shall, when determining the results of the election, ascertain whether the number of ballots improperly cast may have had an influence on the distribution of seats.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The valid votes cast for each election proposal shall be added together. <sup>2</sup>Invalid votes are those where the ballot paper is

1. is not recognizable as official,
2. does not contain a voting mark,
3. does not undoubtedly show the will of the voter,
4. contains further remarks or markings in addition to the voting mark, for example a reservation or a comment,
5. in the case of a majority election, contains an accumulation of votes for one candidate or more than the maximum permissible number of voting marks.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The election coordinators shall decide on ballots that give reason for doubt and shall then inform the Election Administration whether and how the ballot has been counted provisionally. <sup>2</sup>In cases of doubt marked as such, the Election Committee shall make a final decision as to whether and how the ballot paper is to be counted, and shall confirm or correct the counting result in accordance with this decision. <sup>3</sup>These ballot papers shall be numbered consecutively and kept separately from the other ballot papers with the election documents.

(4) After completion of the counting, the record on the voting procedure and the counting as well as the issues or extracts from the electoral roll, the voting cards and the ballot papers shall be handed over immediately to the Election Administration for forwarding to the Election Committee.

(5) <sup>1</sup>In the case of digital voting with postal voting option, authorization by at least two authorized persons of the Election Administration or the Election Committee is required for the administration of the election servers and in particular for the counting and archiving of the digital election. <sup>2</sup>Immediately after the end of the digital election, the Election Administration shall arrange for the computer-based counting of the digitally cast votes to be made public to the University and shall establish the result by means of a printout of the counting results, which shall be signed off by two members of the Election Committee. <sup>3</sup>All records of the digital election shall be saved in a suitable manner.

(6) In the case of digital elections, technical options must be made available that make the counting process reproducible for every voter at any time.

## **§ 18 Determination of the election result**

(1) <sup>1</sup> The Election Committee shall establish as election results separately for each electoral field on the basis of the counting results, which it can inspect:

1. the number of eligible voters,
2. number of voters,
3. number of invalid ballots papers,
4. the number of valid votes,
5. the number of votes cast for the individual election proposals as a whole and for the individual candidates,
6. the elected representatives and substitutes,
7. whether or not the election was held, including any by-election that may be required. 2 In the event of a digital election, sentence 1 shall apply accordingly.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The allocation of seats and representation regulations for the bodies to be elected are specified in § 7 OrgS; the following regulations apply only if nothing to the contrary is specified there. <sup>2</sup>The seats to which a list election proposal is entitled shall be allocated to the candidates of this election proposal who have received the highest number of votes, according to the order of their number of votes. (Sentence 3 not applicable) <sup>4</sup>Candidates of a list election proposal who do not receive a seat shall be substitutes in the order of their number of votes and shall take the place of the elected candidates if they leave the body concerned prematurely. <sup>5</sup>If the number of votes is equal and if no vote is cast for several candidates, the order of the candidates within a list election proposal shall be deciding. <sup>6</sup>If a list is exhausted, the first substitute person of the election proposal who would be entitled to a further seat in accordance with sentence 1 shall move up. <sup>7</sup>Votes allocated to persons whose membership of an electoral field ends or is suspended after the provisional electoral register has been established and who have thus lost their right to vote shall only count in favor of the list.

(3) <sup>1</sup>In the case of majority voting, the total number of seats in the body shall be distributed among the candidates in all electoral (sub)areas in the order of the votes they receive, starting with the highest number of votes. <sup>2</sup>The substitutes shall be determined in the same way. <sup>3</sup>Subsection 2 sentence 4 shall apply accordingly.

(4) If in the cases of subsections 2 to 3 there are equal maximum numbers or numbers of votes, the decision shall be made by the drawing of lots by the chairperson of the Election Committee, unless otherwise stipulated; for this purpose, they may entrust a member of the Election Committee or the Election Administration with the drawing of lots.

(5) The election results shall also include those persons who are deemed elected because at the time of the election there are no more eligible voters in an electoral area than there are representatives to be sent; in this case, the submission of an election proposal shall be dispensable.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Elections shall be deemed to have taken place for the entire body if more than half of the members entitled to vote have been elected; (remainder not applicable) <sup>2</sup>If an election has not taken place, the existing members shall continue their business until the beginning of the term of office of the new members to be elected.

(7) <sup>1</sup>The Election Committee shall determine the result of the election to the bodies, in the case of the digital election as the total result of the digital election and the postal vote. <sup>2</sup>The Election Administration shall make the election results public without delay; in doing so, reference shall be made to the possibility of lodging an objection in accordance with § 23 subsection 1, stating the deadline for lodging an objection and the place where an objection is to be lodged. <sup>3</sup> The elected members and the substitutes in case of their replacement shall be notified by the election management.

### **§ 19 Special allocation of seats in the event of resignation**

If, after the election results have been determined, an election proposal is entitled to more seats than the number of candidates nominated due to the withdrawal of candidates, the election management

shall allocate the vacant seats to the remaining election proposals in accordance with § 18 subsection 2 sentence 6.

## **§ 20 By-election, supplementary election and new election**

(1) <sup>1</sup>A by-election shall be held if

1. an election has not been held in individual electoral fields because the number of eligible voters did not initially exceed the number of seats to be filled, but if by the halfway point of the term of office the number of eligible voters has risen above the total number of seats in the body and the holding of the by-election is requested by a person entitled to vote;
2. in individual electoral fields the election has not been held because the election procedure has been interrupted on the basis of a resolution of the Election Committee due to a violation of election law regulations;
3. violations of electoral law have had or may have had an effect on the election results;
4. after the results of the election have been determined, the election has not been held or if for other reasons not all seats of a body can be filled, unless a by-election or a repetition of the election announcement has already been held and another by-election does not promise a different result.

<sup>2</sup>If a by-election is necessary, the Election Committee shall determine this; at the same time, it shall determine to which electoral fields, electoral subfields or persons within a list the by-election shall extend. <sup>3</sup> The Election Committee may limit the election examination to the facts substantiated in an election objection and to the body named in the election objection. <sup>4</sup>This decision shall be publicly announced in the new election announcement. <sup>5</sup>The by-election may be prepared before the conclusion of the combined election.

(2) <sup>1</sup>A by-election shall be held if, during the term of office of a body, one of its members retires, there are no more replacements and the seat cannot be filled by the procedure under § 19. <sup>2</sup>The relevant body shall make a corresponding determination. <sup>3</sup> A supplementary election may be waived if the number of members of the body is more than half of the prescribed number or if only one meeting of the body is expected to be held in the current term. <sup>4</sup> The waiver of the supplementary election must be decided by the affected members of the body.

(3) <sup>1</sup>By-elections and supplementary elections shall be regulated in the same way as combined elections of governing bodies. <sup>2</sup>The Election Committee may, in individual cases, by resolution, which shall be made public, adopt regulations deviating from the foregoing with regard to deadlines and other provisions for the conduct of elections as well as with regard to notices, provided that it is ensured that the persons concerned are given sufficient opportunity to take electoral announcement and electoral publication as well as to submit objections and nominations. <sup>3</sup> The vote may also be held at an election meeting or as a postal vote, provided that the by-election does not cover only a subsection. <sup>4</sup>The by-elections and supplementary elections shall only cover the seats in this body that are not filled. <sup>5</sup> The Election Committee shall determine that no new election proposals may be submitted, especially if a by-election is to be held exclusively in election sub-areas or to elect between individuals on a list; in this case, the Election Committee may combine the election announcement with the election publication and determine the ballots papers required based on the extent of the by-election.

(4) <sup>1</sup>A new election shall take place if a body is dissolved; otherwise, subsection 3 shall apply accordingly. <sup>2</sup>It shall take place within eight weeks and must be held within the lecture period. <sup>3</sup>The Election Committee may change the deadlines set for the combined election for this purpose. <sup>4</sup>A waiver of the new election is not possible. <sup>5</sup> If the new election takes place later than 6 months after the beginning of the regular term of office of the members of the dissolved body, the election for this body

shall not be held at the next combined election; in this case, the notice of election and the notice of election for the new election shall indicate that, contrary to the regular term of office, the members in the newly elected body shall hold office until the next but one combined election. <sup>6</sup> Otherwise, the members of the newly elected body shall hold office regularly until the next combined election.

(5) <sup>1</sup> When establishing a new Subject Group, a Subject Parliament may provide for the first election of a Subject Group Speaker outside of the combined elections, provided that the newly created Subject Group represents fields of study that were not represented by a Subject Group until then. <sup>2</sup> Subsection 4 shall apply accordingly. Different to sentence 1, the Subject Parliament can elect a spokesperson for the Student Group itself with a two-thirds majority of its members when a Student Group is newly established; in this case, sentences 1 and 2 do not apply.

## **§ 21 Record**

(1) Record shall be made of the meetings of the Election Committee and of the course of the election proceedings.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The record of the meeting of the Election Committee (protocol of results) must contain the place and time of the meeting, the names of the participants, the agenda, the main course of the meeting and all resolutions. <sup>2</sup>The minutes shall be signed by the chairperson. <sup>3</sup>If a chairperson is not present, the substitute shall sign in their place.

(3) <sup>1</sup> The record of the conduct of the election shall contain the place and time of the voting, the names of the supervisors with the time of their presence, and a brief account of the course of events in the case of special incidents. <sup>2</sup>The record must be signed by the election coordinator. <sup>3</sup> If the election coordinator is not present, the substitute or two supervisors shall sign in their place.

(4) The ballots papers, voting cards and other election documents shall be bundled after the election results have been determined and attached to the record of the execution of the election proceedings and counting.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The Election Administration shall retain the records of the election together with the attachments. <sup>2</sup>The election documents may only be destroyed after expiry of the objection period.

## **§ 22 Deadlines and Public Announcements**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Deadlines do not expire on days that are lecture-free for any of the university departments affected by the election. <sup>2</sup>Exclusion deadlines end at 15:00, on Fridays at 12:00.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The Election Committee shall decide on the form of the public announcements of the Election Administration. <sup>2</sup>The decision may refer to regulations of the statute law of the university and is to be announced publicly.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If the Election Administration's public announcements are to be made by bulletin board, the bulletins shall be precisely designated. <sup>2</sup>At least one central posting point is to be provided for the university. <sup>3</sup> Announcements that affect only parts of the university need only be posted at the central bulletin board and in the affected university areas. <sup>4</sup>In addition to the central posting point, other posting points may be designated for better information.

(4) <sup>1</sup>In the case of posting, the public announcement shall be deemed to have been made at the end of the day on which the posting was made at the central posting point. <sup>2</sup>A prescribed posting lasts for one week starting from this point in time. <sup>3</sup>If the announcement contains deadlines for objections, nominations or other deadlines, the posting may not be terminated before the expiry of these



deadlines. <sup>4</sup>Short interruptions of the posting that are not caused by election bodies shall not be taken into account when calculating the posting period.

(5) <sup>1</sup>Each copy of the notice posted at a central posting place shall indicate the posting place and the beginning and end of the posting period. <sup>2</sup>This copy of the notice shall be kept with the other election documents.

(6) Insofar as a notice is posted outside the central posting office, it shall not affect the effectiveness of the public notice if such posting is defective or not made.

### **§ 23 Election Inspection**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The election may be contested by filing an objection, which must state the reasons, within one week of the announcement of the election results (deadline for exclusion). <sup>2</sup>The objection must be submitted to the Election Administration in writing, in text form or by record. <sup>3</sup>The objection cannot be based on the incorrectness of the electoral register. <sup>4</sup>In the case of a digital election, eligible voters may not base an election objection on their system settings (e.g. "highly secure"), their defective, outdated or infrequent computers or systems that prevent or do not allow access to the digital voting system, or their Internet connection, e.g. network strength or interruptions. <sup>5</sup> The election objection is justified if provisions of electoral law have been violated, the violation has been reported immediately to a supervising person in the polling station or to the Election Administration, and these violations have led or may have led to an incorrect determination of the elected and the first substitute person in each case. <sup>6</sup> The election objection of the Election Administration shall be addressed directly to the Election Committee. <sup>7</sup>The election objection of other individuals must be substantiated by the fact that the election concerns bodies for the election of which the individual is entitled to vote; such an election objection shall be submitted to the Election Administration and, together with its statement, shall be immediately submitted to the Election Committee for a decision.

(2) The Election Committee may initiate an ex officio election review at any time.

(3) <sup>1</sup>If the election committee is considering granting an election objection or has entered into the election review ex officio, it shall hear and involve in the proceedings those who may be affected by a decision as elected or substitutes; in the case of list election, the person responsible for the list shall take the place of those affected. <sup>2</sup>If the election objection leads to a change in the election result, the Election Committee shall redetermine the election result in accordance with the corrected count. <sup>3</sup>If a correct election result cannot be determined with certainty, the procedure shall be in accordance with § 20 subsection 1 sentence 1 no. 3. <sup>4</sup>The Election Committee may decide not to hold a by-election if

- a) has been a violation of electoral law provisions in a less serious case,
- b) this violation may have affected only the allocation of seats between persons within a list,
- c) all persons concerned agree in text form, and
- d) the violation of electoral law provisions is not the responsibility of candidates or other persons on the affected list.

(4) The Election Administration shall notify the person entitled to vote who raised the objection and all those who are affected by the decision as elected or substitutes of the decision; in the case of list election, the person responsible for the list shall take the place of those affected.

### **§ 24 Beginning, duration and end of the term of office; succession**

(not applicable)

### **§ 25 Substitution**

(not applicable)

## **§ 26 Special regulations**

(1) <sup>1</sup> If, in the event of a "significant impairment of university operations", further measures to prevent the cause of the impairment require this and it is not possible for the Student Parliament to pass a resolution on the Election Statutes in time, the Election Administration may, in consultation with the Election Committee, establish differing provisions for the conduct of the elections, in particular regarding public announcements, the submission of election proposals, the election procedure (presence, digital and/or postal voting), formal requirements as well as deadlines and other time determinations. <sup>2</sup> Any differing provisions in accordance with sentence 1 shall be made public at the university without delay.

(2) <sup>1</sup> In order to determine the responsibilities in the implementation of the election, the AStA can conclude a contract with the University President's Office with a maximum duration of two years, which must be confirmed by the Student Parliament with an absolute majority. <sup>2</sup> If this agreement provides for elections to be conducted as digital elections, this agreement shall be effective only if the University assumes all associated costs or the Student Parliament approves this agreement by a two-thirds majority vote. <sup>3</sup> If the contract requires amendments to these or any other statutes of the student body, the contract shall apply only if the responsible body adopts such amendment by the required majority.

## **§ 27 Entry into Effect; Transitional Provisions**

(1) These regulations shall enter into effect on the day following their publication in the Official Notes I of the Georg-August University of Göttingen

(2) <sup>1</sup> The elections in the winter semester 2020/2021, summer semester 2021, winter semester 2021/2022 and summer semester 2022 will be conducted as digital elections with the option of postal voting; in difference from this, the Election Administration and the Election Committee may, in the event of a by-election, supplementary election or new election, or if digital elections cannot be conducted in accordance with the regulation of these statutes, decide by mutual agreement that a ballot box election with the option of postal voting will be conducted. <sup>2</sup> The election administration shall be the responsibility of the member of the Presidential Board for Finance and Staff (hereinafter: member of the Presidential Board for Finance and Staff); the provisions of the Election Statutes for the Elections to the Collegial Bodies at the Georg-August University of Göttingen concerning the delegation of the Election Administration shall apply accordingly and any delegations previously made thereafter shall be deemed to have been made in accordance with these statutes. <sup>3</sup> Sentences 1 and 2 shall apply only if and as long as the Presidium Member for Finance and Staff is in charge of the Election Administration.

(3) <sup>1</sup> For the elections in the winter semester 2020/2021 and summer semester 2021, the following shall apply in deviation from § 2 subsection 2: <sup>2</sup> The Elections Committee shall have four members. <sup>3</sup> The election committee shall be formed by the student members and substitute members who are members of the Election Committee for the elections to the collegial bodies at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen in accordance with § 2 subsection 2 of the Election Statutes for the Elections to the Collegial Bodies at the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. <sup>4</sup> Appointments and invitations to meetings already made prior to the entry into force of these Statutes shall be considered to have been made in accordance with these Statutes. <sup>5</sup> The first meeting of the Election Committee shall be held on 03.11.2020

(4) The provisions of these regulations on digital elections, in particular §§ 1 subsection 3 sentence 2 and 15a to 15e, shall expire at the end of the summer semester 2022.