

# Fact Sheet 2/Regulation 07: Thesis Committee in the PhD Programme in Economics and Finance (PEF)

St Gallen, September 2015

Legal basis: see Award Regulations of the University of St Gallen, 11 December 2006, and Course Regulations for the Doctoral Studies in Economics and Finance, 4 June 2007, and implementation provision concerning cumulative thesis.

- ⇒ *"The latest date for the appointment of the Thesis Committee shall be the date on which the doctoral student submits his/her research proposal" (Art. 10 Award Regulations).*
- ⇒ *"The Thesis Committee shall consist of at least the Supervisor and the Co-Supervisor. The Programme Committee may designate further members" (Art. 9 Award Regulations).*
- ⇒ *"The Programme Committee shall appoint the Thesis Committee for individual doctoral students" (Art. 8f Award Regulations).*

## Formation

Typically, each PEF Thesis Committee consists of three members:

- the Supervisor;
  - a member of the current Programme Committee or a member of the Programme Committee at the time of admitting the student to the PEF programme;
  - the Co-Supervisor (external) (not necessarily appointed by the research proposal colloquium).
- ⇒ The Programme Committee decides which member to be appointed to a Thesis Committee.

## Supervisor

Supervisors may be

- *"(full) professors of the University of St.Gallen;*
  - *associate professors or habilitated assistant professors of the University of St.Gallen;*
  - *habilitated lecturers of the University of St.Gallen;*
  - *habilitated lecturers from another university provided they are full-time employees of the University of St.Gallen;*
  - *professors emeriti in accordance with letters a) to c) of this Article until the end of the semester in which they have reached the age of 67" (Art. 11 Award Regulations).*
- ⇒ *"Supervisors shall be appointed as from the time at which the student officially commences his/her doctoral studies" (Art. 11 Award Regulations).*

## Co-Supervisor

Above and beyond the categories listed under Art. 11, the Thesis Committee may appoint as Co-Supervisors:

- *“visiting professors in residence;*
  - *honorary professors;*
  - *professors of other universities who are entitled to supervise doctoral theses at their home universities;*
  - *in justified cases, non-habilitated assistant professors and permanent lecturers and lecturers of the University of St.Gallen; in such cases, the lecturers concerned shall hold a doctor’s degree and have been teaching at university level for several years.*
  - *professors emeriti in accordance with Article 11(a-c) until the end of the semester in which they have reached the age of 67, with the time of the assumption of the co-supervisorship being the decisive date (Art. 12 Award Regulations).*
- ⇒ *“Co-Supervisors shall be designated by the Programme Committee” (Art. 12 Award Regulations).*
- ⇒ The Programme Committee will appoint one or more Co-Supervisors. One of the co-supervisors will come from another university. *“Supervisors shall have the right of nomination” (Art. 12 Award Regulations).*

## Tasks

The **Thesis Committee** has the following tasks:

- “a) the overall supervision of an individual thesis, with the personal supervision of the doctoral student(s) being incumbent on the Supervisor;*
- b) the assessment of the research proposal and the organisation of the colloquium on the research proposal;*
- c) the assessment of the thesis (only by the Supervisor or the Co-Supervisor);*
- d) in the case of a research proposal or thesis having to be revised, the stipulation of the changes to be made;*
- e) proposal to the Programme Committee concerning the acceptance (with grades), return for revision, or rejection of the thesis” (Art. 14 Award Regulations)*

*“If no supervisor has been appointed yet, a member of the Programme Committee who holds the title of professor shall assume the advisory task until such appointment” (Art 3 Implementation Provisions issued by the Senate Committee concerning the Organization and Pursuit of Doctoral Studies).*

The following task is the responsibility of the Supervisor and Co-Supervisor:

- *assessment of the thesis (Art. 41 Award Regulations).*