Structured M.D. / Ph.D. curriculum

Molecular Mechanisms of Regenerative Processes

Curriculum bodies and structures
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**Curriculum Committee**

The organization of the structured MD / PhD curriculum is handed to the "Curriculum Committee (CC)", an assembly of elected University teachers and students that will take responsibility of judging the qualities of courses and classes that shall be part of the four aforementioned modules.

The CC is responsible for preparing and updating
- lists of courses that shall be offered by each module
- the associated scoring systems.

The CC is also responsible for selecting students who apply for enrollment according to predefined regulations that shall follow the suggestions given by the "Graduate Academy (GA) of the University of Rostock", and for exmatriculation decisions.

The CC also selects one or more University professors as counselor for a predefined period of time that take over mediation tasks, if necessary.

The CC is assisted by the dean of students affairs and his secretary for keeping track of individual student records; further details are listed below.

The CC will issue the CoAs that are to be given to the student upon fulfillment of the requirements together with the graduation documents. The CoA shall be signed by the speaker of the Curriculum committee and by the dean for students affairs (or their deputies).

**Enrolled doctorate students**

Each doctorate student is self-responsible for organization of activities to be considered for earning certificate points from each of the required modules. The student reports all activities and earned certificate points in a timely manner to the students affairs office where an individual record is kept for each student. This record shall be revisited on a regular basis by the supervisor, the second tutor, and the CC in order to keep track of performance.

Students are asked to meet with the tutors at least once per semester for exchange informations in order to getting updated on the work progress and in order to give advise on how to continue, if necessary.

**Supervisors**

Supervisors of doctorate students are handing out the scientific research topic to be conducted. They are included into the teaching body of the curriculum on a voluntary basis. The supervisors will conclude a supervision agreement with the doctorate student. Once agreed to contribute and to send students to the curriculum, supervisors commit themselves to support the student in the best possible way as to:
- confirm to conduct supervision of the student`s thesis during the entire enrollment period
- send the student to international and national conferences and to the "participants´ camp"
- encourage the student to select local courses and soft skill courses
- possibly offer classes and courses to be included into the curriculum
- supports the student in finding an (external) second tutor

Tutors

Tutors are professors from the University of Rostock or from other universities that agree to assist in the doctorate project supervision as a second opinion. A tutor is selected by the doctorate student in agreement with the supervisor.

Counselor

The counselor shall be elected by the curriculum committee but shall not be a member of it. Election shall be confirmed by the faculty board. He/she is contact person to both, students and supervisors in case of any difficulties and irregularities and shall offer ways to solve problems if they occur. The counselor reports regularly to the curriculum committee (e.g. once per term) on the respective activities. The CC decides on the basis of the Counselor`s recommendations and reports its decisions to the student and the supervisor.

Students affairs office

The students affairs office is the first address for the students for:
- enrollment of students
- reporting of earned certificate points
- providing support and advise for students and supervisors in case of administrative issues

The students affairs office will also support the CC.

Graduate Academy

The GA functions as an umbrella organization in order to assemble Ph.D. education programs and curricula at the University of Rostock. As such it offers soft skill courses that shall be open to the participants of the structured Ph.D. curriculum "Molecular Mechanisms of Regenerative Processes". Further information is given by the "Richtlinie der Prorektorin für Forschung und Forschungsausbildung zur Einrichtung einer Graduiertenakademie an der Universität Rostock".

The aims of both, the GA and the structured Ph.D. curriculum "Molecular Mechanisms of Regenerative Processes" merge in improving education opportunities for doctorate students from the Medical Faculty of the University of Rostock.