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## Statute for the Master Degree Programme in Drug Sciences at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University of Basel

Dated 05 December 2015

Approved by the University Council on 20 January 2016

The Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University of Basel adopts, conditional on approval by the University Council, the following statute, based on § 16 lit. d of the University of Basel statutes dated 03 May 2012<sup>1</sup> and § 1 Abs. 2 of the statute for Bachelor and Master Degree Programmes at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University of Basel dated 05 December 2015<sup>2</sup>.

### I. General provisions

#### *Purpose and scope*

§ 1. This statute governs the Master Degree Programme in Drug Sciences at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University of Basel.

<sup>2</sup> It supplements the statute for the Bachelor and Master Degree Programmes at the Faculty, dated 05 December 2015 (hereinafter: framework statute) for all students in the Drug Sciences Master Degree Programme in at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the University of Basel (hereinafter: faculty).

<sup>3</sup> Details of the programme are defined in the Guidance for the Drug Sciences Master Degree Programme (hereinafter: guidance). This is issued by the Pharmaceutical Sciences Education Committee (hereinafter: Education Committee) and approved by the Faculty.

#### *Awarded degree*

§ 2. For a successfully completed Master Degree Programme, the faculty awards the degree "Master of Science in Drug Science".

#### *Programme admittance*

§ 3.<sup>3</sup> Holders of a Bachelor of Sciences in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Basel or a corresponding Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy at a Swiss University are admitted to the Master degree programme in Drug Sciences at the University of Basel without preconditions.

<sup>2</sup> Holders of a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss University can be admitted with conditions provided that at least 150 credit points have been documented in one or more of the following fields of study: Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Human Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmaceutical Sciences and provided that not more than a total of more than 30 credit points of core competencies out of the Bachelor of Sciences of Pharmaceutical Sciences are missing.

<sup>3</sup> In the case of a Bachelor's degree from a recognized University which is not covered by subparagraphs (1) or (2), the Teaching Commission shall examine the equivalence with the qualifications/prerequisites mentioned therein.

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<sup>1</sup> SG 440.110.

<sup>2</sup> SG 446.710.

<sup>3</sup> § 3 amended on 19.9.2017. (Effective date: 1.8.2018)

*Study start*

§ 4. Joining the Master Degree Programme is only possible in the autumn semester.

*Language of instruction*

§ 5. The language of instruction is English.

**II. Study***Study duration and credit points*

§ 6. The Master Programme requires 120 ECTS credit points over four semesters full-time, or longer for part-time study.

*Structure of the programme*

§ 7. The Master Programme includes compulsory and optional lectures in the following modules:

- a) Introduction and Basis of Human Diseases
- b) General Skills and Experimental Tools
- c) Target Identification/Validation to Discovery of Modulators
- d) Translating Pharmacology and Drug Safety to Humans
- e) Clinical Drug Development: the Basis for Market Approval
- f) Practical Training
- g) Master thesis
- h) Master examination  
and an elective subject.

<sup>2</sup> The compulsory lectures will be listed in the lecture timetable.

*Completion of the programme*

§ 8. The Master Programme is successfully completed by acquiring the following credit points (CPs):

- a) 9 CPs in the module Introduction and Basis of Human Diseases
- b) 6 CPs in the module General Skills and Experimental Tools
- c) 8 CPs in the module Target Identification/Validation to Discovery of Modulators
- d) 12 CPs in the module Translating Pharmacology and Drug Safety to Humans
- e) 8 CPs in the module Clinical Drug Development: the Basis for Market Approval
- f) 8 CPs in the module Practical Training
- g) 50 CPs in the master thesis
- h) 4 CPs in the master examination
- i) 15 CPs in elective subjects

<sup>2</sup> Of the 15 CPs in the elective subjects, at least 11 must be obtained within the faculty. Maximum 4 CPs can be acquired outside the faculty, through self-administration activities towards the University (max. 1 CP) or in tutorial activities.

<sup>3</sup> The master degree grade is the mean of the master thesis grade (weight  $\frac{2}{3}$ ) and the master examination grade (weight  $\frac{1}{3}$ ). The final grade will be rounded to one decimal place.

<sup>4</sup> Students who do not successfully complete the Master Programme will be informed of exclusion from the Programme by the office of the Dean.

### III. Performance assessment

#### *Credit points*

§ 9. Student performance assessment is based on:

- a) Lecture course-based assessments (framework statute § 13)
- b) Assessment according to the Learning Agreement (framework statute § 14)
- c) Master thesis (framework statute § 16)
- d) Master examination (framework statute § 15)

#### *Master thesis*

§ 10. The master thesis is supervised by a lecturer with an "habilitation" (professor or junior professor) or an equivalent academic qualification in the Drug Sciences master programme of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Responsibility may be transferred to an external professor with the approval of the Education Committee.

<sup>2</sup> The supervisor defines the topic, scope, and start and end dates of the master thesis in collaboration with the student, and documents these in a master study contract, which is signed by the supervisor, by the head of the Education Committee and by the student, before the beginning of the master thesis.

<sup>3</sup> Supervision of the thesis may, with the approval of the Education Committee, be delegated to another researcher who has at least a Master degree qualification. Also in this case, responsibility for the thesis remains with the nominated thesis supervisor.

<sup>4</sup> Duration of the master thesis is normally 10 months. Deviations of greater than 1 month are considered by the Education Committee on request by the thesis supervisor.

<sup>5</sup> The master thesis will be reviewed and graded by the thesis supervisor.

<sup>6</sup> A failed master thesis can be repeated once with a different topic. A second fail leads to exclusion from the Drug Sciences Master Study Programme at the University of Basel.

#### *Master thesis examination*

§ 11. The master examination consists of an oral colloquium presentation on the topic of the thesis and related areas.

<sup>2</sup> The student must apply for the master examination in writing to the administrative office. Cancellation is possible up to 2 weeks before the planned examination, by writing to the examination secretariat of the Dean's office.

<sup>3</sup> The examination will take place within 4 weeks of submitting the master thesis. It lasts 45 minutes and is graded. Exceptions are possible on request by the thesis supervisor to the Examination Committee.

<sup>4</sup> The examiners are the thesis supervisor, and as a rule the researchers who were directly involved in the thesis work. The Education Committee may exceptionally at the request of the thesis supervisor permit another appropriately qualified person to deputize for the supervisor.

<sup>5</sup> If the master examination is failed, it can be repeated once. A second fail leads to exclusion from the Drug Sciences Master Study Programme at the University of Basel.

#### IV. Responsibilities

##### *Education committee*

§ 12. The education committee is responsible for all questions relating to teaching and curricula of the courses taught at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

<sup>2</sup> The education committee members are:

- a) 4 members of Group I, each responsible for a study course in the department,
- b) the study coordinator (ex officio),
- c) 1 member each from Groups II and III,
- d) 1 student representative from a departmental study course.

<sup>3</sup> The education committee chooses a chairperson from its members in accordance with lit. a.

<sup>4</sup> The members are elected by their Groups.

<sup>5</sup> Term of office for members is at least 2 semesters; re-election is possible.

<sup>6</sup> The education committee meets at least once per semester.

#### V. Right of appeal

##### *Decrees and appeals*

§ 13. Decrees made in accordance with this statute are communicated to the relevant parties in written form with instructions on rights of appeal. They can be challenged in accordance with the contracts between the cantons Basel-Landschaft and Basel-Stadt on joint responsibility for the University of Basel and the statutes of the University of Basel, with the appeals committee of the University Council.

#### VI. Final provision

##### *Effective date*

§ 14. This statute shall be published. It enters force on 01 August 2016.