## 7) Workshop discussion of the doctoral dissertation<sup>1</sup>

Before submitting the dissertation, a workshop discussion shall be conducted. The recommended time for the workshop discussion is the first semester after obtaining the absolutorium.

In exceptional cases, if the state of the draft dissertation of the doctoral student attending the organized programme allows for it, the workshop discussion may also be held in the eighth active semester.

The aim of the workshop discussion is to provide a community of experts who are knowledgeable about the topic of the draft dissertation to identify any deficiencies in the dissertation, to confirm the values of the doctoral dissertation to the applicant, and to help the applicant finalise the doctoral dissertation in the highest quality possible.

The **draft dissertation must be sent** at least 15 days prior to the workshop discussion and published on the Doctoral School website. A workshop discussion may be held if the supervisor, at least five persons with academic degrees having relevance in terms of the topic, and at least one preliminary reviewer are present, and the absent preliminary reviewer has sent his or her opinion in writing.

The workshop discussion also shall state concerning the draft dissertation: c) whether it is the result of independent scientific research of the applicant submitting the doctoral dissertation; d) whether it contains new scientific result(s).

The workshop discussion shall state concerning the draft dissertation: a) whether the chosen topic has been covered using state-of-the-art research methods and in all the important details; b) whether it meets the requirements of form and content.

The workshop discussion shall be **organized and conducted** by the supervisor. **Two qualified** and experienced preliminary reviewers shall be invited for the workshop discussion. Preliminary reviewers must be given **at least one month to prepare** their assessment.

Minutes of the workshop discussion shall be drawn up and appended to the dissertation in one copy. In addition to the minutes, an attendance sheet must be drawn up, containing the names of the participants, their academic degrees, their work places, their contact

details and their signatures.

Only those persons with an academic degree who have been present throughout the entire workshop discussion may participate in the open vote at the end of the workshop discussion aimed to reach a summary statement of the discussion. The doctoral student's supervisor cannot vote.

As far as possible, preliminary reviewers **should be invited as opponents** for the final review of the dissertation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The University Doctoral and Habilitation Regulations 44-45. §; Study and Examination Regulations of the Doctoral School 16. §.