The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports registered the Study and Examination Rules for Doctoral Study Programmes at the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague in accordance with Section 36, Art. 2 of the Act Nr. 111/1998 Coll., incl. Amendments (Act on Higher Educational Institutions) concerning Higher Educational Institutions, on 1 August 2012, under reference number 19 080/2012 – 30.

Mgr. Karolina Gondková Director of the Higher Educational Institutions Section



# STUDY AND EXAMINATION RULES

# **CZECH UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES PRAGUE**

# FOR STUDIES IN DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMMES

# **ISSUED ON 29 APRIL 2014**

# STUDY AND EXAMINATION RULES CZECH UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES PRAGUE FOR STUDIES IN DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMMES ISSUED ON 29 April 2014

# Article 1

# **Introductory Provisions**

- (1) The following Study and Examination Rules for Doctoral study programmes refer to doctoral (or PhD) studies organised by the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (hereinafter referred to as "CULS"), its Faculties and Institutes (hereinafter only "Faculty"). A list of all accredited Doctoral study programmes and fields of studies (their code number starting with the letter P) is posted on the official CULS web page.
- (2) The Doctoral study programmes at CULS are organised in accordance with Act No. 111/1998 on Higher Educational Institutions (hereinafter referred to as "HEI") and Modification and Amendment of other Acts (Acts on HEI), in accordance with subsequent Amendments (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), the CULS Statute and these Study and Examination Rules.
- (3) The responsible persons for the organisation, administration and supervision of studies in the Doctoral study programmes are: the Dean or a Vice Dean designated by the Dean, at Faculty level; the Rector or a Vice Rector designated by the Rector, at University level. Faculties keep records of all study documents in the information system of CULS and issue student identification cards and student books of records. (Index), in cooperation with the Study and Information Centre of the CULS card centre.

#### Article 2

# The Doctoral study programme, forms and duration of study

- (1) A Doctoral study programme focuses on scientific inquiry and independent creative activities in the areas of research or development.
- (2) The qualification for independent scientific activity is substantiated by the elaboration and defence of a Dissertation Thesis and by publishing scientific or research work. Furthermore, all students enrolled in a Doctoral study programme must pass a State Doctoral Examination (hereinafter referred to as "SDE").
- (3) Studies in doctoral study programmes are organised in daily (full time) or combined (part time) study forms. The standard period of study in both forms of study is three or four years (depending on the prescribed study period which is stipulated in the official study programme accreditation documents), starting from the date of enrolment.

# Article 3

# **Field of Study Boards**

- (1) For each accredited Doctoral study programme and Doctoral field of study, organised by CULS or its Faculties/Institutes, a Field of Study Board is established, which follows up and assesses the quality of studies and guarantees their level. Its members are responsible to the Dean of a Faculty or Director of an Institute (hereinafter referred to as "Dean").
- (2) The Field of Study Board has a minimum of seven members, of which at least two are not members of CULS academic staff.
- (3) The duration of the mandate of the Field of Study Board is identical with the period of accreditation of the study programme and field of studies. Members of the Field of Study Board may be nominated in their function repeatedly.
- (4) Members of the Field of Study Board are designated and recalled by the Dean, following the recommendations given by the Faculty Scientific Board. Changes in the composition of the Field of Study Board are generally proposed by the Chairperson of the Field of Study Board. Members of the Field of Study Board may be Professors and Associate Professors; members who are not part of CULS academic staff, specialists with scientific degrees, or with an academic title Dr or PhD (formerly CSc), are nominated on the basis of being endorsed by a relevant Scientific Board.
- (5) The Field of Study Board is headed by a Chairperson elected from members of the Field of Study Board by an absolute majority.
- (6) The Field of Study Board carries out the following activities:
  - a) Monitors and assesses study results in Doctoral study programmes and at least once a year presents its findings to the Dean,

- b) Ensures the updating and the development of the Doctoral study programmes and relevant fields of study, initiates proposals for their modifications, or proposes the establishment of new fields of studies, within the framework of the Doctoral study programmes,
- c) Guarantees for the contents, orientation and scientific profile of fields of study, selects subjects for SDE, as well as optional subjects,
- d) Assesses, on a regular basis, at least once a year, the individual study plans of students in the Doctoral study programmes,
- e) Nominates members for admission examination committees, SDE examination committees and committees for the defence of a Dissertation Thesis,
- f) Discusses on a regular basis, at least once a year before the start of admissions, framework themes or thematic areas for the Dissertation Thesis and themes proposed by the supervisor.
- (7) The Chairperson of the Field of Study Board calls meetings of the Board according to requirements, however at least once a year. Minutes of each meeting are made in writing and posted on a relevant official bulletin.
- (8) The Field of Study Board can pass resolutions only by an absolute majority of its attending members. Resolutions made by the Field of Study Board must be endorsed by a two third majority of the attending Board members.

#### Article 4 Supervisor

- (1) The supervisor guides the student during his/her entire studies in the Doctoral study programme. Supervisors are nominated by the Field of Study Board. Supervisors must be actively publishing and must be Professors, Associate Professors and/or have the academic title Doctor of Sciences (abbreviated as "DrSc."). Supervisors are nominated and recalled by the Dean, with approval of the Faculty Scientific Board. A list of supervisors, including their offices and contact information, is published in a relevant official bulletin.
- (2) Academic staff from other organisations and institutions involved in educational, scientific, research and development activities, or any other creative activities, and who comply with the above mentioned requirements, can also be nominated as supervisors.
- (3) The supervisor guides the student, with focus on:
  - a) cooperating with the student in the matter of setting up his/her individual study plan,
  - b) providing consultation to the student during the elaboration of the student's Dissertation Thesis (in particular in matters of methodology),
  - c) assessing the involvement of the student in scientific and didactic activities as well as his/her attendance at scientific seminars and conferences, in close cooperation with the relevant Head of the Doctoral study programmes administration office,
  - d) monitoring the implementation of the students' individual study plan and annually submitting proposals concerning the enhancements of the students' study goals to the Dean,
- (4) The supervisor takes part in the SDE and the defence of the Dissertation Thesis, however without having voting rights,
- (5) In case that the topic of a Dissertation Thesis requires specific guidance or professional consultations, which the supervisor cannot provide, a consultant may be nominated. The consultant, in cooperation with the supervisor, shares specific knowledge with the student, which is relevant to his/her field of study. In general, a consultant is chosen by the supervisor and must be have a scientific or academic title Dr, PhD (formerly CSc). Upon recommendation by the Head of the Field of Study Board, a consultant is nominated by the Dean.
- (6) The Dean may recall a supervisor during the study period, after referring to the Field of Study Board.

# Article 5

# The student of the doctoral study programme

- (1) A student in a Doctoral study programme is a member of the academic community of the Faculty, with rights and obligations, which are in accord with official legislation and internal regulations of CULS as well as the Faculty, intended for the specific form of studies. His/her main study obligation is to implement the individual study plan, under the guidance of the supervisor.
- (2) The student is entitled to 6 weeks of holidays in a calendar year.
- (3) The student may interrupt his/her studies in accordance with the rules stipulated in Art. 8, Section 7, Letter b).
- (4) As a means for attestation of his/her studies the student is in possession of a student identification card and a student book of records (Index), in accordance with Art. 57 of the Act.

## Article 6 Admission in studies

- (1) The requirements and calls for admission in to a Doctoral study programme are made public, on a specific date, generally once a year.
- (2) The deadline for submitting applications for Doctoral studies, the admission requirements, the assessment criteria, the deadlines for applicants as well as the number of open places, will be announced in writing on the official Faculty bulletin board, at least four months before admission procedures start.
- (3) Admission procedures consist of an admission examination. The admission examination consists of an oral presentation/discussion, which should document, on the basis of previous creative work of the applicant (i.e. MSc diploma thesis, publications), the capacity of the applicant to conduct independent scientific research work and his/her command of relevant knowledge in the area. During admission examination the applicant proves his/her knowledge of at least two world languages (out of which at least one is known actively).
- (4) The exact date on which the admission examination will take place will be communicated to the applicant at the latest 14 days prior to the admission examination.
- (5) Admission examinations take place in front of an examination commission; the Chairperson and members of the examination commission are nominated by the Dean, who selects them amongst Associate Professors and Professors from the Faculty, based on the recommendation of the Field of Study Board.
- (6) An applicant is accepted as a regular student in a doctoral programme by the Dean, on the basis of the outcomes of the admission examination, which takes place in front of the examination commission, and upon recommendation of the Head of the supervisors' office.
- (7) The outcomes of the admission examination will be sent to the applicant by registered postal delivery within 14 days, following the admission procedures. The posting of the admission examination results on the official bulletin board of the relevant Faculty is considered as an alternate means of delivery.

# Article 7

# **Enrolment in studies**

- (1) An applicant who has been admitted on the basis of successfully passing the admission examination in to a Doctoral study programme becomes a student of this programme from the date of his/her enrolment. The enrolment of a student is finalised by his/her signature on the official enrolment form.
- (2) An applicant who is not able, for serious reasons, to enrol in studies on the official date fixed by CULS, may apply for a change of dates.
- (3) An applicant who does not present him/herself at the date of enrolment and does not submit a justification for his/her absence, or his/her justification is not accepted as valid by the relevant Vice Dean, will not be enrolled.
- (4) An applicant who temporarily suspended his/her studies in a Doctoral study programme is accepted as a regular student from the date of his/her re-enrolment in studies.

# Article 8

#### The individual study plan and its amendments

- (1) Studies in the Doctoral study programmes are conducted in accordance with an individual study plan, under the guidance of the supervisor, eventually with the assistance of a consultant.
- (2) The individual study plan is set by the student by the end of the first month of studies, in cooperation with the supervisor, in the framework of an accredited Doctoral study programme and a relevant Field of Study.
- (3) A doctoral study programme consists of systematic creative scientific work centred on the theme of the Dissertation Thesis. As part of the individual study plan, the student must:
  - a) Attend courses which enhance and deepen his/her knowledge of the broader scientific context, expanding knowledge acquired in a relevant MSc study programme (compulsory courses),
  - b) Attend courses which enhance his/her specialisation within the framework of the studied Doctoral study programmes (optional courses),
  - c) Take part in specialised scientific seminars,
  - d) Prepare for teaching assignments in BSc and MSc study programmes,
  - e) Elaborate an outline of his/her Dissertation Thesis, generally involving research in relevant scientific literature, specific goals, methodology, benefits and expected outcomes,
  - f) Deliver an oral report about the outcomes of his/her research work, at least once a year, in front of a scientific audience, at a scientific conference, symposium or seminar; the compliance

with this regulation is assessed by the supervisor, who may also specify other means of reporting.

- (4) The methodology of the Dissertation Thesis must be submitted within three months from the beginning of studies in a Doctoral study programme. It is elaborated by the student in consultation with his/her supervisor.
- (5) Studies at other HEI, scientific and other institutions, including abroad, are a part of a Doctoral study programme. A specialisation exam is generally taken at a Faculty at CULS or at another HEI, including a HEI abroad.
- (6) Didactic practice is a part of studies and is meant to develop presentation skills. This practice generally takes place during four semesters, with an average work load of four hours a week; the overall involvement of a student in the full time form of studies may exceed six hours a week, provided that the student agrees. A dispense from didactic practice must be approved by the director of studies and the supervisor.
- (7) Changes in the individual study plan may be implemented as follows:
  - a) *Change of study contents or schedule* the proposed change in the individual study plan is sanctioned by the Dean on the request of a student, amended by the supervisor (upon approval by the student of a proposed change of the study plan) in connection with the yearly specification of the individual study plan, or even beyond
  - it. Changes can only be made twice during the entire period of studies. b) Temporary interruption of studies is approved by the Dean upon the request of the student, in agreement with the supervisor and the director of the Doctoral studies administration office. Studies may be temporarily interrupted only twice, and the total period of interruption of studies can not exceed two years. In case the reasons for the temporary interruption of studies become obsolete, the Dean may, upon the request of the student, end the temporary interruption period before the initially set date. At the same time, the Dean will set the conditions and the date for a subsequent enrolment in studies. If an applicant, who temporarily interrupted his/her studies in the Doctoral study programme, fails to present him/herself to subsequent enrolment in studies at a designated date, his/her studies will be terminated according to Section 56, Art. 1b) of the Act. During temporary interruption of studies the applicant is not a student of CULS. The decision of the Dean must be delivered to the applicant in writing, according to Section 68 of the Act. The applicant can apply for a revision of the decision of the Dean within 30 days from its delivery (by registered post). Posting of the decisions of the Dean on the Faculty official bulletin board is accepted as an alternate means of delivery.
  - c) The student is entitled to interrupt his/her studies for reasons of pregnancy, *delivery or parenthood, for the legally recognised period*, not exceeding three years of age of the child. Interruption of studies for the legally recognised period of parenthood is not counted in the total period of interruption of studies.
  - d) *During interruption of studies a person is not a student of CULS*. The assessment of the Dean concerning interruption of studies must be made in accordance with Art. 60 of the Act, and must be in writing. The student is entitled to submit a request for revision of the assessment within 30 days of its delivery. Alternative delivery is a delivery that has been published on the official bulletin board.
  - e) *Changes in the form of studies* are approved by the Dean, upon a request by the student and the consent of the supervisor and director of studies; an integral part of this request is a proposal for an amended individual study plan. A change in the form of studies is possible only after the end of a semester, on the condition of that the student complies with all the requirements related to his/her individual study plan.
- (8) Transfer to alternative Doctoral study programmes or alternative Fields of Study in the same study programme is not admissible, with the exception of a decision on enrolment in an alternative Doctoral study programme or alternative Field of Study, in accordance with Art. 8, Sect. 4 of the Act.
- (9) The maximum duration of studies in a Doctoral study programme must correspond to the standard duration of studies.
- (10) A student may study abroad during a certain time of his/her studies in the Doctoral study programme, provided his/her studies abroad have been approved by the supervisor and the Field of Study Board. The conditions for recognition, including examinations and defence of Dissertation Thesis, are defined in a written Agreement between the Faculty and the Institution abroad, where the student plans to study during a certain period of time. The Agreement is signed for the Faculty by the Dean, after consultation with the Field of Studies Board

# Article 9

# Examinations and enrolment in a subsequent year of studies

- (1) During studies in a Doctoral study programme the student must pass the following examinations:
  - (a) examinations in a foreign language, provided his/her knowledge was judged insufficient at the time of admission,
    - (b) examinations in compulsory subjects,
    - (c) examinations in optional subjects,
    - (d) SDE (see Art.10).
- (2) Examinations are organised by the Guarantors of subjects. The results of examinations are entered in the students' book of records (Index) and the information system of CULS, mentioning (in words) the outcomes as "passed" or "failed". Examinations as well as the SDE may be repeated at most twice (2 re-sit session).
- (3) A student can enrol into a subsequent year of studies in Doctoral study programme after having fulfilled all requirements, as specified in his/her individual study plan. Enrolment is confirmed by a mention entered in to the CULS information system.
- (4) The supervisor assesses, at least once per semester, together with the student, the implementation of the students' individual study plan. At least once a year, generally at the end of an academic year, the supervisor makes an annual evaluation of the students' performances, which, after having been discussed at the supervisors' office, is submitted to the Dean. The supervisors' evaluation of the students performance includes a proposal concerning subsequent studies, namely:
  - a) continuation
  - b) continuation with reproof
  - c) temporary interruption
  - d) termination

The evaluation is also discussed by the relevant Field of Study Board.

# Article 10

# **State Doctoral Examination**

- (1) A student can apply for the SDE after passing prescribed examinations and fulfilling all study requirements, set by his/her individual study plan. The SDE takes place prior the defence of the Dissertation Thesis. However, the SDE may take place on the same day as the defence of the Dissertation Thesis.
- (2) The SDE is a comprehensive assessment of the students' level and quality of knowledge in his/her field of specialisation. Assessments are carried out concerning the students' capacity of acquiring new knowledge, identifying innovative aspects and relevance in the area of specialisation in the framework of the students' Doctoral study programme, Field of Study and Dissertation Thesis. The SDE has two levels: a general examination, comprising scientific topics relevant to the Doctoral study programme, eventually of the Field of Study, and specialised examination, related to the theme of the Dissertation Thesis. The student prepares topics from his/her Dissertation Thesis (Art. 8, Section 3, Letter e) for the SDE with the opponents' references. These references are written by a specialist with an academic title Doctor, who is not a member of the academic staff of CULS. A scholarly presentation, concerning key issues of the Dissertation Thesis, is an integral part of the SDE.
- (3) The Chairperson and other members of the SDE examination commission are nominated by the Dean on recommendation of the Field of Studies Board. Members of the examination commission are Professors, Associate Professors or specialists in a relevant scientific area, proposed by a relevant Scientific Board. The Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport may also propose members of the examination commission who are specialists in the given area. The examination commission has at least five members. One member of the commission must be an external member, i.e. not a member of CULS academic staff. Permanent commissions of SDE may be nominated for each Doctoral study programme.
- (4) The student submits a written application for SDE on a standard form, together with the outlines of his/her Dissertation Thesis. Applicants must pass examinations and fulfil all requirements of the individual study plan. Applications are assessed by the supervisor and the Head of the Doctoral studies administration office.
- (5) The date of the SDE is set by the Dean after consultation with the Chairperson of the SDE examination commission. The date of the SDE must be posted on the Faculty official bulletin board at least two weeks before the SDE examination takes place.
- (6) The SDE is held in front of a commission in oral form. The SDE and the publication of the SDE outcomes are open to the public. The evaluation and assessments of the SDE performance are, however, not public. The outcomes of the examination are qualified by either "passed", or "failed" in all subjects of the SDE. Should a student "fail" in one or several subjects, he/she must repeat the SDE.

(7) The minutes of the SDE proceedings are written in a standard form and entered in the on-line information system of the Doctoral studies administration office at CULS. The SDE may be repeated earliest after two month, latest on the last day of the student's standard period of studies.

# Article 11

#### **Defence of the Dissertation Thesis**

- (1) In his/her Dissertation Thesis, a student defends the results of his/her scientific work, which he/she achieved during studies in a Doctoral study programme. The Dissertation Thesis must include original findings which were published (or at least preliminary accepted for publication) in at least in one journal with allocated Impact Factor (IF), featured in the Web of Knowledge database, or in the journal SCOPUS, with allocated Scientific Journal Ranking Index (SJR). In the latter case, the students' name must be featured as first author of the collective of authors. The Dissertation Thesis has usually the following structure:
  - a) an overview of the current findings and references in relevant scientific literature dealing with the subjects under investigation,
  - b) goal(s) of the Dissertation Thesis,
  - c) chosen methods for elaboration,
  - d) results of the Dissertation Thesis, including new findings
  - e) conclusion and recommendations for using results for practical purposes or for the further development of a scientific discipline,
  - f) list of scientific literatures.

The Dissertation Thesis may have the form of a commentary to published articles. Detailed rules for publishing results and requirements concerning technical aspects of a Dissertation Thesis, including language requirements, are set by the Dean on the basis of a recommendation by the Field of Studies Board.

- (2) The defence of the Dissertation Thesis is carried out in front of a Commission, whose members and Chairperson are nominated by the Dean on recommendation of the Field of Studies Board. The Commission has at least seven members: a Chairperson, a member of the Field of Study Board, opponents and other specialists, all holding scientific degrees or academic title of Dr, or PhD (formerly CSc). If there are more members on the Commission, their complete list must equal an odd number. The supervisor can be present during the defence proceedings however he/she can not be a member of the Commission and cannot vote. At least three members of the Commission must not be members of the academic staff of CULS. Two members are nominated from the Field of Study Board.
- (3) The Dissertation Thesis is evaluated by three opponents, two are not academic staff of CULS, and at least one holds the academic title Associate Professor (eventually with a scientific degree doctor of science DrSc). All members of the Commission must hold at least a scientific degree, or academic title Dr, or PhD (formerly CSc). The Commission can only pass resolutions in the presence of two thirds of its members. The defence of a Thesis must be attended by at least two opponents. A third opponent must be present in case the result is negative. For a Dissertation Thesis defence to be successful an absolute majority of votes of all members of the Commission is required. The defence is public. If a Dissertation Thesis is not defended, it may be amended and/or revised by the student and presented again, earliest within six months. The result of the defence is established by the Commission in a closed meeting and assessed by the words: "passed" or "failed". Appeals against the decision of the Commission can be submitted to the relevant Scientific Board.
- (4) The student may file an application for the permission to defend his/her Dissertation Thesis to the Dean only after fulfilling all requirements of a Doctoral study programme, together with an application for SDE.

In case that the SDE has already been carried out, it must be assessed as "passed". The standard forms include:

- a) 4 printed and 1 electronic version of the Dissertation Thesis,
- b) a personal report (brief written report in Czech or in English, maximum 15 A4 pages, describing the goals, methods, results and conclusions of the Dissertation Thesis. If the report is in Czech, an abstract must be written in English and vice versa. The report must be submitted to the Doctoral studies office, to the Field of Studies Board members, to the Commission for defence of the Dissertation Thesis and the relevant CULS Departments, with a written request for evaluation, which is discussed during the defence; the number of prints is determined by the section of science and research of the Faculty,
- c) a list of publications,
- d) a complete CV,

- e) an assessment report on the Dissertation Thesis, issued by the relevant Doctoral programmes study office.
- (5) The date of the defence of the Dissertation Thesis is set by the Dean after consultation with the Head of the Dissertation Thesis defence committee. The defence must take place latest after four months from the date the student submitted his/her application for defence, in accordance with Art. 4. The date of the defence procedures must be posted on the official bulletin board at least two weeks before the defence takes place.
- (6) The Dissertation Thesis is accessible to the public in printed form at the relevant Science and Research Department of the relevant Faculty, or in electronic version in the information system of CULS, at least 5 days prior to its defence.
- (7) The proceedings of the defence and its outcomes are written down in form of minutes, signed by the Head of the commission for defence of the Dissertation Thesis. A protocol concerning votes is signed by all voting members. The minutes and the protocol are submitted to the Dean.
- (8) In case that the Dissertation Thesis is not defended successfully, the student may present himself/herself for a second defence session, earliest after six months and latest after twelve months after the unsuccessful defence. Up to the date set for a second defence, the applicant for defence of the Dissertation Thesis is not a student of CULS and his/her studies are temporarily suspended. This interruption is not added to the total time of study interruptions, in accordance with Art. 8, Sect.7, Letter b).
- (9) On the basis of duly concluded studies in a Doctoral study programme, the graduate will be awarded a University Diploma and a Diploma Supplement. The Diploma and the Diploma Supplement are usually awarded at a ceremonial assembly (graduation ceremony) at CULS.
- (10) The Dissertation Thesis is publicly posted on the information system of CULS. One copy is deposited at the CULS library, situated at the CULS Study and Information Centre.

# Article 12 Termination of studies

- (1) Studies in Doctoral study programme are duly terminated by a SDE and a defence of a Dissertation Thesis.
- (2) Studies in a Doctoral study programme end, according to Section 56, Art. 1 of the Act:
  - a) upon termination of studies by a personal request of the student (in accordance with Section 56, Art.1, Letter a) of the Act), on the date of delivery of a written request on termination of studies delivered to the Dean of the relevant Faculty by registered postal delivery,
  - b) upon failing to attend subsequent enrolment, after a temporary interruption of studies,
  - c) upon recommendation of the Field of Studies Board or supervisor, in the event that the student does not comply with the requirements of the individual study plan according to Section 56, Art. 1, Letter b) of the Act. The date of termination of studies gains legal status, upon delivery to the authorised recipient.
  - d) upon exclusion from studies (in accordance to Section 65, Art.1, Letter c), or Section 67 of the Act) in accordance with the enactments of the Disciplinary Rules for students of CULS, on the date that it gained legal status,
  - e) upon elapsing of the standard study period, except in cases stated in Art. 2, Section 3,
  - f) upon the withdrawal of the accreditation or the expiry of the accreditation of Doctoral study programme according to Section 56, Art. 1, Letter c) and d) of the Act, on the date established in Section 56, Art. 2 of the Act.

# Article 13

#### **Special regulations**

- (1) In case that a Doctoral study programme is organised by more than one Faculty, the student is enrolled at the Faculty of his/her supervisor.
- (2) According to specialisation of the student, the supervisor, or Head of Doctoral study programmes office, ensure that facilities within other Departments of CULS, or even outside of CULS, may be accessed and used by the student.

# Article 14

#### Temporary and final disposition

(1) The disposition concerning the total period of interruption of studies, as stipulated in Art. 8, Sect. 7, Letter b), is not applicable for a student who has interrupted his/her studies for more than two years at the date of publication of these Study and Examination Rules for Doctoral Studies. Students are entitled to interrupt their studies at most twice, whilst the total period of interruption of studies cannot exceed three years. Interruptions of studies which are due to circumstances described in Art.8 Sect. 7, letter c), are not counted in this three years period.

- (2) A Dissertation Thesis submitted for defence by the student before 30 September 2015, must include only original findings, published or accepted for publishing in a peer reviewed scientific journal, a is not obliged to fulfil the condition of publication in an IF journal or a journal featured in a SJR database of SCOPUS.
- (3) The Study and Examination Rules for Doctoral study programmes, registered on 1 August 2012 by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports under reference number 19 080/2012 - 30, are hereby abrogated.
- (4) These Study and Examination Rules were endorsed by the Academic Senate of CULS on 25 March 2014, in accordance with Art 9, Sect. 1, Letter b), of the Act.
- (5) These Study and Examination Rules gain legal status, in accordance with Art. 36, Sect. 4, on the date of their registration by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.
- (6) These Study and Examination Rules are valid from the date of their registration by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Prof. Ing. Jiri Balik, CSc. Rector