

# ELECTORAL REGULATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL, THE FACULTY COUNCILS, AND THE EMPLOYEE COUNCILS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN

## CHAPTER 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Article 1 Definition of terms

The following definitions apply to these regulations:

- a. Act/WHW: the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW: *Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek*);
- b. Board of the University: the Board of the University as referred to in Article 9.2 of the Act;
- c. Candidate: the person who has stood as a candidate by virtue of his right to stand as a candidate under these regulations;
- d. Central Electoral Committee: the Central Electoral Committee referred to in Article 2 of these regulations;
- e. Council: the University Council, Faculty Council or Employee Council as referred to in respectively Article 9.31, 9.37 and 9.50 of the Act;
- f. Electoral register: the register in which all voters of the relevant council are listed by the section to which the voter belongs;
- g. Faculty: a faculty of the university with a faculty community consisting of the faculty's staff and students;
- h. Section: the staff or the students of the University;
- i. Staff: Employees of the University appointed with a permanent or temporary employment contract, including UMCG academic teaching and research staff with a guest agreement with the UG and administrative and support staff supporting academic teaching and research as referred to in these regulations, irrespective of the scope of their employment contract, as well as the staff employed by the Dutch Research Council (NWO) or a comparable organization designated by the Board of the University who work at the University on a regular basis;
- j. Student: A person who is registered at the University in accordance with the Act;
- k. Student assistant: a person who is enrolled as a student and who also contributes towards academic education or research as an employee;
- l. Submitter: the contact person of a participating party;
- m. University: the University of Groningen with an university community consisting of staff and students of the university;
- n. University Services: a central service of the university as referred to in section 9.50 of the Act with a community consisting of staff of the service;
- o. Voter: everyone who has active or passive voting rights under statutory provisions or under these regulations;
- p. Working days: all days except Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays under the General Extension of Time Limits Act and other days on which the University is closed for the whole day or part of the day. For the implementation of these Electoral Regulations, working days are regarded as lasting from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., unless these Regulations provide otherwise.

## **Article 2 Central Electoral Committee**

1. The Central Electoral Committee consists of five to seven members, at least one of whom must be enrolled as a student at the University. The members are appointed and dismissed by the Board of the University. The Central Electoral Committee is assisted by a secretary, to be appointed by the Board of the University.
2. The Central Electoral Committee is in charge of the preparation and execution of the election of the members of the University Council, the faculty councils, and the employee councils on behalf of the Board of the University.
3. The tasks of the Central Electoral Committee include at least:
  - a. establishing a timeline for the elections;
  - b. establishing the electoral registers on the basis of the data provided by or in the name of the Board of the University;
  - c. making decisions regarding requests to correct the electoral registers;
  - d. making decisions regarding the validity of the nomination of candidates;
  - e. taking all due measures to ensure the elections proceed in an orderly fashion;
  - f. declaring a vote invalid when necessary and, in that case, calling a new vote;
  - g. determining the results of the elections;
  - h. filling vacancies in the councils.
4. The Central Electoral Committee makes use of digital systems for the electoral proceedings provided by the University of Groningen.
5. An interested party may lodge a notice of objection with the Board of the University against decisions of the Central Electoral Committee within six weeks after the decision has been made known.

## **Article 3 Election method**

1. The election of members of the University Council, the faculty councils, and the employee councils will occur separately for each section and will take place according to a single preference list system.
2. With due regard for the provisions of Article 9.31 of the Act, the members of the University Council will be elected directly by and from the voters of the section to which they belong.
3. With due regard for the provisions of Article 9.37.3 of the Act, the members of a faculty council will be elected directly by and from the voters of the section of the faculty to which they belong.
4. With due regard for the provisions of Article 9.50 of the Act and the relevant provisions of the Administrative Regulations of the University of Groningen, the members of an employee council will be directly elected by and from the staff employed by the University service unit for which that employee council has been established.

## **Article 4 Distribution of seats/duration of membership**

1. The number of seats of the University Council, the Faculty Councils and the Employee Councils and the duration of membership is specified in the University Council Regulations, the Faculty Regulations and the Employee Council Regulations respectively. The Appendix to these regulations lists an overview of the distribution of seats.
2. The staff members are elected for two years, the students for one.
3. Members retire from their positions for each section at the same time and may be re-elected immediately.
4. In addition to periodic retirement, membership can end through:
  - a. written notice by email addressed to the Central Electoral Committee;
  - b. transfer to a different section to that for which the member in question was elected;

- c. loss of membership of the University or faculty community, or when leaving the University service unit;
  - d. termination of enrolment as a student for the current academic year under the provisions of Article 7.42 of the Act;
  - e. decease.
5. A member who has been elected to fill a vacancy retires when the person in whose place they were elected would have had to retire.

#### **Article 5 Right to vote**

1. With due regard for Article 3 and Appendix 2 of these Electoral Regulations, all individuals who are included in the electoral registers of the University Council, a faculty council, or an employee council respectively, have both active and passive voting rights, on the conditions that:
  - The UMCG teaching and research administrative and support staff, in so far as they are covered by the conditions of the UMCG, have been registered by the UMCG Board of Directors to exercise their voting rights;
  - Those who are employed by the Dutch Research Council (NWO) or a comparable organization designated by the Board of the University must obtain written permission from their employer to stand for election.
2. Those who join the University after the electoral registers have been established, but before holding the election for which these registers were established, will be excluded from exercising both active and passive voting rights for that election.
3. Those who leave the University after the electoral register has been established will lose both active and passive voting rights.
4. A staff member with an appointment at more than one faculty and/or service unit will have the right to vote for the staff sections of all Councils involved.
5. A student enrolled in a programme belonging to more than one faculty will have the right to vote for the student sections of all councils involved.
6. For the student-assistant the following applies:
  - The student-assistant who has an appointment at the same faculty at which they are enrolled as student will only have the right to vote for the student section of this faculty's council.
  - The student-assistant who has an appointment as student assistant at a faculty or service unit other than the faculty at which they are enrolled as student will have the right to vote for the staff section of the faculty or service unit at which they are employed.
  - The student-assistant only has the right to vote for the student section of the University Council.

## **CHAPTER 2 ELECTORAL REGISTERS**

#### **Article 6 Establishing the electoral register**

1. With due regard for the provisions of Article 5, the Central Electoral Committee will establish the electoral register for each section of the University Council and the faculty councils and for the employee councils on the date specified in the timetable.
2. The electoral register will list the surname, initials, and the University administration number of each voter as well as the council or councils for which the voter is listed on the electoral register.
3. The Board of the University will provide the Central Electoral Committee with the data that it needs to establish the electoral registers.

4. The Board of the University will notify the Central Electoral Committee of any change that could lead to an amendment of the electoral registers as soon as it has been informed of that change. The Central Electoral Committee will ensure that any such change will be processed if this has no direct consequences for the ability to exercise voting rights.

#### **Article 7 Inspection of electoral registers**

Immediately after the establishment of the electoral registers, the Central Electoral Committee will ensure that voters are granted access to the digital system, for a period of three working days, to inspect their own-data contained in the relevant electoral register.

#### **Article 8 Request for correction**

1. Any student or staff member of the University community who believes that they have been wrongfully included or not included or incorrectly included in the electoral registers may submit a reasoned request to the Central Electoral Committee for correction.
2. The request for correction can be submitted to the Central Electoral Committee via the digital system or by email. This request must be received by the Central Electoral Committee no later than the last day of the period referred to in Article 7.
3. The Central Electoral Committee shall decide on the request for correction within five working days at the latest and shall notify the person concerned and, if necessary, amend the electoral register.
4. The Central Electoral Committee can make ex officio corrections in the electoral registers up to 10 days before the day of the election.
5. Ex officio corrections as referred to in the previous paragraph include amendments to an electoral register which consist of adding or deleting names or transferring one or more persons to a different section or to a different faculty community or University service unit, and which are made by or in the name of the Central Electoral Committee on its own initiative and may directly affect the exercise of voting rights.

#### **Article 9 Ex officio correction**

If an ex officio correction of the electoral register results in an amendment, the person in question will be notified of the decision by email.

### **CHAPTER 3 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES**

#### **Article 10 Nomination of candidates**

1. The nomination of candidates will take place on one or more working days, to be determined by the Central Electoral Committee and included in the timeline.
2. The Central Electoral Committee will publicize the day or days, place and time of the nomination of candidates at least 10 days in advance.
3. A party elects a submitter who is listed on the electoral register of the respective council and serves as a liaison between that party and the Central Electoral Committee. The submitter is responsible for completing the list of candidates.
4. The nomination of candidates, including the statement of consent, is conducted via the lists of candidates submitted by the submitter via the digital system.
5. Up to and including the nomination of candidates, voters may submit a party to the Central Electoral Committee for participation in the relevant election.

#### **Article 11 Requirements of the list of candidates**

1. A list of candidates may contain a maximum of 30 candidates.
2. A voter may only be nominated as a candidate for the University Council or a faculty council within one section.
3. A candidate must belong to the section for which the list of candidates has been submitted.
4. Within a section of the University Council or a faculty council or for an employee council, a voter may only be nominated as a candidate on one list.
5. The eligibility of a candidate in a section is demonstrated by the appearance of that candidate's name in the electoral register in question.

#### **Article 12 Appellation of a list of candidates**

1. The list of candidates will state the surname, initials, and first name of the candidate, as well as the council or councils for which the candidate is running for election.
2. The list of candidates includes the appellation of the party with which the candidates whose names appear on the list have affiliated themselves.
3. The appellation of a party may not contain more than forty letters. Additionally, the appellation of the party may not lead to confusion with earlier appellations or party appellations that have been submitted. The Central Electoral Committee may also refuse the appellation or abbreviation if it is contrary to public order. Chapter G of the Dutch Elections Act shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.
4. The list of candidates for the University Council or a faculty council also states the section to which the candidates whose names appear on the list belong.
5. The names of the candidates will be listed in the order specified by the submitter.

#### **Article 13 Candidature**

1. After the publication of the lists of candidates as referred to in Article 20 of these Regulations, candidates cannot withdraw their candidature.
2. For individuals employed by the Dutch Research Council or a comparable organization, written consent of the employer as referred to in Article 5.1 of these regulations must be submitted along with the list of candidates.

#### **Article 14 Electoral alliances**

1. On the day of the nomination of candidates, submitters belonging to the same section and listed on the same electoral register may combine their submitted candidate lists into an electoral alliance by sending a joint declaration to the Central Electoral Committee by email.
2. A list can only belong to one electoral alliance.
3. If a list is included in more than one electoral alliance as referred to in Article 14. all electoral alliances will become invalid.

#### **Article 15 Examination of candidate lists**

As soon as possible after the deadline for nominating candidates, the Central Electoral Committee will meet to examine the lists of candidates and decide whether there are shortcomings with regard to the requirements set out in these regulations. The Central Electoral Committee will also decide on the validity of the declarations agreeing to form electoral alliances.

#### **Article 16 Shortcomings**

If the examination referred to in Article 15 reveals one or more shortcomings with regard to Articles 10 up to and including 14, the Central Electoral Committee shall notify the submitter by email immediately after the day on which the meeting referred to in Article 15 was held.

### **Article 17 Notice of shortcomings**

1. In the notice referred to in Article 16, the Central Electoral Committee will notify the submitter that they have the opportunity to rectify the shortcomings described therein within three working days of the notice being sent.
2. In the case that the shortcoming is not rectified, the Central Electoral Committee will:
  - if it concerns the appellation of the party, limit the name or the appellation of the party exceeding 40 letters to the first 40 letters, or,
  - in the case that the appellation or abbreviation of the party is not rectified, where it has been judged to be contrary to public order, the appellation will be changed into the name of the first candidate appearing on that list.
3. If the person who submitted the list of candidates is unable to act or is absent, one of the candidates will act in that person's place, in the order in which they appear on the list.

### **Article 18 Decision of the Central Electoral Committee**

1. As soon as the period for rectification of shortcomings referred to in Article 20.1 has expired, the Central Electoral Committee will decide at a public meeting about the validity of the lists of candidates.
2. The day, place, and time of the meeting referred to in Article 21.1 will be publicly announced by the Central Electoral Committee at least five working days in advance.
3. The Central Electoral Committee will send its decision, referred to in the first and third paragraphs, by email to the submitter.

### **Article 19 Declaring lists of candidates invalid**

A list of candidates is invalid if it was not completed before the end of the day or days for the nomination of candidates (Article 10.1), or if it was not corrected within the shortcoming rectification period, except as provided in Article 17.2.

### **Article 20 Publication**

Immediately after adopting the lists of candidates, the Central Electoral Committee will publish the list on the website of the University of Groningen (separately for each section).

### **Article 21 List and candidate profile**

Once the candidate lists have been determined and published by the Central Electoral Committee, all candidates may enter a candidate profile in the digital system before a deadline set by the Central Electoral Committee. The submitter may enter a list profile.

## **CHAPTER 4 MANNER OF VOTING**

### **Article 22 Voting**

1. Voting will take place electronically.
2. The Central Electoral Committee will set the deadline for voting in the timeline and will announce this to the University community on the University of Groningen's website in advance.

### **Article 23 No vote**

If only one list of candidates has been submitted for a section of the University Council, a faculty council, or an employee council, and the number of candidates does not exceed the number of places to be filled, no vote will be held for the section in question for the University Council, faculty council, or employee council.

#### **Article 24 Electronic voting**

1. Preceding the elections, the Central Electoral Committee will send all persons with voting rights an email notifying them of the elections, including information regarding the voting period and how they can vote.
2. On the first day referred to in Article 22.2, an invitation to vote will be sent, with reference to the voting application provided for that purpose.
3. The notification of elections will state at least:
  - a. the council or councils and section for which a vote can be cast;
  - b. how and on which days votes can be cast;
  - c. an explanation of the voting procedure for casting votes electronically.
4. During the voting period, the Central Electoral Committee will send one or more email reminder.

#### **Article 25 The voting application**

The voting application with voting ballot will state:

- a. the council or councils and section;
- b. the lists of candidates in the same way as on the relevant notice;
- c. if some lists are to be merged in an electoral alliance, according to the provisions of Article 14.1, beneath each allied list, the name of the list or lists with which it is allied;
- d. checkboxes in front of the candidates' names.

#### **Article 26 Casting votes**

1. During the voting period determined by the Central Electoral Committee, ending on the last working day as referred to in Article 22.2, voters are able to cast their votes in the application made available for that purpose.
2. The voting application provides voters with access to the electronic ballot. Voters may cast their votes by checking the box and by submitting the vote via the voting application.
3. The candidate lists will be made available electronically. The name of a candidate may be accompanied by a link to additional information regarding the candidate and their list.
4. The username (student number or employee number) provided by the University in combination with a password chosen by the voter is regarded as proof of identity.
5. The voter may indicate their preference for a candidate by selecting the candidate in the voting application and by confirming their vote. The voter may also choose to cast a blank vote.
6. The voting application records that the voter has cast a vote.

#### **Article 27 Declaring a ballot invalid**

1. If any irregularities have occurred in a ballot and the Central Electoral Committee is of the opinion that these irregularities may affect the results of the election, the Central Electoral Committee may decide to declare the ballot for the section in question invalid.
2. If the Central Electoral Committee declares the ballot for a council and/or section invalid, it will call a new ballot for that section as soon as possible.
3. The Central Electoral Committee will immediately publicize the decision, as referred to in Article 27.1, on the University of Groningen's website.
4. In the event that the voting application is not available during the voting period, the Central Electoral Committee may forthwith decide to extend the voting period. The Central Electoral Committee will immediately inform all voters of such a decision.

## **CHAPTER 5 DETERMINING THE RESULTS**

### **Article 28 Voting results**

At the end of the ballot, the Central Electoral Committee will determine the voting results without delay. The Central Electoral Committee will declare the voting results at a public meeting on a day made known in advance.

### **Article 29 Counting the number of votes**

1. The total amount of votes cast will be determined for each section.
2. Subsequently, the turnout percentage will be calculated for each section.
3. The turnout percentages referred to in Article 29.2 will be determined by dividing the total number of valid votes in each section by the number of persons eligible to vote.

### **Article 30 Comparing seats with candidates**

1. If the number of candidates for a certain section is smaller than the number of available seats, each resulting vacancy will remain unfilled until the next regular election, unless Article 40 of these Regulations is applied.
2. If in any section one list of candidates has been submitted and the number of candidates is not greater than the number of available seats, they will be declared elected.
3. If the number of candidates is greater than the number of available seats, the results of the election will be determined as follows:
  - a. for each list the following will be determined:
    1. the number of votes cast for each candidate;
    2. the sum of the number of votes referred to under 1.; this sum will be referred to as the total vote.
  - b. the Central Electoral Committee will divide the sum of the total votes of all the lists of the section in question by the number of seats to be filled in that section; the quotient thus obtained will be referred to as the section electoral quotient;
  - c. each time the section electoral quotient is included in the total vote of a list, one of the seats to be filled will be allocated to that list, provided the total vote is at least one;
  - d. the (residual) seats are awarded sequentially to the lists of the group whose total votes have the highest remainder when divided by the electoral quotient; the lists with a total vote which is less than 75% of the electoral quotient will not be included in this allocation;
  - e. in the event that the surpluses referred to under d. are tied, the matter will be decided by lot.
  - f. When all lists eligible for this have received a residual seat and there still remain seats to be allocated, these seats will be allocated using the method of the highest average, with the proviso that no lists will be allocated more than one seat in this allocation.
4. If, under the provisions of Article 14.1, some lists have agreed to form electoral alliances, such an alliance of lists will be regarded as one list for the purposes of determining the number of seats to be allocated to them, with a total vote equal to the sum of the total votes of the lists comprising the electoral alliance.
5. If, due to the application of the previous paragraphs, one or more seats remain unfilled, seat or seats will remain unfilled until the next regular election.

### **Article 31 Distribution of seats allocated to an electoral alliance among individual lists**

The distribution of the seats allocated to an electoral alliance among the allied lists will take place as follows:

- a. the Central Electoral Committee will divide the total vote of the allied lists by the number of seats allocated to the electoral alliance; the quotient thus obtained will be referred to as the combination quotient;
- b. one of the seats to be occupied by the alliance will be allocated to each of the lists comprising the alliance for each time the total vote of that list contains the combination quotient;
- c. any remaining seats will be consecutively allocated to the list which, if a seat or seats were assigned to it, would have the largest average number of votes per seat;
- d. if the averages referred to in c. are equal, the result will be determined by lot.

**Article 32 Transferring seats to other allied lists**

1. If, due to the application of Article 33 to a list, one or more seats are allocated exceeding the number of candidates on that list, that seat or those seats will be transferred to one or more of the allied lists.
2. A list will only be eligible for the transfer of a seat if at least one candidate on that list is still available for that seat.
3. If there is only one eligible allied list, the seat or seats will be transferred to that list.
4. If there is more than one eligible allied list, the transfer will take place as follows:
  - a. if the allocation of seats has ended due to the application of Article 33.c, seats will be consecutively transferred to the list which would have the largest average number of votes if that seat were allocated to it;
  - b. if Article 33.d has been applied, places will be transferred consecutively through continued application of that paragraph;
  - c. if the averages referred to in a. and b. are equal, the result will be determined by lot.

**Article 33 List quota**

1. To assign seats allocated to each list of a section, the Central Electoral Committee will divide the total vote for the list by the number of seats allocated to the list.
2. The quotient thus obtained will be referred to as the list quotient.

**Article 34 Declaring candidates elected**

1. To occupy the seats allocated to each list, the candidates who have received the number of votes at least equal to the list quotient will be elected.
2. If all the seats allocated to a list are not occupied according to the method set out in Article 36.1, the rest of the seats will be assigned as follows:
  - a. a candidate will be regarded as elected if they have received the number of votes equal or greater than half of the list quotient, in the order of the number of votes received by each candidate;
  - b. if, after the application of the rule set out in Article 36.2.a., all the seats allocated to the list are still not occupied, the remaining candidates will be declared elected in the order of the list.

**Article 35 Candidates with an equal number of votes**

If the application of Article 34 shows that some candidates have received an equal number of votes, the order on the list will be decisive.

**Article 36 Ranking candidates**

1. For each list, the Central Electoral Committee will rank the candidates on that list in the order indicated in Articles 34 and 35.

2. The ranking referred in Article 36.1 will be recorded in a report by the Central Electoral Committee as soon as possible after the result is determined. This report will be signed by all members and the secretary of the Central Electoral Committee.
3. The Central Electoral Committee will send the report for information purposes to the Board of the University and the University Council. Furthermore, a copy will be sent by email to the Board of the faculty in question, if members of the faculty council were elected, and to the head of the University service unit, if members of an employee council were elected.
5. The election results will be published on the website of the University of Groningen as soon as possible.

### **Article 37 Notification that candidates have been elected/credentials**

1. After the deadline referred to in Article 2.4 has expired, the Central Electoral Committee will send notice by email to each elected candidate.
2. If anyone wishes to invoke the opportunity referred to in Article 2.4 to lodge an objection with the Board of the University, and if the notice should concern the individual involved, such a notice will not be sent until the Board of the University has decided on the objection.
3. If the Board of the University's decision about the objection results in a change to the election results, the Central Electoral Committee will notify those directly involved by email as soon as possible after receiving that decision.
4. When it has been established after the Board of the University's decision that certain candidates have been elected, those candidates will receive a notification by email.
5. The notice referred to in Article 39.1 and 39.4, sent by the Central Electoral Committee, will serve as credentials for the elected candidate.
6. A copy of this email will be sent to the chairperson of the University Council, if members of this council have been elected, to the Board of the faculty in question if members of the faculty council have been elected, and to the head of the University service unit if members of an employee council have been elected.

## **CHAPTER 6 FILLING VACANCIES**

### **Article 38 Vacancy**

1. Elected candidates must inform the Central Electoral Committee of a vacancy by email.
2. If a candidate does not accept their election, or if a vacancy arises pursuant to Article 4.4.(a-e), the Central Electoral Committee will fill the vacancy in a council by declaring elected the highest placed candidate following the order pursuant to Article 38 who is not a member of the council.  
In this process, those candidates are disregarded:
  - a. whose vacancy is being filled;
  - b. who have transferred to another section from which they were nominated as a candidate;
  - c. who is no longer a member of the University or faculty community, or has left the University service unit;
  - d. who is not willing to accept an election at that time;
  - e. who has terminated their enrolment as a student on the basis of the provisions of the Act and the Implementing Regulations of the University of Groningen;
  - f. who has deceased.
3. If a vacancy cannot be filled from the same list of candidates because of an insufficient number of candidates and no electoral alliance has been formed, the seat of the council or University service unit concerned will be allocated to the next list of candidates of the same section through continued application of Article 30.3.f.

4. If a vacancy cannot be filled subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the vacant seat in question will remain for the list of candidates to whom the seat was allocated after the election and shall remain unfilled until the next regular election, unless Article 40 of these Regulations is applied.

#### **Article 39 Vacancy on an allied list**

1. If, after the application of the provisions of Article 38.2, a vacancy cannot be filled from the same list of candidates and this list has formed an alliance with one other list, the candidate on this other list who is the highest placed according to Article 36 and who is not a member of the council will be declared elected.
2. If the list is allied with more than one other list, the application of Article 32.4 will determine to which of the allied lists the seat will be allocated.

The candidate on this list who is eligible according to the order established following Article 36 will be declared appointed.

If the vacancy cannot be filled in this way, the seat will be allocated to another allied list by further applying the provisions of this paragraph, and so on.

#### **New Article 40 Mid-term elections**

1. If there are one or more vacant seats within the staff section, the Central Electoral Committee may, at the request of the chairperson of the Council concerned, organise mid-term elections for the vacant seat(s). Mid-term elections can only take place at the same time as the annual elections of the student section.
2. Mid-term elections shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations. The membership of the elected candidate ends at the same time as that of the regularly elected candidate.

#### **Article 41 Notice of being declared elected**

1. After the time limit for objections referred to in Article 2.4 has expired, the Central Electoral Committee will send notice of election to the designated candidate by email.
2. If anyone makes use of the opportunity referred to in Article 2.4 to lodge an objection with the Board of the University, the notice of election will be postponed until the Board of the University has decided about the objection.
3. If the decision of the Board of the University results in a change in the filling of the vacancy, the Central Electoral Committee will notify those directly involved as soon as possible after receiving the decision.
4. The notice of election referred to in Article 42.1, or in the case referred to in Article 42.3, addressed to the candidate who has been declared elected, will be sent by email and will serve as credentials for the person in question. The provisions of Article 37.6 will apply *mutatis mutandis*.

#### **Article 42 Temporary replacement**

1. A member of the University Council, a faculty council, or an employee council can be temporarily replaced on account of illness, pregnancy or unforeseen circumstances, or temporary work or study activities outside the University.
2. A request for temporary replacement will be submitted to the Central Electoral Committee by the chairperson of the University Council, faculty council, or employee council.
3. The Central Electoral Committee will decide on the request within two weeks and will determine the duration of the replacement, to which a minimum duration of three months applies.

4. Determination of the order of candidates during the period of replacement will be similar to what is provided for by Article 38 of the Electoral Regulations.
5. After the replacement period has expired, the temporary membership of the replacement member will expire, and the membership of the originally elected member will be restored until the end of the term of office.

## **CHAPTER 7 FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 43 Unforeseen circumstances**

In cases for which these Regulations do not provide, the Central Electoral Committee will decide with due regard for statutory provision, following the rules of the Elections Act Stb. [Dutch Bulletin of Acts and Decrees] 1989, no. 423 as closely as possible.

### **Article 44 Short title, entry into force**

These regulations can be referred to as ‘Electoral Regulations of the University of Groningen’ and will come into force one day after adoption by the Board of the University.

Approved by the Board of the University on 16 July 2024, after the consent of the University Council on 27 June 2024.

Appendix 1 to the Electoral Regulations of the University of Groningen.

<b>University Council</b>	Number of seats:	
	Staff	Students
	12	12

<b>Faculty councils</b>	Number of seats:	
	Staff	Students
Religion, Culture and Society	5	5
Law	9	9
O&O Council UMCG	0	7
Science and Engineering	9	9
Arts	9	9
Economics and Business	9	9
Behavioural and Social Sciences	9	9
Philosophy	5	5
Spatial Sciences	5	5
University College Groningen	3	3
University of Groningen/Campus Fryslân	3	3

<b>Employee councils</b>	Number of seats:
University Services	12
University of Groningen Library	7
Centre for Information Technology (CIT)	9

## Appendix 2 to the University of Groningen Electoral Regulations

### **Persons entitled to vote**

#### **Explanatory notes to Article 5 The right to vote**

Those entitled to cast a vote in the elections for the members of the University Council, the faculty councils, and the employee councils of the University of Groningen are:

- a. students;
- b. staff: employees of the University appointed with a permanent or temporary employment contract, including UMCG academic teaching and research staff with a guest agreement with the UG and the UMCG administrative and support staff supporting academic teaching and research, irrespective of the scope of their employment contract, as well as the staff employed by the Dutch Research Council (NWO) or a comparable organization designated by the Board of the University who work at the University on a regular basis;
- c. Student-assistants, insofar as their entitlement is not restricted by application of Article 5(7) of these Regulations.

#### **Excluded from all elections**

Those excluded from voting in the elections of the members of University Council, the faculty councils, and the employee councils of the University of Groningen are:

- a. guests;
- b. guest researchers;
- c. seconded employees;
- d. agency workers;
- e. interns;
- f. individuals with an implied appointment;
- g. remaining external personnel;
- h. endowed professors;
- i. honorary professors;
- j. staff of the UMCG who are not mentioned elsewhere in these regulations as being given the entitlement to vote;
- k. emeritus professors;
- l. PhD students without an employment contract;
- m. those who bear the excess risk of the Social Benefits Act;
- n. those who fall under the Sheltered Employment Act.