

TU9 Key Issues Paper on Quality Assurance and Compliance with Scientific Standards for Doctorates in Cooperation with Industry

Basis for cooperation with the business community in doctoral thesis projects

Berlin, December 13, 2017 – At their recent general assembly, TU9 Universities adopted a set of common guidelines for successful cooperation with industry in doctoral thesis projects.

The steady rise in the number of cooperative doctorates in recent years called for a clarification of the roles on both sides. When published last summer, the position paper on the award of doctorates in cooperation with industry (“cuckoo’s egg” doctorates) published by the *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Technischer Universitäten* (Association of Technical Universities, ARGE-TU), of which TU9 is a member, sparked constructive debate. “Our position paper has stimulated a very broad and constructive discussion with companies and industry associations since 2017. We have taken up the various arguments and are now concluding the discussion on doctorates in cooperation with industry with this Key Issues Paper,” explains Prof. Dr. Hans Jürgen Prömel, President of TU Darmstadt and TU9.

The TU9 Key Issues Paper briefly summarizes the prerequisites for the various phases of doctoral studies and is intended to serve as a transparent basis for continued, successful cooperation.

About TU9

TU9 is the Alliance of leading Universities of Technology in Germany: RWTH Aachen University, Technische Universität Berlin, Technische Universität Braunschweig, Technical University of Darmstadt, Technische Universität Dresden, Leibniz University Hannover, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Technical University of Munich, and University of Stuttgart.

Tradition, excellence, and innovation are the hallmarks of TU9 Universities. Founded during the Industrial Age, they contributed decisively to technological progress back then and continue to do so today. They enjoy an outstanding reputation around the world as renowned research and teaching institutions that promote the transfer of knowledge and technology between universities and practice. As such, they train exceptional young academics for careers in science, business, and administration and assume social responsibility. TU9 Universities foster top-class international networks and diverse cooperation with industry, making them a key element of Germany’s position as a location of science and innovation.

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