

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. University: the University of Groningen;
- c. Board of the University: the Board of the University as referred to in Article 9.2 of the Act;
- d. 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, 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;
- e. Student: A person who is registered at the University in accordance with the Act. This also includes scholarship PhD students (including PhD scholarship students) registered at the University as such;
- f. University Council: the council referred to in Article 9.31 of the Act;
- g. University community: the staff and students of the University;
- h. Section or sections concerning the University community: the staff and/or the students of the University;
- i. Faculty: a Faculty of the University in which an election is being held;
- j. Faculty Council: a council as referred to in Article 9.37 of the Act;
- k. Faculty community: the staff and students of a Faculty;
- l. Section or sections concerning the Faculty community: the staff and/or students of the Faculty;
- m. Employee Council: a council established by the Board of the University, as referred to in Article 9.50 of the Act;
- n. University Service: a University Service for which an Employee Council has been established;
- o. Section concerning an Employee Council: the staff employed by the University Service for which an Employee Council has been established;
- p. Central Electoral Committee: the Central Electoral Committee referred to in Article 2 of these regulations;
- q. 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 12 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., unless these Regulations provide otherwise;
- r. Voter: everyone who has active or passive voting rights under statutory provisions or under these regulations;
- s. scholarship PhD student (including PhD scholarship students): A person who receives a PhD grant from the University and is registered in a PhD programme;

- t. Student assistant: a person performing activities as a student intended for scientific education or research, or who is engaged for non-structural and business operation tasks;
- u. Submitter: the contact person of a participating party.

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. Its tasks include at least:
 - a. establishing the electoral registers on the basis of the data provided by or in the name of the Board of the University;
 - b. making decisions regarding requests to correct the electoral registers;
 - c. making decisions regarding the validity of the nomination of candidates;
 - d. taking all due measures to ensure the elections proceed in an orderly fashion;
 - e. declaring a vote invalid and, in that case, calling a new vote;
 - f. determining the results of the elections;
 - g. filling vacancies in the Councils.
3. The Central Electoral Committee makes use of digital systems for the electoral proceedings provided by the University of Groningen and approves the format of digital forms.
4. Notwithstanding the Dutch General Administrative Law Act, an interested party may lodge a notice of objection with the Board of the University against decisions of the Central Electoral Committee within five working days after the decision has been made known.

CHAPTER 2 ELECTION METHOD

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 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 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 is specified in the University Council Regulations, the Faculty Regulations and

the Employee Council Regulations respectively. The Annex 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. They 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;
 - 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 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 Management to exercise their voting rights;
 - Those who are employed by the 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 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. A student who also has an appointment as student assistant 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 Faculty Council.
7. A student who also has an appointment as student assistant at a Faculty or Service 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 at which they are employed.
8. A student who also has an appointment as student assistant will only have the right to vote for the student section of the University Council.

CHAPTER 3 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 in good time.
2. The electoral register will list the surname, initials and University administration number of each voter.
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 register 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 a voter will be able to inspect their details.

Article 8 Request for correction

1. Within the first five working days after the electoral registers have been made available for inspection, voters in the University community who think that they have been wrongfully included or not included or incorrectly included in the electoral registers may submit a written request to the Central Electoral Committee for correction.
2. The Central Electoral Committee can make ex officio corrections in the electoral registers up to 10 days before the day of the election.
3. Ex officio corrections as referred to in the previous paragraph will 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, 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 Notice of request for correction

If an ex officio correction of the electoral register results in the deletion of a person on grounds other than those referred to in Article 6.4, the person in question will be notified of the deletion.

Article 10 Objection

1. The person in question is entitled to object to an ex officio correction.
2. The objection may be submitted to the Central Electoral Committee by email within five working days before a date to be determined by the Central Electoral Committee.

Article 11 Decision of the Central Electoral Committee

The Central Electoral Committee will decide on the request for correction or the objection to the ex officio correction and will communicate its decision and the reasons for that decision to the person in question no later than on the third working day after the time limit referred to in Article 10.2 and if necessary, will amend the electoral register.

CHAPTER 4 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

Article 12 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.
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. The nomination of candidates, including the statement of consent, will be conducted via the lists of candidates entered through the digital system.

Article 13 Requirements 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 14 Appellation of a list of candidates

1. The list of candidates will state the surname and initials or first name or names of the candidate, and the number under which the voter is registered in the University administration.
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 thirty 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 on the lists will be placed in the order of submission.

Article 15 Candidature

1. Candidates cannot withdraw their candidature after confirmation of their candidature.
2. For individuals employed by NWO 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 16 Authorization to form an electoral alliance

When submitting the list of candidates, candidates may appoint the submitter as their authorized representative, with the power to form an electoral alliance.

Article 17 Electoral alliances

1. On the day of the nomination of candidates, the authorized signatories of the same section may form electoral alliances with other lists by sending a joint declaration to the Central Electoral Committee by email.
2. A list can only belong to one electoral alliance.
3. If an authorized person has signed more than one declaration as referred to in Article 17.1 for the same list, the signatures to all declarations will become invalid.

Article 18 Examination of candidate lists

As soon as possible after the deadline of the nomination of candidates, the Central Electoral Committee will meet to examine the lists of candidates.

CHAPTER 5 DEFAULTS

Article 19 Defaults

1. If, during the examination referred to in Article 18, one or more of the defaults referred to in Article 19.2 are found, the Central Electoral Committee will send the person who submitted the list of candidates a written notice immediately after the day of the meeting referred to in Article 18.
2. The notice referred to in the first (previous) paragraph will be sent if:
 - a. the name or the appellation of the party contains more than 30 letters or the name or the appellation may lead to confusion with earlier appellations or party appellations submitted, or is contrary to public order (Article 14.3);
 - b. the notice of consent by the employer for a candidate, as referred to in Article 15.2, is missing.

Article 20 Notice of defaults

1. In the notice referred to in Article 19.1, the Central Electoral Committee will notify the submitter that they have the opportunity to rectify the defaults referred to in the notice within five days after sending the notice.
2. In the case that the default as referred to in Article 19.2.a is not rectified, the Central Electoral Committee will limit the name or the appellation of the name of the party exceeding 30 letters to the first 30 letters, or, in the case that the appellation or abbreviation of the party is not rectified, 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 21 Decision of the Central Electoral Committee

1. As soon as the period for rectification of defaults 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. At the meeting referred to in Article 21.1, the Central Electoral Committee will also decide on the validity of the declarations agreeing to form electoral alliances.
4. Immediately after making the decisions referred to in Articles 21.1 and 21.3, the Central Electoral Committee will send an email to the submitter.
5. Immediately after making the decisions referred to in Articles 21.1 and 21.3, the Central Electoral Committee will announce that the lists of candidates will be made available for inspection for five days at a location made known in advance.

Article 22 Declaring lists of candidates invalid

A list of candidates is invalid if it was not submitted to the Central Electoral Committee at the end of the day or days for the nomination of candidates (Article 12.1), or if it was not submitted within the period of correction of default (Article 20.1).

Article 23 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).

CHAPTER 6 MANNER OF VOTING

Article 24 Voting

1. Voting will take place electronically.
2. Before the vote, the Central Electoral Committee will determine the voting period and will announce this on the website of the University of Groningen in advance.

Article 25 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 the Employee Council.

Article 26 Electronic voting

1. Preceding the elections, the Central Electoral Committee will send all persons with voting rights two emails. The first email is a notice of voting and the second email, which will be sent on the first day referred to in Article 24.1, contains an invitation to vote using the voting application made available for that purpose.
2. The invitation will state at least:
 - a. the Council for which the election is being held;
 - b. the number of council members for which the election is being held;
 - c. the surname, the first names or initials of the voter;
 - d. the section and the number under which the voter appears in the electoral register;
 - e. how and on which days votes can be cast.
3. Along with the election notice, the voter will receive an explanation of the voting procedure to cast an electronic vote.
4. During the voting period, the Central Electoral Committee will send one email reminder.

Article 27 The voting application

The voting application will state:

- a. the 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 17.1, 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 28 Casting votes

1. During the voting period determined by the Central Electoral Committee, ending on the last working day as referred to in Article 24.2, voters are able to cast their votes in the application made available for that purpose.
2. The voting application provides voters 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 name of the candidate in the voting application, or by casting a blank vote.
Before finalizing the cast of the vote, the candidate selected by the voter is shown in the voting application's window. Then the voter may cast their final vote or cancel the selected candidate.
6. The voting application records the votes cast. The voter is then able to see the candidate for which they have voted.

Article 29 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 section invalid, it will call a new ballot for that section as soon as possible.
3. The Central Electoral Committee will immediately make a copy of the decision, as referred to in Article 29.1, available for inspection at a location that it has made known in advance.
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 7 DETERMINING THE RESULTS

Article 30 Voting results

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

Article 31 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 31.2 will be determined by dividing the total number of valid votes in each section by the number of persons eligible to vote according to the election notice register of the section in question and multiplying the resulting quotients by 100.

Article 32 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.
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 17.1, 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 to a list, one or more seats are allocated exceeding the number of candidates on that list, that seat or seats will remain unfilled until the next regular election.

Article 33 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 34 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 35 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 36 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 are 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 37 Candidates with an equal number of votes

If the application of Article 36 shows that some candidates have received an equal number of votes, the order on the list will be decisive.

Article 38 Ranking candidates

1. For each list, the Central Electoral Committee will rank the candidates on that list in the order indicated in Articles 36 and 37.
2. Subsequently, the candidates who have not received the number of votes required to be regarded as elected will be ranked in such a way that, in the order of the number of votes that each has received, the candidates who received the number of votes equal to or greater than half of the list quotient will be ranked first and then the rest, in the order on the list.
3. The ranking referred in Articles 38.1 and 38.2 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.
4. No later than on the first working day after the report referred to in Article 38.3 has been signed, the Central Electoral Committee will send the report to the Board of the University. Furthermore, a copy will be sent to the chairperson of the University Council, if members of the University Council were elected, to the Board of the Faculty in question, if members of the Faculty Council were elected, and to the head of the University Service, if members of an Employee Council have been elected.
5. The election results will be published on the website of the University of Groningen as soon as possible.

Article 39 Notification that candidates have been elected/credentials

1. After the deadline referred to in Article 2.5 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 2.5 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 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 if members of an Employee Council have been elected.

CHAPTER 8 FILLING VACANCIES

Article 40 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;
 - 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 concerned will be allocated to the next list of candidates of the same section through continued application of Article 32.3.f.
 4. If a vacancy cannot be filled subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the vacancy in question will remain unfilled until the next regular election, unless the total number of vacancies in that section exceeds half of the number of seats. In such cases, the chairperson of the Council in question may request the Central Electoral Committee to organize interim elections for that section of the Council concerned.

Article 41 Vacancy on an allied list

1. If, after the application of the provisions of Article 40.2, 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 38 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 34.4 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 38 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.

Article 42 Notice of being declared elected

1. After the time limit for objections referred to in Article 2.5 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 2.5 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 39.6 will apply mutatis mutandis.

Article 43 Temporary replacement

1. A member of the University Council, the 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 40 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 9 FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 44 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 45 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 2 March 2021, after the consent of the University Council on 18 February 2021.

Annex 1 to the Electoral Regulation of the University of Groningen.

University Council	Number of seats:	
	Staff	Students
	12	12

Faculty Councils	Number of seats:	
	Staff	Students
Theology and Religious Studies	5	5
Law	9	9
Medical Sciences/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

Employee Councils	Number of seats:
Office of the University	9
University of Groningen Library	7
University Services Department	7
Center for Information Technology (CIT)	7

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. scholarship PhD students (including PhD scholarship students): a person who receives a PhD grant from the University and is registered in a PhD programme.

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 (excluding PhD scholarship students, see explanatory notes to Article 5c);
- g. remaining external personnel;
- h. endowed professors;
- i. staff of the UMCG who are not mentioned elsewhere in these regulations as being given the entitlement to vote;
- j. emeritus professors;
- k. PhD students without an appointment or grant from the University (contract research);
- l. those who bear the excess risk of the Social Benefits Act;
- m. those who fall under the Sheltered Employment Act.