

Factsheet: Research contributions when initiating the doctoral examina- tion procedure

The Specific Regulations on the General Doctoral Regulations of Technical University of Darmstadt consider the proof of research contributions as a prerequisite to initiate the doctoral examination procedure. The relevant paragraph reads:

Re § 8 Initiating the doctoral examination and proof of research contributions [...]

(1) Apart from providing proof satisfying the approval requirements according to § 8 of the PO/AT, the applicant must give proof of three research contributions up until the doctoral examination procedure is initiated. These contributions can be any of the options listed below:

- *A contribution published or accepted for publishing (letter of acceptance from the publisher required) in a publishing medium recognised by the scientific community. In case of a cumulative dissertation according to § 9 (4) and (5) of the PO/AT, these research contributions must be different from those being part of the cumulative dissertation.*
- *Speech at a conference recognised by the scientific community,*
- *Speech at a doctoral colloquium,*
- *Speech in one of the research clusters of the department.*

The doctoral board decides on the recognition at the request of the doctoral candidate based on the recommendation of the supervisor.

For the doctoral candidates some questions on the precise handling arise from this. These will be answered in the following:

Which contributions count as research contributions?

1. Publication in a scientifically recognized publication medium

This includes particularly journal articles. Contributions in Discussion Papers or anthologies will be accepted as well.

2. Speech at a conference recognized by the scientific community

This refers in particular to presentations at conferences which have undergone a peer-reviewed selection process. The conferences should be considered to be scientifically recognized within the professional community.

3. Speech at a doctoral colloquium

This refers to lectures which have been given at Technical University of Darmstadt or externally, within the scope of a research cooperation. It can be doctoral colloquia which have been organized at the chair or presentations at scientific colloquia at the research clusters.

4. Speech in one of the research clusters of the Department of Law and Economics

This includes speeches in one of the following research clusters of the Department:

- D) Logistics und Supply Chain Management,*

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- II) *Innovation & Growth,*
 - III) *Digital Transformation*

Do I have to give proof of different kinds of research contributions?

No, the above mentioned options can but do not have to be combined.

For **Example**:

1 publication, 1 speech at a conference, 1 speech at a doctoral colloquium

or

3 speeches at a doctoral colloquium

or

3 publications

...

How do I provide proof of the required research contributions?

Within the framework of the application for the doctoral examination procedure the doctoral candidate lists the different research contributions. The following documents will be considered as proofs and need to be attached:

1. Letter of acceptance from the publisher on the acceptance of articles or specimen copies
2. Conference programmes
3. Programme of colloquia, information from the semester catalogue, if applicable
4. Programmes of the research clusters

In addition, a statement from the supervisor (informal letter) confirming the research contributions and classifying them as relevant to the scientific community must be attached.

Who and when is decided whether the research contributions are being recognized?

The doctoral board checks the application to initiate the doctoral examination procedure including the proofs of the research contributions. The doctoral candidate will be informed on the initiation of the examination procedure or – in the event of rejection of the application – that proof of additional research contributions needs to be submitted.

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