Statutes of the association for doctoral students at the Biozentrum

§ 1 Name and purpose

There is an association at the university called the Association for Doctoral Students at the Biozentrum (VDB) Basel, according to Article 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. The function of the association is the Representation of the interests of all doctoral students at the Biozentrum, University of Basel.

§ 1a

The VDB is neutral on questions of religion, race and party politics. It focuses on student, university and educational policy advocacy of its members the towards the department Biozentrum, the Faculty of Sciences and the University of Basel. In particular, it is a forum for coordination, communication and information for PhD students.

§ 2 Membership

Every doctoral student enrolled in the department Biozentrum at the University of Basel is automatically a member of the VDB.

§ 2a

Matriculated doctoral students at the university's Faculty of Sciences in Basel, who feel close to the Biozentrum, University of Basel, can become a member by applying to the board of the VDB. The board decides on admission with a simple majority.

§ 2b

Active participation in the VDB is voluntary.

§ 2c

Membership expires upon exmatriculation or upon written notification to the chairperson of the VDB.

§ 2d

At the request of the board, the General Assembly of the VDB can be held with a 2/3 majority of those present exclude a member from the VDB for justified reasons.

§ 3 Bodies

The organs of the VDB are:

- the General Assembly (GA)
- the Board

§ 4 The General Assembly

The GA is the supreme body of the VDB.

§ 4a

There are ordinary and extraordinary general assemblies. The ordinary GA takes place annually. An extraordinary GA is convened if at least ten members submit a written application to the board or by decision of the board. The implementation of the extraordinary GA must take place within one month. The GA is public, unless the board decides to exclude non-members from the GA due to confidential business.

§ 4b

The invitation to a general assembly is sent at least 14 days in advance, including the agenda proposed by the board. The invitation to the GA with the agenda items will be emailed to all members and posted on the VDB website. Agenda topics can be submitted up to 7 days before the meeting by every member of the VDB to a chairperson. The agenda can also changed at the GA with a simple majority of the members present (except § 2d).

§ 4c

The GA has the following tasks:

• Approval of the minutes of the last GA, the annual and cash report, votes on any amendments to the articles of incorporation.

• Resolution on motions by the Board and membership motions, provided they were submitted to the president 7 days before the meeting or a simple entered by simple majority at the meeting.

• Election of the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and Vice Secretary.

• Election of the rest of the board and the auditor.

§ 4d

The decisions are made with a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote, provided that the Statutes do not provide for a special regulation. In the first round of voting, an absolute majority is needed; in the second, the relative majority decides. At the request of the board or 20% of the members present, elections and votes must be held secretly.

§ 4e

The auditor of the VDB is a non-board member. The second auditor is appointed by the department Biozentrum, University of Basel. They check the annual accounts and present them to the General Assembly as a written report.

§ 4f

The General Assembly of the VDB is protocolled. The log contains information about the Composition of the board, about the activities of the association since the last general meeting, as well as an outlook for business in the near future. A copy of the minutes are given to the department Biozentrum, University of Basel.

§ 5 The Board

The board consists of at least 5 members.

§ 5a

It is not possible to hold more than one office at the same time. The various offices have the following tasks:

• The chairperson represents the VDB externally, convenes board meetings, chairs the general assembly and board meetings. She/he has the casting vote at board meetings as well as at the GA.
• The vice-chairperson deputizes for the chairperson in their absence.
• The cashier is responsible for the association's accounts and prepares a cash report at the regular GA.
• The secretary is responsible for managing the Session logs and archiving of minutes, board lists and statutes. They are responsible for the minutes to be proofread.
• The Vice-Secretary stands in for the Secretary in his/her absence and takes over in the Rule proofreading of the logs.
• In the absence of the treasurer, the chairperson takes over the office.

§ 5b

Board members are elected at the GA for one year and can resign their office at the next GA. To do this, they must inform the entire board at least one month before the GA. This can be done during a board meeting or via email. Should be a board member want to resign from office before the next ordinary GA, they must inform the entire board 3 months in advance. If they held an office, the vice-representative takes over until next ordinary GA this function. If this is not possible, an extraordinary GA needs to be convened for the election.

§ 5c

Board members who act contrary to the interests of the association can be expelled from the board.

§ 5d

After three unexcused absences from the board meetings of a board member, the board can vote on their expulsion from the board (absolute majority of those present).

§ 5e

The Board is convened
• as required by the chairperson.
• if the majority of the board members deem it necessary.
• if at least 10 members send a written request to the board.

§ 5 f
Unless the board decides to exclude non-board members from the meeting for confidentiality reasons, the board meeting is open to all members. The board is quorate if half of the elected board members are present. Non-Board Members do not have voting rights, but in any case have the right to make proposals and motions.

§ 5g
The board represents the interests of the association. He has the following tasks:
• Organization of association activities
• Preparation and convening of the General Assembly.
• Execution of association resolutions.
• Decision-making in all association matters that are not explicitely within the competence of the General Assembly.
• Management of the association's assets.

§ 5h
Any seats in meetings, commissions or conferences of university bodies are attributed by a board meeting. As a rule, board members represent the concerns of the VDB in these organs. In the event of a shortage of board members, non-board members can be approached, but they need to inform the board about content and decisions. For election or voting they must protect the interests of the association.

§ 6 Finances
The financial resources of the association are provided by the Department of Biocentre, University of Basel, in accordance with the financial agreement between the Biozentrum department, the University of Basel and the VDB.

§ 6a
The association keeps two association accounts. Funds for PhD Retreat must be managed separately. Both the cashier and the chairperson have access to the accounts.

§ 7 Liability, Amendments to the Articles of Association, Dissolution
Only the assets of the association are liable for the VDB.

§ 7a
To change the statutes, the consent of at least 2/3 of all those present at the GA is required Members of the VDB. Proposals for changes to the articles of association must go with the agenda be sent along.

§ 7b
The association can only be dissolved by the general assembly with a 2/3 majority.

§ 7c
The German version of the statutes has legal status.