

## Informations on the “Fachrat”

### *Get involved in the “Fachrat” – have a say in the ~~structure~~ of your subject!*

#### Background information

At Heidelberg University, the various “Fakultäten” (faculties), such as the “Neuphilologische Fakultät” (Faculty of Modern Languages) are departments that comprise several subjects and their BA and MA programmes with similar fields of interest. For example, the “Philosophische Fakultät” comprises the South Asian Studies (several BA and MA programmes), History (BA History, MA History, MA Global History etc.) and many more. These subjects are called “Fach” in German. Hence, the “Fachrat” (Fach=subject, Rat=council) is a council for and within the individual subjects.

The Fachrat consists of an (almost) equal number of representatives of students, professors, teaching staff and administrative staff in each subject. This way, specific needs can be directly addressed, which increases efficiency and the transparency of internal communication.

**Subjects Disciplines that have a Fachrat: (Fächer mit Fachrat):** Anglistik, Assyriologie, Ägyptologie, Alte Geschichte, American Studies, Bildungswissenschaft, Byzantinische Archäologie und Kunstgeschichte, Computerlinguistik, Deutsch als Fremdsprache, Ethnologie, Europäische Kunstgeschichte, Germanistik, Geschichte, Islamwissenschaft/Iranistik, Japanologie, Klassische Archäologie, Klassische Philologie, Klassische und Moderne Literaturwissenschaft, Mittelalterstudien, Musikwissenschaft, Ostasiatische Kunstgeschichte, Osteuropastudien, Pflegewissenschaften, Philosophie, Psychologie, Religionswissenschaft, Romanistik, Semitistik, Sinologie, Slavistik, Sportwissenschaft, Südasienswissenschaften, Transcultural Studies, Übersetzen und Dolmetschen, Ur- und Frühgeschichte /Vorderasiatische Archäologie

#### What is the purpose of the Fachrat?

The Fachrat develops proposals and coordinates suggestions relating to teaching and departmental issues relevant to each subject such as course offerings, subject regulations or evaluation procedures.

The Fachrat is constituted of democratically elected representatives of the professors, the academic staff, the students as well as the administration and technology staff. These representatives convene at least once a semester to discuss and decide issues.

Thus, the Fachrat gives you the opportunity to participate in its processes and also the possibility to learn more about the decision making process within your “Fach”.

#### What does the Fachrat discuss?

1. Development and review of regulations pertaining to admissions, exams as well as module handbooks
2. Distribution and assignment of rooms for teaching and studying
3. Organization of the course schedule
4. Evaluation and development of courses



5. Preparation of official statements concerning orientation and occupation of teaching-positions
6. Providing information for students, professors and other staff about activities of their respective Fachrat

#### How can you get involved?

Everyone can run for a seat in his or her subjects “Fachrat”. If you would like to run for office, please follow the given link:

<https://www.stura.uni-heidelberg.de/wahlen-gremienarbeit/kandidatur-fachrat>

Even if you don't stand for election yourself, you should be sure to vote for other students or staff members who do stand for election. Especially those, who you deem capable of representing your needs in the Fachrat. You can encourage your representatives to give feedback (by holding a general meeting of your group in your subject or by publishing a protocol via email) regarding the decisions made in the Fachrat meetings. Furthermore, you can inform the Fachrat representatives about any problem or issue that you think should be articulated in the meetings.

Your participation will help create an enabling environment for communication and information flow in and around your subject.

#### Who may vote and who may be elected?

Each and every student as well as full-time teaching staff are allowed to vote, be they Bachelor, Master, Magister, Diplom or students doing their teacher's training certificate. They can also run for office and it also does not matter whether it is their major or a 25% minor. The form for candidacy can be filled out online at: <https://www.stura.uni-heidelberg.de/wahlen-gremienarbeit/kandidatur-fachrat>

#### Take this opportunity to have a voice!

#### And what is the Fakultätsrat?

The “Fakultätsrat” is a council on the faculty or department level, not within the individual subjects. Big faculties may comprise more than 20 subjects. As there are only 8 students and 4 teaching professionals allowed in this council, it is impossible to guarantee equal representation of all subjects. Thus many questions and demands concerning specific subjects can't be effectively addressed in the Fakultätsrat.

Due to the different structure of the 12 faculties at Heidelberg University only in 3 faculties Fachräte are elected: Philosophische Fakultät (Faculty of Arts), Neuphilologische Fakultät” (Faculty of Modern Languages), Fakultät für Verhaltens- und Empirische Kulturwissenschaften (Faculty of Behavioural and Cultural Studies).

#### Are there still questions? Do you want to participate?

further information: <http://www.stura.uni-heidelberg.de/fachrat>

Send us an email to : [ag-fachrat@stura.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:ag-fachrat@stura.uni-heidelberg.de)

or visit us in the StuRabüro at Albert-Ueberle-Straße 3–5.



V.i.S.d.P: Vorsitz der Verfassten Studierendenschaft der Universität Heidelberg

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