

Constitution of SoDoC

Name

The name of the organization is “Society of Doctoral Candidates”, abbreviated as “SoDoC” and hereinafter referred to as “SoDoC”. SoDoC was established on 1st February 2016 by a merger of Forum for Doctoral students at UMB (FODOS) and Doktorgradskandidatenes interesseorganisasjon i veterinærmiljøene (DIOV).

Principles

SoDoC is an independent, nonpolitical, nonreligious, volunteer, nonprofit, democratic interest organisation for Ph.D. candidates at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU).

Objectives

The purpose of SoDoC is to secure the common interests of doctoral candidates at NMBU, such as:

- Study conditions
- Professional interests
- Economic interests
- Social benefits
- Rights and duties at NMBU
- Research ethics
- Issues regarding science and society
- Social events

Governance

The General Assembly (GA) is the supreme decision making body of SoDoC and consists of all participating members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM is held once a year and is open to all members.

The SoDoC board is the supreme administrative body of SoDoC.

In special circumstances, the SoDoC board can summon extraordinary sessions of the GA to be known as an “Extraordinary General Meeting” if requested by its members or the board itself. A written notice of the Extraordinary General Meeting has to be circulated to all members not less than 14 days prior to the Extraordinary General Meeting. The decisions of the special session shall be limited to matters stated in the request for such a session.

Membership

All registered Ph.D. candidates at NMBU are de facto members of SoDoC. There are no membership fees.

All members have the right to:

- Participate in the activities of SoDoC
- Attend and speak at the AGM
- Vote in the AGM

Amendments to the Constitution

The Constitution may be amended by the GA during the AGM. A written notice of the amendment has to be circulated to all members no less than 30 days prior to the AGM. Amendment of the Constitution may be agreed only by the GA with at least a three quarters (3/4) majority of those present and voting.

Bylaws

To regulate matters not described in this Constitution, SoDoC has Bylaws. The Bylaws have to comply with this Constitution. In case of divergence, the Constitution shall override the Bylaws.

The Bylaws may be amended by the GA during the AGM. A written notice of the amendment has to be circulated to all members no less than 14 days prior to the AGM. Amendment of the Bylaws may be agreed only by the GA with at least a three quarters (3/4) majority of those present and voting. Bylaws may also be amended without prior notice, provided that those present and voting agree unanimously on the amendment.