

Public StWA Meeting

on 17th May 2020, minuted by Silvan Verhoeven

Participants

- Ankur Dutta
- Phaedra Goudoulaki-Adamopoulou
- Francis Osei
- Ali Tok (chairman)
- Silvan Verhoeven (vice chairman, minutes)

Begin of meeting: 14:19

5 of 5 members present → quorate

Item 1: Correction of notice of election

- We implemented several statements in our notice of election which were aimed to facilitate the candidacy process during the pandemic but were not compatible with the Rahmenwahlordnung.
- To prevent challengings of the election, we decided to correct the notice of election at that early point.
- The correction was published on our website and mailed to the student-list of University of Potsdam.

Item 2: Social media

- Ankur and Phaedra want to run official StWA social media channels with information about the election.
- Aim is to make the election process more understandable.
- Currently, Twitter and Instagram are anticipated.

Item 3: Answering e-mails

- We want to set up deadlines until which we have to answer incoming e-mails.
- We agree on answering postal votes requests within 48 hours.
- We want to answer other general requests within 72 hours.

Item 4: New StWA members

- The Student Parliament (StuPa) decided to elect two more people into the StWA, making a total of six members.
- After no candidate received the necessary majority in the first election round, Ankur received the majority in the second round.

- A final third round was announced to elect the last member. Due to delays of the mail delivery, only three votes reached the StuPa in time, no member received the majority.
- So, the StWA is going to consist of five members only.

Item 5: Report about meeting with Wahlgeschäftsstelle (WGS)

- Ali and Silvan had a meeting with the Wahlgeschäftsstelle to exchange about the shared election process of StuPa election and the university elections.
- The university elections will be postponed to 14th July to 16th July 2020.
- Since we use shared resources, we want to postpone the student parliament election to the same time.
- We are in contact with the StuPa, since we want deadlines to be different from the Rahmenwahlordnung, which needs the StuPa to vote for exceptions from the Rahmenwahlordnung.
- We want to
 - keep the 29th May as deadline for candidacies, because the Allgemeine Wahlausschuss (AllgWA) will be keeping this deadline for the university elections and having the same deadline simplifies the process,
 - shorten the deadline for making changes within the list of persons entitled to vote to be the 29th May, not 35 days before the election, because this enables us to validate candidacies from the 30th May on, and
 - shorten the deadline for applying postal vote requests to 10 working days before the election (usually 4 working days), since we expect many more postal votes and thereby need more time to process them together with the Wahlgeschäftsstelle.
- We vote to postpone the election of the student parliament to 14th July to 16th July 2020. **[5|0|0]**
- We vote to ask the student parliament to change the three deadlines as described above. **[5|0|0]**
- Ali asks the StuPa to change our deadlines as described above.

Item 6: Postal Votes

- We vote to allow postal vote requests via e-mail only. **[5|0|0]**
- Silvan will add an information page on the StWA website on which all important information for postal vote requesters are collected.
- We are going to reference this website whenever we confirm registrations received by e-mail.

Item 7: Vote.UP

- Vote.UP is a website aimed to work as a hub for all information regarding elections at the University of Potsdam.
- It is currently still in the building process, but we were asked to contribute to it.
- We will link our website on it.

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- Ankur is going to create a group picture of the StWA and ask the admin of Vote.UP to publish it there.
- Silvan is going to write an e-mail to the candidates suggesting to link their advertisement there.

End of meeting: 15:57

Further notes on that meeting

- We think about applying at the StuPa for adopting an English translation of the Rahmenwahlordnung. We want to gather more information on that topic before developing specific steps.