

**Regulations of the  
Scientific Centre for  
Methods of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science (WIZARD)**

On dd.mm.2025, the Senate of Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg adopted the following regulations in accordance with Section 41 (1) sentence 1 NHG:

**§ 1 Definition and tasks**

- (1) The "Scientific Centre for Methods of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science" (WIZARD) is a scientific centre at Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg for the interdisciplinary (Faculties II, V and VI) promotion of research on and with data-driven and data-processing methods. It networks basic and method-oriented research at the location, including non-university research institutions. Gaining insights from data has become a very important part of research in almost all scientific disciplines. The development and systematic investigation of methods for data analysis and knowledge extraction is central to applications in a wide range of research areas at the university.
- (2) WIZARD performs the following tasks:
1. Initiating, conducting and pooling research on and with data-driven and data-processing methods.
  2. Promoting young scientists in all participating disciplines, e.g. through dedicated training and networking events, support in acquiring third-party funding projects, etc.
  3. Cooperation with university and non-university institutions in Germany and abroad in the field of research on and with data-driven and data-processing methods
  4. Effective external representation of the centre through national and international publications, as well as conferences, workshops, meetings and an appropriate web presence.
  5. Consulting for technical infrastructure in data science and AI together with other IT-related institutions at the university (e.g. IT services, scientific computing, etc.).
  6. Advising the faculties and the Presidium on . Data science and AI.
  7. Anchoring current research topics in the relevant degree programmes and expanding research-based learning

## **§ 2 Organs and management**

- (1) The organs of the centre are
  1. the Centre Council pursuant to § 5
  2. the Executive Board pursuant to § 7
  3. the Centre Assembly pursuant to § 8
- (2) In accordance with a decision by the Presidium, the Centre may employ an executive manager to handle day-to-day business and manage the office, § 9.

## **§ 3 Members of the Centre**

- (1) Members of the Centre may be academics from all faculties of Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg
  - a) who, in accordance with the provisions of the NHG, are either members of the university teaching staff or were members of this staff prior to retirement, or
  - b) belong to the group of research assistants in an advanced academic position.
- (2) The initial members of the Centre are the founding members listed in the application.
- (3) Scientists who are interested in joining the Centre should contact a member or deputy member of the Centre Council who best represents their field of research. Based on the scientific profile of the Centre, the member or deputy member of the Centre Council can then submit an application for the scientist's admission to the Centre Council. The Centre Council decides on the admission of the scientist by a simple majority vote.
- (4) Membership is usually secondary to membership in existing faculties and institutes.
- (5) Membership shall end
  - a) if the requirements set out in § 3 (1) a) or b) are no longer met.
  - b) upon declaration to the director of the centre.
  - c) on the basis of a motion by at least five members of the Centre by resolution of the Centre Council with a two-thirds majority, insofar as this is legally permissible.
- (6) Members have the opportunity to use the Centre's facilities within the framework of the relevant regulations and may participate in all events organised by the Centre, unless an event is intended only for a specific group of members (e.g. events for the promotion of early-career researchers). Members may participate in the bodies referred to in Sections 5, 7 and 8 of these regulations with voting rights.

## **§ 4 Associate members of the Centre**

- (1) Scientists who are not already members of Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg (e.g. members of affiliated institutes, research institutions such as DFKI, DFLR or the Fraunhofer Society, and researchers in companies) may join the Centre as associate members.
- (2) Scientists who are interested in becoming associate members of the Centre should contact a member or deputy member of the Centre Council who best represents their field of research.

Based on the scientific profile of the Centre, the member or deputy member of the Centre Council can then submit an application to the Centre Council for the scientist to be accepted as an associate member. The Centre Council decides on the admission of the scientist by a simple majority vote.

- (3) Associate membership is usually granted as a secondary membership alongside membership in existing institutions and institutes.
- (4) Associate members have the opportunity to use the Centre's facilities in accordance with the relevant regulations and may participate in all of the Centre's events, unless an event is intended only for a specific group of members (e.g. events to promote early-career researchers). Associate members may participate in an advisory capacity in the Centre Assembly. They may be granted an advisory position in the other bodies.

### **§ 5 Centre Council**

- (1) The Centre Council is responsible for managing the Centre. It decides on all matters of fundamental importance relating to the Centre's tasks. In addition, it comments on the fulfilment of the Centre's tasks in accordance with § 1 and advises the Executive Board. It has a comprehensive right to information on all matters concerning the Centre.
- (2) The Centre Council consists of
  - a) six voting members from the group of university lecturers from the participating faculties II, V and VI (two from each faculty)
  - b) six deputy members from the group of university teachers from the participating faculties II, V and VI (two from each faculty), who are entitled to vote in the absence of a voting member in accordance with paragraph 2 a)
  - c) the managing director (§ 9), if available, but without voting rights, notwithstanding § 3 (6) sentence 2
- (3) The members of the Centre Council pursuant to paragraph 2 a) and the deputy members pursuant to paragraph 2 b) shall be elected by the Centre Assembly from among its members for a term of two years. The election shall be based on a list of candidates proposed by the Centre Council, which shall be announced internally four weeks before the election together with the date of the election. The Centre Council shall submit a new list of candidates to the Centre Election Assembly if a candidate does not achieve the required majority or if half of the members of the Centre within the meaning of § 3 request this before the election. The names of the newly elected members and deputy members of the Centre Council shall be communicated to their respective faculties.
- (4) After notification of the newly elected members and deputy members of the Centre Council, each faculty may object to the membership of one of its professors in the Centre Council. If no objection is raised, the elected members and deputy members shall be deemed confirmed. If an objection is raised, a new election must be held for the person concerned in accordance with paragraph 3 with an alternative professor from the faculty. This election may be conducted by circular vote. After the election, the newly elected member or deputy member of the Centre Council shall be notified to the respective faculty again. New members or deputy members shall be elected in accordance with paragraph 3 (but by circular vote if necessary) and their names shall be communicated to the respective faculty until no further objections are raised by the respective faculty.
- (5) The Centre Council shall make its decisions by a simple majority of those entitled to vote.

Meetings of the Centre Council may be held in person or virtually (video conference, telephone conference). With the exception of elections, decisions may also be made by circular vote via email.

- (6) The Centre Council shall constitute a quorum if at least four persons entitled to vote (members or deputy members of the Centre pursuant to paragraphs 2 a) and b)) are represented and at least one vote can be cast for each faculty. The transfer of several voting rights to the same person is permissible (cumulation of voting rights).

## **§ 6 Tasks of the Centre Council**

The tasks of the Centre Council are

1. Advising the Executive Board
2. Deciding on the commencement and termination of memberships in accordance with § 3 (5) c) and of associate memberships within the meaning of § 4.
3. Deciding on the establishment of cooperation with research institutions in Germany and abroad.
4. Making recommendations for the fulfilment of the Centre's tasks, in particular
  - a) on the development and implementation of the research strategy
  - b) on strategic coordination with the associated faculties
  - c) on the initiation and implementation of research projects
  - d) on accompanying study programmes in the faculties
  - e) on external presentation and advertising

## **§ 7 Executive Board**

- (1) The Centre Council elects the scientific director of the Centre (director) and two deputy directors (deputy directors) from among its members for a term of two years. These must be members or deputy members of the Centre Council and belong to the group of professors. At the same time, the Director and the two Deputy Directors must belong to different faculties so that all three faculties involved in the Centre are represented on the Executive Board.
- (2) The Executive Board manages the day-to-day business of the Centre and is responsible for all decisions that are not delegated to the Centre Council. It prepares the decisions of the Centre Council and implements them in consultation with the Centre Council. It has a comprehensive duty to inform the Centre Council and the Centre Assembly. The Executive Board is responsible for coordination with the faculties and other institutions.
- (3) The Director represents the Centre internally and externally and chairs the meetings of the Centre Council and the Centre Assembly.
- (4) The Deputy Directors support the Director in all tasks and represent him/her in his/her absence.

## **§ 8 Centre Assembly**

- (1) Members and associate members form the Centre Assembly, which is convened and chaired by the Director.

- (2) The Centre Assembly meets at least once a year. The meetings of the Centre Assembly may be held either in person or virtually.
- (3) All full members of the Centre within the meaning of § 3 are entitled to vote in the Centre Assembly. Associate members within the meaning of § 4 participate in an advisory capacity. The members of the Centre may represent each other if they are unable to attend. Multiple voting rights may be transferred, i.e. one member may exercise the voting rights of several other members who are unable to attend (cumulative voting rights). The transfer of voting rights must be notified to the director in writing or by email by the transferring member. The Centre Assembly shall constitute a quorum if twenty percent of its members are present or represented with voting rights.

### **§ 9 Office, Managing Director**

- (1) If necessary, the centre shall set up an administrative office to carry out the work required to fulfil the tasks specified in § 1, which shall be assigned to a professor affiliated with the scientific centre. Staff working for the administrative office shall be financed exclusively by the faculties affiliated with the centre and shall remain assigned to a professor affiliated with the scientific centre.
- (2) If an administrative office is established, a managing director and, if necessary, other persons may take on tasks for the administrative office of the centre. They are not assigned to the scientific centre. The managing director supports the centre's board of directors in performing all tasks and works independently within the scope of their guidelines.
- (3) The managing director of the centre has a comprehensive duty to provide information to the board of directors and the centre council.

### **§ 10 Budget**

- (1) In order to fulfil its tasks, the centre may be provided with funds from the faculties whose scientists are involved in the scientific centre, as well as other assets.
- (2) The members of the centre may contribute their own funds, third-party funds or income from services to the centre.

### **§ 11 Final provisions**

These regulations shall enter into force after their adoption by the Senate on the day following their publication in the Official Communications of Carl von Ossietzky University.