I. General provisions and legal basis
According to Section 29a of the Constitution of Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (Grundordnung der Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, GrO) the doctoral candidates' representatives are to be elected. Details of the election procedure are given in Section 29a (2)(3) GrO. In addition, the Electoral Regulations for State Universities in Bavaria (Wahlordnung für die staatlichen Hochschulen, BayHSchWO) shall apply accordingly, the following deviations from the general university election procedure notwithstanding.

II. Doctoral candidates' representatives
According to Section 29a (2) GrO, one speaker and one deputy speaker will be elected from the doctoral candidates of each faculty. The persons from each faculty who are elected in this manner form the Doctoral Candidates' Representatives Governing Body (Konvent der Promovierenden), which elects one of its members who is both a doctoral candidate and a member of research staff according to Article 17 (2) sentence 1 No. 2 of the Bavarian Higher Education Act (Bayerisches Hochschulgesetz, BayHSchG) as an advisory member of the senate along with a substitute. The term of office is one year, beginning on 1 October 2018 and ending on 30 September 2019.

Doctoral candidates who are also a member of one of the other member groups given in Article 17 (2) BayHSchG may also take part in the general university election, independently of the election for the doctoral candidates' representatives.

III. Nominations
Nominations may be submitted between 16 April 2018 and 4.00 p.m. on 27 April 2018. Nominations must be submitted to the Elections Office or the Returning Officer using the appropriate form. Only candidates whose nomination has been accepted may be elected. Nominations consist of one candidate from the corresponding faculty who is eligible to vote and must be supported with signatures from at least two other people who are eligible to vote from the same faculty.

Further information can be found on the information sheet about submitting nominations which is available from the Elections Office or on the Elections Office's web page (www.wahlen.fau.de) along with the nomination forms.

IV. Right to vote and electoral register
All individuals pursuing doctoral studies at FAU and registered as such are eligible to vote and stand as candidates (Sections 29a, 17b GrO). Individuals must be entered in the electoral register at the time when it is closed in order to exercise their right to vote and stand as a candidate. The electoral register is generated from the electronic register of doctoral candidates called "docDaten". All persons who are registered in docDaten as active doctoral candidates are automatically included in the electoral register. Doctoral candidates are allocated to a faculty based on the type of doctoral degree they are pursuing as specified in docDaten. Those eligible to vote can check for themselves online their registration in docDaten (www.docdaten.fau.de) – and therefore in the electoral register – up until the electoral register is closed and, if necessary, may request that the Graduate Centre updates their postal address (contact: Mr Dr. Schmitt-Engel, +49 9131 8520722, graduierzentrum@fau.de). The electoral register will be closed at 9.00 a.m. on 9 May 2018. The electoral register will not be displayed in public; there is no right to legal remedy for missing or incorrect entries in the electoral register.

V. Voting
The election for the doctoral candidates' representatives will be held at the same time as the general university election. Unlike in the general university election, votes in the election for the doctoral candidates' representatives may only be cast by postal vote. The voting letter with the completed ballot paper must be received by the Elections Office by 3.00 p.m. on 20 June 2018.

Votes are cast on separate ballot papers for each faculty. The election uses a majority voting system. Those eligible to vote have two votes. Each vote may be allocated to a separate candidate or both votes may be allocated to one candidate; not all votes must be used. The person who receives the most votes is elected speaker; the person who receives the second-most votes is elected deputy speaker. Furthermore, the remaining candidates are named substitutes in the order of the number of votes that they have received.

VI. Election result and challenges
The election result will be made public together with the result of the general university election. Challenges to the result are regulated by BayHSchWO. Challenges on the basis of missing or incorrect entries in the electoral register are not permitted.

Erlangen, 29 March 2018

Christian Zens
Chancellor