

# Constitution for the FHI PhDnet

## Preamble

The FHI-PhDnet is a continuation of the MPG wide PhDnet and intends to operate within the framework of the PhDnet whilst allowing for us to account for the slightly more unique structure and position which the FHI holds within the MPG.

## 1 Language

To represent the multi-national nature of the FHI the operational languages of the FHI-PhDnet will be English and German.

## 2 Mission Statement

The FHI-PhDnet exists to:

- Liaise with the MPG-PhDnet
- Build a cross department platform to help overcome common problems for PhD students at the FHI.
- Liaise with the administration and directors of the institute to represent the views and interest of PhD students.
- Help ease the transition into the FHI for new PhD students.
- Organise interdepartmental events, both social and educational.

## 3 Membership

All current PhD students of the FHI are eligible to join the FHI-PhDnet. Diploma and Masters students are able to join the PhDnet but may not hold positions.

## 4 Organisation

The FHI-PhDnet will be run by a committee of elected representatives from each of the departments of the FHI. This committee shall then appoint a Spokesperson and a Secretary from their number. The committee shall meet regularly, at a time of mutually agreed convenience. All meetings shall be open and members of the FHI-PhDnet are eligible to attend and contribute.

## 5 Roles

The three roles in the organisation of the FHI-PhDnet are as follows:

### 5.1 Representative

Representatives are the elected members of the organising committee from each of the departments. A Representative is expected to serve for no more than 1 year (before re-election is necessary) further, they are responsible for ensuring a replacement can be found when they will leave the institute. Representatives are expected to attend the regular meetings of the committee and generally work towards achieving the aims of the FHI-PhDnet.

## **5.2 Spokesperson**

The Spokesperson is the main voice of the FHI-PhDnet and is expected to communicate with the MPG-PhDnet as well as the board of directors and administration of the FHI. Further the Spokesperson shall chair all meetings of the FHI-PhDnet.

## **5.3 Secretary**

The Secretary shall organise the regular meetings of the FHI-PhDnet, record minutes from all meetings and ensure that an Agenda and copies of the minutes are appropriately distributed.

# **6 Voting and Elections**

All decisions within the FHI-PhDnet shall be decided by a simple majority vote, with each department having only one vote, regardless of the number of people present. Representatives will be elected by a simple majority of the PhD students from their department. The Spokesperson and Secretary shall be elected by a simple majority of the committee members. Amendments to the constitution shall be brought into force by a 66% majority of the Representatives.