

01th September 2023

Legal Clarification on Handling of Bachelor's and Master's-Theses

A large number of the bachelor's or master's theses of students at HTWG Konstanz are carried out in cooperation with industrial companies. The implementation of theses is governed by the corresponding study and examination regulations.

The intellectual property rights of a thesis are held by the respective student. The student may transfer these rights to the company in which or with which the work was carried out and produced. The supervising company may request a special marking "confidential".

For the evaluation and grading of the theses, the examining supervisors must be provided with at least one copy of the thesis. The thesis, like all examination documents, is kept for at least 5 years. During this time, the thesis may be inspected by members of the examination board as part of their official duties. Copies of final theses are stored by the supervising professor, by the Dean of Studies or in protected areas (analog or digital archives) of the university.

The title of the thesis will be printed on the graduate's certificate. Otherwise, the thesis will not be published (not even in part) neither by the supervisor nor by the university. Since the intellectual property rights of the work are initially held by the author themselves, the work can only be published (for example in the library) by the student or with their consent.

Should the university or the supervising professor have any interest in using the results of the thesis or certain parts of it in research or within their lectures, they must ask for approval from the graduate or a person in charge at the company.

All members of the university will exercise the same care in handling confidential information as they exercise in handling their own confidential information. Liability claims or claims for damages can only be asserted in the event of gross negligence or intent.

Prof. Dr. Sabine Rein



President