

15th April 2014

Legal Clarification concerning Confidentiality Agreements with respect to Master's / Bachelor's Theses

A large number of graduation theses of HTWG Konstanz students are carried out in cooperation with industrial enterprises.

The implementation of those theses is regulated by the corresponding Studies and Examination Regulations.

The intellectual property rights of a thesis are owned by the respective student. He / She is allowed to transfer the rights to the enterprise where the thesis was carried out.

To assess the student's examination performance the examining supervisor must be provided with a copy of the Bachelor's / Master's thesis. The supervising enterprise can arrange for a special note to be placed on the thesis classifying it as "confidential".

Usually, copies of the theses are kept by the supervising professor or by the dean. The supervisor is not entitled to publish the thesis, even in part. As the copyrights of the thesis are owned initially by the author him- / herself, a publication of the thesis could be exhibited in the library only with the prior consent of the respective student.

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 his / her courses, he / she must ask for approval from a person in charge at the industrial enterprise or the graduate him-/ herself.

The thesis will be kept for at least five years, as is the case with all other examination documents. During this time period, members of the examination board may view the thesis within their duties. Any publication or use by members of the examination board, even in part, is not permitted.

The title of the thesis will always be included on the certificate of the graduate!

Liability claims or claims for damages against the university are excluded.



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