

# Compulsory attendance?

## Go vote!

# Hochschulwahlen

20. - 23. Juni 2016

je 10.30 Uhr - 14.30 Uhr

Stadtmitte Mensa | Lichtwiese HMZ

**20.6.  
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## Table of contents

2	Editorial
3	University elections
	- Why vote?
	- University Elections TU Darmstadt 2016
4-8	Political groups
9	Committee diagram
10	Committee
	- Academic councils
	- self-administrative student committees

## Editorial

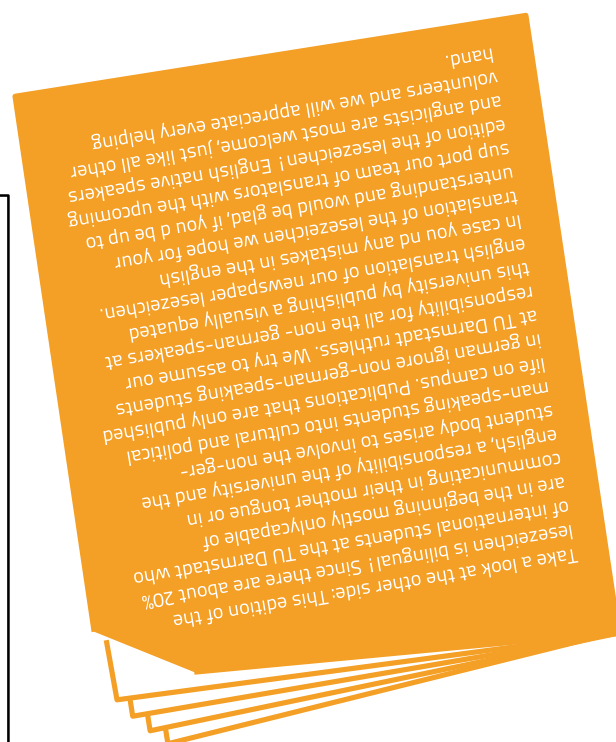
### Dear Students,

it's time again: in a few days elections are taking place at the Technical University of Darmstadt. During the past years, the polls were very low for certain faculties and also little interest was given to the election newspaper. But despite all of this, we are not going to discourage ourselves and we believe in the political right of students. For this reason, we created again an election newspaper that is going to give you all the information you need so that on election day you know who and what you are voting for. Following you will get information on the different political and student bodies and their duties and team.

Moreover, the student political groups will introduce themselves and their goals. Our aim is to give you as much information as possible on the political environment at the Technical University of Darmstadt so that you know who to vote for. We hope you enjoy reading the newspaper and don't forget the University Elections!

Yours AStA TU Darmstadt

<b>AStA-Meetings</b> Stadtmitte S1 03/65 Every Tuesday 17 Uhr  <b>Office Stadtmitte</b> Building S1 03/62 Hochschulstrasse 1 64289 Darmstadt  Mo: 9:30-14:00 Uhr Tue, Wed: Fr: 9:30-14:30 Thu: 9:30-13:00 & 13:30-16:00  <b>Office Lichtwiese</b> Building L1 01/70 El-Lissitzki-Straße 1 64287 Darmstadt  Wed: 9:30-13:00 Thu: 9:30-13:00 & 13:30-17:00  <b>Contact</b> Stadtmitte: 06151/ 16-28360 Lichtwiese: 06151/16-28362 service@asta.tu-darmstadt.de www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de	<b>Imprint</b> lesezeichen. Journal of Allgemeinen Studierenden Ausschusses der Technischen Universität Darmstadt  c/o AStA TU Darmstadt Hochschulstr. 1 64289 Darmstadt  zeitung@asta.tu-darmstadt.de www.asta.tu-darmstadt.de  Ausgabe: 13. Juni 2014 Au age: 2.500  Editorial: Timo Meyer Layout: Matty Speck, Timo Meyer V.i.S.d.P.: Timo Meyer Titelbild: Wahlplakat  Der AStA der TU Darmstadt ist ein Organ der Studierendenschaft. Die Studierendenschaft der TU Darmstadt ist eine Körperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts. Artikel spiegeln nicht notwendigerweise die Meinung des AStAs wieder.
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# University Elections 2016

## Why vote?

During your studies, you are spending a lot of time within the premises of the university. You are visiting lectures, seminars, tutorials, internships and colloquia. You are eating at the Mensa, are active in a sports group or involved in a student group or a political student committee. It doesn't matter what you are doing at the university. The fact is that university politics has a big influence on the life and learning conditions at the university. If food at the Mensa are affordable yet of good quality and

tasty, if there is enough affordable living space for students in Darmstadt, if there are enough seating places in lectures and if examination conditions are fair and adequate – all of this and much more are political problems that university political committees react to. However how problems are being faced and dealt with depends highly on the elected representatives. The first step to shape the policies at the university is by voluntary engaging yourself in student groups or political student committees.

However you don't have time then take the chance at least once a year and go vote and change the path of university politics. You just need to go to the Mensa during the period of Monday 20.06. and Thursday 23.06.2016, take your election papers and make your tick. Your vote counts! You can decide who will be political active for one year at the most important committees at the university.

## University Elections 2016

In this article you can find a summary of the most important information on the university elections 2016. Which bodies are to be elected? How does the vote work? When does it take place? Where to vote? Where and when does the vote take place? This year the university elections will take place from Monday 20th to Thursday 23th of June 2016. Polling station where you can vote if you didn't take the postal vote, are placed at the cafeteria "Mensa Stadtmitte (Otto-Berndt-Halle)" and at the „Hörsaal- und Medienzentrum Lichtwiese (L4|02)". The polling stations are open from 10.30 a.m to 2.30 p.m.. You need to bring your photo identification (passport) and your student ID in any case to make your choice. What is going to be elected? University Assembly You can vote for the 15 seats for the students of the university assembly. The university assembly of the TU Darmstadt takes care of affairs which are of fundamental interest for the university. To this belong statements on questions of principle regarding the development

of the university, for teaching and studying and for scientific qualified trainees. Department Council Also the representatives of the department council will be elected. The department council deals with affairs which are of fundamental interest for the department and not under the competence of the deanery. Therefore it is the highest body of the departments and also decides on the study regulations, regulatory statutes of examination regulations, appointment of the board of review for professorship applicants, application of funds for the department including the appropriations and the appointment of the board of examiners. For the departments 1, 2, 4, 7, 13 and 16 there will be elected five students each on the department council and for the departments 3, 5, 10, 11, 15, 18 and 20 will be elected 3 students each. The joint commissions of the areas of studies Also the members of the joint commissions of areas of studies will be elected. For Computational Engineering (CE) and Mechanics

students will be elected and for Informationssystemtechnik (iST), Mechatronics and Energy Science 2 students each. Students' parliament For the students' parliament 31 new members will be elected. The students' parliament of the TU Darmstadt is the highest body of the student body and is elected once a year. It is also responsible for the election and voting out of the students' executive committee and the budget of the student body. Student Department Council Last but not least the new representatives of the Student Department Council will be elected. They are elected in this matter: In the departments 1, 2, 3, 16, 18 and 20 there will be elected 9 students each, in the departments 4, 13 and 15 will be elected 7 students each, in the departments 5, 7, 10 and 11 will be elected 5 students each and in the departments CE, Mechanics, iST and Mechatronics will be elected 3 students each. Deanery of the institutes The scientific members and the administrative-technical members of university will be vote for the deanery of the institutes the same time.

# CampusGrüne - The green Hochschulgruppe der TU Darmstadt



Campusgrün means/stands for/aims at: democracy, greater participation, (gender) equality, sustainability, energy efficiency, transparency, self-determination, cultural variety, greater mobility, reasonable priced housing, organic-food, health (?), compatibility of study, family and work, cultural offers for students, anti-fachism, overall attractive campus for a good learning atmosphere. That's what the Campus-Grünen will stand in at the Universitätsversammlung, the AStA and the "Verwaltungsrat des Studierendenwerks" as well as in many working teams of the university.

### **Good food in the Mensa / yummy food ?**

The standard we demand is good food for every taste. This includes regional as well as seasonal ingredients/products (with fair reference). Ingredients need to be marked/showed, which is important for people with allergies, as well as a matter of transparency. Within the AK Mensa and the Verwaltungsrat of the Studierendenwerks, we CampusGrünen demand at least one vegan warm meal daily, fresh and gentle (food)preparation, a

greater organic percentage/portion, as well as regional and qualitative meat (products).

### **Mobility**

A green city needs green mobility/public transportation. Besides new bike trails, a greater public transportation to and from the campus Lichtwiese, the integration of Aschaffenburg, Mannheim and Heidelberg into the Semesterticket is essential in order to have a better mobility and housing situation in Darmstadt.

Within the AStA we demand, that the busticket (Semesterticket) will be extended into the VAB Aschaffenburg, the Verkehrsbund Rhein-neckar (VRN) and the Nordhessischen Verkehrsbund (NVV). The connection to and from the campus Lichtwiese should be extended as well. We have mainly supported the introduction of the CallABike-System and will consequently work on the expansion of this System.

### **Cultural offers for Students**

As a Tu Darmstadt student you are already enabled to get a free ticket to almost all events of the Staatstheater. We want to

foster such cooperation! For the future we aim at more free options for cultural programs in Darmstadt and surrounding areas. To achieve this goal we initiated dialogues with the city council of Darmstadt and we support the autonomous business Schlosskeller, Schlossgarten and the 60,3 qm.

### **Internationalization and Language (offerings)**

9 am: start of the language course/class registration. Minutes later all spots are taken. This is not acceptable! Only adequate language skills enable to a cultural exchange within the students (and over). That's the reason/ that's why we demand free language classes for everyone! The CampusGrünen will bring those topics into the Senat, the Universitätsversammlung and other committees.

### **More reasonable priced housing**

The fierce housing situation is known to everybody and it's getting worse constantly! There are more than a thousand missing living spots/ flats/ apartments, that won't be available in the near future. But there are more than 3000 living places

within the former military barracks. Due to our engagement the city council and the owner have started negotiations. More over we demand more reasonable priced housing in other committees as well.

### **Self-determined living and learning**

We demand that all students can determine their study themselves. To meet that demand we extend the E-learning-offers and the class-recording for all basic classes. We also refuse to compulsory attendance. The class quality should be the appealing factor for the attendance. In all committees we aim at a more intense and more individual supervision, comprehensive half-time-study, more election possibilities within the study Regulations as well as more time to engage with the study contents! We are there for you in the AStA as well. We will support you in legal concerns and other study related topics today and also in the future!

kontakt@campusgruene.de  
campusgruene.de  
facebook.com/campusgru-

# FACHWERK

The list of the Fachschaften at TU Darmstadt. Since 1990.

## FOR FREE EDUCATION AND SELF- DETERMINED STUDIES



Our election program:  
[www.fachwerkhoused.d](http://www.fachwerkhoused.d)



## Jusos and Unabhängige

We are a group of students from different faculties, who aren't only politically involved at the university, and stand for a democratic and fair University. We are associated with Jusos, the youth organization of SPD party, but we are independent and we don't get any money from them or the SPD. We are calling ourselves "Jusos and Independent" to make sure, that we may be politically connected with the youth organization but no one has to be part of their organization nor the SPD party. It is more that we look at ourselves as critical attendants of parties politics and for that reason, we try to have an impact on every SPD decision. With us politic comes first! Our three connecting values are: freedom, justice, and solidarity. For us, education is the key to get a free, tolerant and fair society. We set the goal that every human gets access to higher education, and irrespective of parental support may be able to successfully graduate. Studying should be self-determined and free of compulsory attendance, certain number of semesters needed, checkout deadlines and financial force.

### Fair university

discrimination is everywhere in society - the reason might be gender, heritage, religion, sexual orientation, identity or disabilities. We are against all kinds of disadvantage. Our self-conception as a feminist group points especially on disadvantaged women. In fact more women make it into university, but still many don't start an academic career afterwards. This can be seen when comparing male and female socialized professors at the technical University of Darmstadt. In the end the number of women in the academic world is dramatically low. Also the choice who picks what subject is still a question of gender. Women in



"typical female" subjects (teaching, health care, language, social- and cultural science) are highly represented, on the other hand men study more the "typical male" subjects (engineering, natural science).

Many people who actually want to get into college fail because of a lack of financial options. We want that access to the academic world is not determined by your parents budget. Everybody should be able to start university and graduate successfully. That requires in the short run rising the financial support BAFÖG and matching it to reality of student needs. In the long run the BAFÖG support need to be payed not related to parental income and for longer learning phases governmental support should continue anyways. Moreover it is not except-able that the students in Darmstadt have to spend most of their income on extreme high rent, if they find an apartment in Darmstadt at all. That's why we ask for a better state budget for "Studierendenwerk" so they can build new cheap dorms for students.

Juso HSG is acting with solidarity for the "Hilfskräfteinitiative Darmstadt". These students are struggling on many issues. They get less support and are not equal to other working members of TU. Biggest issue is that the "Wissenschaftszeitgesetz" allows only four years of working as a student in the system of university. Especially at the end of college life the law ends their possibility to work in their academic student jobs. It is for this reason that Juso HSG repeats and share the statements of the "Hilfskräfte Initiative":

1. Termination of doubtful working conditions
2. To make sure of protection laws at the workplace
3. A Transparent process for the extension of working period from 4 to 6 years
4. Introducing of a collecting working condition agreement

We do plan several activities on campus during elections. If you have any question, or even want to join in feel free to ask or text us on Facebook /juso.tu.darmstadt

# SDS Darmstadt

# Linke Liste SDS

We stand up for a fair university and a good education for everyone. That is why we will use all our possibilities to:

Don't let exams count, when more than 35% of the students fail. Failure rates like this are probably not the fault of an individual student, but rather institutionally caused. HiWi (Hilfswissenschaftler; helping scientists, students working at the university) should get better labor agreements. For example they should (all) be paid 15€ per hour.

We want to decrease the amount of "Fachprüfungen" and use "Studienleistungen" instead. "Fachprüfungen" can be taken only three times, "Studienleistungen" can be repeated until passing.

It should be possible to retry "Studienleistungen" even if one passed, in order to improve the attained mark/grade. Remove mandatory traineeships. Mandatory traineeships are currently not remunerated and are thereby a potential cause of non-paid work. It is difficult for students who are already forced to work in parallel with their studies. Additionally, these traineeships are often irrelevant to the studies.

Remove all sanctions made in order to confine studies on the standard allotted time (Regelstudienzeit).

Traditionally, we are and have always been an engaging emancipatory community of students. We seek to continue this tradition. We call for real democracy in university panels, a new analysis of the catastrophe commonly referred to as the Bologna Process. We call for restructu-

ring the study course, to allow for self-determined studies, and for education instead of schooling or drilling. We are against quantified students and arbitrary administrative platforms like TUCaN. We call for affordable studies and better working conditions for HiWis. We stand for solidarity between students and employees instead of bureaucratic animosity, and we stand for better teaching through long-term employment instead of underpaid teaching appointments. We call for a community of students that are politically engaged in the fight against racism, sexism, homophobia and for diversifying lifestyles.

Who are we?

We are a group of:

Political activists, panel participants and political neophytes  
Labor union professionals and critical thinkers  
HiWis and PhD students  
Engineers, natural scientists and scholars  
Students in their fourth semester or even older

Kontakt: Facebook: [fb.com/SDS.Darmstadt](https://fb.com/SDS.Darmstadt)  
Website: [sdstuda.wordpress.com/](https://sdstuda.wordpress.com/)

# Students without Borders

It started with the arrival in this University. We all came differently. We did not know each other and we were alone. Each as "freemoover" students know this feeling. Gradually it became clear that one is not alone here at all. There are thousands like us but we need someone who cares for us, raises the voice for us, manages to bring the right change for us. Only when you have someone who works for all, can produce results.

We arrive, we study, some fail and go back home, some are successful and they either go home or stay here and continue working, but you look back at times and remember the time at the University and ask yourself what you have left for the newcomers? what have you changed or what have you moved? All alone you cannot do that, but we are like you, you are like us and that's why we are here to fight for you. Or may be we can do it together.

We are a political group consisting of international\* students who know no borders. If you know our goals, you are very likely to be a part of our group. Our members are active in various international \* university groups, such as Tunisian club, Pakistani Club, Greek Club, Indian club and etc., and in the bodies and projects of the TU-Darmstadt, such as Tutor International, AStA, etc.

Nowadays many use the word "international" just with their mouth and advertise, but so far we have noticed no particular change in this direction, have you? We want to experience the internationality \* and we want to develop, we want to feel it and we will do everything so that will happen. Therefore, we need you, because only together we can reach our goal.

We need you, so that we can strengthen the self-organization of the International \* Clubs and students at the TU-Darmstadt. We need you to increase the participation of international students \* in the committees and in University politics for the purpose of representation of their interests. Look at current university politics, you can hardly

find international students who are involved in it, which is a totally the opposite of the internationality.\*

We need you in order to enable better communication with the authorities for you. Many of us still have problems with the authorities, as foreigners authority etc. both in Darmstadt, as well as in the district. Why should we in an international Environment be afraid if we only speak English? Why should we always tremble when it comes to the renewal of the residence permit? That should change, and the language should not be a barrier!

We need you, to take care of the disadvantages of international students \* - compensation in the exams - in terms of language. We need you in order to allow the opening of the residential market for international students \*. We all know how hard it is to get an apartment, or a room in Darmstadt. Private providers are less willing to rent the rooms to us, which makes our search almost impossible and that is about to change! We need you to strengthen existing international \* projects and to expand offers. We want more orientation courses, we want to create intercultural & interpersonal awareness, emphasize the similarities between people both at the university level, as well as outside. We need you to work together for internationalisation strategy at the TU. We need you to work together to combat discrimination and racism at the university. We need you, even to make the Mensa food international \* and we need you for more...

Visit us on Facebook:

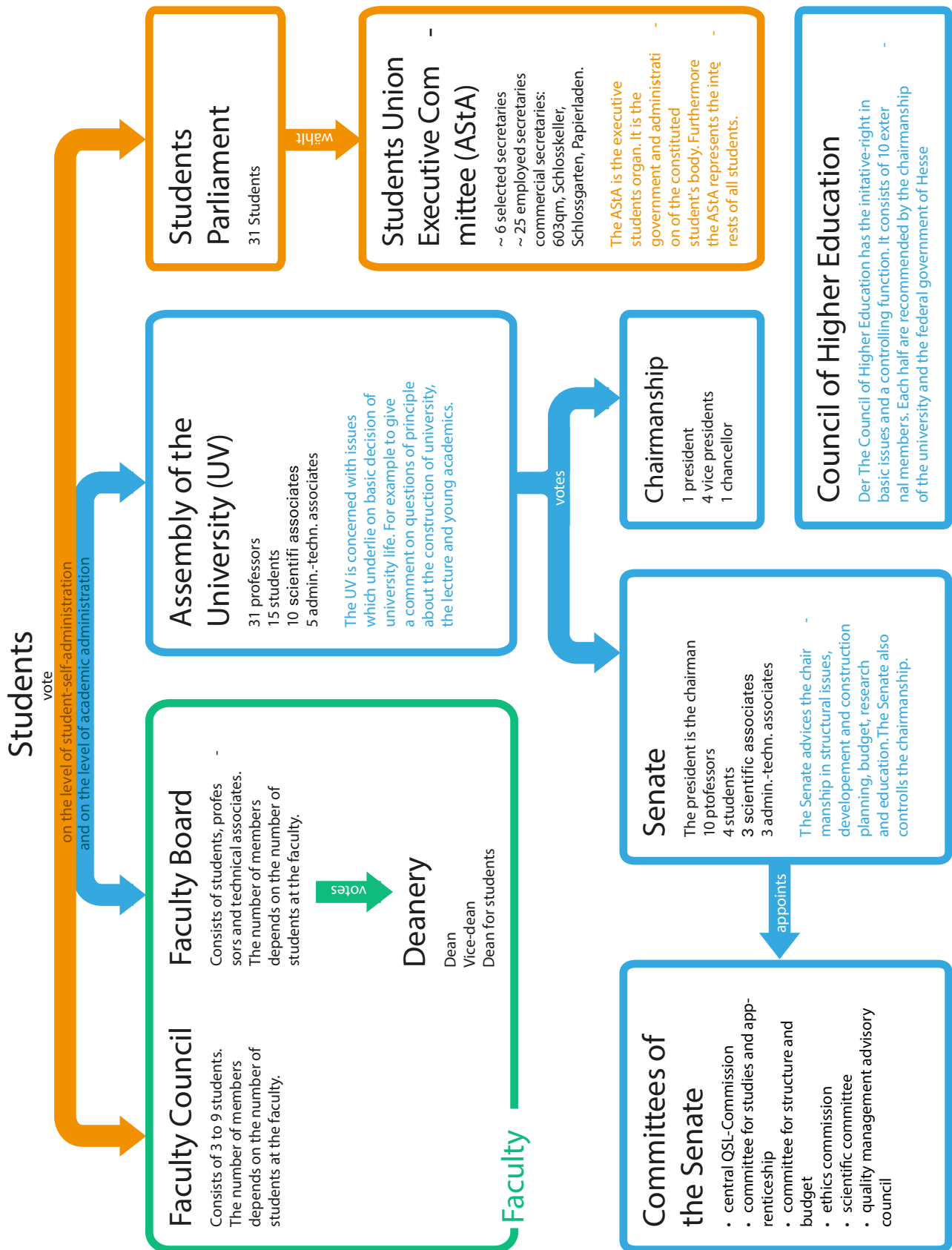
[www.facebook.com/Studierende\\_ohne\\_Grenzen](https://www.facebook.com/Studierende_ohne_Grenzen)

\*international means also german.

# THE INTERNATIONALITY NOT ONLY ON PAPER...BUT IN EXPERIENCED / PRACTICE



In this diagram, you can find all university committees of student self-administration and academic administration and key data about them. You can see at first sight which committees are elected by students and where engagement is welcomed. In case of questions or interest in engagement, contact [hopo@asta.tu-darmstadt.de](mailto:hopo@asta.tu-darmstadt.de)



# Committee

## Academic Councils

### Senate

**Job description:** Basic issues concerning the structure, development and construction planning, budgeting, research, teaching and study areas, scientific talents, information management likewise quality control. The Senate monitors the management of the executive committee of the University. It decides the overall examination rules, doctoral and post-doctoral positions, the composition of the Senate affairs, the Senate-delegated recruitment process in agreement with the Executive Committee of the University and also various consulting options for students. It must, of all, agree to the Constitution, admission and the conduct of study programs, examinations, doctoral and post-doctoral related rules. It takes stance on the

target agreement, quality management, structure and development plans in the budget planning, investments and allocation of budgets, suggestions of the faculties with regard to recruitment and many other things. Moreover, it names, according to the suggestion of the Executive Committee of the university (Präsidium), the members of the university council.

### Composition:

The Senate of TU Darmstadt comprises the President as the chair person, ten Professors, four students, three scientific workers, likewise administrative and technical workers as the persons who have the right to vote. Likewise, the women representatives of the university, trust persons of physically challenged people, the students' union executive committee and the

chair of the student council and also two students from Fachschaft Konferenz belong to the Senate with consulting power.

### University Assembly

**Job description:** The University Assembly of TU Darmstadt handles the issues that are primary in meaning. It adopts the constitution and takes stance on primary questions like the development of the university, study and teaching areas and scientific talents. Moreover, it elects the four student representatives in the Senate.

**Composition:** The University Assembly has 61 members with the right to vote – 31 Professors, 15 students, 10 scientific workers, likewise 5 administrative-technical workers.

### Faculty Council

**Job description:** It elects the Dean and one or several Vice-Deans every two years. The job of this council is to determine and realize the resource allocation to every faculty, appoint the recruitment committee and confirm its results. Moreover, the target agreements of every faculty in co-ordination with the Executive Committee of the University (for example, what the faculty wants to achieve in next x years) are decided.

### Composition:

The faculty council represents the interests of all the interests in each faculty and comprises students, professors, scientific workers, administrative-technical workers. However with the specialty that, the seats are not distributed based on the size of each

## Self-administrative student committees

### Student Parliament

The Student Parliament is the highest council of the students' union. Every year in summer, all the registered students of TU Darmstadt elect 31 student representatives to StuPa. Various parties contest in the election, which send their candidates to the parliament according to a sequence. The main job of the Student Parliament is to elect the Executive Committee of the Students' Union (AStA) and to monitor its work likewise to legislate the budgeting. In the monthly meetings, the StuPa hears the report of the AStA representatives, comments towards or against it, accepts other kinds of work. Moreover, the StuPa sends student representatives to the administrative committee of the Studentenwerk and can hence in vance the various consultation offers, the food prices in the Mensa, hostel rents etc. These are just an extract of the work done. Who is more interested to know more, is cordially invited to the monthly sessions of the Student Parliament. It is open for the guests also. At the beginning of the parliamentary session, the guests get the opportunity to place questions about the functioning of the StuPa and participate actively. The dates for the parliamentary sessions are advertised through the homepage of AStA and also through circulars. The students elected in summer semester 2013 belong to the parties of FACHWERK, Campus Grüne, Jusos & Unabhängige und ing+ altogether.

### AStA

The Executive Committee of the students' union (AStA) is elected from Student Parliament and is the direct representative of all the students in the University. It consists of the elected members from the StuPa and the directly appointed referents who are voluntarily active. The work of the AStA is diverse and leads the work of the student union. According to the constitution of the student union, the work is defined as:

- Representation of all its members in the legal framework
- Administer the political interest in university of its members
- Administer the economy and social interests of students. The responsibilities of the Studentenwerk (StuWe) or other agencies and bodies stays inviolate.
- Maintenances of interregional and international student relationships.
- Promoting political education and sense of responsibility of students for their role as citizens. This includes the promotion of a scientific proofed and critical understanding of students for their current and future activities and the role of science and technology in society.
- Promotion of cultural and musical interests of students.

Even if this sounds all very theoretical are the possibilities and services very practical. AStA offers many different consulting services for free, promotes projects and groups inside university and also provides

the international student card (ISIC), negotiates with the RMV on the semester ticket for public transport, runs different own business like the 603qm, Schlosskeller, Schlossgarten and the Papierladen and offers a car rent for students. All this are direct offers for you as students. AStA is also engaged in university policies and interacts with the regional and federal government for better study conditions for students. Not only problems like overfull curricula and full seminars are issues of negotiations but also housing shortage, high rents, bad transport connections and so on. The work of the student body and therefore also AStA work is financed by the contribution of all students at university. In summer semester 2014 it amounts 11.50€. **Student council** As a student you are affiliated to the student department council of your department, because all students of a department are part of the student council. Colloquially you understand the active students under the term student council "Fachschaft", who are working for better studying conditions and provide offers to their fellow students. The student department council "Fachschaftsrat" is voted once a year to determine the official legitimized representatives of the student council. University provides an extra room for the student councils. In this room the most meetings take place.

## Principle of solidarity

The principle of solidarity is a fundamental component of student self-government. To begin with, solidarity is a basic principle of social interaction in which mutual support and assistance stands in focus. Thus it represents the direct opposite to the principle of competition, in which the individual good is the reference point and not the public good. In the student body the solidarity principle is especially applied on the semester fee, for example in form of contributions to the semester ticket for public transport, free entrance to Staatstheater Darmstadt and the fee for Studierendenwerk Darmstadt, and for a while now additionally in form of fees for the bike rental "Call a Bike". Even if not all students make use of the possibilities to the same degree, if at all, this is where the principle of solidarity takes effect by supporting those depending on it, not being able to pay the expenses individually, made possible by everybody paying the same amount, by the way resulting in low priced conditions.