# **STATUTES**

# **OF**

**the Faculty of Theology of the University of Szczecin**

## Introduction

The Faculty of Theology of the University of Szczecin is governed by the provisions of the *Code of the* *Canon Law*, in particular can. 807-820, the Apostolic Constitution *Veritatis Gaudium* of Dec. 8, 2017, provisions of the *Concordat between the Holy See and Republic of Poland* of July 28, 1993. From the state and university side, the Faculty is guided by the principles contained in the Act 2.0 - *Law on Higher Education and Science* of July 20, 2018 and in the *Statute of the University of Szczecin* of May 30, 2019.

Theological Seminary of Archdiocese of Szczecin-Kamień Pomorski, Theological Seminary of Diocese of Zielona Góra-Gorzów Wielkopolski as well as Theological Seminary of Diocese of Koszalin-Kołobrzeg are organizationally independent but they are simultaneously affiliated to the Faculty of Theology in Szczecin. The students of these seminaries study and achieve academic degrees at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Szczecin in compliance with the binding church and national regulations.

## Chapter I

## Legal basis, nature and aims of the Faculty of Theology

##### Art. 1.

1. The Faculty of Theology of the University of Szczecin (hereinafter referred to as the Faculty) was erected by the Holy See and it complies with the requirements set out for this type of church faculties, whereas in its activities it is governed by regulations contained in relevant ecclesial documents.

2. The faculty is the basic organizational unit of the University of Szczecin (hereinafter referred to as the *University*) established to organize, conduct and coordinate the education process in the majors of study assigned to the discipline of theological sciences and also operates on the basis of state regulations.

3. The Faculty contains a basic organizational unit of the University - the Institute of Theological Sciences (hereinafter referred to as the Institute) - established to organize and conduct research activities in the discipline of theological sciences (see *Veritatis gaudium* art. 56 § 2; *the Statutes of the* *University of Szczecin* § 72).

4. The Faculty is managed by the dean, whereas the Institute is managed by a director. Pursuant to the *Statutes of the University of Szczecin* § 36 (hereinafter referred to as the *University Statutes*), section 3, the functions of the dean at the Faculty of Theology and the director at the Institute of Theological Sciences are performed by one and the same person.

5. The University's statutory regulations recognize the Faculty's church identity and its necessary dependence on church authorities. Mutual relations between the University and the Faculty are governed by a special agreement signed by the President of the Conference of the Polish Episcopate and the Archbishop of Szczecin-Kamień Pomorski, as well as the Minister of National Education of the Polish Government and the Rector of the University of Szczecin (cf. the *Agreement* of January 9, 2004).

**Art. 2.**

1. The Faculty conducts research activities and educates students in the discipline of theological sciences in a manner appropriate for these sciences and in compliance with the requirements of the Code of Canon Law (can. 815-821 CIC-83), *Veritatis gaudium* (art. 69-76) and *Executive orders* of the said Apostolic Constitution (Articles 53-59). In addition, by conducting theological studies as well as other fields of study, the Faculty is guided by both state and University regulations.

2. The Faculty is prepared to conduct intra-mural studies. In addition to the above-mentioned studies, the Faculty also conducts post-graduate studies which require the application of appropriate procedures designated by the University. Post-graduate studies in theology are particularly important among post-graduate studies.

3. In theology, the Catholic doctrine, based on Divine Revelation, is explored in compliance with its own scientific method, and modern human problems are resolved in the light of Divine Revelation (cf. *Veritatis gaudium*, art. 71 §1).

4. The Faculty’s activities include:

1. deepening and systematic explanation, according to its proper method, of the Catholic doctrine - taken with the greatest care from Divine Revelation; moreover, it seeks reliable solutions to human problems in the light of the said Revelation;
2. a study of Scripture, which should be like the soul of theology - based on an eternal foundation - on the written Word of God, including living Tradition;
3. ensure that individual theological disciplines are taught in such a way that the unity of all theological teaching is clearly evident from the internal principles of the proper subject of each, and in conjunction with other disciplines, such as canon law, philosophy and anthropological sciences whereas all disciplines are directed to the deepest knowledge of the mystery of Christ, in order to proclaim it more effectively to the People of God and to all nations;
4. make the revealed truth also be considered in conjunction with the scientific achievements of the current age, so that it may be clearly discovered how faith and reason lead to the one truth, and that its lecture is adapted to the mentality and character of each culture, with particular emphasis placed on the philosophy and wisdom of nations, excluding any form of syncretism and false particularism;
5. carefully examine, select and adopt positive values found in various philosophies and cultures, however, systems and methods which hardly reconciled with Christian faith must not be accepted;
6. thoroughly discuss ecumenic issues, in compliance with the regulations issued by proper Church authorities, as well as analyze relations with non-Christian religions and deeply examine problems resulting from atheism and other streams of contemporary culture;
7. ensure that faithfulness to the Magisterium of the Church is always manifested in the study and teaching of the Catholic doctrine. In carrying out didactic tasks, in particular in the framework of the basic cycle, it is crucial to teach what constitutes the heritage of the Church in the first place, whereas probable and personal opinions stemming from new research should be presented with caution as such. (*Veritatis gaudium* art. 69-73)

5. The Faculty cooperates with other University’s faculties, in particular by means of interdisciplinary research and emphasizing ethical and moral implications in research and didactic work. Such cooperation is aimed to stimulate theological idea and other sciences taught in the Faculty and contribute to better understanding of contemporary world’s problems.

6. The Faculty’s cooperation with other faculties of theology, both in the country and abroad, shall comprise an essential element of scientific and didactic development which fosters the consolidation of the theological society in the scope of science and culture.

**Art. 3.**

1. The scope of scientific research and education of students extends to the theological, philosophical, humanistic and social sciences, required for a complete study of theology specified in the Executive Orders to *Veritatis gaudium* (Art. 55) and for the study of other faculties conducted in the Faculty.

2. Depending on the needs and at the request of the dean/director, the rector of the University may create, transform and abolish chairs and other organizational units (the *University Statutes* § 82).

###### Art. 4.

1. The Scientific Council of the Institute of Theology (hereinafter referred to as the Institute’s Council) is entitled to define the *Statutes of the Faculty of Theology* (hereinafter referred to as the *Faculty Statutes*) which is approved by the Congregation for Catholic Education. The modifications of the *Faculty Statutes* shall require the approval of the said Congregation.

2. The *Faculty Statutes,* curriculum and course of studies, some supplements in the regulations of studies are defined by the Institute’s Council, in compliance with the binding church and national regulations. The Great Chancellor and the University rector are responsible for monitoring the compliance of the said documents with the church and national regulations, respectively.

3.The Institute grants scientific degrees in theology compliant with the church and national regulations and conducts habilitation proceedings.

4. The Faculty, similar to other University’s faculties, uses its seal to affirm the faculty documents.

**Chapter II**

**Relations between Faculty of Theology and University of Szczecin**

**Art. 5.**

The Faculty comprises a part of the national University and as founded on the basis of the *Agreement concluded between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Episcopal Conference of Poland* *concerning the establishment and functioning of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Szczecin* of January 9, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as the *Act of January 9, 2004*) as well as the canonic erection by the Holy See (the *Decree of the Congregation for Catholic Education* of August 9, 2003).

**Art. 6.**

l. The agreement on the establishment of the Faculty at the University guarantees the supervision of the Faculty’s activities by the competent authority of the Catholic Church, i.e. the Holy See, the Episcopal Conference of Poland and the Metropolitan Archbishop of Szczecin -Kamień Pomorski - the Great Chancellor.

2. The supervision’s scope and form guaranteeing the Faculty’s catholic and church identity is defined by the *FT Statutes* and *US Statutes* as well as the separate *Agreement concluded between the Government of the Republic of Poland and the Episcopal Conference of Poland on the establishment and functioning of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Szczecin*, signed by the Chairman of the Episcopal Conference of Poland and the Metropolitan Archbishop of Diocese of Szczecin-Kamień Pomorski as well as the Minister of Education.

##### Art. 7.

The Faculty’s researchers and students are granted the same statutory rights and obligations as the researchers and students of the University’s other faculties, by taking into account the identity differences contained in the *Faculty Statutes* and the *University Statutes*.

**Chapter III**

#### The Supervision of the Great Chancellor

**Art. 8.**

The function of the Great Chancellor is performed by the Metropolitan Archbishop of the Diocese of Szczecin-Kamień Pomorski and, in the event of vacancy of the archbishop’s seat – the principle holding the office of the archdiocese.

##### Art. 9.

The Great Chancellor:

1. comprises the highest authority of the local Church against the Faculty and the University and represents the Faculty against the Holy See and, in some specific matters, national authorities.
2. cares for the Faculty’s existence and development;
3. monitors that the Church law and the Holy See’s regulations are observed;
4. informs the Congregation for Catholic Education about the Faculty’s relevant matters and provides it with the periodical report concerning the Faculty’s status every five years;
5. cares for the impeccability of Catholic doctrine transmitted in the Faculty;
6. grants and, if necessary, revokes the canonical mission of academic teachers conducting classes in the disciplines of Catholic theology;
7. provides the Congregation for Catholic Education with the *Faculty* *Statutes, curricula and examinations* required for specific academic titles and degrees to be canonically approved by the said Congregation;
8. applies to the Congregation for Catholic Education for *nihil obstat* required for professors commencing their continuous employment at the Faculty as well as

doctor honoris causa candidates proposed by the Faculty;

1. grants, alone or through his delegate, canonical mission or *venia docendi*, respectively, to the remaining academic teachers upon their employment;
2. approves of candidates for the office of dean/director announced by the university electoral commission;
3. provides and seeks for the approval of the Holy See concerning the dean/director and receives the profession of faith from the newly elected and approved dean/director in the form approved by the Church; alone or through authorized dean/director he receives the profession of faith from professors of catholic theology in the form approved by the Church;
4. strengthens the bond of the Faculty’s academic workers and students with the local and universal Church;
5. strengthens the bond between all members of the Faculty’s academic community;
6. appoints the chaplain of the academic community at the request of the dean/director;
7. supervise the expenditure of church funds allocated for the activities of the Faculty.

Chapter IV

**The Authorities of the Faculty of Theology**

**Art. 10.**

1. The Institute Council is a collegiate advisory and consultative body on scientific matters and those related to conducting education as part of studies, post-graduate studies and other forms of education. It also has special competences in relation to the rights to confer academic degrees (*the University Statutes*, § 79; § 91).

2. The Institute Council monitors the development of scientific research, adopts draft study programs, defines the manner of conducting diploma examinations, supervises their implementation, acts to improve the scientific and professional qualifications of its employees and fulfills other tasks assigned by state and university law.

**Art. 11.**

1. The Institute Council is convened by its chairperson - elected among its members at the first meeting beginning the term of office - at least once every two months, and also when necessary. Neither the dean not director may be serve as the chairperson (*the University Statutes*, § 81), whereas the elected chairperson must have a status of an independent scientific worker.

2. The resolutions by the Institute Council in matters concerning personal issues are adopted in secret voting by an absolute majority of votes with at least half of the Council’s members present.

3. Each meeting of the Institute Council is followed by the minutes.

4. The Institute Council members are obliged to keep secret all personal issues as well as the other ones expressly defined as confidential.

**Art. 12.**

1. The composition of the Institute Council is determined by elections in which all employees of the Institute have active voting rights.

2. The Institute Council’s four-year cadency overlaps with the quality evaluation of the scientific activities.

3. The numerical strength of the Institute Council is determined depending on the number of teachers employed in the Institute in the group of research and teaching staff. Therefore, if:

1. the number of employees is 25-50, the Institute Council comprises 18 members;
2. the number of employees is below 25 employees, the Institute Council comprises 12 members (cf. the *University Statutes*, § 80, section 4).

4. In general, the Institute Council comprises three groups of academic teachers:

1. 1/3 elected from titular professors and university professors;
2. 1/3 elected from other academic teachers than mentioned above;
3. 1/3 elected from academic teachers who were granted the highest number of points for their research achievements (cf. the *University Statutes,* § 80, section 5).

5. In meetings concerning didactic issues (cf. the *University Statutes,* § 36, section 3), matters of education in the fields of study, post-graduate studies and other forms of education, the Institute Council is complemented by the following parties, unless they comprise one of the group mentioned in section 4 thereof:

1. dean/director;
2. commission moderator for theology studies;
3. deputy dean for student affairs.

In addition, student self-government organization representatives complement the Institute Council in educational matters.

6. The Great Chancellor shall be entitled to take part in Institute Council meetings. However, he does not participate in voting.

**Art. 13.**

1. All elections at the Faculty are held in compliance with the University's statute. These choices are made by the College Electoral College constituted in accordance with the *US Statutes - Annex no. 4*. In all matters specified by the Holy See, the approval of the Great Chancellor is necessary, whereas the approval of the Congregation for the Catholic Education is required for other matters.

2. The fundamental tasks of the Institute Council comprise:

1. designing of the *Faculty Statutes* (cf. art. 4, section 1 thereof);
2. providing opinions in a form of a resolution in all matters defined by the statutes or other internal deeds of the University;
3. voicing opinions concerning the candidate for the Faculty dean/director;
4. annual evaluation of the execution of the Institute’s strategy by the dean/director;
5. formulating recommendations-opinions concerning the execution of the Institute’s strategy addressed to the dean/director;
6. issuing an opinion, in the form of a resolution, on the merits of the completed files constituting the basis for applying for affiliation of higher theological seminaries by the Holy See;
7. formulating applications for undertaking or joining the indicated research programs;
8. voicing opinions with regards to termination of employment with an appointed teacher;
9. expressing opinions concerning study programs, post-diploma studies and any changes thereof;
10. requesting the dean/director to take the initiative to organize a new major of postgraduate studies or other forms of education.

**Art. 14.**

1. The Faculty/Institute is managed and represented by the dean/director.

2. The dean / director is the immediate superior of all employees and the Faculty's students; he monitors the Faculty's scientific, didactic, educational and administrative matters.

**Art. 15.**

The fundamental tasks of the dean/director (the *University Statutes,* §88; §75) comprise:

1. the scientific preparation of alumni of theological seminaries for priesthood by maintaining *Ratio institutionis sacerdotalis pro Polonia* approved by the Holy See;
2. the education of the lay and religious for catechetical purposes at schools and various sectors of the Church’s pastoral activities;
3. the education of the lay to commence various professional tasks and work, in compliance with a given field of study and requirements set by employers;
4. the clergy’s further training;
5. the preparation of independent scientific researchers;
6. the research work in theology, philosophy and widely understood field of humanities and social sciences;
7. the organization of symposiums, public lectures and special trainings;
8. the cooperation with other faculties and universities, in particular the catholic ones as well as other scientific centres, both in the country and abroad.
9. monitoring of the activities of the Faculty’s organizational unit; as part of the entities' inspection, the dean/director may request explanations from the managers of these entities;
10. supervising the implementation of resolutions of the Institute Council and decisions of higher education authorities, issuing relevant decisions and orders as well as notifying the Great Chancellor and University rector of the Faculty-related matters;
11. authorized by the Great Chancellor, the dean accepts *the profession of faith* from those who, in accordance with the art. 27, § l of *Veritatis gaudium* - are required to have a canonical mission;
12. taking responsibility for the preparation of the Faculty's material and financial plan;
13. developing the roadmap of research work;
14. preparing a forecast of the Faculty's development and draft changes to the Faculty’s organizational structure after consulting the appropriate council;
15. ensuring that both the course of study and the education of students are properly conducted;
16. signing of diplomas and other documents (together with the rector);
17. initiating and supporting of activities increasing the qualifications of academic teachers through contacts with other scientific institutions;
18. reporting to the Institute Council, Senate, Great chancellor as well as Congregation for Catholic Education from the Faculty’s activities (cf. *Executive orders to Veritatis gaudium*, art. 17, no. 4; 6);
19. organizing of cooperation with other University’s organizational units in the scope of interdisciplinary educational programs and research institutions, both in the country and abroad;
20. managing of the Faculty’s finances and properties;
21. providing the University’s rector with the employee-related applications
22. ensuring safety and hygienic work conditions at the Faculty.

##### Art. 16.

The election procedure provides for the candidate list for dean/director to be submitted to the Great Chancellor at least fourteen days before the scheduled date of voting. The Great Chancellor should respond within seven days. From among the positively evaluated candidates, two of them are selected by the Electoral College and sent to the University's rector who appoints one candidate to office. Before taking up office by the newly elected dean/director, the Great Chancellor submits the candidacy to the Congregation for the Catholic Education for approval and, alone or through authorized delegate, receives the profession of faith from the candidate (*Veritatis Gaudium,* art. 18).

##### Art. 17.

1. The dean/director’s deputies are a deputy dean for student affairs and deputy director for scientific affairs, respectively.

2. The deputy dean’s scope of activities is defined by the dean/director and the *University Statutes,* §78.

3. The deputy director’s scope of activities is defined by the dean/director and the *University Statutes,* §78.

4. The deputy dean for student affairs is appointed by the University’s rector who coordinate the candidacy with the dean/director and student self-government organization. The deputy director is granted the position by the rector’s order and at the request of the dean/director.

**Chapter V**

## Faculty of Theology Teachers

**Art. 18.**

1. The Faculty's teachers are individuals with appropriate professional qualifications, maintaining the doctrine of the Catholic Church, following the principles of Christian morality and meeting the conditions set out in the Act on Higher Education and Science and in *Veritatis gaudium*, art. 25-26.

2. Teachers are deemed as research and didactic staff members (A) and didactic staff members (B), and are employed in the following posts, respectively:

A 1) professor;

2) university professor;

3) assistant professor;

4) teaching assistant;

B 1) didactic professor;

2) didactic assistant professor;

3) senior lecturer;

4) lecturer;

5) language teacher;

6) instructor (cf. the *University* *Statutes* § 162).

**Art. 19.**

1. The method of employing the Faculty teachers, the requirements for potential teachers as well as the academic career path are specified by the provisions of the *University Statutes,* § 163-164 and church regulations.

2. The teacher is employed by the rector following the verification of competences and qualifications contained in the *US Statutes,* § 163 and after consulting the Institute Council.

3. The employment relationship with the teacher is established on the basis of an employment contract, after an open contest has been conducted (the *University Statutes,* § 160, sections 2-3). The duration of the first contract may be indefinite or definite for the maximum period of 4 years. Continued employment may be obtained following the positive assessment (the *University Statutes,* § 161, section 2). The said procedure results in becoming a position of a permanent teacher (*Veritatis Gaudium*, art. 22).

4. The number of permanent teachers employed by the Faculty must not be lower than 12. This is a requirement resulting from the *Executive orders to Veritatis Gaudium*, art. 18, §2 as well as from the national regulations concerning the establishment of institutes in a higher education institution.

5. Prior to taking up their duties, teachers involved in disciplines related to faith and moral issues must obtain a canonical mission from the Great Chancellor and make a profession of faith to the dean/director, whereas other teachers must obtain the Great Chancellor’s permission to teach.

6. The dean/director applies to the Great Chancellor to obtain a canonical mission or permission to teach.

7. Persons who have previously obtained *nihil obstat* by the Holy See (cf. *Veritatis gaudium*, art. 27, §2) may be employed in the position of a professor and associate professor in theology.

8. The scope of teachers’ duties is defined by the *University Statutes* § 165 as well as the *Attachment no. 1 to Employment Regulations* binding in the University of Szczecin*.*

**Art. 20.**

1. The Faculty teachers are subject to disciplinary liability for conduct that violates the duties of a teacher or the dignity of the teaching profession. The rules and procedure for disciplinary proceedings against teachers are set out in the *Act on Higher Education and Science*, Section VII - *Disciplinary Responsibility*.

2. In the event of an allegation concerning the violation of decency in life or teaching, or the proclamation of the inauthentic doctrine of the Catholic Church, the procedure set out in article 24, § 2 of the *Executive Orders* to the constitution *Veritatis gaudium* is applied, namely, the dean/director conducts an appropriate conversation with the teacher. Then, if this conversation proves to be ineffective, the case is sent to a commission, composed of at least there members of the Institute Council, appointed to solve the matter.

3. If the measures listed in section 2 thereof proved to be insufficient, the dean/director sends the case to the Great Chancellor, who consults it with the experts. The experts should include at least one representative of the Faculty.

4. In serious or urgent cases, if the spiritual interest of students and the congregation so requires, the Great Chancellor may suspend the teacher until the normal investigation is completed; the Great Chancellor also notifies the University Rector of this suspension (*Executive orders* to the constitution *Veritatis gaudium*, art. 24, § 3).

5. 5. If the allegations against the teacher are confirmed, the Great Chancellor may withdraw his canonical mission or permission to teach in the Faculty. Prior to such a decision, the Great Chancellor hears the opinion of the accused lecturer and the appointed commission composed of the members of the Institute Council.

6. The Great Chancellor passes the decision to withdraw the canonical mission to the Faculty dean/director and the University rector who initiates the appropriate termination procedure.

7. The withdrawal of the canonical mission or permission to teach is the result of violating the terms of the contract signed upon employment, referred to in *Veritatis gaudium*, art. 26, § 2. At the request of the dean/director, the rector may fill the vacant post at the Faculty in compliance with applicable provisions of state and ecclesial law.

###### Art. 21.

A teacher who has been accused of teaching or preaching the inauthentic doctrine of the Catholic Church is entitled to be heard and defended. The accused may also appeal to the Holy See against the decision of the Great Chancellor. If the objections raised against the teacher are not confirmed, the court hearing the case communicates its decision in writing to the parties of the dispute.

##### Art. 22.

Diocesan clergy and members of religious orders must obtain permission from their own bishop or higher superior to commence work at the Faculty.

**Art. 23.**

1. The duties of the Faculty teachers include:

1. research and didactic work; professors and persons with the degree of doctor habilitated are also responsible for educating of junior researchers; the scope and volume of didactic duties are set out in the *University's Employment Regulations,* § 38;
2. educational work, in particular shaping of students' morals and citizenship;
3. participation in the University and Faculty organizational activities as well as the Institute Council meetings (members only); performing function and tasks entrusted by the University and Faculty authorities.

2. Teachers should continue to deepen their qualifications and pursue the path of professional promotion. This is verified by periodic appraisals carried out in line with principles set out in the art. 128 of the *Act on Higher Education and Science* as well as the *University Statutes,* § 169, section 2.

3. Teachers are subject to periodic appraisal in the scope of fulfilling their duties. The evaluation is made by a commission appointed by the rector (the *University Statutes,* § 169-171).

**Art. 24.**

Teachers are entitled to holiday, sabbatical and convalescent leave as well as to professional training in compliance with the principles set out in the *University's Employment Regulations*, art. 74-82.

**Chapter VI**

## Faculty of Theology Academic Students

##### Art. 25.

The Faculty provides education for the religious and lay who have obtained secondary school-leaving certificate, accept the Faculty's ecclesial and state nature and are marked with decent moral attitude (*Veritatis Gaudium*, art. 31).

**Art. 26.**

1. The First-year admission procedure is carried out by the Faculty’s recruitment commission on principles adopted by the Institute Council and approved by the University Senate.

2. If candidates are to become alumni of a clerical seminary, admission to the Faculty is made upon prior acceptance of the candidate by the rector of the relevant clerical seminary or diocesan bishop depending on the rules applied in a given diocese.

3. Admission to the University and Faculty's student community takes place upon matriculation and taking the academic oath before the rector or dean/director, in compliance with the *University Statutes,* § 181.

4. The decision concerning the admission of a candidate for further years of study is made by the deputy dean for student affairs in compliance with the provisions of the *University's Study Regulations.*

5. The candidates who are refugees are admitted for studies at the Faculty in compliance with the University’s recruitment policy. The Faculty is supported by the the University’s Department of International Affairs.

**Art. 27.**

The detailed student rights and obligations are set out in the *University’s Study Regulations,* § 9 and § 11.

**Art. 28.**

1. A student of the Faculty, upon the consent of the deputy dean for student affairs, may transfer to another university, as well as to another University's faculty, in compliance with applicable regulations.

2. If a student from another university or faculty is admitted to the faculty upon approval of the deputy dean for student affairs, he/she must fulfill any programme differences specified by the Faculty's study curriculum.

**Art. 29.**

Upon the consent of the deputy dean for student affairs, a student may exceptionally commence a second major of study at another faculty or university providing that the previous year of study is completed with an appropriate average grade and the activities in the second major do not collide with the duties of the primary major (the *University's Study Regulations,* § 25).

**Art. 30.**

1. Secular students are provided with pastoral care by the academic chaplain appointed by the Great Chancellor upon consulting with the dean/director.

2. The dean/director appoints student group patrons among the Institute’s research and didactic staff.

**Art. 31.**

1. Faculty students form the faculty student self-government representing all students and working for the benefit of the Faculty and students, in compliance with the *University's Statutes,* § 186 as well as general university principles.

2.Student self-government representatives have the right to vote on matters related to the university, in particular matters related to the process of teaching and studying as well as material assistance granted for students.

3. Student self-government representatives participate in Institute Council’s meetings concerning didactics and other collective bodies, in compliance with the provisions of the *University’s Statutes*.

**Art. 32.**

1. Faculty students have the right to associate in academic associations and organizations that are not opposed to Christian values and acting under the care of the Faculty's authorities. Associations and organizations should not conduct political activities at the Faculty.

2. The statutes of associations and academic organizations operating at the Faculty are approved by the dean/director; he also appoints spiritual guardians for these entities.

3. Student research clubs can operate within the Faculty.

**Art. 33.**

1. The deputy dean for student affairs expels a student from the list of students under the circumstances defined by the *University’s Study Regulations,* § 33.

2. A student expelled from the list of students is entitled to appeal from the decision, to the deputy dean for student affairs (by way of administrative proceedings).

**Art. 34.**

1. A student who violates any provisions of law, in particular the obligations set out in the *University's Statutes*, the *Faculty's Statutes* as well as the *University's Study Regulations* or acts in the way demeaning the student dignity, is liable to disciplinary measures decided by the University's disciplinary committee for students (the *University's Statutes,* § 194).

2. The principles of disciplinary proceedings are defined by the *Act on higher education and Science*, chapter 2-3, section VII.

3. A student is entitled to appeal to the disciplinary appeals commission.

**Chapter VII**

##### Studies at the Faculty of Theology

**Art. 35.**

1. The Faculty's main field of study is theology.

2. A course of study other than theology at the Faculty requires the consent of the Great Chancellor and the approval of the Congregation for Catholic Education.

3. Theological studies at the Faculty aim to study and deepen Catholic doctrine and prepare for work in the Church and for the secular community such as catechetical, apostolic, social and scientific work. The Faculty's other fields of study should serve these purposes.

**Art. 36.**

1. Studies of Catholic theology at the Faculty include uniform master's studies (i.e. the first cycle in the church terminology) and bachelor's studies in theology (i.e. the second cycle *ad licentiam* in the church terminology).

2. The course program of the first cycle - a five-year master's studies (10 semesters) - includes philosophical, theological and humanistic knowledge, as detailed in art. 55-56 of the *Executive Orders* to the constitution *Veritatis gaudium*. These studies are completed with a master's degree in theology.

3. The course program of the second cycle (*ad licentiam* – 4 semesters) – provides studies in the scope of systematic theology and pastoral theology. The detailed program of studies is set out by the Institute Council. These studies are completed with a bachelor’s degree in theology.

**Art. 37.**

1. The Faculty provides post-graduate studies and further training courses not related to the award of academic degrees. The Institute Council applies to either establish or close them, as well as sets the programs for these studies. The training course require the rector's approval.

2. Post-graduate studies may be launched in compliance with current needs.

**Art. 38.**

1. In research and teaching, the Faculty is guided by the principle of freedom of science, which serves to learn the truth and develop scientific disciplines (cf. can. 218 CIC-83 and *Veritatis gaudium*, art. 38).

2. The research and teaching of theological disciplines should comply with the Magisterium of the Church.

**Art. 39.**

1. The Faculty teaching includes: cursory and monographic lectures, tutorials, practical, language classes, seminars, internships and other classes included in the curriculum.

2. The curriculum is adopted by the Institute Council, in compliance with the requirements set out by relevant provisions, including canonic law and *Ratio institutionis sacerdotalis pro Polonia*. The curriculum requires an approval by the Congregation for Catholic Education.

**Chapter VIII**

##### Scientific Degrees and Titles

**Art. 40.**

In compliance with the provisions of the ecclesial and state law, the Institute Council grants the professional title of a bachelor, master and so-called church bachelor's degree, as well as doctoral and post-doctoral degree in theology. It also conducts, as instructed by the Council of Scientific Excellence, proceedings to confer the title of professor in theology.

##### Art. 41.

1. To complete individual stages of theology, it is required to:

1. receive credits from subjects defined by the curriculum;
2. submit a diploma dissertation, written in compliance with the applicable requirements, approved by the promoter and positively evaluated by the reviewer; in the event of professional bachelor’s degree, the Institute Council may exempt the candidate from submitting a diploma dissertation;
3. taking a bachelor’s or master’s examinations in compliance with the university and faculty regulations.

2. Scientific degrees of doctor and doctor habilitated in theology are granted by the Institute Council, in compliance with the provisions of ecclesial and state law. The detailed requirements based on the *Act 2.0* and specified for the purposes of the University are included in the *University Statutes*, § 128-136.

### **Chapter IX**

### **Library and Scientific Publishers**

**Art. 42.**

1. The Faculty uses the faculty library in Szczecin, which collection of books is largely shared by the Archbishop Theological Seminary, as well as libraries of Theological Seminaries in Koszalin and Paradyż.

2. While maintaining solely ecclesial ownership of the book collection, the Faculty Library operates in the structures of the University's Central Library, just like other University libraries.

**Art. 43.**

The Faculty publishes its own academic journals and publishing series.

#### Chapter X

##### Administration and Financial Background of the Faculty of Theology

**Art. 44.**

1.The Faculty administration is coordinated by the dean/director supported by administration workers employed by the University rector in compliance with relevant provisions of the *University Statutes*.

2. The University/Faculty structure of administration is defined by the rector’s order in a form of the *Administration’s Organizational Regulations of the University of Szczecin*.

3. The elementary scope of duties of administration managers and their employees are specified by the said *Regulations*, § 5 section 2 as well as § 6 section 2. The detailed scope of duties of individual employees, depending on their organizational allocation, is defined by the University Chancellor and relevant managers.

**Art. 45.**

1. In all Faculty’s financial and economic matters the dean/director is supported by the deputy dean for student affairs and the deputy director. The facility manager employed by the University manages the Faculty’s economic matters.

2. The Institute Council reviews annual budget estimates prepared by the dean/director. Then, the document is separately verified by the University rector and the Great Chancellor.

3. The dean/director submits the annual budget report to the Institute Council.

4. The implementation of the Faculty’s budget is subject to principles specified in acts, the statutes as well as orders of relevant University’s authorities.

5. The Faculty’s expenses, paid for by church (for investments, repairs, research and other) are subject to the Great Chancellor’s supervision.

6. The church lends its facilities free of charge for the Faculty's purposes (cf. the *Agreement* of January 9, 2004). The allocation and spending of church funds for the needs of the Faculty is evaluated by the Church's financial commission appointed for the Faculty matters composed of the dean/director, Great Chancellor's representative, rector of the Archbishop's Seminary and the representative of the academic staff.

##### Art. 46.

1. The church authorities undertake to cover expenses related to the maintenance and operation of the Faculty buildings (cf. the *Agreement* of January 9, 2004), unless otherwise specified.

2. Remunerations of the Faculty’s employees, student scholarships as well as any other subsidies for research and scientific purposes are provided by the state’s and the University’s budget in compliance with the Act (cf. the *Agreement* of January 9, 2004).

**Chapter XI**

Cooperation of the Faculty of Theology with Theological Seminaries

##### Art. 47.

1. The cooperation between the Faculty and the Archbishop Theological Seminary in Szczecin as well as Theological Seminaries in Koszalin and Paradyż are regulated by separate agreements concluded between the Faculty dean/director and the rectors of these seminaries.

2. Theological seminaries comprise separate organizational and legal units of the Church. They are managed by their own boards and offices as well as own regulations (statutes).

3. The bond between the Faculty and individual higher theological seminaries is regulated by their affiliation made by the Holy See.

4. The Faculty dean/director is liable for the execution of scientific formation of alumni admitted to the Faculty, in compliance with the binding *Ratio institutionis sacerdotalis pro Polonia* approved by the Holy See.

5. The rectors of seminaries educating their alumni in the Faculty’s structures may participate in diploma examinations of their alumni, in compliance with the relevant provisions.

**Art. 48.**

1. The Faculty closely cooperates with theological seminaries in the preparation of candidates for priesthood in compliance with applicable church and state regulations specified in the *Code of Canon Law*, *Veritatis gaudium*, *Executive Orders*, *Ratio institutionis*, as well as the norms issued by the Episcopal Conference of Poland, the *University’s Statutes*, the *Faculty’s Statutes* and the seminars’ statutes.

2. The rectors of theological seminaries in Szczecin, Koszalin and Paradyż being the Faculty’s employees are members of the Institute Council and participate in its meetings. The seminary rectors not employed by the Faculty are entitled to take part in the meetings of the Institute Council without the right to vote.

**Art. 49.**

1. Recruitment of candidates for priesthood for the first year of studies at the Faculty is conducted by the faculty commission. In this recruitment, in addition to the general conditions of admission to studies at the University, the criteria specified by the church authority are taken into account.

2. A condition for admission to the Faculty of candidates for priesthood is a written certificate of admission to the seminary signed by the relevant rector.

**Art. 50.**

1. As the Faculty’s students, the seminary alumni are entitled with rights and duties set out in the *University Statutes* and the *Faculty Statutes*. They are also bound by the provisions of the *University’s Study Regulations.*

2. Prior to the commencement of the academic year, the seminary rector notifies the dean/director of the calendar of seminary’s activities.

3. Under particularly justified circumstances, the dean/director may suspend the faculty classes of alumni at the request of the seminary rector.

4. The alumni’s studies and examinations are conducted in compliance with the applicable *University’s Study Regulations*. The duration of individual semesters and dates of exam sessions are determined by ordinance of the University rector.

**Art. 51.**

1. The use of premises owned by the seminary by the Faculty is set out by separate agreements.

2. Economic and financial matters and other detailed arrangements for cooperation are set out in separate agreements concluded between the Faculty's board and the seminaries.

##### Art. 52.

These Regulations shall enter into force upon the approval by the Holy See.

Szczecin, [date]

**Attachments:**

1. *The Statutes of the University of Szczecin of 30th May 2019*
2. *The Administration’s Organizational Regulations of the University of Szczecin of 25th July 2019*
3. *The Employment Regulations of the University of Szczecin of 13th September 2019*
4. *The Study Regulations of the University of Szczecin of 27th June 2019*