

Selection procedure of doctoral candidates at the ISMMT

1. Introduction

Candidates may register for the doctoral program, but they will not be accepted as doctoral candidates until their disposition has been approved by the Dean of Studies.

Approval can be obtained through the following procedure:

2. Definition of the scientific problem

Only a dissertation - whether it is a cumulative dissertation or a monograph- with research focus on "Strategic leadership, innovation and brand" can be considered. That is, a research problem has to be clearly attributed to the interests of one of the research groups in question.

Possible research problems can be found on the institute's website, but may also be suggested by the candidates themselves.

3. Informative discussion

The person interested in using one of the research problems will have a first informative discussion with a possible supervisor at the institute. This serves to discuss the problem, possible theoretic approaches and the rules of a possible cooperation/supervision. If a candidate is further interested in working on the topic after the discussion, he/she may start preparing his/her intermediate presentation.

4. Intermediate presentation

During a period of max. six months the candidate will gain insight in literature which might be relevant for the dissertation, as well as in theoretical basics and empiric approaches. For the sake of quality assurance, candidates are requested to familiarize themselves with the basics of academic writing as well as to study relevant research papers of the institute.

If a scientific problem and the outline of the dissertation has been defined, the candidate will present his/her ideas at the FSP-colloquium.

In order to register for the presentation, the candidate must have successfully completed the following courses:

- "PV Methodologie" (PV methodology)
- "PV Methoden" (PV methods)
- "Fachseminar" (subject orientated seminar)

The presentation has to be registered at the institute's office with the person organizing the colloquium six weeks prior it takes place. The presentation should take 20 minutes.

The concept plan of the future dissertation must include the following:

- a well-defined explanation of the illustrated problem
- proof of scientific relevance of the topic based on critical analysis of relevant literature
- A critical analysis of methodological, theoretical and methodical approaches of the problem. The members of the colloquium will comment on the dissertation concept, suggest ways of implementation or will disapprove of the ideas presented. If there are mainly positive responses to the proposed dissertation, the project will most likely be approved and supervised. If it is to be a cumulative dissertation, it is essential at this point to start looking for possible collaborators of possible sub-projects

5. Presentation and defense of the disposition

After working on the concept, the candidate will present the disposition in another FSP-colloquium, which takes place at the latest one year after first having expressed interest in the research problem. The presentation has to be registered at the institute's office with the person organizing the colloquium two months prior it takes place. The presentation should take 30 minutes.

One week before the presentation and defense of the disposition, the candidate will hand in the disposition in written form (to the supervisor).

The disposition should outline:

- a clear definition of the research problem
- the candidate's knowledge about the subject and an explanation of the problem
- the candidate's theoretic approach to the subject, and
- a presentation of the empiric methods in question
- Finally, it should be clearly pointed out, how the project is expected to contribute to expanding our knowledge

Criteria of a successful application for the Austrian National Bank's "Jubiläumsfonds" (research fund) may be taken as quality standard for the disposition.

After the presentation and after a short discussion of the members of the FSP-colloquium, the candidate will be given an unambiguous feedback of whether the dissertation project is being accepted or not (provided that the Dean of Studies gives his/her approval). The presentation may not be held a second time.