

# Publication-Based Doctorate

## Memorandum of Understanding

- Publication-Based and book thesis possess the same scientific standard and, as complementary models, are to be categorically considered as equivalent.
- Publication-Based doctorates are an alternative for doctoral candidates who specifically require scientific publications after obtaining their doctorate (e.g. for a scientific career).
- For both thesis forms, the assurance of quality is primarily the responsibility of the consultants who assess the scientific claims of the work independently.
- The expert opinion is obliged to state at a suitably recognizable position that the work is for a cumulative doctorate.
- The requirements proposed here take account of the different relevant publication formats (e.g. with respect to the quality of conference articles with full-paper peer review) in the different focus areas of the engineering faculty BGU.
- The following recommendations should be considered as guidelines for cumulative doctoral theses. Justified exceptions are of course possible which are to be examined by the Working Group Doctorates (“AK Promotionen” formerly referred to as “Kommission für Promotionsangelegenheiten”).

## Requirements for Publication-Based Doctorates

- **Number of publications:** Usually at least three publications.
- **Status of publication:**  
Usually at least two accepted publications. The proof of status of accepted articles or articles in press can take place by correspondence with the journal. In the case of submitted publications, the consultants must assess whether the work merits publication.
- **Rank of the publications:**  
The quality standard is the full-paper with peer review as in, for example, ISI-listed journals. The consultants must assess the peer review and the quality of the publications. In the case of non-ISI-publication peer review process of the referees must be assessed; in doubt decide the AK promotions.
- **Synoptic introduction and discussion:**  
At least 40 pages divided into overarching issue and problem-statement, prior research and synoptic discussion.
- **First / co-authorship:**  
The doctoral candidate must be the first author of at least two of the submitted articles. It must be explained in a statement, the contribution percentage and which parts of the publication the individual authors have made. This declaration must be signed by all co-authors.
- **Use of a publication in several dissertations:**  
Only in exceptional cases, here decides the “AK Promotionen”.
- **Impartiality appraiser:**  
At least one reporter (appraiser) must be ordered, who is not a co-author on any of the publications.
- **Formatting:**  
Publications can be integrated as a chapter or appear separately in a second part of the thesis.
- **Language:**  
For publications not necessarily uniform. However, the synoptic introduction and discussion should be written in a standard language.