

Procedure for assigning 'ius promovendi' to an associate professor

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Article 12 in the VU Doctorate Regulations states that 'ius promovendi' can be assigned to an associate professor (UHD).

Criteria

In Article 3 of the Procedural Regulations (Dutch: 'Uitvoeringsbesluiten'), the criteria for assigning 'ius promovendi' are the following:

1. the proposed supervisor is an excellent researcher, as evidenced by positive peer evaluations and recognition, such as the award of grants for externally funded research, the assessment 'excellent' on applications for such grants, or multiple peer reviewed publications evidencing a high level of scholarly excellence; and
2. the proposed supervisor is an excellent supervisor, as evidenced by at least two successfully completed doctorates that they have supervised in the formal role of co-supervisor.

The College of Deans added:

3. The associate professor has been trained in the supervision of PhD candidates.

Procedure

1. Please submit a request to be granted 'ius promovendi' to the secretariat of the Graduate School of Social Sciences (GSSS): graduate.school.ssw@vu.nl
2. The envisaged first supervisor (promotor) submits information on the following:
 - a) A short description of the relevant PhD position(s) (i.e., the incoming candidate) and a justification for why the associate professor should act as their first supervisor.
 - b) A short description of past (at least two completed) promotion trajectories in which the envisaged first supervisor has been involved from the start as co-supervisor, including a description of the role played by the associate professor. Include a description of what was learned during the mentoring of successful and possibly unsuccessful candidates.
 - c) Date, subject, and trainer of PhD candidate supervision training.¹
 - d) References (if available) to major successful grant applications or applications that were at least marked as 'excellent'.
 - e) A list of scientific, peer-reviewed publications, with the three most prestigious ones marked.
3. On the basis of the responses, the Director of the GSSS checks whether the associate professor meets the relevant criteria of being an excellent researcher and an excellent supervisor, and thereafter advises the Dean whether or not to grant 'ius promovendi'.
4. The Dean decides on the application for 'ius promovendi', taking the advice of the Director of the GSSS into account.
5. Once an associate professor has been granted 'ius promovendi', they can act as first supervisor for any number of subsequent PhD candidates.

¹ If no training has been followed, the training should be followed as soon as possible and 'ius promovendi' can be granted conditionally. The training can be found in the VU [Learning Management System](#) (LMS).