Universität
Basel

Philosophisch-Naturwissenschaftliche
Fakultät

# Declaration on the Assessment of Research Performance Faculty of Science, University of Basel

Top-level research is the goal of our university and its evaluation is therefore a necessity in terms of research policy. The corresponding research administrative activity comes into play especially in appointments and promotions, as well as in the awarding of grants and prizes. Research at the cutting edge of science is highly dynamic and difficult to predict, which is why its evaluation cannot follow any fixed external standards. In the tradition of liberalism and individual responsibility, the Faculty of Science of the University of Basel states for the evaluations taking place within its sphere of influence:

[1] Evaluations take place in elected committees consisting of several persons ("the evaluators").

[2] The evaluators are solely bound to their integrity and their vow of scientific honesty.

[3] Based on these premises, the evaluators have the free and individual decision on the choice of evaluation criteria to be used and their relative weighting. All those evaluated in the same procedure must be evaluated according to the same criteria and with the same relative weighting.

[4] Examples of commonly used criteria include, but are not limited to: (i) research content, (ii) quantity and volume of publications, (iii) resonance of publications in the research community and society at large, (iv) future prospects of research, (v) metrics that assess the overall performance of the evaluated.

[5] The criteria chosen are to be justified by the individual evaluators in discussions within the evaluation committees and can be mentioned in the committee reports as appropriate. The possibility of conscious or unconscious discrimination of persons on the basis of other characteristics, such as gender, origin, etc, is to be addressed in the committees and thus avoided.

approved by the Faculty assembly on 22 June 2021