

## Information for potential thesis committee members

Thank you very much for considering the option to serve as a member in a thesis committee for a doctoral candidate in the BrainLinks-BrainTools graduate program.

BrainLinks-BrainTools is a Cluster of Excellence funded by the DFG (German Research Foundation) and aims to develop medical technology that directly interacts with the nervous system. In view of this aim, BrainLinks-BrainTools combines life-sciences and engineering sciences as well as their clinical applications.

The structured BrainLinks-BrainTools graduate program was established to promote excellent training for junior scientists. Our aim is to enable doctoral candidates to acquire knowledge and techniques from several research areas as well as to support personal growth and career development.

To provide solid supervision for our doctoral candidates, we established thesis committees with two or three members. This supervision system should provide the option that the mainly interdisciplinary research projects of doctoral candidates can be supervised by experts from different fields, so that the doctoral candidates profit from multisided feedback on their work.

Additionally, the doctoral candidate shall have the possibility to contact the thesis committee members for personal questions or if a second opinion is needed that the group leader is not able to provide.

As a potential thesis committee member we ask you to

- Accompany the doctoral candidate during the thesis and discuss with the doctoral student a suitable system how this accompaniment can be put in practice (meetings, phone calls etc.). The time you need to invest for the supervision depends on the agreement with the doctoral candidate. However, as a minimal requirement we ask you to be in contact with the doctoral student once per year.
- Get connected with the other members of the thesis committee
- Provide your expert knowledge to support the progress of the PhD/MD project
- Give advice on scientific questions
- Support the doctoral candidate in personal questions (e.g. career planning)

As a potential thesis committee member, you need to hold a doctoral degree. You will not be automatically a member of the final examination committee; you only take over the responsibility for supervision during the scientific work, not for the examination.



What we offer you as a potential thesis committee member:

- Get in contact with other supervisors, thesis committee members and scientists working on interdisciplinary projects in neurotechnology
- Accompany interesting research projects in neurotechnology and engaged doctoral candidates
- If you wish, we provide a certificate that you have supervised and supported a doctoral candidate in a structured graduate program.
- As a young postdoc, we offer you the possibility to train your skills as supervisor and leader in a team together with experienced group leaders.

Thank you very much for your readiness to think about the option to serve as a member in a thesis committee. For any further questions, please contact the doctoral candidate or additionally for organizational questions, you can also contact the program coordinator.