Directive Executive Board TU/e with regard to internal double diplomas for master programs

1. In this directive the term “program” is used in agreement with the definition in paragraph 1.1, section m. of the Higher Education and Scientific Research Act. This means: an accredited program with its own, independent registration in the Central Register of Programs in Higher Education (CROHO). (In other words: this directive does not apply to tracks, specializations etc. within a single program. To such subprograms, the regulations in the Program and Examination Regulations (OER) of the program on taking (extra) electives apply.)

2. In this directive, “internal double diplomas” refers to the situation in which a student is attempting to acquire the degrees and accompanying diplomas of several TU/e master programs for an additional workload of 75 EC at the most. Cases in which the additional workload exceeds 75 EC are not covered by the term “internal double diplomas” and this directive does not apply to such cases.

3. In order to qualify for internal double diplomas the student needs to successfully complete at least 45 EC in courses and MSc Final Project on top of the regular workload of a program in order to meet the final qualifications of both programs. Therefore in order to acquire two master degrees with their accompanying diplomas within the framework of internal double diplomas, a total workload of at least 165 EC and at most 195 EC applies. In order to acquire more than two master degrees with accompanying diplomas (internal triple diplomas etc.) the study load is further increased with 30-60 EC in courses as well as an additional 15 EC for the MSc Final Project for each additional master program.

4. The procedure for internal double diplomas is as follows. The student puts together a course package with a total study load as described below 3 and if applicable a joint MSc Final Project as described below 5 in this directive and submits this before the start of his second year of registration for the program(s) to the Examination Committees involved. These Examination Committees each assess whether this package meets the requirements below 3 and 5 in this directive. They also assess whether the package meets the requirements listed in the Program and Examination Regulations (OER) of the program in question and hence whether it meets the program’s final qualifications. If both types of requirements have been met, the Examination Committee lends its approval. The Examination Committees involved inform each other on their decision making. If agreements between two programs on a combined curriculum of both programs already exist, this combined curriculum, provided it fits within the requirements in this directive, replaces a package put together by the student.

5. If a single MSc Final Project is taken the core aspects of both master programs involved have to be clearly identifiable in the project. This will be assessed by each of the Examination Committees for their own program. In the case of a single MSc Final Project the student has to register for this before the start of his second year of registration for the program(s).
6. By derogation of point 3 in this directive, pairs of programs can lower the minimum additional study load as required for internal double diplomas of 45 EC, resulting in a total study load of 165 EC, to 30 EC additional study load, matching a total study load of 150 EC. This has to be a double diplomas curriculum initiated by the graduate program directors involved and established and published in advance, as e.g. referred to in the last sentence of point 4 of this directive. Such reductions are decided on by the graduate program directors involved and require the consent of the MSc Program Committees and Examination Committees involved. This derogation will in any case apply to internal double diplomas involving the MSc program Science Education and Communication.

7. As long as the current system of funding is in force, the second MSc diploma will be reported to DUO as not funded, unless an MSc program in Education is involved. Internal financial settlement of the teaching load delivered by the departments involved will take place in proportion to the number of credits gained by the student.

8. This modified directive takes effect on September 1, 2017 and applies to students entering TU/e MSc programs from this date.

Adopted by the Executive Board on June 15, 2017