GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

No. 13 17 January 2014

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997)

INSTITUTIONAL STATUTE

WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY

I, Dr Bonginkosi Emmanuel Nzimande, MP, Minister of Higher Education and Training, in accordance with section 33 (1) of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), hereby publish the Institutional Statute of Walter Sisulu University set out in the Schedule hereto.

The Statute of Walter Sisulu University as published in Government Notice No. 900 dated 26 August 2006 in Government Gazette no. 31358, is hereby repealed in its entirely.

Dr BE Nzimande, MP

Minister of Higher Education and Training

Date: 8/12/13

4 No. 37235

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

STATUTE OF THE WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY

The Administrator of the Walter Sisulu University, appointed in terms of section 41A of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended, has, in accordance with the terms of reference of said appointment, after consultation with relevant stakeholders, made the Statute set out in the Schedule hereto by the authority provided for in sections 32(1)(a) and 41A of the said Act and the said terms of reference, which is, in terms of section 33(1) of the said Act hereby published with the approval of the Minister of Higher Education and Training, and which comes into operation on the date of publication.

SCHEDULE

To introduce a new Statute for the Walter Sisulu University, to give effect to any law relating to the University, and to promote the effective and responsible governance and management of the University in respect of matters not expressly prescribed by any law.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the Walter Sisulu University has been established as a unitary, multi-campus, comprehensive University through the merger of the University of Transkei, Border Technikon and Eastern Cape Technikon on 1 July 2005, in terms of a Notice issued by the Minister of Higher Education and Training in terms of Section 23(1) of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended,

And

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WHEREAS it is necessary to provide for the governance and management of the Walter Sisulu University as a unitary, comprehensive, geographically dispersed multi-campus institution by making provision for an appropriate divisional management system, in compliance with the provisions of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended, in respect of matters not expressly prescribed by the Act or any other law,

And

WHEREAS it has become necessary to reconfigure the existing regulatory provisions for the Walter Sisulu University by rescinding and replacing the Statute of the Walter Sisulu University published in Notice No. 900, Government Gazette No. 31358 of 26 August 2008;

THEREFORE the Administrator of the Walter Sisulu University has made this Statute in terms of section 32(1)(a) of the said Act, to ensure the effective governance and management of the University with the view to achieve its goals and objectives.

Contents

	Page
DEFINITIONS 1. Definitions	8
UNIVERSITY	13
2. Name, status, seat and powers of University	13
3. Constitution of the University	14
CHANCELLOR	15
4. Functions of chancellor	15
5. Election and appointment of chancellor	15
6. Term of office of chancellor	17
COUNCIL	17
7. Functions of council	17
8. Composition of council	20
9. Election and Term of office of council members	23
10. Termination of membership and filling of vacancies of members of council	24
11. Election and functions of chairperson and deputy chairperson of council and the	
office	
12. Secretary of council	27
13. Meetings of council	27
14. Council meeting procedures	28
15. Conflict of interests of council members, committee members and functionaries	30
16. Executive and other committees of council	31
17. Minutes of council and council committees	32
18. Drafting, amending or repealing of statute or a Rule	33
SENATE	33

19. Powers, functions and composition of the senate	33
20. Senate membership and termination thereof	37
21. Terms of office of senate members	38
22. Chairperson, deputy chairperson and secretary of senate	39
23. Senate and senate committees' meetings and meeting procedures	39
24. Executive committee and other committees of senate	40
25. Joint committees of council and senate	41
FACULTY BOARD	41
26. Functions of faculty board	41
27. Composition of faculty board	41
28. Meetings and meeting procedures of faculty board	42
INSTITUTIONAL FORUM	43
29. Functions of institutional forum	43
30. Composition of institutional forum	43
31. Election and terms of office of members of institutional forum	44
32. Office-bearers of institutional forum	45
33. Meetings and meeting procedures of institutional forum	45
34. Committees of institutional forum	46
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE	46
35. Functions of student support services committee	46
36. Composition of student support services committee	46
37. Terms of office of student support services committee members	47
88. Chairperson, deputy-chairperson and secretary of student support services committee	47
39. Meetings and meeting procedures of student support services committee	48
STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)	48

40. Functions of SRC	48
41. Composition of SRC and criteria for eligibility of candidates	50
42. Term of office of SRC members	50
43. Privileges of SRC members	50
44. Meetings and constitution of SRC	51
45. Committees of SRC	51
46. General meeting of students	51
CONVOCATION	52
47. Membership of convocation	52
48. Office-bearers and committees of convocation	53
49. Meetings of convocation	53
50. Meeting procedures of convocation	54
MANAGEMENT AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT	56
VICE-CHANCELLOR	57
51. Chief executive officer of the University	57
52. Functions of vice-chancellor	56
53. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of	vice-
chancellor	57
54. Discipline of vice-chancellor	57
DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLORS	58
55. Functions of deputy vice-chancellor	58
56. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancies in office of d	
57. Discipline of deputy vice-chancellor	58
REGISTRAR	
58. Functions of Registrar	

59. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office, filling of vacancy in office of registrar 59
60. Discipline of registrar
INSTITUTIONAL MANAGERS
61. Functions of an institutional manager
62. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office, filling of vacancy and temporary absence
in the office of institutional director
63. Discipline of institutional manager
CAMPUS HEADS
64. Functions of campus head
65. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of campus head
66. Discipline of campus head61
INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
67. Functions of institutional management committee
68. Composition of institutional management committee
69. Chairperson, functioning, meetings and meeting procedures of institutional management committee
DEANS
70. Functions of deans64
71. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of dean 64
72. Discipline of dean64
EMPLOYEES65
73. Appointment65
74. Conditions of employment66
75. Performance appraisal66
76. Employees' discipline66

77. Representative employee organisations	67
STUDENTS	67
78. Admission and registration of students	67
79. Discipline of students	68
DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES	68
80. Authority, conferment, award and cancellation	68
81. Honorary degrees	70
DONORS	71
82. Donors and donations	71
GENERAL PROVISIONS	71
83. Legal force of Rules	71
84. Statute repealed and transitional provisions	71

DEFINITIONS

1. Definitions

In this Statute, applicable to the Walter Sisulu University, any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned by the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended, has the meaning so assigned to it, unless the context otherwise indicates

"academic department" means a department consisting of a cluster of academic learning areas;

"academic employee" means any person appointed by the council to teach or do research at the University and any other employee designated as such by the council, and includes a person in this category who is serving a probationary period in terms of his or her contract of employment prior to permanent appointment;

"academic year" means that part of a calendar year recommended by the senate for the academic activities of the University, and approved by the council;

"campus(es)" means the divisions of the University, other than the institutional office, being the physical sites and tangible or intangible infrastructure of the University where teaching, training and research is delivered, as are established by the council from time to time after consultation with the senate, with the approval of the Minister;

"campus head" means the senior manager accountable to the vice-chancellor for the management of all the affairs of a specific campus of the University, contemplated in paragraph 64, irrespective of the job title or job grade used;

"campus management" means the persons appointed to manage affairs on a campus, and who report to the relevant campus head;

"campus management committee" means the committee contemplated in paragraph 64(6);

"campus senate committee(s)" means a committee established by the senate for a campus as contemplated in paragraph 19(2)(i);

"campus SRC committee" means the committee established to represent the students at a campus of the University, contemplated in paragraph 45(2);

"certificant" means a person to whom a certificate has been awarded by an accredited institution;

"Chancellor" means the person contemplated in paragraph 4;

"community service" as contemplated in paragraph 19(1) includes community engagement in terms of the University's mission, as approved by the council from time to time;

"congregation" means a meeting convened by the University for the purpose of conferring degrees and awarding diplomas and certificates as contemplated in paragraph 80(2);

"constitution of the SRC" means the Rules of the SRC approved by the council after consultation with the SRC;

"convocation" means the body contemplated in paragraph 47;

"council" means the Council of the University contemplated in paragraph 7;

"days" includes Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays;

"dean" means a person appointed to manage the affairs of a faculty, as contemplated in paragraph 70;

"deputy vice-chancellor" means the person(s) appointed as vice-principal(s) in accordance with section 26(2)(d), read with section 27(4)(b) of the Act, this Statute and the Rules;

"diplomate" means a person upon whom a diploma has been conferred by an accredited institution;

"divisional management system" means a decentralised management system aimed at enhancing accountability, effectiveness and efficiency in all divisions and at every level of the University, functioning under the leadership of the vice-chancellor, in terms of which the institutional managers are accountable for the development, as well as coherent and

consistent application of uniform processes, policies, systems, rules and procedures across the University, and the campus heads and campus managers are accountable for the consistent implementation of and adherence to such uniform processes, policies, systems, rules and procedures of the University, on all the University's campuses;.

"donor" includes a person, body or legal entity who has made a donation to the University of the prescribed minimum value determined by the council from time to time, and who has been recognized as a donor as contemplated in paragraph 82(2);

"due notice of a meeting" means a written notice within the prescribed time, providing the agenda, time and place of the meeting and, where applicable, how to get sight of relevant additional information, irrespective of the means employed to convey the message or information to the addressee(s);

"employee" means an academic or a non-academic employee of the University;

"faculty" means a cluster of academic departments functioning on a specific campus of the university, established by the council in terms of paragraph 7(2)(h);

"functionaries of the council" means all persons who exercise functions of the council in terms of delegated authority, and includes the secretary contemplated in paragraph 12 and any person co-opted by the council or a committee of the council as such, as contemplated in paragraph 8(1)(m);

"functions" includes powers and duties and vice versa;

"graduate" means a person upon whom a degree has been conferred by a university;

"group of donors" means the group established by the council as contemplated in paragraph 82(3);

"head of department" means the head of an academic department or cluster of departments of the University contemplated in paragraph 19(2)(f);

"Institutional Forum" means the institutional forum contemplated in section 31 of the Act and paragraph 29;

"institutional management committee" means the senior management committee of the University as contemplated in paragraph 67;

"institutional manager" means a member of the senior management of the University, who may be a member of the institutional management committee and is based in the institutional office;

"institutional office" means a division of the University, being the physical head office of the University, not situated on any of the campuses of the University, at the Nkululekweni site, Nelson Mandela Drive, Mthatha, or another address identified in the Rules;

"legal entity" as contemplated in paragraph 73(6) means any juristic person, including those incorporated in terms of the Companies Act, Act No. 71 of 2008 or the Close Corporations Act, Act No. 69 of 1984;

"management" means, for the purpose of section 31(2)(a) of the Act, senior management as well as management as determined by the council;

"mandate" means the set of Rules describing the composition, terms of reference and functioning of a committee of the council, senate and any other structure, body or committee established in terms of this Statute;

"Minister" means the minister of state responsible for tertiary education;

"month" means a calendar month;

"non-academic employee" means a person on the permanent or temporary, full-time or part-time administrative or support staff of the University, other than an academic employee, and includes a person in this category who is serving a probationary period in terms of his or her contract of service prior to permanent appointment;

"professor" means an academic employee who has been given the status of professor by the University, and includes a person who is serving a probationary period in terms of his or her contract of service prior to permanent appointment, but does not include an emeritus professor, or a reader; an associate, visiting or assistant professor

"qualification means a certificate, a diploma or a degree

"registrar" means the person appointed as registrar of the University as contemplated in section 26(4)(b) of the Act;

"representative employee organisation" means a registered employee organisation in accordance with sections 95 to 97 of the Labour Relations Act, Act No. 66 of 1995, as amended;

"Rules" means any rules of the University made in terms of section 32 of the Act and published after approval by the Council;

"senate" means the body responsible for academic matters contemplated in paragraph 19;

"senior management of the University" for the purposes of section 31 (1)(a)(iii) of the Act, and paragraphs 7(3)(c) and 29(a)(iii) of this Statute, means the vice-chancellor, the deputy vice-chancellor(s), the registrar, campus heads and any other employee appointed by council to the senior management of the University;

"student" means any person registered by the University in terms of the Rules, for full-time or part-time study for a degree, diploma, or certificate of the University, or registered or enrolled for any course or programme of instruction offered by the University, provided that a person so registered or enrolled who is also a full-time or part-time employee of the University is not a student for the purpose of membership of the council, senate or any other structure or body of the University;

"SRC" means the students' representative council of the institution contemplated in paragraph 40, established by the council in accordance with the Rules, and includes a campus SRC committee contemplated in paragraph 45(2);

"the Act" means the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997) as amended;

"the University" means the Walter Sisulu University;

"urgent matter" means a matter, which, if not addressed before the next ordinary or special meeting of council or senate, could cause irreversible harm or prejudice to the University, its employees or students;

"vice-chancellor" means the principal of the University as contemplated in section 26(2)(c) of the Act;

"written notice" means any notice in writing and includes any notice contemplated in terms of the Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, 2002 (Act No. 25 of 2002), or any Act that amends or repeals it.

UNIVERSITY

2. Name, status, seat and powers of University

- (1) The name of the University is the Walter Sisulu University.
- (2) The University is a public higher education institution in terms of the Act and is a juristic person, as contemplated in section 20(4) of the Act.
- (3) The University has its seat in accordance with Notice No. 1749 in Government Gazette No. 25787 of 28 November 2003, contemplated in section 20(3)(c); 21(2)(c) and 23(3)(b)(iii) of the Act in Mthatha, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa, where the activities of the institution are principally administered.
- (4) The official physical address is at Nkululekeni site, Nelson Mandela Drive, Mthatha, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa.
- (5) Its official postal address is Private Bag X1, Mthatha, 5117, South Africa.

- (6) Notwithstanding subparagraph (2), the institution may not, without the concurrence of the Minister, dispose of or alienate in any manner, any immovable property acquired with the financial assistance of the State or grant to any person any real right therein or servitude.
- (7) The University functions in accordance with the Act, the Statute and the Rules approved by the council.
- (8) The University may confer degrees, diplomas and certificates as approved by the Council on recommendation of Senate. Such degrees, diplomas and certificates are to be approved, accredited and registered for the University in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

3. Constitution of the University

- (1) The University consists of
 - (a) the chancellor;
 - (b) the council;
 - (c) the senate;
 - (d) the vice-chancellor;
 - (e) the deputy vice-chancellor(s);
 - (f) the campus heads;
 - (g) one or more registrars and other institutional managers as determined by the council;
 - (h) the SRC;
 - (i) the institutional forum;
 - (j) the student support services structure contemplated in section 27(3) of the Act and paragraph 7(2)(i);

- (k) the faculties, departments and such other academic structures of the University as may be determined by the council in accordance with the Statute;
- (l) the academic employees of the University;
- (m) the non-academic employees of the University;
- (n) the students of the University;
- (o) the convocation; and
- (p) all its property, infrastructure and assets, whether immovable, movable or intangible, and the rights thereto.
- (2) No vacancy in any of the offices contemplated in subparagraph (1) nor any deficiency in the numbers or defect in the composition of the structures or bodies contemplated in subparagraph (1) impairs or affects the existence of the University as a juristic person or any function conferred by the Act or its Statute upon the University.

CHANCELLOR

4. Functions of chancellor

- (1) The chancellor is the titular head of the University and confers degrees and awards diplomas and certificates in the name of the University.
- (2) The chancellor performs such other functions as are assigned to him or her by the council.

5. Election and appointment of chancellor

- (1) The chancellor is elected by the council in the following manner:
 - (a) the chairperson of the council, after consultation with the vice-chancellor, determines the date on which a meeting of the council is to be held for the purpose

- of electing a chancellor, or, in the absence of the chairperson of the council, the vice-chancellor determines the date for such meeting, provided that such meeting must be held within 90 days after the office of chancellor becomes vacant;
- (b) the secretary of council gives due notice to the members of the council of the date, time of and venue for the meeting contemplated in subparagraph (a);
- (c) the secretary to the council invites the members of the council and other University structures, employees and students referred to in paragraph 3(1), to submit nominations for the office of the chancellor;
- (d) the nominations contemplated in subparagraph (c) must reach the secretary to the council at least 20 working days before the meeting contemplated in subparagraph (a);
- (e) the nominations contemplated in subparagraph (c) must be in writing and must include the nominee's written consent and complete curriculum vitae;
- (f) the secretary to the council must, within five working days after the closing date for nominations, inform members of the council in writing of the nominations received;
- (g) the chancellor is elected by secret ballot by the majority of the members present at the meeting contemplated in subparagraph (a);
- (h) if no candidate receives a majority of votes, successive rounds of voting are held;
- (i) in each successive round of voting, the candidate receiving the fewest votes is eliminated as a candidate.
- (2) After the council has elected a chancellor, the name of the chancellor is announced by the chairperson of the council.

6. Term of office of chancellor

- (1) The chancellor holds office for a period of four years, unless he or she passes on, becomes incapacitated, resigns or is removed from office as contemplated in subparagraph (4), read with subparagraph (5).
- (2) A person may not be elected for more than two consecutive terms of office.
- (3) If the chancellor is unable, for any reason, to perform the functions of his or her office, or if the office of chancellor becomes vacant, the vice-chancellor or the acting vice-chancellor performs the functions of the chancellor, until the vacancy is filled.
- (4) The term of office of the chancellor terminates in the event of
 - (a) death or incapacity;
 - (b) resignation; or
 - (c) removal from office by the council.
- (5) The chancellor may only be removed from office by the council by means of a resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the members of the council and then only after the chancellor has been given the opportunity to answer to the reasons provided by the council for the removal from office.

COUNCIL

7. Functions of council

- (1) The council governs the University, subject to the Act and this Statute.
- (2) Without derogating from the generality of subparagraph (1), the council has the powers and functions contemplated in subparagraphs (a) to (l) and may, in accordance with section 68 of the Act, delegate or assign to other University structures, the vice-chancellor or any other employee of the University, any of the powers and functions –

- (a) to make Rules under section 32 of the Act, which rules must be published after approval by the council and have legal force, provided that the council may not change the composition of the SRC, the SRC's Constitution or establish a campus SRC committee before it has consulted with the SRC;
- (b) to establish committees, determine the mandates and composition of such committees, including appointing persons who are not members of the council as members of such committees, and set the procedural requirements for each committee;
- (c) to monitor and, if required, take appropriate steps to intervene in any action taken by a committee contemplated in subparagraph (b) while exercising its delegated powers or functions, when such committee reports to council;
- (d) to prepare and submit proposals for the extension of delivery sites or adoption of academic or training programmes in new fields of learning and training, in joint committees of the council and senate established for these purposes, in accordance with the Act, other legislation and the Rules;
- (e) to appoint employees of the University as contemplated in paragraph 73(1) and (2), provided that academic employees may only be appointed after consultation with the senate, as contemplated in paragraph 73(3);
- (f) to determine the language policy of the University, subject to the policy determined by the Minister, the Council with the concurrence of the senate;
- (g) to determine conditions of service, the disciplinary provisions and the privileges and functions of the University's employees,
- (h) to determine, after consultation with the senate, the academic structures required and the status, functions and name of each such structure, to ensure effective and efficient governance;
- (i) to determine, after consultation with the SRC, the policy for the provision of student support services within the University, and must provide for a suitable structure to facilitate such consultation, as contemplated in section 27(3) of the Act;

- (j) to suspend or dismiss any employee of the University, in the manner set out in the disciplinary Rules;
- (k) to order an employee whom it has suspended to refrain from being on any premises under the control of the University and to refrain from participating in any of the University's activities, or set such other conditions as it may deem necessary;
- (l) to oversee the embedding and functioning of a divisional management system throughout the University.
- (3) Without derogating from the generality of subparagraph (1), the council has the powers and functions contemplated in subparagraphs (a) to (m), provided that the council, in accordance with section 68 of the Act, may not delegate or assign to other University structures, the vice-chancellor or any other employee of the University, any of the powers and functions
 - (a) to make the institutional Statute and any amendments thereto;
 - (b) to draft and adopt the University's vision, mission and values and monitor the realisation thereof;
 - (c) to appoint the senior managers of the University, subject to obtaining the advice of the senate and the institutional forum on the selection of candidates in accordance with paragraphs 19(3)(e) and 29(a)(iii);
 - (d) to determine the student admission policy of the University, after consultation with the senate;
 - (e) to determine, with the approval of the senate, the entrance requirements in respect of particular programmes, the number of students that may be admitted for a particular higher education programme and the manner of their selection, and the minimum requirements for readmission to study at the University;
 - (f) to refuse, with the approval of the senate, readmission to a student who fails to satisfy the minimum requirements for readmission;

- (g) to determine tuition fees, accommodation fees or any other fees payable by students after consultation with the SRC;
- (h) to determine rental fees payable by staff making use of University accommodation;
- (i) to approve the annual budget of the University;
- (j) to conclude a loan or an overdraft agreement, subject to the approval of the Minister, when required;
- (k) to enter into an agreement for the construction of a permanent building or other immovable infrastructural development, the purchasing of immovable property or the long-term lease of immovable property, subject to the approval of the Minister, when required;
- (l) to repeal or amend the composition of the senate, after consulting with the senate; and
- (m) to make, repeal or amend any Rules relating to the academic functions of the University, subject to approval by the senate.
- (4) The council remains accountable for the performance of any function delegated or assigned in terms of subparagraph (2).

8. Composition of council

- (1) The council, as contemplated in section 27 of the Act, consists of not more than 21 members, made up of
 - (a) the vice-chancellor;
 - (b) not more than one deputy vice-chancellor, designated by the vice- chancellor, provided that, in the case of more deputy vice-chancellors having been appointed, the remaining incumbents and campus heads may attend council meetings without voting rights;

- (c) five persons appointed by the Minister, who may not be employees or students of the University;
- (d) not more than two members of the senate, elected by the senate;
- (e) one non-senate academic employee, elected by the academic employees;
- (f) one non-academic employee, elected by the non-academic employees;
- (g) not more than two students elected by the SRC;
- (h) not more than two members of the convocation, who may not be employees or students of the University, elected by the convocation;
- (i) one person with expertise in law, who may not be an employee or student of the University, elected by the council;
- (j) one person with expertise in financial and investment matters, who may not be an employee or student of the University, elected by the council;
- (k) two persons with expertise in commerce and industry, who may not be employees or students of the University, elected by the council;
- (l) not more than two persons from the donors, who may not be employees or students of the University, designated by the functionary responsible for University advancement, and
- (m) the council may when and for such period as is necessary co-opt no more than two persons to advise the council on any specific matter relevant to the functions of the council, who will not have voting rights.
- (2) At least 60 per cent of the members of the council must be persons who are not employees or students of the University.
- (3) When members are elected or appointed to the council, under-representation in terms of race, gender or persons with disabilities must be taken into consideration.
- (4) A council member or a member of a committee of council -

- (a) must be a person with knowledge and experience relevant to the objects and governance of the University;
- (b) must participate in the deliberations of the council in the best interests of the University;
- (c) must before he or she assumes office, declare any business, commercial or financial activities undertaken for financial gain that may raise a conflict or a possible conflict of interest with the University;
- (d) may not place himself or herself under any financial or other obligation to any individual or organisation that might seek to influence the performance of any function of the council; and
- (e) may not -
 - (i) have a conflict of interest with the University;
 - (ii) have a direct or indirect financial, personal or other interest in any matter to be discussed at a meeting and which entails or may entail a conflict or possible conflict of interest with the University;

and

- (f) must before the meeting and in writing, inform the chairperson of that meeting of that conflict or possible conflict of interest.
- (5) Except as provided in subparagraphs (1)(a), (b) and (d) to (g)
 - (a) no student or employee of the University and no other person in receipt of regular remuneration from the University is eligible for appointment or nomination for election or election as a member of the council; and
 - (b) a member of council who becomes a student or an employee of the University or who enters into a contract with the University in terms of which he or she is to receive regular remuneration from the University must forthwith vacate his or her seat on the council.

(6) The manner of appointment or election of candidates for the offices mentioned in subparagraphs (1)(d) to (l) is provided for in the Rules.

9. Election and term of office of council members

Members of council are elected in the manner determined by the Council.

- (1) Subject to paragraph 11, the term of office of members of the council is four years, except in the case of
 - (a) members referred to in paragraph 8(1)(a) and (b), who serve by virtue of their offices and remain members of the council for as long as they occupy their offices;
 - (b) members referred to in paragraph 8(1)(d) to (f), whose term of office is two years;
 - (c) members referred to in paragraph 8(1)(k) and (l), whose term of office is three years;
 - (d) members referred to in paragraph 8(1)(g), elected by the SRC, whose term of office is one year from the date of their election, provided that membership ceases automatically when a student member ceases to be a student.
- (2) The membership of a member who is elected from among the ranks of a specific interest group or body lapses upon termination of his or her association with that interest group or body.
- (3) Any member may serve as a member of the council for a maximum of two terms, provided that no student may serve as a member of the council for a term exceeding one academic year.
- (4) If a vacancy arises in the council, it is filled in the same manner as it was filled originally.

(5) A new member of the council appointed or elected in terms of subparagraph (4) in a vacancy occurring before the expiry of the term of office concerned, is appointed or elected for the unexpired term of office of the member being replaced.

10. Termination of membership and filling of vacancies of members of council

- (1) A member of the council's term of office terminates if
 - (a) he or she tenders a written resignation;
 - (b) the Minister or body who appointed or elected the member to the council, terminates such membership in writing at any time before the expiry of the member's term of office;
 - (c) he or she is absent from three consecutive meetings without leave of the council;
 - (d) he or she is declared insolvent and the majority of council members disapprove the member's continuation;
 - (e) he or she is removed from an office of trust by a court of law or is convicted of an offence involving dishonesty;
 - (f) Any member may be removed from office subject to the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) if a majority of the members of the Council present at any meeting vote for his or her removal.
 - (g) a member of the council who was not an employee or a student of the University is appointed as an employee or becomes a student of the University.
- (2) The council has the power to suspend any member from attending a meeting, or take disciplinary action or terminate his/her membership, if such member:
 - (a) conducts him- or herself in a manner that is or may not be in the best interest of the University, or that brings or may bring the council or the University into disrepute in any situation where he or she is identifiable as a member of the council, after the council has followed due process in terms of the Rules.

- (b) If at least one-third of the members of the council at any meeting resolve that alleged conduct contemplated in subparagraph (a) be investigated, the council must instruct that a disciplinary hearing by an ad hoc committee of council be held.
- (c) If the ad hoc committee contemplated in subparagraph (b) finds that the affected member failed to act in the best interests of the University or has behaved in a manner that brings or may bring the University into disrepute, then the committee may recommend the termination of the membership of such member from the council.
- (d) If the ad hoc committee contemplated in subparagraph (b) recommends the termination of the affected member from the council, and at least two-thirds of the members of council present at any meeting vote for his or her removal, such member will cease to be a member of council.
- (3) In the event of a vacancy through death or otherwise, as contemplated in subparagraphs (1) and (2), the secretary to the council notifies the vacancy to the constituency that appointed or elected such member, requesting such constituency to appoint or elect a successor.
- (4) If 75 (seventy five) per cent or more of the members of the council resign, the council is deemed to have resigned, as contemplated in section 27(8) of the Act.
- (5) If the council resigns, as contemplated in subparagraph (4), a new council must be constituted in terms of the Statute.

11. Election and functions of the chairperson and deputy chairperson of council and their terms of office

(1) The chairperson and the deputy chairperson of the council shall not be elected from the members contemplated in paragraph 8(1)(a), (b) and (d) to (g).

- (2) (a) The chairperson presides at meetings of the council and the executive committee of the council.
 - (b) The council determines any additional functions of the chairperson.
- (3) (a) The deputy chairperson presides at meetings of the council and the executive committee of the council in the absence of the chairperson.
 - (b) The deputy chairperson performs such other functions as the council may determine.
- (4) The chairperson and the deputy chairperson of the council are elected to their respective offices for a period of two years.
- (5) The chairperson and the deputy chairperson are eligible for re-election for a maximum of two terms.
- (6) Nominations for the office of the chairperson and the deputy chairperson of the council must be in writing and be directed to the secretary to the council.
- (7) If more than one candidate is nominated, voting is by secret ballot.
- (8) Each member of the council has only one vote during a ballot and no proxy is allowed.
- (9) A majority of all members present elects the chairperson and the deputy chairperson.
- (10) Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of the chairperson or the deputy chairperson, the provisions of subparagraph (6) to (9) apply, with the necessary changes, to the filling of such vacancy.
- (11) A person who fills a vacancy in terms of subparagraph (10) holds office until the end of the predecessor's term;

(12) The chairperson and the deputy chairperson may not be elected for more than two consecutive terms of two years each.

12. Secretary of council

- (1) The secretary of council is the registrar as contemplated in section 26(4)(b) of the Act, who must ensure compliance with the Statute, relevant legislation and national higher education and training policies, as well as the policies and Rules of the University.
- (2) The registrar may participate in the discussions of the council but may not vote.
- (3) The secretary acts as an electoral officer in all matters pertaining to council.
- (4) The secretary attends all meetings and keeps all relevant documents of the council.
- (5) The registrar may appoint an employee of the University to assist him or her.

13. Meetings of council

- (1) The council has at least three ordinary meetings during each academic year.
- (2) Notice of any motion for consideration at the next ordinary meeting must be in writing and must be lodged with the secretary at least 21 days before the date determined by the council for such meeting, provided that any matter of an urgent nature may, without prior notice, by consent of the chairperson and a majority of the members present, be considered at such meeting.
- (3) At least 14 days prior to the date of an ordinary meeting, the secretary gives due notice to each member of all the matters to be dealt with at such meeting and states the time and place of such meeting.
- (4) A special meeting may be called at any time by the chairperson, provided that at least 7 (seven) days notice of a special meeting is given, and further provided that

- the chairperson or, in his or her absence the vice-chancellor, may reduce the period of notice to 24 (twenty four) hours if circumstances require, in which instance notice may be given in any manner convenient under the circumstances.
- (5) A special meeting must be called by the chairperson at the request, in writing of at least six members, the objective of the meeting being clearly stated in the request provided that at least seven days notice of a special meeting is given.
- (6) An emergency meeting may be called by the chairperson or in his or her absence by the vice-chancellor at any time provided that members are given at least 24 hours notice of the meeting.
- (7) Notice of an emergency meeting may be given in any manner convenient under the circumstances
- (8) No business other than that which the special meeting or emergency meeting was called for may be transacted at such meeting, irrespective of the notice period.

14. Council meeting procedures

- (1) Council members must participate in the deliberations of the Council in the best interest of the university.
- (2) The quorum required for a meeting of council or its committees to be properly convened, is that at least one half plus one (50% plus one) of the total number of members of the council or its committees, holding office on the date of such meeting are present at the start of the meeting, and further provided that a majority of the members present at the start of the meeting are persons who are not employees or students of the University.
- (3) No properly convened meeting of council or its committees is voided if a sufficient number of members end their participation in the meeting in any way at all after the

- meeting had started, thereby leaving the meeting without the quorum contemplated in subparagraph (2), and the meeting may proceed with and conclude its business.
- (4) Except where otherwise provided in this Statute, all acts or matters authorised or required to be done or decided by the council or its committees and all questions that may come before it are done or decided by the majority of the members present at any meeting, provided that the number present at the commencement of any meeting is at least one half plus one of the total number of members of Council holding office on the date of such a meeting. This provision applies equally to Council committees.
- (5) In the absence of the chairperson and the deputy chairperson of the council, the members present elect one of their members to preside at such meeting, provided that a majority of such members are not employees or students of the University.
- (6) The first act of an ordinary meeting, after being constituted, is to read and confirm by the signature of the chairperson the minutes of the last preceding ordinary meeting and of any special meeting subsequently held, provided that the meeting may consider the minutes as read if a copy thereof was previously sent to every member of the council, provided further that objections to the minutes of a meeting are raised and decided before confirmation of the minutes.
- (7) A member of the council may not, without the consent of the chairperson, speak more than once to a motion or to any amendment and the mover of any motion or any amendment has the right to reply.
- (8) Every motion or amendment must be seconded and, if so directed by the chairperson, must be in writing.
- (9) A motion or an amendment seconded as contemplated in subparagraph (8) may not be withdrawn except with the consent of the meeting.
- (10) The chairperson has, on any matter, a deliberative vote and may exercise, in the event of an equality of votes, also a casting vote.

- (11) If so decided by the meeting, the number of members voting for or against any motion must be recorded in the minutes, and at the request of any member the chairperson must direct that the vote of such member be likewise recorded.
- (12) When a majority of the members of the council reaches agreement on a matter referred to them by letter or electronic means by the chairperson, without convening a meeting, and conveys such resolution by letter or electronic means, such resolution is equivalent to a resolution of the council and must be recorded in the minutes of the next succeeding ordinary meeting.
- (13) The views of a member of the council who is unable to attend a meeting may be submitted to the meeting in writing but may not count as a vote of such member.
- (14) A point of order may be raised when a members is of the opinion that-
 - (a) there is a deviation from the matter under discussion;
 - (b) a member uses insulting or repulsive language; or
 - (c) discussions are contrary to procedural rules.
- (15) The ruling of the chairperson on a point of order or procedure is binding unless immediately challenged by a member, in which event such ruling must be submitted without discussion to the meeting, whose decision is final.

15. Conflict of interests of council members, committee members and functionaries

- (1) A member of the Council may not have a conflict of interest with the University.
- (2) A member of Council who has a direct financial, personal or other interest in any matter to be discussed at a meeting and which entail or may entail a conflict of interest must, before or during the meeting, declare the interest.

- (3) The council, after consultation with the institutional forum, approves a code of conduct to which all members of the council must subscribe, to deal with a conflict of interest or possible conflicts of interest that a member of the council, any member of a committee of the council and all other persons who exercise delegated functions of the council may have with the University, in terms of sections 27(7E)(a) and 32 of the Act, read with paragraph 8(4).
- (4) The council introduces a register in which the annual declaration of interests of each member of the council, council committees and all functionaries of the council, in terms of section 27(7E)(b) of the Act are recorded, in accordance with the Rules.
- (5) Any person may, in writing, inform the chairperson of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council, before the meeting, of a conflict of interest of a member of the council with the University, in terms of paragraph 8(4)(c) to (e), of which such person may be aware.
- (6) A member referred to in paragraph 8(4)(e) and subparagraph (1) is obliged to recuse himself or herself from the meeting during the discussion of the matter and the voting thereon.

16. Executive and other committees of council

- (1) The council appoints
 - (a) an executive committee;
 - (b) an audit and risk committee;
 - (c) a finance committee;
 - (d) a remuneration committee;
 - (e) an employment conditions committee;
 - (f) a planning and resource committee;
 - (g) a governance and council membership committee;
 - (h) such other committees and sub-committees as may be required.

- (2) (a) The mandates and composition of the committees are determined by the council in the Rules;
 - (b) the council may combine any two or more of the committees contemplated in sub-paragraph (1); and
 - (c) the Council may appoint a single person to be a committee.
- (3) A majority of the members of a committee must be persons who are not employees or students of the University.
- (4) The chairperson of a committee may not be an employee or a student of the University.
- (5) The meeting procedures for council meetings in terms of paragraph 14 apply, with the necessary changes, to meetings of committees of the council, provided that a committee of the council with delegated functions in terms of section 27(7C) of the Act and paragraph 10(2)(b) may not take a decision on a matter considered by it if any member of the committee has a conflict of interest contemplated in paragraph 8(4)(c) to (e).

17. Minutes of council and council committees

- (1) The secretary to the council keeps the minutes of each meeting of the council and includes such minutes in the agenda of the next council meeting when the agenda is sent out in terms of paragraph 13(3).
- (2) The minutes of all committee meetings must be included in the agenda of the next ordinary meeting of the council following the respective committee meetings.

18. Drafting, amending or repealing of statute or a Rule

- (1) No motion to approve, amend or repeal any provision of this Statute is of force or effect without a written notice of at least fourteen days, unless 75 per cent of all the members of council present vote in favour of dispensing with such a notice.
- (2) No motion to draft an amendment to or repeal the Statute may be adopted unless agreed to by at least 75 percent of the members present at the meeting, provided that such meeting is constituted by no less than 75 percent of all members.
- (3) Any motion to draft, amend or repeal the Statute or a Rule must be in accordance with the provisions of section 32(2) of the Act.

SENATE

19. Powers, functions and composition of the senate

- (1) Subject to the provisions of Section 28 of the Act and the National Qualifications Act, Act No. 67 of 2008, the senate is the governance structure accountable to the council for all the teaching, learning, research, community service and academic functions of the University, including the timely identification and appropriate management of risks in connection therewith, and all other functions delegated or assigned to it by the council.
- (2) Without derogating from the generality of subparagraph (1) the senate
 - (a) may make or amend any Rule relating to the curriculum for any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification, or to the obtaining of any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification, but may do so only after consulting the relevant campus senate committee and faculty board;
 - (b) may make or amend any Rule relating to the manner in which students are to be examined:

- (c) determines what standard of proficiency is required to be attained in any mode of assessment that may be used in order to satisfy the requirements for the obtaining of each degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification;
- (d) advises the council on disciplinary measures and Rules concerning students;
- (e) may make recommendations to the council regarding the faculty to which each academic department or other academic structure belongs;
- (f) may make recommendations to the council regarding the establishment and disestablishment of faculties, academic departments, and other academic structures;
- (g) determines, in accordance with any relevant deed or gift, and after consultation with the vice-chancellor, the conditions applicable to any scholarships and other academic prizes;
- (h) determines the persons to whom scholarships and academic prizes are awarded;
- (i) may establish committees, including a campus senate committee for each campus, to perform any of the functions that the senate may delegate to such committee or campus senate committee, may appoint persons who are not members of the senate as members of such committees and for this purpose may deem a single person to be a committee, and may make Rules to regulate the membership, functions and office-bearers of any committee or campus senate committee;
- (j) determines the functions of its committees, provided that the vice-chancellor is an official member of all senate committees;
- (k) may make standing orders on procedures and delegation of powers to improve the carrying out of its functions;
- (l) may delegate its functions, but remains accountable for the performance of all its functions; and

- (m) must take note of any action taken by a committee in exercising its delegated powers or functions when such committee reports its actions to the next meeting of the senate.
- (3) The senate submits to the council
 - (a) advice with regard to the language policy of the University, in terms of section 27(2) of the Act;
 - (b) advice regarding approval of entrance requirements to specific programmes, the number and manner of selection of students admitted per academic programme, minimum requirements for readmission to study and refusal of readmission for failure to satisfy any minimum requirement set for readmission, in terms of section 37(4) of the Act;
 - (c) advice on the admission policy and Rules of the University, in terms of section 37(1) of the Act;
 - (d) such reports on its work, including on the management of risks attendant to the academic core business of the University, as may be required by the council;
 - (e) advice on matters referred to it by the council, including the appointment of senior management;
 - (f) advice on the appointment of academic employees, in accordance with the Rules; and
 - (g) recommendations on any other matter affecting the University as the senate considers useful.
- (4) The senate may, in terms of the Rules, cancel the registration of a student in all or one or more of the courses for which the student is registered in that year if, in the opinion of the senate, the academic achievement of the student is such that the student may not at the end of the year obtain credit in such course or courses, as the case may be.

- (5) The senate must enhance and protect the integrity and quality of the academic activities at the University, and may to that end propose cancellation and withdrawal of any qualification, award or recognition granted by the University in error, in terms of paragraph 80(3)(i), or obtained by fraudulent or dishonest means, in terms of paragraph 80(3)(j) and may further do what is required to attain this goal.
- (6) The senate, subject to the provisions of the Act, consists of
 - (a) the vice-chancellor;
 - (b) the deputy vice-chancellor(s) designated by the vice-chancellor;
 - (c) the registrar;
 - (d) the campus heads;
 - (e) all deans;
 - (f) not more than four professors per faculty of the University;
 - (g) not more than four heads of department per faculty of the University;
 - (h) not more than two non-professorial academic employees per faculty of the University;
 - (i) the head of the library;
 - (j) the head of research;
 - (k) the head of quality promotion;
 - (l) the head of higher education development and support;
 - (m) not more than two members of the SRC, elected by the SRC, in accordance with the Rules:
 - (n) not more than two non-academic employees, elected by the non-academic employees, in accordance with the Rules;
 - (o) not more than one member of the council who is not an employee or student of the University, designated by the council from time to time;
 - (p) the campus managers designated by the campus heads, without voting rights;

- (q) such additional members, without voting rights, as are approved by the senate from time to time, on the recommendation of the executive committee of senate.
- (7) The majority of the members of senate, senate committees and campus senate committees must be academic employees.
- (8) The persons contemplated in subparagraphs (6)(a) to (o) are appointed in their official capacity as members of the senate.
- (9) The manner of election of members is as determined by each constituency

20. Senate membership and termination thereof

- (1) Members of the senate must participate in the deliberations of the senate in the best interests of the University.
- (2) Failure to act in the best interests of the University or behaviour that brings the University into disrepute may result in the removal of such a member from the senate following due process.
- (3) If it is alleged that a member is not acting in the best interests of the University or has engaged in conduct that brings or tends to bring the University into disrepute, and at least one-third of the members of the senate at any meeting resolve that the alleged actions or conduct be investigated and suitable steps be taken against that person, the senate must instruct that a hearing by an ad hoc committee of senate take place.
- (4) If the committee finds that the member has failed to act in the best interests of the University or has behaved in a manner that brings the University into disrepute, then the committee may recommend that the member be removed from the senate.
- (5) The member may be removed from the senate if at least two-thirds of the members of the senate present at any meeting vote for his or her removal.

21. Terms of office of senate members

- (1) Members appointed in terms of paragraph 19(6)(a) to (e), (i) to (l), and (p) hold office for as long as they are employed or involved by the University in that capacity.
- (2) Members appointed in terms of paragraph 19(6)(f) to (h) and (n) hold office for a period no longer than two years, subject to the Rules, to ensure allocating different terms to the first members to be appointed in each of these categories.
- (3) Members appointed in terms of paragraph in 19(6)(m) hold office for a period of one year, provided that membership ceases automatically when that member ceases to be a member of the SRC.
- (4) The membership of a member who is elected from among the ranks of a specific interest group or body lapses upon termination of his or her association with that interest group or body.
- (5) If a vacancy arises in the senate, it is filled in the same manner as the manner in which it was filled originally.
- (6) The successor holds office for the remainder or unexpired term of office of the predecessor unless he or she is appointed or elected because his or her predecessor's term has expired.
- (7) Any member may serve as a member of the senate for more than one term, with the exception of a student representative who may not serve as a member of the senate for more than two terms.

22. Chairperson, deputy chairperson and secretary of senate

- (1) The vice-chancellor is the chairperson of the senate, as contemplated in section 26(4)(a) of the Act.
- (2) The deputy chairperson of the senate is the deputy vice-chancellor designated by the senate as such.
- (3) The secretary to the senate is the registrar.
- (4) The chairperson presides at the meetings of the senate and the meetings of the committees of the senate if senate considers it appropriate for him or her to do so.
- (5) The chairperson performs such other functions as the senate may determine.
- (6) In the absence of the chairperson, the provisions of subparagraph (4) apply to the deputy chairperson.
- (7) The deputy chairperson performs such other functions as the senate may determine.
- (8) If both the chairperson and the deputy chairperson are absent, the senate elects from among its members a chairperson for the meeting concerned.
- (9) Subject to paragraph 58(3) the secretary performs those functions assigned to him or her by the senate.

23. Senate and senate committees' meetings and meeting procedures

The provisions applicable to the council meetings in terms of paragraphs 13 and 14 apply, with the necessary changes, to the meetings and meeting procedures of the senate and senate committees, including campus senate committees.

24. Executive committee and other committees of senate

- (1) The committees of senate consist of -
 - (a) An executive committee;
 - (b) campus senate committees;
 - (c) faculty boards, to regulate the activities of the faculties of the University;
 - (d) such other committees as required.
- (2) The composition and functions of the committees are determined by the senate.
- (3) The executive committee of the senate consists of
 - (a) the vice-chancellor, who is the chairperson;
 - (b) the deputy vice chancellor(s);
 - (c) the registrar;
 - (d) the campus heads;
 - (e) the deans;
 - (f) such other members as the executive committee of senate may determine, provided that the majority of the members must be academic employees.
- (4) The executive committee of the senate-
 - (a) unless determined otherwise by the senate, makes recommendations to the senate on the reports of senate committees, including the campus senate committees;
 - (b) ensures overall co-ordination of academic matters;
 - (c) ensures that policy decisions of the senate are implemented;
 - (d) ensures that academic standards, as prescribed by the senate, are maintained;

- (e) makes decisions within its mandate in accordance with its delegated powers; and
- (f) performs such other functions, including advisory functions, as may be determined by the senate.
- (5) The executive committee of the senate has plenary powers to act on behalf of the senate between senate meetings, provided that any such resolution of the committee is ratified by senate at its next meeting.
- (6) In the absence of the vice-chancellor from any of the meetings of the executive committee of the senate, the deputy vice-chancellor contemplated in paragraph 22(2) presides at such meeting.
- (7) In the absence of both the vice-chancellor and the deputy vice-chancellor, the provisions of paragraph 22(8) apply with the necessary changes.

25. Joint committees of council and senate

The council, in consultation with the senate, appoints such joint committees of the council and the senate as may be necessary for the performance of particular tasks.

FACULTY BOARD

26. Functions of faculty board

(1) The function of a faculty board is to regulate the activities of the faculty in line with the policies and Rules of the University.

27. Composition of faculty board

(1) The faculty board is determined by senate upon the advice of the relevant campus senate committee and may consist of-

- (a) the dean of the faculty, who is the chairperson;
- (b) the deputy dean(s) of the faculty, if such position(s) exist;
- (c) the heads of department of the faculty;
- (d) all professors of the faculty;
- (e) one non-professorial academic employee from each department in the faculty elected by that department;
- (f) a person responsible for research in the faculty;
- (g) an assistant registrar based at the relevant campus or his or her designate, after consultation with the campus head;
- (h) a person responsible for faculty administration;
- (i) the campus head or his/her designate;
- (j) at least two undergraduate students registered in that faculty, designated from such students by the relevant campus SRC committee, in terms of the Rules:
- (k) at least two postgraduate students in that faculty who are not employees of the University, designated from such postgraduate students, in terms of the Rules;
- (l) such other members as may be decided by the faculty board in terms of the Rules.

28. Meetings and meeting procedures of faculty board

The council's meetings and meeting procedures in terms of paragraphs 13 and 14 apply, with the necessary changes, to meetings of the faculty board.

INSTITUTIONAL FORUM

29. Functions of institutional forum

The institutional forum must

- (a) advise the council on issues affecting the University, including
 - (i) the implementation of the Act and the national policy on higher education;
 - (ii) race and gender equity policies;
 - (iii) the selection of candidates for senior management positions;
 - (iv) codes of conduct, mediation and dispute-resolution procedures;
 - (v) fostering of an institutional culture which promotes tolerance and respect for fundamental human rights and creates an appropriate environment for teaching, research and learning; and
- (b) performs such other functions as determined by the council.

30. Composition of institutional forum

- (1) The institutional forum consists of
 - (a) two representatives of the management, elected by the Institutional Management Committee of the University;
 - (b) the person responsible for employment equity matters;
 - (c) two members of the council who are not employees or students of the University, elected by the council, who will not have the right to vote in a council meeting when advice rendered to the council by the institutional forum is considered;
 - (d) two representatives of the senate, elected by the senate;

- (e) one non-academic employee representing each of the campuses of the University, elected by the non-academic employees of the relevant learning site;
- (f) one academic employee, not being a member of the senate, representing each of the campuses of the University, elected by the academic employees of the relevant campus;
- (g) one representative of each recognised labour union at the University, elected by such labour union;
- (h) one representative of the student services council, elected by the student services council;
- (i) one representative of the convocation who are not employees or students of the University, elected by the convocation;
- (j) one representative of the SRC, elected by the SRC; and
- (k) not more than two non-voting members co-opted by the institutional forum for the specific purpose of assisting the institutional forum in respect of any specific project, for the duration of such project or part thereof.

31. Election and terms of office of members of institutional forum

- (1) Nomination and election of members must be transparent and democratic and each constituency must follow the procedure prescribed by its own constituency and submit the names of it's designate(s) or representatives to the registrar in writing before such member may take a seat in the institutional forum.
- (2) The term of office of a member or members of the institutional forum
 - (a) contemplated in paragraph 30(1)(c) to (i) is three years.
 - (b) contemplated in paragraph 30(1)(j) is one year.
 - (c) contemplated in paragraph 30(1)(a) and (b) who are members of the institutional forum by virtue of their offices, remain members of the

institutional forum for as long as they hold such offices, or are replaced by the bodies that elected them.

- (3) Members are eligible for re-election, provided that the members contemplated in paragraph 30(1)(j) may not be re-elected for more than two terms.
- (4) Paragraph 10(1) to (3) applies, with the necessary changes, to the termination of the membership of members of the institutional forum.

32. Office-bearers of institutional forum

- (1) The institutional forum elects from among its members a chairperson and deputy chairperson.
- (2) The chairperson and the deputy chairperson hold their respective offices for a period of two years.
- (3) The chairperson and the deputy chairperson may not be re-elected for more than two terms.
- (4) The registrar designates an employee to act as a secretary to the institutional forum.

33. Meetings and meeting procedures of institutional forum

- (1) The institutional forum must have at least two meetings during each academic year.
- (2) Fifty per cent plus one of the members forms a quorum.
- (3) The procedure applicable to the council meetings in terms of paragraphs 13 and 14 is applicable, with the necessary changes, to the meetings of the institutional forum.

34. Committees of institutional forum

The institutional forum may, where necessary, appoint campus institutional forum committees and determine the functions and composition thereof subject to the Rules.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE

35. Functions of student support services committee

- (1) Subject to the provisions of section 27(3) of the Act and paragraph 7(2)(i), the student support services committee advises the council on the policy for student support services.
- (2) The student support services committee advises the council on the rendering of support services to the students of the University.
- (3) The student support services committee discusses any other matter referred to it by the council and advises the council on such matters.

36. Composition of student support services committee

- (1) The student support services committee may consist of
 - (a) the vice-chancellor or his or her delegate;
 - (b) one member of the council, who are not employees or students of the University, elected by the council;
 - (c) one member of the senate, elected by the senate;
 - (d) the chief financial officer or his or designate, as may be needed;
 - (e) the registrar or his or her designate(s), as may be needed;
 - (f) the head of student academic support or his or her designate, as may be needed:

- (g) the head of student affairs and residence operations;
- (h) the campus heads, or their designates; and
- not more than two students from each of the campuses of the University, nominated by the relevant campus SRC committees and appointed by the SRC, in terms of the Rules.
- (2) Such further members as are co-opted from time to time, in terms of the Rules.
- (3) The manner of election or designation of members contemplated in subparagraph (1)(b), (c) and (i) is provided for in the Rules.

37. Terms of office of student support services committee members

- (1) The members contemplated in paragraph 36(1) who serve by virtue of their offices, remain members of the student support services committee for as long as they hold those specific offices.
- (2) The representatives of the council and senate are elected for a period of two years, or for such shorter period as they are members of the council or senate.
- (3) The student representatives are elected by the SRC for a period of one academic year, provided that membership lapses automatically if a student representative ceases to be a student.
- (4) The provisions of paragraph 21(4) to (7) apply, with the necessary changes, to the student support services committee.

38. Chairperson, deputy-chairperson and secretary of student support services committee

(1) The vice-chancellor or his or her delegate is the chairperson of the student support services committee:

- (2) the person made accountable for student affairs by the vice-chancellor is the deputychairperson of the student support services committee;
- (3) the registrar or his or her delegate is the secretary of the student support services committee;
- (4) the provisions of paragraph 22 apply, with the necessary changes, with regard to the functions of the chairperson, deputy-chairperson and the secretary.

39. Meetings and meeting procedures of student support services committee

The provisions applicable to council meetings in terms of paragraphs 13 and 14 apply, with the necessary changes, to the meetings and meeting procedures of the student support services committee.

STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

40. Functions of SRC

- (1) The SRC represents all students within the university in matters that may affect students, subject to the authority of the Council, in accordance with the Act, this Statute and the Rules.
- (2) The SRC derives its powers from the council, is not a legal entity separate from the University and is not a bearer of its own rights,
- (3) The primary function of the SRC is to serve and promote the interests of the University and its student community.
- (4) The matters contemplated in subparagraph (1) include
 - (a) exercising its powers and functions by using such powers as are delegated to it by the council;

- (b) liaising with the council, the senate, the management, the general public, other institutions, students' representative councils of other institutions and national or international student organisations;
- (c) being the umbrella organisation for all student committees, clubs, councils and societies, it may grant or withdraw recognition of such student committees, clubs, councils and societies in terms of the Rules, provided that the SRC cannot grant or withdraw the recognition of a campus SRC committee without the approval of the council, after consultation with the vice-chancellor and the relevant campus head, in accordance with paragraph 45(2);
- (d) coordinating and supervising the use of students' facilities and all matters pertaining thereto, in conjunction with the University management;
- (e) convening and conducting all authorised meetings of the student body and managing all general referenda and petitions organised by the students, in accordance with the Rules;
- (f) appointing such office-bearers and establishing such committees as it deems necessary, subject to paragraph 45(2);
- (g) organising and promoting extramural activities for students;
- (h) keeping account of all monies paid over to it by the council and any other monies which may accrue to it in its capacity as representative of the students; also allocating or disbursing such funds for use by students, and making grants to approved student clubs, committees, societies and councils;
- (i) being responsible for the preservation of order at student functions, and ensuring good conduct at all approved meetings of students;
- (j) coordinating student involvement in all community projects initiated by it;
- (k) assuming the responsibility for all student publications, in accordance with the Rules;
- (l) advising the council on risks pertaining to its affairs;

- (m) recommending to the council Rules to determine the conduct of its affairs;
- (n) final decision-making in all matters falling within its jurisdiction; and
- (o) such additional functions and privileges as may be specifically conferred upon it by the council.
- (5) The SRC, as contemplated in section 35 of the Act, including campus SRC committees, must be representative of the student body in terms of the campuses and faculties of the University, in accordance with the Rules.

41. Composition of SRC and criteria for eligibility of candidates

- (1) The composition of the SRC is determined by the council in the Rules, after consultation with the SRC, as contemplated in section 35 of the Act.
- (2) Only registered students of good academic and financial standing are eligible for the SRC, in accordance with the Rules.
- (3) The election of SRC members must be democratic and transparent, in accordance with the Rules.

42. Term of office of SRC members

- (1) The term of office of members of the SRC is one year.
- (2) A student may not serve as a member of the SRC for more than two terms.

43. Privileges of SRC members

The privileges of members of the SRC are determined by the council, after consultation with the SRC.

44. Meetings and constitution of SRC

- (1) The number of meetings, the quorum at a meeting and the meeting procedures are determined by the constitution of the SRC, as approved by the council, on the recommendation of the SRC.
- (2) The constitution of the SRC will have no legal force and effect unless such constitution or amendments thereto, is approved by council.

45. Committees of SRC

- (1) The SRC must, subject to the student disciplinary Rules, establish a disciplinary committee responsible for the discipline of any members of the SRC and members of the student structures affiliated to the SRC.
- (2) The council may establish a campus SRC committee on every campus of the University upon advice from the vice-chancellor, relevant campus head and SRC, and give it a mandate to perform certain functions for students enrolled at such campus, in accordance with the Rules.
- (3) The SRC may establish such other committees as determined by the SRC constitution.

46. General meeting of students

(1) The SRC must convene at least one general meeting of students per campus per semester, in accordance with the Rules, provided that the SRC shall convene a general of all students if requested in writing by a group of at least 500 bona fide students, proportionately representing the campuses of the University.

(2) Meetings may not conflict with academic activities unless the vice-chancellor or his or her delegate has granted prior permission, subject to such conditions as the vicechancellor may impose.

CONVOCATION

47. Membership of convocation

- The convocation consists of the vice-chancellor, the deputy vice-chancellors, the (1) registrar, academic employees, as set out in subparagraph (2), and all persons who are or become graduates, diplomates or certificants of the University or the University's predecessors, and such other persons as the council may determine.
- (2) Academic employees on the permanent staff of the University, emeritus professors and other retired academic employees who were employed by the University for at least five years prior to retirement, are members of the convocation.
- (3) The fact that the name of a person appears on the convocation roll is prima facie proof of him or her being a member of the convocation and of such person being entitled to vote.
- The names of new graduates, diplomates and certificants of the University are (4) deemed to have been inscribed in the convocation roll after degrees have been conferred or diplomas have been awarded, but members so registered are required to furnish their addresses to the secretary and to notify him or her of any change of address.
- (5) For the purpose of the election of council members the convocation roll is deemed closed from the last date on which ballot papers are issued until the date of the election, both days included.

48. Office-bearers and committees of convocation

- (1) The convocation, at its first meeting, elects from among its members a president to act as chairperson at all its meetings, who holds office for a period of three years.
- (2) Whenever the office of president becomes vacant, the vice-chancellor acts as president until a successor is elected for a period of three years, at the next meeting of the convocation.
- (3) The convocation establishes an executive committee and such other committees as it may deem necessary to perform its functions.
- (4) The executive committee of the convocation is composed of -
 - (a) the president, deputy-president and treasurer, elected by the convocation;
 - (b) the vice-chancellor;
 - (c) not more than four additional members, who may not be employees or full time students of the University;
 - (d) one convocation member of senate, elected by the senate;
 - (e) one convocation member of the non-academic staff, elected by the non-academic employees of the University.
- (5) The executive committee has the right of co-option.
- (6) The executive committee meets at least once per annum.

49. Meetings of convocation

(1) The president, or if the office of the president is vacant, the vice-chancellor, convenes a meeting of the convocation annually or as often as required, and notice of such meeting must be given at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting, by any means reasonably available, including electronic means.

- (2) A member who wishes to raise any matter at such meeting must submit a written motion with regard to the said matter to the registrar or the president, at least two weeks before the date of the meeting.
- (3) An extraordinary meeting of the convocation may be convened by the president or the vice-chancellor if and when required.
- (4) An extraordinary meeting of the convocation must be convened by the president or, if the office of president is vacant, by the vice-chancellor, upon a written request signed by at least 25 members, reflecting the matters for consideration in the form of separate motions.
- (5) An extraordinary meeting as contemplated in subparagraph (4) must be held within two months after receipt of the request.

50. Meeting procedures of convocation

- (1) Fifty members constitute a quorum at a meeting of the convocation, provided that, if no quorum is present, the meeting may adjourn and an extraordinary meeting may be convened with at least seven days' notice, at which the members present constitute a quorum.
- (2) Notwithstanding the absence of a quorum at the start of an annual meeting, such meeting may proceed to elect office bearers and to dispose of other formal matters, but no motions may be submitted at such meeting.
- (3) After its constitution, by reading the notice in terms of which it was convened, a meeting commences with the reading and confirmation, by the signature of the chairperson, of the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting and of all subsequent extraordinary meetings.
- (4) Any objection to such minutes must be raised and determined prior to their approval.

- (5) A member may not, without the permission of the meeting, speak more than once on a motion or amendment thereof, but the mover of the motion or amendment may reply.
- (6) All matters are decided by a majority of the members present.
- (7) In addition to his or her ordinary vote, the chairperson has a casting vote in the event of an equality of votes.
- (8) If a meeting so resolves, the number of votes in favour of or against a motion must be recorded in the minutes, and, at the request of a member, the chairperson must further direct that the vote of such member be likewise recorded.
- (9) A motion or amendment thereof must be seconded, and if the chairperson so directs, such motion or amendment must be in writing.
- (10) A motion or amendment may not be withdrawn without the permission of the meeting.
- (11) The chairperson may permit the discussion of a matter of which notice was not duly given, provided such discussion is unopposed.
- (12) The ruling of the chairperson on a point of order of procedure is binding, unless immediately challenged by a member, in which event such ruling must be submitted without discussion to the meeting, whose decision is final.
- (13) A copy of the resolutions of the convocation, and a statement on such other matters as the convocation may determine, duly certified by the chairperson and secretary are submitted to the chairperson of the council for the information of the council and to the vice-chancellor for the information of the senate.
- (14) The election of members of the convocation to the council is in the manner as determined by the convocation.

MANAGEMENT AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

VICE-CHANCELLOR

51. Chief executive officer of the University

- (1) The vice-chancellor is the chief executive officer of the University.
- (2) The Council determines the powers, functions and duties of the Vice-Chancellor

52. Functions of vice-chancellor

- (1) The vice-chancellor is responsible for the implementation of the divisional management system as contained in the Rules, the day-to-day management and administration of all aspects of the entire university and has all the powers necessary to perform those functions, subject to the provisions of paragraph 22 (4), (5) and (8).
- (2) The vice-chancellor reports to the council.
- (3) By way of his or her office, the vice-chancellor is a member of all the committees of the council and the senate.
- (4) Subject to paragraph 7(3), the council may delegate its powers, assign additional functions, and grant additional powers and privileges to the vice-chancellor.
- (5) When the vice-chancellor is absent or unable to carry out his or her duties, the deputy vice-chancellor designated by the council takes over, or the council may appoint an acting vice-chancellor.
- (6) The vice-chancellor may delegate his or her powers to any employee of the University, without abdicating his or her responsibilities.

(7) Subject to the Rules and policies an acting vice-chancellor has the same powers, privileges and functions as the vice-chancellor.

53. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of vicechancellor

- (1) The council after consultation with the senate and the institutional forum appoints the vice-chancellor for a term of not more than five (5) years.
- (2) Subject to section 31(1) of the Act, the advertising of the post, the invitation for the nomination of candidates, the search for suitable candidates, the criteria for the short-listing of candidates and the interviewing and appointment processes are done in the manner determined by Council.
- (3) The term of office of the vice-chancellor terminates before its expiry if the incumbent dies, resigns from office or is discharged from office in the manner prescribed in the Rules.
- (4) A vice-chancellor whose term of office expires by effluxion of time may be appointed for one further term.
- (5) If the office of the vice-chancellor becomes vacant, the registrar notifies the members of the council of the fact in writing.
- (6) A successor is appointed in terms of subparagraphs (1) and (2).

54. Discipline of vice-chancellor

The vice-chancellor is subject to the Rules relating to staff discipline.

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLORS

55. Functions of deputy vice-chancellor

- (1) The Council determines the powers, functions and duties of the Vice-Chancellor
- (2) The council may appoint one or more persons as deputy vice-chancellors, as contemplated in section 26(2)(d) and (g) of the Act.
- (3) The deputy vice-chancellor(s) must assist the vice-chancellor in the management and administration of the University at the institutional level, and may be given specific areas of responsibility by the vice-chancellor.
- (4) The deputy vice-chancellors are responsible for the execution of the functions designated to them by the vice-chancellor.

56. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancies in office of deputy vice-chancellor

The appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancies in the office of deputy vice-chancellors are in the manner determined by the Council.

57. Discipline of deputy vice-chancellor

A deputy vice-chancellor is subject to the Rules relating to staff discipline.

REGISTRAR

58. Functions of Registrar

- (1) The council appoints a person as the registrar, who will act as the electoral officer and secretary to the council, senate, student services council and the convocation.
- (2) The registrar supports the vice-chancellor in the management and administration of the University at the institutional level.
- (3) The registrar has a general custodial function at the institutional level, and in furtherance thereof ensures that the entire University complies with the Statute, relevant legislation, national higher education policies and the policies and Rules of the University.
- (4) The registrar is the electoral officer of the institutional forum.

59. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of registrar

The appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of a vacancy in the office of the registrar is in the manner determined in the Rules.

60. Discipline of registrar

The registrar is subject to the Rules relating to staff discipline.

INSTITUTIONAL MANAGERS

61. Functions of an institutional manager

- (1) The council may appoint one or more persons as institutional managers, irrespective of the job title, to whom the council or the vice-chancellor may assign specific managerial and administrative functions at the institutional level.
- (2) An institutional manager is accountable to the vice-chancellor or his or her delegate.

62. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office, filling of vacancy and temporary absence in the office of institutional manager

- (1) The appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of a vacancy in the office of an institutional manager is in the manner determined in the Rules.
- (2) In the temporary absence of an institutional manager, the vice-chancellor designates another person to perform the functions of the office.

63. Discipline of institutional manager

An institutional manager is subject to the Rules relating to staff discipline.

CAMPUS HEADS

64. Functions of campus head

(1) A campus head is the accountable senior manager of a specific campus of the University.

- (2) A campus head is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of all the affairs of a specific campus of the University and has the powers delegated to him or her by the vice-chancellor.
- (3) A campus head is accountable to the vice-chancellor or his or her delegate.
- (4) A campus head is bound to ensure that the agreed processes, policies, systems, rules and procedures of the University are consistently applied at the relevant campus, provided that appropriate deviations or alternatives to ensure optimal performance of the relevant campus may be proposed to the relevant institutional manager(s) by the campus head, and may be approved by the vice-chancellor, after consideration of such proposals by the institutional management committee.
- (5) The campus head is the chairperson of the campus senate committee contemplated in paragraph 19(2)(i).
- (6) A campus head may establish a campus management committee to advise him or her on the management and administration of the specific campus, and is the chairperson of such committee.

65. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of campus head

- (1) The appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of a vacancy in the office of a campus head is in the manner determined in the Rules.
- (2) In the temporary absence of a campus head, the vice-chancellor designates another person to perform the functions of the office.

66. Discipline of campus head

A campus head is subject to the Rules relating to staff discipline.

INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

67. Functions of institutional management committee

- (1) The vice-chancellor must establish an institutional management committee to assist him or her in the day-to-day management and administration of the University.
- (2) The institutional management committee advises the vice-chancellor on any matter pertaining to the managing of risks to the achievement of the goals of the University.
- (3) The institutional management committee advises the vice-chancellor in accordance with the applicable legislation as well as this Statute and the Rules.

68. Composition of institutional management committee

- (1) The institutional management committee may consist of
 - (a) the vice-chancellor;
 - (b) the deputy vice-chancellor(s);
 - (c) the registrar;
 - (d) the campus heads;
 - (e) the institutional manager responsible for human resources;
 - (f) the chief financial officer, and
 - (g) any other employee designated by the vice-chancellor.
- (2) The institutional management committee may, from time to time, co-opt any employee for a particular purpose.

69. Chairperson, functioning, meetings and meeting procedures of institutional management committee

- (1) The vice-chancellor is the chairperson of the institutional management committee.
- (2) The vice-chancellor must set guidelines to ensure effective and efficient functioning of the institutional management committee, to safeguard the proper functioning of institutional managers in their discrete areas of accountability, and to maintain synergy and coherence of the divisional management system across the University.
- (3) Rules as contemplated in subparagraph (1) must be developed to guide the handling of the unavoidable, necessary interaction between institutional managers and campus managers, and among institutional managers themselves, on matters affecting their areas of accountability, including that
 - (a) Full, prior written disclosure of all facts pertaining to an interaction to all relevant institutional managers, is required;
 - (b) No final decision affecting the area of accountability of an institutional manager may be made without prior consultation with the relevant institutional manager;
 - (c) The final resolution of any dispute arising from interaction between an institutional manager and a campus manager, or between institutional managers, pertaining to their respective areas of accountability, rests with the vice-chancellor;
 - (d) The institutional management committee must be informed, at its next meeting, of any instance where an interaction contemplated in this paragraph arose or could arise, how it was resolved and the outcome must be recorded in the minutes:
 - (e) The council or a committee of council must regularly be informed regarding the handling of interactions between institutional managers and campus managers, and between institutional managers themselves.

- (4) The vice-chancellor convenes meetings of the institutional management committee and determines the agendas of such meetings.
- (5) The provisions applicable to council meetings in terms of paragraph 14 apply, with the necessary changes, to the meeting procedures of the institutional management committee.

DEANS

70. Functions of deans

- (1) The vice-chancellor must appoint a person as dean for each faculty, to take responsibility, among other tasks, for the management and administration of the relevant faculty.
- (2) A dean is accountable to the relevant campus head.

71. Appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of vacancy in office of dean

- (1) The appointment, term of office, vacation of office and filling of a vacancy in the office of a dean is in the manner determined in the Rules.
- (2) In the temporary absence of a dean, the vice-chancellor or his or her delegate designates another person to perform the functions of the office.

72. Discipline of dean

A dean is subject to the Rules relating to staff discipline.

EMPLOYEES

73. Appointment

- (1) Subject to Section 34 of the Act, the Council and its delegates must appoint employees according to the staffing policies of the University as determined in the Rules.
- (2) With the exception of the appointment of the senior management, and provided that no person shall appoint anyone who will report to him or her, the council may delegate its powers stipulated in subparagraph (1) to the vice-chancellor, and the council may delegate the power to make appointments at a campus to a relevant campus head.
- (3) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2), academic employees are appointed after consultation with the senate in terms of the Rules.
- (4) An employee must in writing, before he or she assumes office -
 - (a) declare any legal entity, body or organisation that may in any way raise a conflict or possible conflict of interest with the University;
 - (b) notify the University of any conflict of interest before the University procures any goods or services from the employee, a legal entity, body or organisation in which the employee holds an interest.
- (5) An employee may not conduct business directly or indirectly with the University that entails or may entail a conflict of interest with the University, unless the council is of the opinion that
 - (a) The goods, products or services in question are unique;
 - (b) The supplier is a sole provider; and
 - (c) It is in the best interests of the University.

- (6) No employee may contract on behalf of the University with himself or herself or any legal entity, body or organisation in which he or she has any direct or indirect financial or personal interests.
- (7) Contracting referred to in subparagraph (6) relates to conduct that is aimed at receiving any direct or indirect personal gain that does not form part of the employment relationship contemplated in subparagraph (1).

74. Conditions of employment

The conditions of employment, including the determination and review of salaries of employees and all other forms of remuneration is approved by the council according to the University's policy as determined in the Rules which may be amended from time to time by the council.

75. Performance appraisal

All employees of the University are subject to continuous evaluation in the performance of their duties, in terms of the policies and Rules of the University.

76. Employees' discipline

Every employee is subject to a disciplinary code, a disciplinary procedure and a grievance procedure for employees, as approved by the council and determined in the Rules, which serve as an integral part of every employee's conditions of service.

77. Representative employees' organisations

- (1) Agreements with registered representative employees' organisations may, with reference to salary and related negotiations and according to the relevant labour legislation, be entered into by the institutional management and recommended to the council for approval.
- (2) The recognition agreement entered into between the University and a registered representative employees' organisation contemplated in subparagraph (1) may periodically be reviewed and revised by the University, in terms of the Rules, and such revised recognition agreement becomes binding upon approval thereof by the council.

STUDENTS

78. Admission and registration of students

- (1) A person may be permitted by the council to register as a student only if he or she satisfies the legal requirements, if any, for admission to study at the University, and satisfies any further requirements for admission that may be determined by the council and laid down in the Rules.
- (2) The requirements for admission of a student to faculties are set out in the Rules and may be changed by the council after consultation with the senate.
- (3) A student is registered for one year or for such shorter period as the council may determine in general or in a particular case.
- (4) In order for a student to renew his or her registration after expiry of the period contemplated in subparagraph (3), the student is required to comply with any conditions set by the council.

- (5) The council may refuse to allow the renewal of registration in accordance with the Rules, if a student fails to meet the conditions contemplated in subparagraph (4).
- (6) The conditions contemplated in subparagraph (4) may include the payment of outstanding fees.
- (7) A student's signature upon registration binds the student to the Higher Education Act, the Statute and the Rules of the University.

79. Discipline of students

- (1) The disciplinary procedures applicable to students are determined by the council after consultation with the SRC and the senate, and set out in the applicable Rules of the university.
 - (2) The disciplinary measures and disciplinary provisions applicable to students are set out in the Rules may be changed by the council after consultation with the senate, the student support services committee and the SRC.
 - (3) Each of the disciplinary bodies, as determined by the Rules of the University, submit an annual report to the council, listing the offences and the penalties imposed by it.

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

80. Authority, conferment, award and cancellation

- (1) The University has the authority to confer degrees and award diplomas and certificates, subject to the relevant legislation, this Statute and the Rules.
- (2) A congregation of the University is convened for the purpose of conferring degrees and awarding diplomas and certificates.

- (3) (a) A congregation is convened in the manner prescribed by the council in the Rules.
 - (b) The council delegates its authority contemplated in subparagraph (a), to the vice-chancellor.
 - (c) A congregation is chaired by the chancellor or his or her delegate.
 - (d) A degree may be conferred and a diploma or certificate awarded in the absence of a graduate, diplomate or certificant, or posthumously.
 - (e) A person is not entitled to the privileges of a degree, diploma or certificate until such degree, diploma or certificate has been conferred or awarded by the University at a congregation.
 - (f) An official document confirming the conferment of a degree or the awarding of a diploma or certificate is issued once only, and this occurs at an official congregation of the University.
 - (g) If a student has satisfied the requirements for a degree, diploma or certificate and such degree, diploma or certificate has not yet been conferred or awarded, or if an official certificate has been lost, a document may be issued at the written request of the student, stating that the student has satisfied all the requirements for the degree, diploma or certificate and that it will be conferred or awarded on a certain date, or that it has already been conferred or awarded on a previous date.
 - (h) In order to satisfy the requirements for the conferment of a degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification, a student must satisfy the requirements of the academic programme for that degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification, as prescribed in the Rules.
 - (i) The council may, upon recommendation of the senate, withdraw any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification or honour if any such degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification or honour was conferred in error.

- (j) The council may with regard to any completed qualification, upon recommendation of the senate -
 - a. if it is proven that the requirements for admission to or for completion of the qualification were not satisfied before the qualification was granted or conferred; or
 - b. that the student or someone on his or her behalf acted dishonestly or fraudulently in any way with regard to admission, completing the learning or research programme or any aspect thereof, or any assessment with a view to meeting the requirements for the qualification; and
 - c. may take such further steps as it deems fit to ensure that the integrity and quality of the University's qualifications, and the academic reputation of the University is sustained.
- (k) The council may, upon recommendation of the senate, cancel, withdraw and demand summary return of all certificates, records and copies thereof that may have been issued in respect of any qualification contemplated in subparagraphs (i) and (j).

81. Honorary degrees

- (1) The University may, without attendance and examination, confer an honorary degree of master or doctor in any faculty on any person who has rendered a distinguished service in the advancement of any branch of learning or technology, or upon any person the University deems worthy of such a degree.
- (2) The conferment of an honorary degree on a person does not entitle that person to practise any profession on the grounds of that honorary degree.
- (3) The criteria and procedures for conferring an honorary degree are determined in the Rules.

DONORS

82. Donors and donations

- (1) The University may receive donations in cash or in kind from donors, to assist the University in providing quality education, training and research and community service.
- (2) The University may recognise and register certain donors, as determined in the Rules.
- (3) The University may organise its recognised donors in terms of the Rules, and the council may to that end make policy and the vice-chancellor shall put the necessary processes and structures in place to ensure that such group of donors operates to the benefit of the University.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

83. Legal force of Rules

The Rules made by the council have legal force.

84. Statute repealed and transitional provisions

- (1) The statute of the Walter Sisulu University published in Notice No. 900, Government Gazette No. 31358 of 26 August 2008, is hereby repealed. This Statute will come into effect on date of publication by Notice in the Government Gazette.
- (2) Notwithstanding subparagraph (1), any structure of the University within the meaning of the Act, which existed prior to the publication of this Statute, continues

71

- to exist and function in terms of this Statute until the day when each new structure reconstituted in terms of this Statute becomes functional.
- (3) Anything done under any provision of the statute of the Walter Sisulu University published as Notice No. 900, Government Gazette No. 31358 of 26 August 2008 before this Statute came into operation, is deemed to have been done under the corresponding provision of this Statute.
- (4) All the Rules which were in force at the commencement of this Statute continue to apply until replaced by a provision of this Statute or by any Rule that may be made in terms of this Statute.
- (5) The senate, faculty boards, institutional forum, SRC and convocation which existed prior to the commencement of this Statute continue to exist and to perform the functions which they performed prior to such commencement, but must comply with the provisions of this Statute within twelve months of the commencement of this Statute.