

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

NO. 7465

15 May 2026

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT, 1997 (ACT NO. 101 OF 1997)**INSTITUTIONAL STATUTE****RHODES UNIVERSITY**

I, Mr Kgwaridi Buti Manamela, MP, Minister of Higher Education and Training in accordance with section 33 (1) of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997, as amended), hereby publish the amended Institutional Statute of the Rhodes University set out in the Schedule attached hereto.

**Mr KB Manamela, MP****Minister of Higher Education and Training****Date:** 14 / 04 / 2026

RHODES UNIVERSITY STATUTE

The Council of Rhodes University, in accordance with section 32 of the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), has approved the Statute of the University as set out in the schedule to this notice, which is, in terms of section 33 of the 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 the Statute of Rhodes University to give effect to the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended, and to promote the effective management and governance of the University in respect of matters not expressly prescribed by the Act.

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PREAMBLE

Rhodes University, in accordance with the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 (as amended), commits to the principles and practices of good governance to achieve sustainable outcomes. Acknowledging its status as a public university, Rhodes University embraces co-operative governance, recognising that institutional autonomy is to be exercised in tandem with public accountability. In so doing, it will ensure that it fulfils its responsibility to South Africa.

1. Definitions

In this Statute, 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 assigned to it, unless the context otherwise indicates:

“**academic employee**” means a person employed to teach, and/or conduct research, and associated activities and provide academic leadership to the benefit of the University and scholarship in general.

“**Act**” means the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997), as amended.

“**academic calendar**” means the document that specifies, inter alia, the requirements pertaining to admissions and registration of students, general rules pertaining to diplomas, degrees and certificates, faculty and academic department rules.

“**administrative and support employee**” means a person employed by the University in an administrative or support capacity defined in the Human Resources grading process.

“**associated institute**” means an institute recognised by the University Council as such.

“**board of governors**” means persons holding office as members of the Board of Governors of Rhodes University as contemplated in paragraph 52 of this Statute.

“**certificate**” means a certificate of the University awarded to a student on completion of the work as prescribed for the certificate by the Senate.

“**chancellor**” means the titular head of the University.

“**convocation**” means the body of the University comprising the assembly of graduates and diplomates of the University, the vice-chancellor, deputy vice-chancellors, active and retired academic employees, the registrar and the director of student services and development.

“**council**” means the governing body of the University as contemplated by the Act.

“**day**” includes Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

“**dean**” means a person appointed as head of a faculty and the Chairperson of the faculty board, and any other academic employee as designated by Council.

“**degree**” means a qualification of the University conferred upon a student on completion of the work prescribed for the degree by the Senate.

“**department**” means a department falling under a faculty or an entity formally recognised by Senate and Council as an institute.

“**diploma**” means a qualification of the University awarded to a student on completion of the work prescribed for the diploma by the Senate.

“**diplomand**” means a person who has met the requirements for a diploma to be awarded but who has not yet graduated.

“**diplomate**” means a person to whom a diploma has been awarded.

“**deputy vice-chancellor**” means a person appointed by the Council as contemplated in paragraph 10, and includes a vice-principal as contemplated in the Act.

“**employee**” means any person appointed at the University to a position by the Council, whether part-time or full-time, permanent, temporary or on a fixed-term contract.

“**entity**” means any organisation, forum or body and includes an organisational structure provided for in the Act or determined by the Council.

“**examination**” means any form of assessment, including any written, oral, practical or clinical test or assessment where the result obtained contributes to, or constitutes, the result for a certificate, diploma, or degree course.

“**executive management**” means the vice-chancellor, deputy vice-chancellor(s), chief financial officer, registrar of the University and such other persons as determined by the Council.

“**faculty**” means a primary cluster of academic departments and schools in a major field of knowledge. A faculty may comprise a singular department.

“**functions**” include powers and duties.

“**graduand**” means a person who has met the requirements to be awarded a degree at the University but has not yet graduated.

“**graduate**” means a person who has been awarded a degree at the University.

“**institution**” means a public higher education institution as contemplated in section 20 of the Act.

“**institutional forum**” means the body as contemplated in section 31 of the Act and paragraph 35 of this Statute.

“**institutional rules**” means the rules of the University made in terms of section 32 of the Act, and includes all the policies and standing orders approved by the Council, as well as the rules as appear in the academic calendar.

“**Minister**” means the Minister responsible for higher education and training.

“**month**” means calendar month.

“**officer of the university**” means an employee of the University designated as such by the Council.

“**Old Rhodian Union**” means the union founded to form a link between past and present students and employees of Rhodes University.

“**professor**” means a university academic employee who has either been promoted or appointed to the rank of full professor.

“**qualification**” means a registered national qualification as defined in the National Qualifications Framework Act 67 of 2008 (as amended).

“**registrar**” means a person appointed by the Council with the responsibility of student administration and institutional governance, and performs the functions as contained in paragraph 54 of this Statute.

“**seat of the university**” means the seat of the University as contemplated in paragraph 2 of this Statute and in section 65A of the Act.

“**senate**” means the body of the University as contemplated in section 26(2)(b) and section 28 of the Act.

“**senior management**” means the executive management, the deans and directors.

“**SRC**” means the Student Representative Council of the University contemplated in section 35 of the Act.

“**statute**” means the institutional Statute of the University approved in terms of section 33 of the Act.

“**student**” means a person registered as a student of the University.

“**term**” means a term of office as contemplated in the Statute and the Institutional Rules.

“**the university**” means Rhodes University.

“**vice-chancellor**” is the principal and chief executive and accounting officer of the University, as contemplated in paragraph 7 of this Statute.

UNIVERSITY

2. Name, Status, Seat and Powers of the University

1. The name of the University is Rhodes University.
2. The seat of the University is Makhanda, in the Eastern Cape Province of the Republic of South Africa.
3. The University is a juristic person, the activities of which are principally administered from the seat of the University, subject to the Act.
4. Notwithstanding paragraph 14(3)(i) of this Statute, the University 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.
5. The University may confer degrees and honorary degrees and award diplomas and certificates in its own name as contemplated in section 65C of the Act.

3. Constitution of the University

1. The University consists of—
 - a. the Chancellor;
 - b. the Vice-Chancellor;
 - c. two or more officers, as the Council may determine, each of whom is called Deputy Vice-Chancellor or such other title as the Council may determine;
 - d. the Council;
 - e. the Senate;
 - f. the Registrar;
 - g. the Student Representative Council;
 - h. the Institutional Forum;
 - i. the Convocation;
 - j. the faculties, schools, departments and such other academic structures and research entities of the University as may be determined by the Council in accordance with this Statute;
 - k. the academic employees of the University;
 - l. the administrative and support employees of the University;
 - m. the students of the University;
 - n. such other offices, bodies or structures as may be established by the Council.
2. No vacancy in any of the offices contemplated in paragraph 3(1) nor any deficiency in the numbers or defect in the composition of the bodies or structures contemplated in paragraph 3(1) impairs or affects the existence of the University as a juristic person or any function conferred by the Act or this Statute upon the University.

CHANCELLOR

4. Functions of the Chancellor

1. The Chancellor is the titular head of the University.
2. The Chancellor confers all degrees and awards all diplomas and certificates in the name of the University.
3. The Chancellor performs all such other functions as may be assigned to him or her by the Council.

5. Term of Office of the Chancellor

1. The Chancellor holds office for a period of seven years. Council may extend the term of office of the Chancellor for a further term of no more than seven years after consultation with the Senate and the Institutional Forum.

2. The term of office of the Chancellor is terminated in the event of:
 - a. death;
 - b. incapacity;
 - c. resignation; or
 - d. removal from office by the Council.
3. The Chancellor may only be removed from office by the Council after following due process, by means of a resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the members of the Council.

6. Appointment of the Chancellor

1. Any advertising of the position, invitation for nomination of candidates, search for suitable candidates, criteria for the short-listing of candidates, interviewing, if any, and the appointment processes are conducted in the manner determined by the Council.

VICE-CHANCELLOR

7. Functions of the Vice-Chancellor

1. The Vice-Chancellor is the principal, chief executive, and accounting officer of the University.
2. The Vice-Chancellor is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the University and has all the powers necessary to perform these functions.
3. The Vice-Chancellor performs the functions of the Chancellor in the absence of the Chancellor.
4. The Vice-Chancellor is accountable to the Council.
5. The Vice-Chancellor is the Chairperson of the Senate and a member of the committees of the Council and the Senate, and of all joint committees of the Council and the Senate, unless provided for in the Institutional Rules.
6. The Council may assign additional functions and privileges to the Vice-Chancellor.
7. The Vice-Chancellor nominates a deputy vice-chancellor or a senior academic employee in an acting capacity in his or her absence.
8. In the event that the Vice-Chancellor is unable to nominate an acting Vice-Chancellor, the Council must designate one of the deputy vice-chancellors or a senior academic employee to act for such time as stipulated by the Council.
9. An acting vice-chancellor performs the same functions as the Vice-Chancellor.
10. The Vice-Chancellor may, on such conditions as he or she may determine, delegate any of his or her powers under the Act and assign any of his or her duties in terms of section 68(3) of the Act to any other employee of the University.
11. The Vice-Chancellor is the chief disciplinary authority of the University for all employee disciplinary matters and student disciplinary matters. The Vice-Chancellor is vested with the authority and

responsibility to ensure the proper administration, application and implementation of discipline.

8. Term of Office of the Vice-Chancellor

1. Council appoints the Vice-Chancellor for a first term of seven years, which can be renewed once; and
2. Council may renew the Vice-Chancellor's term for a further term for such a period as may be determined by Council.

9. Appointment of the Vice-Chancellor

1. The Vice-Chancellor is appointed in accordance with the procedures determined by the Council.
2. Subject to sections 31 (1)(a)(iii) and 34 (2) of the Act, the Council appoints the Vice-Chancellor in a manner determined the Council and in accordance with the Institutional Rules.
3. Council determines the appointment of an acting vice-chancellor in the event of the office becoming vacant either by resignation, death or suspension.

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR

10. Functions of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

1. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor performs all such duties as determined by the and those delegated to him or her by the Vice-Chancellor.
2. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor may delegate any of his or her duties to any other employee of the University, subject to the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.
3. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor may be a member of Council and all committees of the Council, subject to preserving the proportion of external and internal members, and in accordance with the Institutional Rules, except those committees dealing with audit and remuneration matters or any other committee where good governance practice determines it to be so.
4. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor is a member of the Senate and of all joint committees of the Council and the Senate.
5. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor is accountable to the Vice-Chancellor.

11. Term of Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

1. The Council determines the term of office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in accordance with the Institutional Rules.

12. Appointment of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

1. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor is appointed in accordance with the procedures determined by the Council.
2. The Council appoints the Deputy Vice-Chancellor after consultation with the Institutional Forum and the Senate, and in a manner as determined by the Council.
3. In the absence of a deputy vice-chancellor, a suitable senior academic employee may be appointed to act as deputy vice-chancellor. Such a person has the power and authority vested in the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

COUNCIL

13. Composition of Council

1. The Council of the University shall consist of not more than thirty members, of which at least 60 percent must be members who are not employees or registered students of the University.
2. The Council, subject to section 27(4) of the Act, consists of –

External members:

- a. five persons appointed by the Minister;
- b. two persons representing the Convocation as determined by the Institutional Rules;
- c. one person appointed by the Premier of the Province of the Eastern Cape;
- d. one person appointed by the Makana Municipality;
- e. eight persons elected by the Council by reason of special knowledge or expertise;
- f. one person from the membership of the Board of Governors.

Internal members:

- g. the Vice-Chancellor;
 - h. two Deputy Vice-Chancellors;
 - i. four members of the Senate elected by the Senate, one of whom must be a dean and one a non-professoriate member;
 - j. one member of the full-time academic employees elected by the academic employees;
 - k. two members of the administrative and support employees elected by the administrative and support employees;
 - l. the President of the SRC and another student elected annually by the SRC, one of whom must be a research-based postgraduate student.
3. Council members must have knowledge and experience relevant to the University's objects and governance.

4. Except as provided in paragraph 13(2)(g), (h), (i), (j), (k) and (l)–
 - a. no employee or student of the University and no other person in receipt of regular remuneration from the University is eligible for appointment or nomination for election as a member of the Council;
 - 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 remuneration from the University must forthwith vacate his or her seat on the Council.
5. In nominating members contemplated in paragraph 13(2)(e), a balance of equity, diversity, and stakeholder constituencies must be considered.

14. Functions of Council

1. The Council governs the University in terms of the Act and this Statute.
2. Without derogating from the generality of paragraph 14(1), the Council–
 - a. appoints all employees of the University, but, in the case of academic employees of the University, it may do so only after consultation with the Senate;
 - b. determines, after consultation with the Senate, the student admission policy of the University;
 - c. determines, after consultation with the Senate, the entrance requirements in respect of particular higher education programmes, the number of students who 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;
 - d. may, after consultation with the Senate, refuse admission to a student who fails to satisfy the minimum requirements for readmission; and
 - e. establishes, after consultation with the SRC, a structure to advise on the policy for student support services within the University and provides student support services.
3. Without derogating from the generality of paragraph 14(1), the Council –
 - a. makes the Institutional Statute and Institutional Rules for the University;
 - b. subject to the policy determined by the Minister and with the concurrence of the Senate, determines the language policy of the University, and must publish it and make it available on request;
 - c. determines, subject to the applicable labour laws, the conditions of service, the disciplinary provisions and the privileges and functions of its employees as set out in paragraph 14(5);
 - d. may establish committees as provided for in section 29 of the Act to perform any of its functions;
 - e. determines, after consultation with the Senate, which academic structures are established or disestablished and the functions of each structure, to ensure ethical, effective and efficient governance;
 - f. determines tuition fees, accommodation fees and any other fees payable by students as well as accommodation fees payable by employees;
 - g. approves the annual budget and the audited annual financial statement of the University;

- h. may conclude loans or overdraft agreements, subject to the proviso that the approval of the Minister is required whenever the aggregate of existing borrowings plus the new contemplated borrowing exceeds five per cent of the average income of the University received during the two years immediately preceding such agreement;
 - i. may enter into agreements 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, if the value of such development or property exceeds five per cent of the average income of the University received during the two years immediately preceding the agreement.
4. Subject to section 68 of the Act, the Council may delegate any of the functions referred to in paragraph 14(2), but the Council may not delegate any of the functions referred to in paragraph 14(3).
5. Council creates employee and student disciplinary rules and is responsible for oversight of any amendments to such rules. The Vice-Chancellor, as the chief disciplinary authority of the University, has the authority to make any ad hoc decisions in relation to the interpretation, application and implementation of the aforementioned disciplinary rules, to efficiently conduct the day-to-day business of the University, as contemplated by the Vice-Chancellor's status as the chief executive officer of the University as well as the chief disciplinary authority of the University.
6. The Council is not divested of responsibility for the performance of any function delegated or assigned under paragraph 14(4).

15. Code of Conduct

1. The Council must, after consultation with the Institutional Forum, adopt a code of conduct to which all members of Council, all members of committees of the Council and all other persons who exercise functions of the Council in terms of delegated authority must subscribe.

16. Appointment of Council Members

1. The eligibility criteria and the manner in which members of the Council are appointed or elected are determined by the Institutional Rules.

17. Term of Office of Council Members

1. The term of office of members of the Council is as follows: the Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor(s) remain members of the Council for as long as they occupy their posts.
2. The term of office of the student members of the Council elected by the SRC is one year, provided that membership ceases when a student ceases to be a registered student.
3. The term of office of the remaining members is five years.
4. A member may serve more than one term of office but no more than two terms as a council member, subject to the Institutional Rules.

18. Termination of Membership and Filling of Vacancies

1. A member of the Council vacates his or her position on the Council if he or she –
 - a. tenders a written resignation to the Registrar;
 - b. is absent from three consecutive ordinary meetings -
 - i. without the prior leave of the Chairperson of the Council;
 - ii. or in the case of the Chairperson, the leave of the Executive Committee of Council;
 - c. absent from the ordinary meetings of the Council for a whole calendar year;
 - d. is declared by a court of law to be insolvent or otherwise incapable of attending to his or her own affairs;
 - e. is declared to be of unsound mind by a competent court of the Republic; or
 - f. is convicted of an offence and sentenced by a court of the Republic to a term of imprisonment without the option of a fine;
 - g. in respect of paragraph 13(2)(l), ceases to be president of the SRC or a student, as the case may be;
 - h. having been elected or appointed by a particular constituency, is no longer a member of that constituency;
 - i. is considered by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Council present at any meeting to be acting other than in the best interests of the University;
 - j. is otherwise disqualified in terms of the Institutional Rules.
2. Members contemplated in paragraph 13(2) (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k) of this Statute cease to be members on resignation or termination of membership by the Council or cease to be employed by the University.
3. Where a member who has been elected or appointed dies, resigns or vacates office for any reason, including the expiry of his or her term of office, the Secretary to the Council must notify the authority or body that has appointed or elected such member of the vacancy, and must request such authority or body to nominate or elect a successor.
4. A member whose term of office has expired may, as an interim measure, have his or her term extended by the Council once for a maximum period of six months, should Council be of the opinion that special circumstances so demand.

19. Office-Bearers of Council

1. The following office-bearers of the Council are elected from among the members of the Council –
 - a. the Chairperson; and
 - b. the Vice-Chairperson.

Provided that the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Council may not be elected from members as contemplated in paragraph 13(2)(g), (h), (i), (j), (k) and (l) of this Statute.

2. An office-bearer holds office for a period of four years, unless, during that time, he or she resigns or ceases to be a member of the Council.
3. If a vacancy in the office of the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson occurs during the term of office, the Registrar must invite the Council at its next ordinary meeting to fill the vacancy for the unexpired period of the term of office, unless the unexpired period is six months or shorter, in which case a person will be elected to serve his or her full term.
4. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are eligible for re-election in accordance with the Institutional Rules and may serve for a maximum of two terms.
5. The Chairperson presides at all meetings of the Council at which he or she is present.
6. The Vice-Chairperson presides at any meeting at which the Chairperson is absent, or when the Chairperson has to recuse himself or herself or is unable to continue chairing.
7. If neither the Chairperson nor the Vice-Chairperson is present at a meeting, the Registrar must invite members present to elect an external member to preside at that meeting.

20. Secretary to Council

1. The Registrar is the Secretary to the Council.
2. The Secretary acts as an electoral officer.
3. The Secretary attends all meetings and maintains all relevant Council documents.

21. Meetings of Council

1. The Council determines its own meeting rules.
2. No resolution of a meeting is binding unless the meeting is quorate.
3. Members who recuse themselves in terms of good governance due to a conflict of interest shall be counted as present for quorum purposes. Officers of the University, who are not council members, but in attendance, shall not be counted for quorum purposes.
4. Ordinary meetings are held when and where the Council decides, but there must be at least four ordinary meetings of the Council each year.
 - a. The quorum for an ordinary meeting of the Council shall consist of eight members, of which at least five shall be external members.
 - b. Any member may place a motion on the agenda of a meeting of the Council by giving written notice to the Secretary of the Council at least seven days before the date of the meeting, and the Secretary must include such motion in the agenda.
 - c. The Secretary must issue a written notice to each member of the Council at least fourteen days before each ordinary meeting of the Council, setting out the place, date and time of the meeting.

- d. The agenda and documentation for an ordinary meeting must be circulated at least 7 days before the meeting.
 - e. Notwithstanding paragraph 21(4)(b), the Council may, by a majority of the total membership of the Council excluding vacancies, agree to consider any urgent matter of which notice has not been given.
5. A special meeting must be held when called by the Chairperson or when the Chairperson is requested in writing by five or more members of Council.
- i. The Secretary must give at least three days' written notice of a special meeting of the Council, setting out the place, date and time of the meeting, and the agenda for the meeting.
 - ii. No other business may be dealt with at the meeting except that the Council may, by a majority of the total membership of the Council excluding vacancies, agree to consider any urgent matter of which notice has not been given.
 - iii. The quorum at a special meeting of the Council shall consist of eight members, of which at least five shall be external members.
6. An emergency meeting may be held when called by the Chairperson at any time after giving not less than 24 hours' notice, unless, in the opinion of the Chairperson, there is an emergency warranting a shorter period.
- i. Notice of an emergency meeting may be given in any manner convenient under the circumstances.
 - ii. The object of an emergency meeting must be stated to members, and no business other than that stated may be transacted at such a meeting.
 - iii. The quorum at an emergency meeting of the Council shall consist of eight members, of which at least five shall be external members.

22. Conflict of Interest of Council Members

1. A member of Council must declare his or her or a close family member's conflict of interest with the University.
2. A member of Council must declare such interest:
 - a. before he or she assumes office;
 - b. annually for as long as he or she continues to hold such office;
 - c. before or during any meeting regarding any item on the meeting agenda.
3. Any person may, in writing, inform the Chairperson of a meeting, before a meeting, of a conflict or possible conflict of interest of a council member of which such person may be aware.
4. A member must recuse himself or herself from the meeting during the discussion and voting on any matter that involves or is likely to involve a conflict of interest.

23. Committees of Council

1. The Council establishes such committees as may be required.
2. The composition, functions, terms of reference, and meeting procedures of the committees are as determined by the Council and are included in the Institutional Rules.

24. Drafting, Amending or Rescinding of the Statute

1. No motion to draft, amend or rescind the Statute or an institutional rule is of force and effect unless adopted by at least 75 per cent of all members present at a meeting of the Council, provided that such meeting is constituted by at least one-half plus one of the total number of members, excluding vacancies, at least sixty percent of whom must be external members.
2. Any motion to draft, amend or rescind the Statute or an institutional rule must be in accordance with the provisions of section 32(2) of the Act.

SENATE

25. Composition of the Senate

1. The Senate, subject to the provisions of the section 28(2) of the Act, consists of –
 - a. the Vice-Chancellor;
 - b. the Deputy Vice-Chancellors;
 - c. the professors;
 - d. the deans and deputy deans;
 - e. two members of the Council elected by the Council (for a period as determined by the Council);
 - f. six members of the academic employees elected by the academic employees, other than those who serve on the Senate in different capacities;
 - g. the heads and acting heads of department;
 - h. five students elected by the SRC, at least two of whom must be postgraduate students, at least one of these being a postgraduate student whose degree is by full research thesis;
 - i. the heads of associated institutes as described in the Institutional Rules, who are not professors of the University;
 - j. two members of the administrative and support employees, other than directors of administrative divisions, as defined in the Human Resources grading process, elected by the administrative and support employees;

- k. two nominated members from each faculty to better reflect the diversity of academic employees;
 - l. two directors of administrative divisions, as defined in the Human Resources grading process, appointed according to the Institutional Rules; and
 - m. a senior member representing community engagement as designated by the Vice-Chancellor.
2. The majority of the Senate members must be academic employees.
 3. The Institutional Rules determine the manner of election of members.

26. Functions of the Senate

1. Subject to the Act, the Senate is accountable to the Council for the teaching, learning, research and academic functions of the University, and for all other functions delegated or assigned to it by the Council.
2. Without derogating from the generality of paragraph 26(1), the organisation and superintendence of instruction and examinations, and of lectures and classes, are vested in the Senate and the Senate—
 - a. if delegated to do so by resolution of Council, may make or amend any institutional rule relating to the curriculum for, or the obtaining of, any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification, but may do so only after consulting the relevant faculty board;
 - b. if delegated to do so by resolution of the Council, may make or amend any institutional 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 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, school or other academic structure belongs;
 - f. may make recommendations to the Council regarding the establishment and disestablishment of faculties, academic departments, schools 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. may establish committees to perform any of its functions, may appoint persons who are not members of the Senate as members of such committees and may, for this purpose, deem a single person to be a committee;
 - i. determines the functions of its committees as well as the procedure of meetings of these committees;
 - j. may make standing orders on procedures and delegation of powers for the better carrying out of its functions;
 - k. may delegate its functions; and
 - l. 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. such reports upon its work as may be required by the Council;
 - b. recommendations on matters referred to it by the Council, and
 - c. recommendations on any other matter affecting the University as the Senate considers useful.
4. The Senate may, in terms of the Institutional 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.

27. Term of Office of Senate members

1. Members appointed ex officio hold office for as long as they are employed by the University in that capacity.
2. The term of office of members elected by the Council is for as long as the person holds the position on the Council, provided that the Council has the power to terminate such membership prior to this period.
3. The term of office of members of the academic employees elected by the academic employees is three calendar years.
4. Students elected by the SRC hold office until a new SRC takes office.
5. The term of office for representatives of administrative and support employees other than directors is three calendar years.
6. The term of office for representatives of directors of administrative and support employees is three calendar years.
7. The term of office of a senior member representing community engagement, as designated by the Vice-Chancellor, is three calendar years.
8. Where a member who has been elected dies, resigns or vacates office for any reason, including the expiry of his or her term of office, the Secretary to the Senate must request the structure that elected the member to elect a successor in the manner determined by the Institutional Rules.
9. The successor holds office for the unexpired term of office of the predecessor unless the successor is elected because his or her predecessor's term of office has expired or is shorter than six months.

28. Chairperson and Secretary to the Senate

1. The Vice-Chancellor is the Chairperson of the Senate.
2. The Secretary to the Senate is the Registrar.
3. The Chairperson performs such other functions as the Senate may determine.
4. The Secretary performs those functions assigned to him or her by the Senate.

29. Senate Meeting Procedure

1. The quorum and procedure for meetings of the Senate are determined by the Senate and included in the Institutional Rules.

30. Committees of the Senate

1. The Senate establishes –
 - a. an executive committee, and
 - b. such other committees as may be required.
2. The composition and functions of the committees are determined by the Senate as outlined in the Institutional Rules.

31. Joint Committees of Council and Senate

1. The Council, in consultation with the Senate, establishes such joint committees of the Council and Senate as may be necessary for the performance of particular tasks.

FACULTY BOARDS**32. Faculty Boards**

1. For each faculty, there is a Senate committee, known as a faculty board, that regulates the faculty's activities in accordance with the Institutional Rules.

33. Composition of the Faculty Boards

1. The composition of a faculty board is as determined in the Institutional Rules.
2. The Dean of the Faculty Board is, ex officio, the Chairperson of the Faculty Board and is appointed in accordance with the Institutional Rules.
3. The Dean of the faculty holds office for a period as indicated in the Institutional Rules or as approved by the Council after recommendation by the Senate.
4. The duties of the Dean are as determined by the Senate.

34. Meeting Procedure of the Faculty Boards

1. The meeting procedure for faculty boards is as determined in the Institutional Rules.

INSTITUTIONAL FORUM

35. Composition of the Institutional Forum

1. The Institutional Forum consists of sixteen members nominated with due regard to equity and gender diversity—
 - a. one member of executive management appointed by the Vice-Chancellor;
 - b. two Council members;
 - c. two Senate members;
 - d. four student members, appointed by the SRC, of whom at least one must be a postgraduate student;
 - e. three members of academic employees, other than Senate, nominated with due regard to equity and gender diversity;
 - f. three members of the administrative and support employees;
 - g. one member from the Makana Municipality.
2. The Institutional Rules determine the election of members and their term of office.
3. Membership of the Institutional Forum terminates if the member concerned –
 - a. resigns in writing to the Secretary of the Institutional Forum;
 - b. is absent from three consecutive ordinary meetings of the Institutional Forum without leave;
 - c. ceases to be a member of the body which designated or elected the person.

36. Functions of the Institutional Forum

1. The Institutional Forum must consider all provisions for ensuring the effectiveness of its mandate as outlined in the Institutional Rules, and must advise the Council on issues affecting the University, including –
 - a. the implementation of the Act and national policy on higher education;
 - b. policy regarding race, gender, disability and labour equity;
 - c. the language policy of the University;
 - d. the selection of candidates for senior management positions;
 - e. codes of conduct, mediation and dispute resolution procedures;
 - f. fostering of an institutional culture which promotes academic freedom, acceptance of diversity and difference, and respect for fundamental human rights and creates an appropriate environment for teaching, research, community engagement and learning; and the University's responsibilities to society.
2. The Council must consider the advice given by the Institutional Forum concerning the provisions of section 31(1)(a)(i-v) of the Act.

37. Terms of Office of Members of the Institutional Forum

- a. The term of office of a member of the executive management appointed by the Vice-Chancellor is determined by the Vice-Chancellor.
- b. The term of office of the members elected by the Council is the period that the member serves on the Council, provided that the Council has the power to terminate such membership prior to this period.
- c. The term of office of the members elected by the Senate is three calendar years.
- d. The term of office of the student members of the institutional forum will be one year, coinciding with the term of office of the SRC membership.
- e. The term of office of members of staff is three calendar years.
- f. The term of office of a person from the Makana Municipality is three calendar years.
- g. A person elected by the Council ceases to be a member of the Institutional Forum upon ceasing to be a member of the Council.
- h. A person elected by the Senate ceases to be a member of the Institutional Forum upon ceasing to be a member of the Senate.
- i. If a vacancy occurs during the term of office of a Council or a Senate member, the Council or the Senate, as the case may be, must fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of office.
- j. A student elected as a member of the Institutional Forum ceases to be a member of the Institutional Forum:
 - i. if such a person ceases to be a student, or
 - ii. for any period during which such person is suspended by or from the University;
 - iii. if a vacancy occurs during the term of office, the SRC must fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.
- k. A person elected by staff members ceases to be a member of the institutional forum:
 - i. if such a person ceases to be a member of staff;
 - ii. for any period during which such person is suspended by or from the University;
 - iii. if a vacancy occurs during the term of office, the staff body or bodies concerned must fill the vacancy for the unexpired period of the term of office;
 - iv. the successor holds office for the unexpired term of office of the predecessor unless the successor is elected because his or her predecessor's term of office has expired, or is shorter than six months.

38. Office-Bearers of the Institutional Forum

1. The Institutional Forum elects from among its members a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson.
2. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will serve for a term of two calendar years, respectively.
3. If the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson are absent, the first item of business at a meeting is to elect a Chairperson for that meeting.

39. Quorum and Procedure at Meetings of the Institutional Forum

1. The quorum for meetings of the institutional forum is one-third of its total membership.
2. The meeting procedures for the Institutional Forum are as determined in the Institutional Rules.
3. The Secretary to the Institutional Forum is the Registrar.

CONVOCATION**40. Composition of the Convocation**

1. The Convocation consists of the assembly of –
 - a. the graduates and diplomates of the University;
 - b. the Vice-Chancellor;
 - c. the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (s);
 - d. academic employees, both active and retired;
 - e. the Registrar;
 - f. the Director of Student Services and Development.
2. The Registrar is the Secretary of Convocation.

41. Functions of the Convocation

1. The Convocation may discuss and state its opinion upon any matter relating to the University, including any issue referred to it by the Council, the Senate or the Institutional Forum.

42. President of the Convocation

1. The Convocation elects the President of the Convocation from its members at an annual meeting and holds office for a period of five years.
2. The President of the Convocation presides at all meetings of the Convocation at which he or she is present, and in the absence of the President, the meeting elects one of its number to preside at such meeting.

3. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the President of Convocation, the Vice-Chancellor acts as President until the next annual general meeting which must elect a President to hold office for the unexpired period of the term of office, unless the unexpired period is six months or shorter, in which case a person will be elected to serve his or her full term of five years.

43. Meetings of the Convocation

1. The Convocation must hold an annual general meeting, which the Secretary convenes.
2. Notice of any motion or matter for discussion at an annual general meeting must be given to the Secretary in writing at least two months before the meeting.
3. Special meetings of the Convocation may be called by the President at any time or by the Secretary within two months of receipt of a written request by at least 100 members for such a meeting, stating the object thereof.
4. At least four weeks before an annual general meeting, or seven days before a special meeting, the Secretary must give notice of the date, time and place of the meeting, with a statement of the business to be considered, by placing a notice on the University's home page.

44. Meeting Procedures of the Convocation

1. Thirty members form a quorum at an annual general meeting, but if a meeting is adjourned owing to the lack of a quorum, a special meeting must be convened, at which twenty members present constitute a quorum.
2. The meeting procedures of the Convocation are as outlined in the Institutional Rules.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

45. Composition of the Student Representative Council

1. Only students registered for a qualification are eligible to serve on the SRC.
2. The manner of election of SRC members and the number of members to be elected are determined by the constitution for student governance.

46. Functions of the Student Representative Council

1. The SRC represents the University's students in matters that may affect them.
2. The functions of the SRC are as determined by the constitution for student governance.

47. Office-Bearers of the Student Representative Council

1. The duties and manner of election of the president, vice-president and other office bearers are as determined by the constitution for student governance.
2. Full-time employees of the University may not be office-bearers of the SRC.

48. Term of Office of Student Representative Council Members

1. The term of office of the members of the SRC is one academic year, as determined by the constitution for student governance, but members may be re-elected.

49. Privileges of Student Representative Council members

1. The privileges of members of the SRC are as determined in the constitution for student governance.

50. Meetings of the Student Representative Council

1. The number of meetings, the quorum at a meeting and the meeting procedures are as determined in the constitution for student governance.

51. Student Representative Council Committees

1. The SRC may establish such committees as are required or deemed necessary.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS**52. Board of Governors**

1. The Rhodes University Board of Governors is a body of distinguished individuals, established by, and accountable to, the Council, to provide advice and act as ambassadors for the University. The Board meets at least twice annually and as or when necessary.

REGISTRAR**53. Appointment of the Registrar**

1. The Council appoints the Registrar for such period as agreed upon in the contract of employment.

54. Functions of the Registrar

1. The Registrar is the Secretary to the Council, the Senate, the Institutional Forum and the Convocation.
2. The Registrar is responsible for assisting the Vice-Chancellor in the academic management and administration of the University and performs such other functions as the Vice-Chancellor may from time to time determine.
3. The Registrar is the custodian of student academic records.
4. The Registrar, subject to the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, may delegate or assign any function provided for in this Statute to a member of staff, but remains responsible for the performance of any function he or she delegates or assigns.
5. The Registrar is accountable to the Vice-Chancellor, and in respect of the duties and functions performed in respect of a particular body, to that body.

STUDENTS**55. Admission and Registration of Students**

1. The Council may permit a person to register as a student only if he or she satisfies the legal requirements for admission to study at the University and, further, any other requirements for admission determined by the Council and laid down in the Institutional Rules.
2. The requirements for student admission to the University are set out in the Institutional Rules.
3. A student is a person registered for a qualification or course offered by the University.
4. In order for a student to renew his or her registration after the expiry of the period contemplated in paragraph 55(3), the student must comply with any conditions set out in the Institutional Rules.
5. The Council may refuse to allow the renewal of registration if a student fails to meet the conditions contemplated in paragraph 55(4).
6. The conditions contemplated in paragraph 55(4) may include the payment of outstanding fees.

56. Student Discipline

1. The disciplinary measures and provisions applicable to students are set out in the Institutional Rules and may be changed by the Council after consultation with the Senate and the SRC. This provision must be read in conjunction with paragraph 7(11) and paragraph 14(5) of this Statute.

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

57. Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates by Examination

1. The University may, subject to the Act, award diplomas and certificates and confer degrees of bachelor, honours, master and doctor in any faculty.
2. Except as provided in paragraph 59, no degree may be conferred, and no diploma or certificate may be awarded to any person who has not –
 - a. been registered as a student of the University for the period and under the conditions which the Senate prescribes; and
 - b. completed the courses and passed the examinations prescribed by the Senate.
3. The provisions and procedures for the award of credits and exemptions in respect of courses required for the award of diplomas and certificates, or for the conferment of degrees, are determined by the Senate and set out in the Institutional Rules.

Subject to section 65B of the Act, the Council, with the concurrence of the Senate, may withdraw or revoke any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification that was awarded.

58. Award of Honorary Degrees

1. In accordance with section 65C of the Act, the University may confer an honorary degree of doctor upon any person by virtue of a resolution of the Senate and the Council.
2. The award of a degree contemplated in paragraph 1 does not entitle the holder to practice any profession.

59. Conferring of Degrees and Award of Certificates and Diplomas

1. A meeting of the University's members, called a congregation, is held to confer degrees and award certificates and diplomas.
2. Congregations are held at times and places decided by the Council in consultation with the Senate.
3. The Registrar, acting under delegation from the Vice-Chancellor, determines at which congregation any graduand or diplomand may be admitted to a degree or diploma.
4. A person is not entitled to any of the privileges conferred by any degree or the awarding of a certificate or diploma until he or she has been admitted to such degree or awarded such certificate or diploma at a congregation.
5. The procedure for the presentation of graduands and diplomands, the conferring of degrees or awarding of certificates or diplomas in absentia, academic dress, and all other matters regarding congregations are determined by the Council in consultation with the Senate.

REPEAL OF STATUTE

60. Repeal of Statute

1. The Statute of Rhodes University promulgated in Government Gazette No. 2739, Government Notice No. 234 of 15 March 2005, is hereby repealed with effect from the date on which this Statute comes into operation.

TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

61. Transitional Arrangements

1. Anything done under any provision of the Statute which existed prior to the commencement of this Statute is deemed to have been done under the corresponding provision of this Statute.
2. The existing Institutional Rules which are in force prior to the commencement of this Statute continue to apply until replaced.
3. Persons holding office in terms of the Statute which existed prior to the commencement of this Statute are deemed to hold office under the corresponding provisions of this Statute for the duration of the term that he or she was appointed, unless this is inconsistent with the Act or this Statute.

ISSUE OF NOTICES

62. Issue of Notices

1. The non-receipt of notice sent through official university channels to any person entitled to receive it shall not invalidate the proceedings.