

LINGNAN UNIVERSITY STATUTES

Statute 1

General

1. The Council may by regulation provide for all matters which by the Lingnan University Ordinance (hereinafter called the Ordinance) it is empowered to regulate.
2. All such regulations shall be subject to amendments and/or deletion from time to time by the Council.
3. All such regulations shall come into operation on the day which they are made unless otherwise provided by the Council.

Statute 2

The Senate

1. The Senate shall consist of:
 - (a) the President, ex-officio, who shall be Chairman;
 - (b) the Vice-President, ex-officio, who shall be Deputy Chairman;
 - (c) the Associate Vice-Presidents, ex-officio;
 - (d) the Deans, ex-officio;
 - (e) the Associate Deans (Undergraduate Studies), ex-officio;
 - (f) the Chair Professors, ex-officio;
 - (g) the Heads of Academic Departments, ex-officio;
 - (h) the Director of Core Curriculum and General Education, ex-officio;
 - (i) the Librarian, ex-officio;
 - (j) the Director of Information Technology Services Centre, ex-officio;
 - (k) the Director of Service-Learning, ex-officio;
 - (l) the Director of Student Services, ex-officio;
 - (m) the Director of Teaching and Learning, ex-officio;

- (n) the Director of Lingnan Institute of Further Education, ex-officio;
 - (o) the Registrar, ex-officio, who shall be Secretary;
 - (p) the President of the Students' Union, ex-officio;
 - (q) two members of the full-time academic staff elected by and from among their number in each of following constituencies:
 - (i) Faculty of Arts;
 - (ii) Faculty of Business;
 - (iii) Faculty of Social Sciences; and
 - (r) one student elected by and from among their number in each of the following constituencies:
 - (i) Faculty of Arts;
 - (ii) Faculty of Business;
 - (iii) Faculty of Social Sciences; and
 - (s) a student nominated by the Students' Union; and
 - (t) up to two co-opted members recommended by the Chairman and appointed by the Senate.
2. The Deputy Chairman shall act as Chairman if the Chairman is absent from Hong Kong or is, for any other reason, unable to act as Chairman.
 3. If for any period both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman are unable by reason of absence from Hong Kong or inability to act in their respective offices, or if for any period both of those offices are vacant, the members may appoint one of the ex-officio members referred to in paragraph 1 to act as Chairman during that period.
 4. Members of the Senate elected under paragraph 1(q) shall be appointed by the Chairman on behalf of the Senate for a period of 2 years or such lesser period as the Chairman may in any particular case appoint, but may from time to time be eligible for reappointment. An elected academic staff member's term of office shall terminate on the day he/she leaves the University as a result of resignation or termination of employment contract, or he/she ceases to be an academic staff member of the University or to be a member of the constituency from which he/she was elected.
 5. Members co-opted under paragraph 1(t) shall be appointed by the Senate for 1 year or such lesser period as the Senate may in any particular case appoint.
 6. Members of the Senate elected/nominated under paragraphs 1(r) and 1(s) shall be appointed by the Chairman on behalf of the Senate for a period of 1 year or such lesser

period as the Chairman may in any particular case appoint but may from time to time be eligible for reappointment. A student member shall cease to be a member of the Senate if he/she ceases to be a registered student of the University or, for 1(r), to be a member of the constituency from which he/she was elected, or if he/she is suspended from pursuing full-time study at the University.

7. Each member of the Senate shall have one vote.
8. The Chairman shall be empowered to require any staff members or students of the University to be in attendance at Senate meetings either regularly or for any particular item of business.
9. A non ex-officio member may at any time by notice in writing to the Chairman resign from the Senate.
10. Meetings and Procedure of the Senate
 - (a) The Senate shall meet at least twice in each term of every academic year.
 - (b) The Chairman may convene a meeting of the Senate at any time and shall, at the request of not less than 30% of the number of members, convene within 10 working days after receiving the request an extraordinary meeting for the purpose of discussing such matters as are specified by the requesting members.
 - (c) One half of the members shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Senate.
 - (d) If a member has a personal interest, whether directly or indirectly, in any matter to be considered at a meeting of the Senate and is present at the meeting, he/she shall as soon as possible after the commencement of the meeting state the fact and the nature of the interest and shall, if required by a majority of the members present, withdraw from the meeting while the matter is considered and in any case shall not vote thereon.
 - (e) In paragraph 10(d), “interest” includes a pecuniary interest.
 - (f) A meeting of the Senate may be adjourned by the Chairman or the person presiding or, where a majority of the members present so resolves, by the members.
 - (g) The Senate may exclude from any of its meetings or any part thereof any non ex-officio member when, in the opinion of the Chairman or the person presiding, such exclusion is in the best interests of the University.

11. Transaction of Business by Circulation of Papers

The Senate may transact any of its business by circulation of papers, and a resolution in writing which is approved in writing by a majority of the members shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Senate.

12. Committees Generally

- (a) The Senate may create and appoint boards, committees, working parties and such other bodies for any general or special purposes as it thinks fit and any such committee may consist partly of persons who are not members of the Senate.
- (b) The Chairman of any committee appointed under paragraph 12(a) shall be appointed by the Senate from among the members of the Senate.
- (c) Subject to these Statutes, the Senate may in writing, with or without restrictions or conditions as it thinks fit, delegate any of its powers and duties to any committee appointed under paragraph 12(a).
- (d) The Senate shall not delegate a power which the Council has determined shall not be delegated.

Statute 3

Powers and Duties of the Senate

The Senate shall be the supreme academic body of the University and shall have the following powers and duties.

1. To promote and provide guidance for the development of academic courses and programmes of study which are in line with the objectives and educational philosophy of the University, and to keep the quality of such courses and programmes under constant review.
2. To advise the Council on any matter which is relevant to the educational work of the University, and in particular with respect to the establishment of any proposed new programme of study or academic award.
3. To direct, plan, co-ordinate, develop, oversee, regulate and promote all teaching, programmes of study, research and other academic work in the University, and to formulate policies accordingly.
4. To make recommendations to the Council or the President, as appropriate, on the facilities and services that are required to support the academic work of the University.
5. To make regulations from time to time in respect of the following matters :
 - (a) the assessment of proposals for developing new programmes and/or new courses;
 - (b) the conduct of examinations and other forms of assessment of students;
 - (c) the admission, progression, registration and residence of students;
 - (d) the conditions for the academic awards of the University;

- (e) the use of University libraries, laboratories, workshops and other educational facilities; and
 - (f) the award of student scholarships, bursaries and other prizes based on academic performance of the students.
6. To recommend to the Council the establishment of awards of distinction and honours.
 7. To approve the appointment of external examiners and external academic advisors.
 8. To decide in accordance with the regulations which persons have met the requirements for academic awards other than honorary degrees of the University.
 9. To decide if any student is required to terminate his/her studies at the University either on academic or disciplinary grounds.
 10. To decide on matters affecting the welfare and discipline of students.
 11. To determine the academic calendar (with the exception of the dates of meetings of the Court and the Council).
 12. To consider and report to the Council on matters referred to the Senate by the Council.

Statute 4

[Part I – Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the Council, the Court and the Committees under the Council](#)

[Part II – Rules of Procedure for Meetings of University Committees](#)

Part I

Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the Council, the Court and the Committees under the Council

1. Preamble

The meetings and procedures of the Court and the Council are stipulated respectively in Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 of the Lingnan University Ordinance. These Rules of procedure provide further details that govern the meetings of the Council, the Court and any standing committee and committee appointed under section 14 of the Lingnan University Ordinance or other committee/group/panel appointed by the Council for specific purposes.

2. Holding of Meetings

2.1 Meetings shall be held at such times and places as the Chairman may appoint. The Council will normally meet four times while the Court normally meets once each academic year. Additional special meetings are arranged if the need arises.

Every standing committee shall meet at least once an academic year and other committee/group/panel appointed by the Council may meet when the need arises.

- 2.2 A Member who wishes to propose any matters for discussion at a scheduled meeting shall inform the Secretary in writing at least seven working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.
- 2.3 The Chairman shall instruct the Secretary to circulate notice of meeting in order that each Member may receive such notice not later than ten working days before the date of the meeting, except in case of emergencies when such notice shall be given as circumstances permit.
- 2.4 The notice of meeting shall indicate the date and time of the meeting and shall, whenever possible, be accompanied by an agenda setting out the order of the business of the meeting. The agenda should contain for each item thereof papers which are to be the subject of discussion or a brief summary of the subject matter if it is to be presented orally.
- 2.5 Accidental omission to supply such notice or agenda to any Member shall not affect the validity of a meeting.
- 2.6 Discussion papers for an agenda item shall reach the Secretary at least five working days before the meeting and the Secretary shall circulate agenda papers as early as practicable.
- 2.7 If after the agenda of a meeting has been circulated, a Member wishes to raise any matter which is likely to necessitate a formal decision by the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council, he/she should, whenever possible, notify the Secretary of his/her intention at least 48 hours before the meeting. It shall be for decision by the Chairman whether or not the matter should be added to the agenda of that meeting or should be held over for discussion at the next meeting.
- 2.8 The Chairman shall, at the request of not less than 7 Members of the Council or 10 Members of the Court, convene within 21 days after receiving the request an extraordinary meeting of the Council or the Court respectively for the purpose of discussing such matters as specified by the requesting Members. For any committee appointed by the Council, the Chairman shall, if requested by notice in writing signed by not less than 30% of the number of Members of a committee but not in any case less than three unless otherwise stipulated, convene a meeting of the committee within ten working days of that notice.
- 2.9 The Chairman may invite any Member of the staff of the University to attend meetings of the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council either regularly or for any particular item on an agenda. Such a staff member shall hereinafter be referred to as an "officer-in-attendance", and he/she shall be required to observe the rules of the meeting.
- 2.10 The President of the Students' Union and Members appointed under section 12(1)(d) and (e) and section 9(1)(d) and (e) of the Lingnan University Ordinance are elected or nominated by their constituencies, but attend meetings in their

personal capacity. While serving as channels of communication between the University and the students/staff members, they may consult with members of their respective constituencies on non-confidential items, but are not required to present concerted views of the entire constituency because they participate in decision making based on their own views.

3. Quorum and Absence of Members

- 3.1 One half of the Members for the time being holding office shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Council/the Court. The quorum of a committee appointed by the Council shall be half the total number of voting Members of the committee. A quorum shall be maintained throughout a meeting, without which the meeting shall not proceed.
- 3.2 Any Member who is unable to attend a meeting or part of the meeting shall notify the Secretary as early as possible, giving where possible an indication of the probable duration of his/her absence.
- 3.3 Regardless of how the Member of the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council, apart from the President and the Vice-President, is elected by a particular constituency or appointed by specified authority, he/she is appointed *ad personam*, and if he/she is unable to attend a meeting, a substitute is not required.
- 3.4 During the period of absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman shall preside at meetings. In the absence of a Deputy Chairman, the Chairman may appoint a person to act as Chairman, or failing this, the Members may appoint one of the Members (i) appointed under section 12(1)(a) of the Lingnan University Ordinance for the Council, (ii) appointed under section 9(1)(a), (b) or (c) for the Court, or (iii) elected from among the Members of the committee to act as Chairman of the committee appointed by the Council.
- 3.5 During the absence of the President or the Vice-President, the person who is properly appointed to act for his/her post will attend meetings on his/her behalf with full voting power.
- 3.6 The validity of any proceeding of a meeting shall not be affected by any defect in the appointment or nomination of any Member or by any vacancy among Members.

4. Powers and Duties of Chairman

- 4.1 The powers and duties of a Chairman shall be:
 - (a) To determine that the meeting is properly constituted and that a quorum is present.
 - (b) To inform himself/herself as to the business and objects of the meeting.
 - (c) To preserve order in the conduct of those present.

- (d) To confine discussion within the scope of the meeting and reasonable limits of time.
 - (e) To decide whether proposed motions and amendments are in order.
 - (f) To formulate for discussion and decision questions which have been moved for the consideration of the meeting.
 - (g) To decide points of order and other incidental matters which require decision at the time.
 - (h) To ascertain the sense of the meeting by:
 - (i) putting relevant questions to the meeting and where necessary taking a vote thereon;
 - (ii) causing a poll to be taken if duly demanded.
 - (i) To deal with the record or minutes of the proceedings.
 - (j) To adjourn the meeting where prevailing circumstances justify that course.
 - (k) To declare the meeting closed when its business has been completed.
 - (l) Any other powers and duties as delegated by the appointing authority.
- 4.2 The Chairman may designate a particular matter “Open”, “Confidential”, “Strictly Confidential” or “Reserved Business”, and matters so designated shall be treated accordingly. These classifications shall be as defined under paragraphs 7.1 and 7.2.

5. Duties of Secretary

- 5.1 The Secretary shall be in attendance at all meetings. In the absence of the Secretary, the Chairman shall appoint a person to act as Secretary.
- 5.2 The duties of a Secretary shall be:
- (a) To ensure that the necessary papers and documents are properly prepared and issued to Members entitled to receive the same before each meeting.
 - (b) To prepare and issue to Members an agenda stating the date, time and place of each meeting and the items for discussion.
 - (c) To ensure that adequate facilities are made available for the meeting and to be ready to produce at the meeting all documents, correspondence, reports, files, books of reference, etc. which may be required.
 - (d) To invite such other persons as may be required to attend.
 - (e) To brief the Chairman as necessary regarding the questions for decision, or the procedure of the meeting. The Secretary must be familiar with the rules

and procedure of meetings and be able to advise the Chairman on these points if necessary.

- (f) To attend at meetings and to record in the form of minutes the decisions reached thereat and to circulate them in accordance with these Rules.
- (g) To notify the unit(s) or person(s) responsible for giving effect to each decision and, if necessary, to keep a record of decisions on which action is outstanding.
- (h) To conduct correspondence on behalf of the committee under instructions of the Chairman.
- (i) To indicate the extent to which papers are confidential or restricted in accordance with decisions made under paragraph 4.2.
- (j) To see that such security precautions are taken as are necessary in regard to the papers and meetings.

6. Order of Business

6.1 The order of business at every meeting shall be:

- (a) In the absence of the Chairman (or Deputy or Acting Chairman if any), to choose a Member to preside at the meeting.
- (b) To approve as a correct record the minutes of the preceding meeting.
- (c) To consider matters arising from the minutes of the preceding meeting.
- (d) To note decisions taken by circulation since the preceding meeting.
- (e) To dispose of business (if any) remaining from the preceding meeting.
- (f) To consider such other matters as have been formally placed on the agenda in the order so entered.
- (g) To consider any other business which may be raised by any Member and which the committee agrees to discuss.
- (h) Where necessary to fix the time and place of the next meeting.

6.2 A meeting may be adjourned by the Chairman or the person presiding or, where a majority of the Members present so resolves, by the Members.

6.3 The order of business may be varied by agreement of the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council

7. Classification of Business

- 7.1 Matters designated as “Open” shall mean matters that may be discussed freely by Members outside the meeting. “Confidential” shall mean matters that are confined to a certain circle within the University and can only be discussed with and disclosed to parties with a direct interest in the matter. “Strictly Confidential” shall mean matters that must not be discussed with nor disclosed to any person outside the membership. The Chairman or the person presiding shall have the sole right to decide what constitutes business falling under these classifications and to require individuals not permitted to have access of information under the classifications to withdraw from a meeting or part of a meeting, when such business is discussed. His/her decision with regard to the classifications and withdrawal from the meeting shall be final.
- 7.2 Without prejudice to paragraph 7.1, as stipulated in Schedule 1 and 2 of the Lingnan University Ordinance, the Council and the Court, may exclude the President, the Vice-President, the President of the Students’ Union, any Member appointed under section 12(1)(d) or (e) and section 9(1)(d) or (e) of the Lingnan University Ordinance from any of the meetings or any part thereof when, in the opinion of the Chairman or the person presiding, such exclusion is in the best interests of the University. Matters that are to be discussed in the absence of the above Members shall be classified as “Reserved Business”. In line with the aforementioned arrangement, student observer(s), student representative(s) and any officer-in-attendance shall also be excused from such meeting or such part of the meeting for the discussion of matters designated as “Reserved Business”.
- 7.3 The individuals, who shall be excused from such meeting or such part of the meeting, shall not receive the papers and minutes relating to such business.
- 7.4 All circulated papers are restricted to Members of the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council, and discussions held during their meetings should be kept in the strictest confidence except those matters designated as “Open”.

8. Procedure and Voting

- 8.1 The person who presides at a meeting shall be addressed to as “Mr. Chairman” or “Madam Chairman”. All Members shall speak through the Chairman or the presiding person.
- 8.2 Any Member unable to attend a meeting may send in written comments for presentation at the meeting as appropriate.
- 8.3 The Chairman shall, as he/she deems necessary, put proposals to the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council in the form of resolutions to be voted upon by Members.
- 8.4 Any Member may propose a resolution and if this is seconded by another member, it shall be put to the meeting by the Chairman and voted upon.

- 8.5 Voting shall be by voice or show of hands of those who have voting power and are present at the meeting, or by secret ballot if so requested by one-third of the Members present. The Secretary shall count the number of votes for, against or abstained from a motion, and shall so record. Every matter shall be decided by a plurality of votes cast, ignoring abstentions. Each Member shall have no more than one vote. Proxy or absentee votes shall not be allowed.
- 8.6 Alternatively, if a matter is apparently non-controversial and no member seems to have an opposing view after discussion, the Chairman may ask whether there is any objection. If there is no objection, the matter is resolved.
- 8.7 Any Member may propose an amendment to a resolution, and if another Member seconds it, the amendment shall be put to, and voted on, by Members present. All such amendments shall be voted on separately before a vote is taken on the resolution. The original resolution shall thereafter be amended in accordance with the amendments agreed upon by the meeting and put to and voted on by Members present.
- 8.8 The Chairman or the person presiding at the meeting shall not vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman may choose whether to cast a vote to break the tie. If the Chairman decides not to cast a vote, the motion is defeated.
- 8.9 If any Member has a pecuniary interest, whether directly or indirectly, in any matter to be considered at a meeting, and is present at the meeting, he/she shall as soon as possible after the commencement of the meeting state the fact and the nature of the interest and shall, if required by a majority of the members present, withdraw from the meeting while the matter is considered and in any case shall not vote thereon. Those parts of the minutes relating to the matter concerned shall not be circulated to the Member who has been requested to withdraw.
- 8.10 The Chairman may excuse any Member or observer from a meeting or any part thereof to enable other members to freely discuss an agenda item which may directly concern that Member or observer, or when that Member or observer has an interest in any item or items of business at the meeting, or in the opinion of the Chairman that member or observer's presence may hinder the proper or smooth running of the meeting or, for any other reasons, may not be in the best interests of the University.
- 8.11 The Chairman is responsible for the observance of the rules of order in the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council and his/her decision upon any point of order shall stand unless opposed by a majority votes of the Members present.
- 8.12 Whenever the Chairman wishes to intervene, Members must refrain from speaking so that he/she may be heard without interruption.
- 8.13 The proceedings of a meeting or any part thereof shall not be audio-recorded or video-recorded without the Chairman's consent and the knowledge of all those present.

- 8.14 The Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council may regulate its own procedure.

9. Minutes

- 9.1 The Secretary shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the committee and shall, within ten working days of each meeting, send a copy of the draft minutes thereof to each Member.
- 9.2 The minutes shall record business in the order of discussion, and shall include the names of Members attending or absent from the meeting, and persons in attendance.
- 9.3 The minutes shall record all decisions and may give a brief summary of the principal points discussed. The names of Members participating in the discussion and decision making process shall not appear in the minutes unless deemed necessary.
- 9.4 Unless otherwise specified by the Chairman, all minutes shall be marked “Confidential” in accordance with paragraph 7.1, except those relating to business falling under paragraph 7.1 which shall be classified as “Strictly Confidential” and shall be disclosed only to Members of those Council/Court/committee appointed by the Council during their presence at the pertinent discussion.
- 9.5 The Chairman shall obtain confirmation from the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council that the minutes are a true record and shall sign them accordingly on behalf of the meeting. Any minutes so signed shall be received in evidence without further proof.
- 9.6 No discussion shall take place during the confirmation of the minutes except upon their accuracy.
- 9.7 Until the contrary is proved, a meeting in respect of the proceedings whereof the minutes have been so signed shall be deemed to have been duly convened and held, and all the Members present at the meeting shall be deemed to have been duly qualified and to have had power to deal with the matters referred to in the minutes.

10. Transaction of Business by Chairman’s Action/Circulation

- 10.1 The Council/the Court may transact any of its business by circulation of papers, and unless 5 members in writing request the Chairman to refer any particular item of the business being transacted to the next meeting of the Council/the Court a resolution in writing which is approved in writing by a majority of the members shall be valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Council/the Court.
- 10.2 Where a matter requires an urgent decision, Chairman’s action could be taken on behalf of the committee appointed by the Council if deemed appropriate. Also, a committee may transact such business by the circulation of papers, and the

Chairman may instruct the Secretary to transact the business in this way, i.e. by circular vote.

- 10.3 When business is transacted by circulation, the matter shall be clearly set out in a circular of the committee addressed separately to every member and shall be accompanied by a return slip in which it is possible for members clearly to express their approval, disapproval or abstention of the proposal and any comments and remarks thereon.
- 10.4 The form of circular to be sent to members shall be approved by the Chairman before dispatch and thereafter separate copies shall be sent simultaneously to all members, who shall be requested to clearly indicate their decision as appropriate.
- 10.5 A circular vote taken on a proposal assented to in writing under paragraphs 10.3 and 10.4 by a plurality of members shall be as valid as if it had been formally passed at a meeting of the Council/the Court/the committee appointed by the Council.
- 10.6 The Chairman shall notify the committee at the meeting following any decisions taken by circulation as laid down in paragraph 6.1(d).

11. Appointment of Committees

- 11.1 The Council may create and appoint any committee/group/panel for any general or special purposes. The committee may consist partly of persons who are not members of the Council. The Chairman of the committee shall be appointed by the Council from among the members of the Council.
- 11.2 The Council may refer to a committee/group/panel appointed under paragraph 11.1 such matters as it thinks fit, except those prohibited by section 14(2) of the Lingnan University Ordinance.
- 11.3 The terms of reference, composition and membership of a committee shall be determined by the Council and should reflect its work, subject to the Lingnan University Ordinance. No changes may be made thereto without the approval of the appointing authority.
- 11.4 A committee shall annually review its terms of reference to ensure that the committee is working within its terms of reference and to make necessary recommendations for amendment for consideration by the appointing authority.
- 11.5 Unless otherwise specified, the Chairman of a committee shall have the power to co-opt such additional members as is deemed fit. However, the number of co-opted members should not normally exceed 20% (rounded to the nearest whole digit) of the total membership of the committee. A co-opted member shall have the same rights of a full member on the committee. The term of membership of a co-opted member shall be specified in his/her letter of appointment and shall not normally be more than two years.

- 11.6 Advisers may be invited by the Chairman to attend special agenda items of a meeting to give their advice and opinions.
- 11.7 Observers, including student observers may also be invited by the Chairman to attend part or whole of a meeting. Observers may speak at the meeting only when invited by the Chairman, and do not have voting power.
- 11.8 The appointing authority shall have the absolute power to terminate the membership of any committee members.
- 11.9 A committee may appoint sub-committees and members of such sub-committees, and refer to a sub-committee such matters as it thinks fit. The Chairman of a sub-committee shall report to the appointing committee on its work at such intervals as the committee may decide.
- 11.10 The Chairman of a committee should make periodic examination of the composition of his/her committee to ensure that the committee is working efficiently. If thought necessary, he/she should make appropriate recommendations to the appointing authority.
- 11.11 Subject to any statutes and these Rules, each committee may determine its own procedure at its meetings.
- 11.12 The Chairman of a committee shall report to the Council on its business at such intervals as the Council may decide.
- 11.13 Save for standing committees, the term of membership of every member of a particular committee shall be deemed to have lapsed once the Final Report of the committee or working party has been accepted by the appointing authority and the committee shall then accordingly cease to exist.
- 11.14 In any case the appointing authority shall cause a review to be undertaken every year of the continued need for a committee. Where it is deemed that there is no longer a continued need for a particular committee, the appointing authority shall have the right to dissolve it.

12. Revision of these Rules

The Council may from time to time review these Rules and to make any revisions as deemed appropriate; and announces the relevant revisions of the provisions of these Rules to members of the University.

Part II

Rules of Procedure for Meetings of University Committees

1. General

These rules of procedure shall govern University Committee meetings at University/Programme/Departmental level including the Senate and its committees, the committees under the President and Central Administration, Faculty level or Departmental committees.

2. Formation of Committees

The Senate and its standing committees, the University President, committees under Central Administration, Management Boards/Faculty/Department Boards/Programme and Curriculum Committee may establish such committees or working parties as they think fit and delegate to those committees the authority deemed necessary to enable them to work under their terms of reference.

3. Terms of Reference of Committees

3.1 *Determination of Terms of Reference*

3.1.1 The terms of reference of a committee shall be determined solely by the authority responsible for its appointment. Any subsequent changes to the terms of reference shall be approved by the appointing authority.

3.1.2 The appointing authority shall inform each committee member of the terms of reference of the committee upon his/her appointment.

3.1.3 A newly appointed committee shall at its first meeting examine and consider its terms of reference and recommend appropriate amendments thereto if deemed necessary.

3.2 *Review of Terms of Reference*

A committee shall annually review its terms of reference to ensure that the committee is working within its terms of reference and to make necessary recommendations for amendment for consideration by the appointing authority.

4. Composition and Membership of Committees

4.1 *Appointment of Chairman*

4.1.1 The appointing authority of a committee shall designate a Chairman thereof and, if deemed necessary, a Deputy Chairman. The appointing authority may at its discretion authorise the committee to elect from among its members a person to act as Chairman.

- 4.1.2 During a period of absence of the Chairman or if a situation of conflict of interest arises for the Chairman, the Deputy/Acting Chairman shall preside at meeting(s) of a committee or handle a particular issue. In the absence of a Deputy Chairman, the Chairman may appoint a person, not necessarily a member of the committee, to act as Chairman, or failing this, the committee shall elect from among its members a person to act as Chairman.
- 4.1.3 A non ex-officio Chairman shall normally hold office for a term of two years, unless otherwise specified by the appointing body.
- 4.1.4 A non ex-officio Chairman shall normally be eligible for re-appointment or re-election.

4.2 *Appointment of Secretary*

- 4.2.1 The appointing authority of a committee shall designate a Secretary thereof. In the absence of such an appointment, the Chairman shall appoint a person to act as Secretary to the committee.
- 4.2.2 The Secretary shall not necessarily be a member of the committee.
- 4.2.3 A non ex-officio Secretary shall normally hold office for a term of two years, unless otherwise specified by the appointing body.
- 4.2.4 A non ex-officio Secretary shall normally be eligible for re-appointment.

4.3 *Appointment of Members*

- 4.3.1 The composition and membership of a committee shall be determined by its appointing authority. No changes may be made thereto without the approval of the appointing authority.
- 4.3.2 The composition of a committee should reflect its work and the membership should include representatives from the main units and staff who will be involved in or likely be affected by the work of the committee.
- 4.3.3 Advisers may be invited by the Chairman to attend special agenda items of a meeting to give their advice and opinions.
- 4.3.4 Observers may also be invited by the Chairman to attend part or whole of a meeting. Observers may speak at the meeting only when invited by the Chairman.
- 4.3.5 With the exception of Department Boards, membership should be confined to the minimum number required to perform the work of the committee efficiently.
- 4.3.6 The appointing authority shall issue each prospective committee member a letter of appointment (or letter of reappointment where appropriate) in which, *inter alia*, the terms of reference of the committee and the term of

membership of that member are specified. In the case of the appointment of committee Chairman or Secretary, the appointing authority should remind him/her that the membership of the committee will be staggered to ensure continuity.

- 4.3.7 The appointing authority shall have the absolute power to terminate the membership of any committee members.

4.4 *Election of Members*

If it has been decided that the composition of a committee should include elected members, their election shall be conducted in accordance with the rules governing the holding and conduct of elections stipulated by the appointing authority.

4.5 *Review of Composition*

The Chairman of a committee should make periodic examination of the composition of his/her committee to ensure that the committee is working efficiently. If thought necessary, he/she should make appropriate recommendations to the appointing authority.

4.6 *Terms of Membership*

4.6.1 Unless otherwise stipulated a non ex-officio member shall normally hold membership for a term of two years from the date of appointment or from such other date as shall be specified in his/her letter of appointment.

4.6.2 An appointed or elected member shall normally be eligible for re-appointment or re-election for a second or subsequent term of membership.

4.6.3 Whenever possible the terms of the membership shall be staggered to maintain continuity, e.g. when a committee is first established, a number of members shall be appointed for a term of one year and some members for a term of two years.

4.7 *Co-option of Members*

4.7.1 Unless otherwise specified, a committee Chairman shall have the power to co-opt such additional members as is deemed fit. However, the number of co-opted members should not normally exceed 20% (rounded to the nearest whole digit) of the total membership of the committee.

4.7.2 A co-opted member shall have the same rights of a full member on the committee. The term of membership of a co-opted member shall be specified in his/her letter of appointment and shall not normally be more than two years.

4.8 *Student Members and Observers*

4.8.1 If it has been decided that the composition of a committee should include

student members and/or student observers, their appointment and election shall be determined from time to time by the appointing authority.

- 4.8.2 Although student members and observers are chosen or nominated by fellow students as their representatives, they attend meetings in their own personal capacity. Besides participating in the process of making decisions on academic or other matters, they also serve as channels of communication between the University and the students. They may consult with their fellow students on non-confidential committee items but are only responsible for their own views at committee meetings.
- 4.8.3 Student members or observers are not required to present concerted views of the entire student body, faculty, programme or Department.
- 4.8.4 Student members have voting power, while student observers do not.
- 4.8.5 A student member is expected to keep close contact with students in the same undergraduate programme.
- 4.8.6 If a student member is unable to attend a meeting, he/she should send in a representative.
- 4.8.7 At the discretion of the Chairman, student members and observers will not receive papers of such items and will not attend discussion of such items which the Chairman considers as confidential.

5. Holding of Meetings

- 5.1 Meetings of a committee shall be scheduled in the academic calendar or held at such times and places as the Chairman may from time to time determine. Every standing committee shall meet at least once an academic year.
- 5.2 A member who wishes to propose any matters for discussion at a scheduled meeting shall inform the Secretary of the committee in writing at least seven working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.
- 5.3 The Chairman shall instruct the Secretary to circulate notice of meeting in order that each member may receive such notice not later than ten working days before the date of the meeting, except in case of emergencies when such notice shall be given as circumstances permit.
- 5.4 The notice of meeting shall indicate the date and time of the meeting and shall, whenever possible, be accompanied by an agenda setting out the order of the business of the meeting. The agenda should contain for each item thereof papers which are to be the subject of discussion or a brief summary of the subject matter if it is to be presented orally.
- 5.5 Accidental omission to supply such notice or agenda to any member of a committee shall not affect the validity of a meeting.

- 5.6 Discussion papers for an agenda item shall reach the Secretary at least five working days before the meeting and the Secretary shall circulate agenda papers as early as practicable.
- 5.7 If after the agenda of a meeting has been circulated, a member wishes to raise any matter which is likely to necessitate a formal decision by the committee, he/she should, whenever possible, notify the Secretary of his/her intention at least 48 hours before the meeting. It shall be for decision by the Chairman whether or not the matter should be added to the agenda of that meeting or should be held over for discussion at the next meeting.
- 5.8 The Chairman shall, if requested by notice in writing signed by not less than 30% of the number of members of a committee but not in any case less than three unless otherwise stipulated, convene a meeting of the committee within ten working days of that notice.

6. Quorum and Absence of Members

- 6.1 The quorum of a committee shall be half the total number of voting members of the committee. A quorum shall be maintained throughout a meeting, without which the meeting shall not proceed.
- 6.2 It is the responsibility of ex-officio and non ex-officio members to attend committee meetings. Any member who is unable to attend a committee meeting shall for the information of the committee notify the Secretary as early as possible, giving where possible an indication of the probable duration of his/her absence.
- 6.3 If a non ex-officio member is unable to attend a meeting, a substitute is not required. If there is a good reason for substitution (e.g. unavoidable absence of elected member on University business or through illness and paper to be presented by that member on behalf of his/her constituents), a written request to permit a substitute to be present should be submitted to the Chair normally no less than two working days before the scheduled meeting date. Such a substitute should have no voting power.
- 6.4 During the period of absence of an ex-officio member, the person who is properly appointed to act for his/her post will attend committee meetings on his/her behalf with full voting power.
- 6.5 The validity of any proceeding of a committee meeting shall not be affected by any defect in the appointment or nomination of any member or by any vacancy among members of the committee.

7. Powers and Duties of Chairman

- 7.1 The Chairman of a committee shall preside at all meetings of the committee. During the period of absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman or the Acting Chairman shall preside at its meeting(s) in accordance with paragraph 4.1.2.

7.2 The powers and duties of a Chairman shall be:

- (a) To determine that the meeting is properly constituted and that a quorum is present.
- (b) To inform himself/herself as to the business and objects of the meeting.
- (c) To preserve order in the conduct of those present.
- (d) To confine discussion within the scope of the meeting and reasonable limits of time.
- (e) To decide whether proposed motions and amendments are in order.
- (f) To formulate for discussion and decision questions which have been moved for the consideration of the meeting.
- (g) To decide points of order and other incidental matters which require decision at the time.
- (h) To ascertain the sense of the meeting by:
 - (i) putting relevant questions to the meeting and where necessary taking a vote thereon;
 - (ii) causing a poll to be taken if duly demanded.
- (i) To deal with the record or minutes of the proceedings.
- (j) To adjourn the meeting where prevailing circumstances justify that course.
- (k) To declare the meeting closed when its business has been completed.
- (l) Any other powers and duties as delegated by the appointing authority.

8. Duties of Secretary

8.1 The Secretary of a committee shall be in attendance at all meetings of the committee. In the absence of the Secretary, the Chairman shall appoint a person to act as Secretary to the committee.

8.2 The duties of a Secretary shall be:

- (a) To ensure that the necessary papers and documents are properly prepared and issued to members entitled to receive the same before each meeting of the committee.
- (b) To prepare and issue to members an agenda stating the date, time and place of each meeting and the items for discussion.
- (c) To ensure that adequate facilities are made available for the meeting and to

be ready to produce at the meeting all documents, correspondence, reports, files, books of reference, etc. which may be required.

- (d) To invite such other persons as may be required to attend.
- (e) To brief the Chairman as necessary regarding the questions for decision, or the procedure of the meeting. The Secretary must be familiar with the rules and procedure of meetings and be able to advise the Chairman on these points if necessary.
- (f) To attend at meetings and to record in the form of minutes the decisions reached thereat and to circulate them in accordance with these Rules.
- (g) To notify the unit(s) or person(s) responsible for giving effect to each decision and, if necessary, to keep a record of decisions on which action is outstanding.
- (h) To conduct correspondence on behalf of the committee under instructions of the Chairman.
- (i) To indicate the extent to which papers are confidential or restricted in accordance with decisions made under paragraph 10.13.
- (j) To see that such security precautions are taken as are necessary in regard to the papers and meetings of the committee.

9. Order of Business

9.1 The order of business at every meeting of a committee shall be:

- (a) In the absence of the Chairman (or Deputy or Acting Chairman if any), to elect from among its members a person to act as Chairman.
- (b) To approve as a correct record the minutes of the preceding meeting of the committee pursuant to paragraph 11.4.
- (c) To consider matters arising from the minutes of the preceding meeting.
- (d) To note decisions taken by circulation since the preceding meeting pursuant to paragraph 12.5.
- (e) To dispose of business (if any) remaining from the preceding meeting.
- (f) To consider such other matters as have been formally placed on the agenda in the order so entered.
- (g) To consider any other business which may be raised by any member and which the committee agrees to discuss.
- (h) Where necessary to fix the time and place of the next meeting.

- 9.2 A committee may on grounds of urgency vary the order of business by agreement of the committee at the commencement of the meeting.

10. Procedure and Voting

- 10.1 The person who presides at a meeting shall be addressed to as “Mr. Chairman” or “Madam Chairman”.
- 10.2 All members shall speak through the Chair.
- 10.3 The Chairman shall, as he/she deems necessary, put proposals to the committee in the form of resolutions to be voted upon by members.
- 10.4 Any member may propose a resolution and if this is seconded by another member, it shall be put to the committee by the Chairman and voted upon.
- 10.5 Voting shall be by voice or show of hands of those who have voting power and are present at the meeting, or by secret ballot if so requested by one-third of the members present. The Secretary shall count the number of votes for, against or abstained from a motion, and shall so record. Every matter shall be decided by a plurality of votes cast, ignoring abstentions. Each member shall have no more than one vote. Proxy or absentee votes shall not be allowed.
- 10.6 Alternatively, if a matter is apparently non-controversial and no member seems to have an opposing view after discussion, the Chairman may ask whether there is any objection. If there is no objection, the matter is resolved.
- 10.7 Any member may propose an amendment to a resolution, and if another member seconds it, the amendment shall be put to, and voted on, by the committee. All such amendments shall be voted on separately before a vote is taken on the resolution. The original resolution shall thereafter be amended in accordance with the amendments agreed upon by the committee and put to and voted on by the committee.
- 10.8 The Chairman or the person presiding at the meeting shall not vote. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman may choose whether to cast a vote to break the tie. If the Chairman decides not to cast a vote, the motion is defeated.
- 10.9 If any member has a pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any contract or proposed contract or other matter, and is present at a meeting of the committee at which the contract or other matter is the subject for consideration, he/she shall, as soon as practicable after the commencement of the meeting, disclose to the committee the fact and the nature of his/her interest. The Chairman shall thereupon ask the committee to decide whether such member should withdraw from the committee or continue to participate before discussion of the matter takes place, and in any case shall not vote thereon.
- 10.10 The Chairman may excuse any member or observer from a meeting or any part thereof to enable other members to freely discuss an agenda item which may

directly concern that member or observer, or when that member or observer has an interest in any item or items of business at the meeting, or in the opinion of the Chairman that member or observer's presence may hinder the proper or smooth running of the meeting or, for any other reasons, may not be in the best interests of the University.

- 10.11 The Chairman is responsible for the observance of the rules of order in the committee and his/her decision upon any point of order shall stand unless opposed by a majority votes of the members present.
- 10.12 Whenever the Chairman wishes to intervene, members must refrain from speaking so that he/she may be heard without interruption.
- 10.13 The Chairman may designate a particular committee matter "Open", "Confidential" or "Strictly Confidential", and matters so designated shall be treated accordingly. In this connection, "Open" shall mean matters that may be discussed freely by members outside the meeting. "Confidential" shall mean matters that are confined to a certain circle within the University and can only be discussed with and disclosed to parties with a direct interest in the matter. "Strictly Confidential" shall mean matters that must not be discussed with nor disclosed to any person outside the membership of the committee. Papers of confidential and strictly confidential items must not be made known to reporters. No committee papers should be reproduced in any publication without the specific authorisation of the Chairman of the committee concerned. If in doubt, the Secretary of the committee concerned should be consulted.
- 10.14 The proceedings of a meeting or any part thereof shall not be audio-recorded or video-recorded without the Chairman's consent and the knowledge of all those present.

11. Minutes

- 11.1 The Secretary shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the committee and shall, within ten working days of each meeting, send a copy of the draft minutes thereof to each member.
- 11.2 The minutes shall record business in the order of discussion, and shall include the names of members attending or absent from the meeting, and persons in attendance.
- 11.3 The minutes shall record all decisions and may give a brief summary of the principal points discussed. The names of members participating in the discussion and decision making process shall not appear in the minutes unless deemed necessary.
- 11.4 The Chairman shall obtain confirmation from the committee that the minutes are a true record and shall sign them accordingly on behalf of the committee. Any minutes so signed shall be received in evidence without further proof.
- 11.5 No discussion shall take place during the confirmation of the minutes except

upon their accuracy.

- 11.6 Until the contrary is proved, a meeting of a committee in respect of the proceedings whereof the minutes have been so signed shall be deemed to have been duly convened and held, and all the members present at the meeting shall be deemed to have been duly qualified and to have had power to deal with the matters referred to in the minutes.

12. Transaction of Business by Chairman's Action/Circulation

- 12.1 Where a matter requires an urgent decision, Chairman's action could be taken on behalf of the Committee if deemed appropriate. Also, a committee may transact such business by the circulation of papers, and the Chairman may instruct the Secretary to transact the business in this way, i.e. by circular vote.
- 12.2 When business is transacted by circulation, the matter shall be clearly set out in a circular of the committee addressed separately to every member and shall be accompanied by a return slip in which it is possible for members clearly to express their approval, disapproval or abstention of the proposal and any comments and remarks thereon.
- 12.3 The form of circular to be sent to members shall be approved by the Chairman before dispatch and thereafter separate copies shall be sent simultaneously to all members, who shall be requested to clearly indicate their decision as appropriate.
- 12.4 A circular vote taken on a proposal assented to in writing under paragraphs 12.2 and 12.3 by a plurality of members shall be as valid as if it had been formally passed at a meeting of the committee.
- 12.5 The Chairman shall notify the committee at the meeting following any decisions taken by circulation as laid down in paragraph 9.1(d).

13. Appointment of Sub-committees

- 13.1 A committee may appoint sub-committees and members of such sub-committees.
- 13.2 A committee may refer to a sub-committee such matters as it thinks fit.
- 13.3 The Chairman of a sub-committee shall report to the appointing committee on its work at such intervals as the committee may decide.

14. Reports and Circulation of Information to Other Bodies

The Chairman shall ensure that, where appropriate, reports and information on the work of his/her committee are prepared on a regular basis and disseminated on a need-to-know basis.

15. Winding Up of Committees

- 15.1 Save for standing committees, the term of membership of every member of a

particular committee shall be deemed to have lapsed once the Final Report of the committee or working party has been accepted by the appointing authority and the committee shall then accordingly cease to exist.

- 15.2 In any case the appointing authority shall cause a review to be undertaken every year of the continued need for a committee. Where it is deemed that there is no longer a continued need for a particular committee, the appointing authority shall have the right to dissolve it.

Statute 5

Further Regulations

1. Pursuant to section 23 of the Ordinance, the Council may make further regulations to provide for:
 - (a) the discipline of persons in the employment of the University;
 - (b) the regulation of the conduct and discipline of students of the University;
 - (c) the conferring of degrees and academic awards including honorary degrees and honorary awards;
 - (d) the holding and conduct of elections for the purpose of electing candidates for appointment to the Court under sections 9(1)(d) or (e) and to the Council under sections 12(1)(d) or (e) of the Ordinance.
2. These regulations shall become Schedules to the Statutes and shall be placed at the Office of the President and made available for reference by staff and students of the University.

Schedule 1 to Statute 5

Regulations Governing the Election of Eligible Staff from among themselves for Appointment to the Court and the Council

1. Statutory Provisions

- 1.1 The following sections of the Ordinance provide for certain categories of membership of the Court and the Council to be filled by election:
 - (a) According to section 9(1)(d) of the Ordinance, the Court shall include “2 members elected by the eligible staff from among themselves in accordance with statutes and appointed by the Council” and,
 - (b) According to section 12(1)(d) of the Ordinance, the Council shall include “3 members elected by the eligible staff from among themselves in accordance with statutes and appointed by the Council”.

- 1.2 These Regulations shall govern the elections of staff members for appointment by the Council to both the Court and the Council.

2. Interpretation

- 2.1 The following terms used in these Regulations shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Ordinance: “University”, “Court”, “Council”, “Ordinance”.
- 2.2 “Eligible Staff” as used in the Ordinance shall be determined as the long term full-time academic and non-academic staff of the University who include all the ranks of long-term full-time staff being employed in the University.
- 2.3 “Member” shall mean a person properly elected to become a member of the Court or the Council under the provisions of these Regulations.
- 2.4 “Elector” shall mean a person who has the right to vote in accordance with the statutes of the Ordinance.
- 2.5 “Election” shall mean the whole process by which a member is elected to the Court or the Council.
- 2.6 “Nominee” shall mean a person who is formally proposed and seconded to stand for election to the Court or the Council.
- 2.7 “Candidate” shall mean a person who, having been formally nominated for election to the Court or the Council, has indicated his/her willingness to be nominated and to contest the said Election.
- 2.8 “Ballot” shall mean the casting of votes in secret.
- 2.9 “Votes” shall mean the formal expression of choice for a candidate, made in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.
- 2.10 “Chief Executive” shall mean the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

3. Membership

- 3.1 An eligible member of staff who is formally elected and appointed as a member in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations shall serve on the Court or the Council for three years, or as otherwise determined by the Council.
- 3.2 The elected member shall assume office on the day following expiration of his/her predecessor’s term of office, unless otherwise determined by the Council.
- 3.3 An eligible member of staff duly elected and appointed to the Court or the Council as a result of a by-election shall serve for the remaining period of office of his/her predecessor unless otherwise determined by the Council.

- 3.4 A member's period of office shall terminate immediately in accordance with section 9(8) or section 12(9) of the Ordinance.
- 3.5 An eligible member of staff elected and appointed to the Court or the Council under these Regulations may resign by notice in writing to the Chairman of the Council, in accordance with section 9(7) or section 12(8) of the Ordinance.

4. Election Officer and Returning Officers

- 4.1 The Secretary to the Council shall be the Election Officer for elections to the Court and the Council and, unless otherwise stated, shall be responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of these Regulations and for the proper conduct of the said elections in a fair and just manner.
- 4.2 The Election Officer shall designate employees of the University to act as independent Returning Officers for the said elections. The names of the Returning Officers shall not be announced.

5. Timetable

- 5.1 The following summary timetable shall apply to the said elections under the provisions of these Regulations.
- 5.2 The electoral roll shall be prepared at least one month before the expiration of office of current member(s) concerned.
- 5.3 A nomination period of 14 days shall be effected, during which the election timetable shall be announced and nominations shall be called for together with statements on reason for election. The nomination period may be adjusted by the Election Officer but should not be less than 10 days.
- 5.4 A second nomination period of 7 days, or otherwise determined by the Election Officer, shall be implemented if not enough nominations were made during the first nomination period.
- 5.5 Not more than 2 days after the closing of the normal nomination period or the second nomination period, nominees may withdraw their candidature.
- 5.6 Not later than 3 days after the end of the nomination process, all the confirmed nominations shall be announced.
- 5.7 The normal polling period shall be 2 days.
- 5.8 The result of the election concerned shall be announced as soon as possible but not later than 3 days after polling.
- 5.9 A period of 2 days immediately after the announcement of election results is allowed for lodging complaints against whole or part of the election.

6. Electoral Roll

6.1 The Election Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that the electoral roll is prepared by the appointed time. The Election Officer's decision on the eligibility of electors for inclusion on the roll is final.

6.2 The electoral roll shall comprise all staff as defined in paragraph 2.2.

7. General Notification of Election

7.1 On the appointed day, the Election Officer shall issue to each elector a copy of announcement of the election concerned stating:

- (a) the reason for the election;
- (b) the period of membership;
- (c) the timetable for specific stages of the election process.

7.2 The Election Officer shall at the same time announce that each nominee may:

- (a) submit for publication such autobiographical details as deemed appropriate by the Election Officer; and/or
- (b) organize an election forum for the purpose of addressing the electors and answering their questions.

7.3 The Election Officer shall also at the same time place a copy of the announcement of election, together with a copy of these Regulations, on official University notice-boards.

8. Nominations

8.1 Only electors may put forward nominations. Each elector may participate in the election, as proposer or seconder, in putting forward a number of nominations no greater than the number of seats contested.

8.2 Nominations will only be accepted on nomination forms available from the Election Officer. Each nomination shall be signed by the proposer and the seconder, and by the nominee, who shall indicate his/her willingness to stand.

8.3 If the nominee is outside Hong Kong during the nomination period, the proposer shall obtain his/her written consent, the validity of which shall be decided by the Election Officer.

8.4 Nominations shall be required to reach the Election Officer by 5:00 p.m. on the appointed day in a sealed envelope. Late nominations will be declared invalid.

8.5 If no nominations, or fewer nominations than the number of seats available, are

received after the normal nomination period, a second nomination period shall be declared open in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5.4.

- 8.6 In the event of a further failure to receive the necessary number of nominations, the nomination process shall be repeated with a new electoral roll after six months.
- 8.7 If the number of nominations is equal to the number of seats, the nominees shall be deemed to have been elected *ipso facto* and, notwithstanding the provisions under section 5, their names shall be published within 4 days after the day appointed for the closing of nominations.
- 8.8 In all other cases, the Election Officer shall publish on official University notice-boards a list of nominations, together with the names of all the proposers and seconders and details of the voting procedures not later than 3 days after the normal nomination period (or the second or subsequent nomination period if necessary) has ended.
- 8.9 In case more than one nomination is made for the same candidate, the first nomination form received by the Election Officer shall be the nomination for procedural use.
- 8.10 Any nominee if he/she so wishes may withdraw from nomination by serving a written notice to the Election Officer no more than 2 days after the closing of the normal or second or subsequent nomination period. In the event that all nominees withdraw their nominations, the Election Officer shall announce that the nomination be reopened and the provisions under paragraphs 8.1 - 8.9 shall again apply.

9. Voting Procedures

- 9.1 Elections shall be secret ballot at the Polling Station(s) designated for the purpose by the Election Officer.
- 9.2 Each elector shall have the number of votes which is equal to the number of vacancies, and may only vote for one candidate for each vacancy.
- 9.3 On any one of the appointed polling days, each elector will go to the Polling Station(s), identify himself/herself and obtain a ballot form from a Returning Officer, who shall make a mark on the electoral roll concerned to indicate that the elector has obtained a ballot form.
- 9.4 Votes shall not be cast by proxy.
- 9.5 If an elector is not in Hong Kong or is hospitalized on polling day, he/she may if he/she so wishes cast his/her vote on the ballot form by fax or by email via his/her Lingnan webmail account.
- 9.6 For voting by fax, the elector concerned should make a formal request for voting by fax to the Election Officer on or before the first polling day. He/She

should provide the Election Officer with the fax number for the purpose. Within the first hour of the polling period or as early as practicable, the Election Officer will send by fax a special ballot form for the purpose of voting by fax with a serial number to each elector who has made such a request. The elector will cast his/her vote by completing only the special ballot form thus received and returning it, together with a separate sheet showing his/her identification for authentication purposes, by fax to the Election Officer by the polling deadline. The elector concerned is required to contact the Election Officer as soon as possible after faxing to confirm whether the intended ballot form has been received. The Election Officer will sign on each valid ballot form received for confirmation purposes and place such ballot form in the ballot box for the elector concerned. Any ballot form sent by fax to the Election Officer without going through the above procedure will be regarded as invalid. The Election Officer will make a clear record of those who have voted by fax, and any unconfirmed or invalid ballot forms.

- 9.7 For voting by email, the elector concerned should make a formal request to the Election Officer on or before the first polling day. Within the first hour of the polling period or as early as practicable, the Election Officer will email a special ballot form for the purpose of voting by email with a serial number to each elector who has made such request. The elector will cast his/her vote by completing only the special ballot form thus received and returning it via the elector's Lingnan webmail account for authentication purposes, to the Election Officer by the polling deadline. The Election Officer will send an acknowledgement by email as early as possible to confirm the receipt of the intended ballot form. The Election Officer will sign on each valid ballot form received for confirmation purposes and place such ballot form in the ballot box for the elector concerned. Any ballot form sent by email to the Election Officer without going through the above procedure will be regarded as invalid. The Election Officer will make a clear record of those who have voted by email, and any unconfirmed or invalid ballot forms.
- 9.8 The names of all the candidates concerned are printed in alphabetical order on the ballot form. The elector shall put a horizontal line across the box to complete the arrow, i.e. from \rightarrow to \rightarrow , in the space provided against the candidate so preferred. The number of arrows completed shall not exceed the number of vacancies. A ballot form which records votes exceeding this number shall be regarded as invalid.
- 9.9 Having completed the ballot form, the elector shall place it in the ballot box provided for the purpose and leave the Polling Station. Electors shall not take away from the Polling Station any ballot forms, whether blank or completed.
- 9.10 The preference(s) expressed by each elector shall be secret, and no attempt shall be made to identify the completed ballot forms.
- 9.11 The Election Officer shall be responsible for the security of the ballot box.
- 9.12 At 5:00 p.m. sharp on the last day of the polling period, the Election Officer shall seal the ballot box.

10. Spoiled or Invalid Votes

The following shall be regarded by the Returning Officers as constituting cases of a spoiled or invalid vote:

- (a) A form recording votes in excess of the number of seats available;
- (b) A form recording a vote or votes other than by completing the arrow(s) as instructed.

11. Determination and Announcement

11.1 The Election Officer shall inform all the candidates of the appointed time and date for counting the votes. These candidates shall have the right to be present at the counting or to nominate their proposer to represent them.

11.2 On the appointed time and date, the Election Officer shall unseal the ballot box in the presence of the Returning Officers and those who have the right to be present. The Returning Officers shall proceed to count the votes.

11.3 The Election Officer shall make any final decisions on the validity of a vote.

11.4 Ballot forms which have been declared spoiled or invalid shall still be counted by the Returning Officers.

11.5 Those candidates (not exceeding the number of seats available) who receive the most valid votes shall be deemed elected. If two or more candidates each receive the same number of votes and only one of them can be elected, the Election Officer shall draw lots in their presence to determine who shall be elected.

11.6 The Election Officer shall monitor the counting of votes and may call for a recount at the conclusion of the count.

11.7 After the count or counts can reveal a result, all the ballot forms, whether valid, invalid or spoiled shall be returned by the Returning Officers to the Election Officer in a sealed envelope. The Returning Officers shall also list the number in each of the categories of ballot forms and sign their names to the list.

11.8 The Election Officer shall in accordance with paragraph 5.8 publish an announcement of the election results, giving the following information:

- (a) the name(s) of the successful candidate(s);
- (b) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- (c) the number of valid votes;
- (d) the number of votes declared invalid or spoiled, if any; and

- (e) the period of office of each successful candidate.

The announcement shall be placed on official University notice-boards. Each candidate shall receive a copy of such announcement.

12. Confirmation of Results

- 12.1 Any complaint concerning the conduct of the election shall be lodged with the Election Officer. Except in the case of a complaint against himself/herself, the Election Officer shall investigate the complaint and his/her decision on the matter shall be final.
- 12.2 The complaint must be signed by the person(s) lodging the complaint, but it shall be treated in strict confidence.
- 12.3 If no complaint is received, or if the Election Officer is satisfied with the result of any investigation into complaint(s) so lodged, he/she shall report to the Council in due course that the election concerned has been properly conducted.
- 12.4 If the Election Officer is not satisfied with the result of investigation into any such complaints, he/she shall immediately report and refer the matter to the Council which shall decide on a further course of action.
- 12.5 Any complaint against the Election Officer shall be directly lodged with the Council which shall appoint two of its members to investigate the matter. The Council's decision on such matter shall be final.
- 12.6 The following decisions are considered as final on complaints concerning the conduct of the election concerned:
 - (a) when it is found that complaints other than those against himself/herself are not justified, the Election Officer shall rule that the election results already announced as confirmed;
 - (b) when it is found that complaints are justified on reasonable grounds, the Election Officer or the Council, depending on the circumstances, may choose the following courses of action without an obligation to reveal the reasons for such:
 - (i) that the candidate against whom a complaint has been received and found justified be disqualified, and the person who has received the next highest number of valid votes be declared elected instead;
 - (ii) that the polling of the concerned election be declared null and void and that a new polling exercise be arranged as soon as possible;
 - (iii) that the whole election concerned be declared null and void, and that a new election be conducted as soon as possible;

(iv) that any course of action deemed appropriate be undertaken.

12.7 The Secretary to Council shall report to the Chairman of the Council the names of the successful candidates elected for appointment. When the Chairman of the Council confirms the appointments, the Secretary to Council shall inform the candidates, the Chairman of the Court as appropriate, and the Council accordingly.

12.8 All the ballot forms shall be destroyed by the Election Officer one month after the results are confirmed unless a complaint is substantiated. In the event of a substantiated complaint, the ballot forms shall be retained until the Council or the Election Officer has made a final decision and has chosen a course of action.

13. Revision of Regulations

13.1 The Election Officer may authorize a departure from the Regulations, subject to his/her reporting it to the Council, should an exact application of such Regulations be deemed impracticable in a particular situation.

13.2 The Council may at its absolute discretion decide to alter these Regulations generally or for the purpose of a particular election.

Schedule 2 to Statute 5

Regulations Governing the Elections of Members of the Senate for Appointment to the Court and the Council

1. Preamble

1.1 In accordance with Statute 5 of the Ordinance, the Council may make regulations providing for the holding and conduct of elections for the purpose of electing candidates for appointment to the Court under section 9(1)(e) and to the Council under section 12(1)(e).

1.2 According to section 9(1)(e) of the Ordinance, the Court shall include “1 member elected by the Senate from among its members in accordance with statutes and appointed by the Council”. According to section 12(1)(e), the Council shall include “2 members elected by the Senate from among its members in accordance with statutes and appointed by the Council”.

1.3 These Regulations shall govern the elections of members of the Senate for appointment by the Council to the Court and to the Council under paragraph 1.1 above.

2. Interpretation

2.1 The following terms used in these Regulations shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Ordinance: “University”, “Court”, “Council”, and “Senate”.

- 2.2 “Member of the Senate” shall mean a member who has full voting power on the Senate.
- 2.3 “Member” shall mean a person properly elected to become a member of the Court or the Council under the provisions of these Regulations.
- 2.4 “Elector” shall mean a member of the Senate who has the right to vote in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.
- 2.5 “Election” shall mean the whole process by which a member is elected to the Court or the Council.
- 2.6 “Nominee” shall mean a person who is formally proposed and seconded to stand for election to the Court or the Council.
- 2.7 “Candidate” shall mean a person who, having been formally nominated for election to the Court or the Council, has indicated his/her willingness to stand for the said Election.
- 2.8 “Ballot” shall mean the casting of votes in secret.
- 2.9 “Vote” shall mean the formal expression of choice for a candidate, made in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

3. Membership

- 3.1 A member of the Senate who is formally elected and appointed as a member in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations shall serve on the Court/Council for three years, or such lessor period as determined by the Council.
- 3.2 The elected member shall assume office on the day following expiration of his/her predecessor’s term of office, unless otherwise determined by the Council.
- 3.3 A member’s period of office shall terminate immediately when he/she ceases to be a member of the Senate.
- 3.4 A member of the Senate elected and appointed to the Court/Council under these Statutes may resign by notice in writing to the Secretary of the Council, who shall transmit the same to the Council, in accordance with section 9(7) or 12(8) of the Ordinance.
- 3.5 A by-election shall be conducted to fill a vacated seat arising from the circumstances as described in paragraphs 3.3 or 3.4, following the same procedures for an election.

3.6 A member of the Senate duly elected and appointed to the Court/Council as a result of a by-election shall serve for the remaining period of office of his/her predecessor, unless otherwise determined by the Council.

4. Election Officer and Returning Officers

4.1 The Registrar, as Secretary to the Senate, shall be the Election Officer for elections to the Court and Council under the provisions of these Regulations and, unless stated otherwise, shall be responsible for the interpretation and enforcement of these Regulations and for the proper conduct of the said elections in a fair and just manner.

4.2 The Election Officer shall designate two staff members of the University, who shall not be members of the Senate, to act as independent Returning Officers for the elections. The names of the Returning Officers shall not be announced.

5. Timetable

5.1 The following summary timetable shall apply to the elections under the provisions of these Regulations:

5.2 The electoral roll shall be prepared at least one month before the expiration of office of the current member(s) concerned.

5.3 A nomination period of 14 days shall be effected, during which the election timetable shall be announced, nominations called for, and statements on reason for the election given. The nomination period may be adjusted by the Election Officer in view of any special circumstances such as public holidays, but the period should not be less than 10 days.

5.4 A second nomination period of 7 days, or otherwise determined by the Election Officer, shall be implemented if not enough nominations were made during the first nomination period.

5.5 Not more than 2 days after the closing of the normal nomination period or the second nomination period, nominees may withdraw their candidature.

5.6 Not later than 3 days after the closing of the period as stated in paragraph 5.5 above, all the confirmed nominations shall be announced.

5.7 The normal polling period shall be 2 days.

5.8 The result of the election concerned shall be announced as soon as possible but not later than 3 days after polling.

5.9 Immediately after the result of the election is announced, a period of 2 days is allowed for lodging complaints against whole or part of the election.

6. Electoral Roll

6.1 The Election Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that the electoral roll is prepared by the appointed time. His/her decision on the eligibility of electors for inclusion on the roll is final.

6.2 The electoral roll shall comprise all persons as defined in paragraph 2.2 above.

7. Notification of Election

7.1 On the appointed day, the Election Officer shall issue to each elector a copy of announcement of the election concerned, stating :

- (a) the reason for the election;
- (b) the period of membership; and
- (c) the timetable for specific stages of the election process.

7.2 The Election Officer shall at the same time announce that each nominee may :

- (a) submit for publication such autobiographical details as deemed appropriate by the Election Officer; and/or
- (b) organize an election forum for the purpose of addressing the electors and answering their questions.

7.3 The Election Officer shall also at the same time place a copy of the announcement of election, together with a copy of these Regulations, on official University notice-boards.

8. Nominations

8.1 Only electors may put forward nominations. Each elector may participate as proposer or seconder in putting forward a number of nominations no greater than the number of seats contested.

8.2 Nominations will only be accepted on nomination forms available from the Election Officer. Each nomination shall be signed by the proposer and the seconder, and by the nominee, who shall indicate his/her willingness to stand.

8.3 If the nominee is outside Hong Kong during the nomination period, the proposer shall obtain his/her written consent, the validity of which shall be decided by the Election Officer.

8.4 Nominations shall be required to reach the Election Officer by 5:00 p.m. on the appointed day in a sealed envelope. Late nominations will be declared invalid.

8.5 If no nominations, or fewer nominations than the number of seats available, are received after the normal nomination period, a second nomination period shall



be declared open in accordance with paragraph 5.4.

- 8.6 In the event of a further failure to receive the necessary number of nominations, the nomination process shall be repeated with a new electoral roll after six months.
- 8.7 If the number of nominations is equal to the number of seats, the nominees shall be deemed to have been elected *ipso facto* and, notwithstanding the provisions under section 5, their names shall be published within 4 days after the day appointed for the closing of nominations.
- 8.8 In all other cases, the Election Officer shall publish on official University notice-boards a list of nominations, together with the names of all the proposers and seconders and details of the voting procedures not later than 3 days after the normal nomination period (or the second or subsequent nomination period if necessary) has ended.
- 8.9 In case more than one nomination is made for the same candidate, the first nomination form received by the Election Officer shall be the nomination for procedural use.
- 8.10 Any nominee if he/she so wishes may withdraw from nomination by serving a written notice to the Election Officer no more than 2 days after the closing of the normal or second or subsequent nomination period. In the event that all nominees withdraw their nominations, the Election Officer shall announce that the nomination be reopened and the provisions under paragraphs 8.1 - 8.9 shall again apply.

9. Voting Procedures

- 9.1 Elections shall be by secret ballot at the Polling Station designated for the purpose by the Election Officer.
- 9.2 Each elector shall have a number of votes which is equal to the number of vacancies, and may only vote for one candidate for each vacancy.
- 9.3 On any one of the appointed polling days, each elector will go to the Polling Station, identify himself/herself and obtain a ballot form from a Returning Officer, who shall make a mark on the electoral roll concerned to indicate that the elector has obtained a ballot form.
- 9.4 Votes shall not be cast by proxy.
- 9.5 If an elector is not in Hong Kong or is hospitalized on polling day, he/she may if he/she so wishes cast his/her vote on the ballot form by fax or by email via his/her Lingnan webmail account.
- 9.6 For voting by fax, the elector concerned should make a formal request for voting by fax to the Election Officer on or before the first polling day. He/She should provide the Election Officer with the fax number for the purpose.

Within the first hour of the polling period or as early as practicable, the Election Officer will send by fax a special ballot form for the purpose of voting by fax with a serial number to each elector who has made such a request. The elector will cast his/her vote by completing only the special ballot form thus received and returning it, together with a separate sheet showing his/her identification for authentication purposes, by fax to the Election Officer by the polling deadline. The elector concerned is required to contact the Election Officer as soon as possible after faxing to confirm whether the intended ballot form has been received. The Election Officer will sign on each valid ballot form received for confirmation purposes and place such ballot form in the ballot box for the elector concerned. Any ballot form sent by fax to the Election Officer without going through the above procedure will be regarded as invalid. The Election Officer will make a clear record of those who have voted by fax, and any unconfirmed or invalid ballot forms.

- 9.7 For voting by email, the elector concerned should make a formal request to the Election Officer on or before the first polling day. Within the first hour of the polling period or as early as practicable, the Election Officer will email a special ballot form for the purpose of voting by email with a serial number to each elector who has made such request. The elector will cast his/her vote by completing only the special ballot form thus received and returning it via the elector's Lingnan webmail account for authentication purposes, to the Election Officer by the polling deadline. The Election Officer will send an acknowledgement by email as early as possible to confirm the receipt of the intended ballot form. The Election Officer will sign on each valid ballot form received for confirmation purposes and place such ballot form in the ballot box for the elector concerned. Any ballot form sent by email to the Election Officer without going through the above procedure will be regarded as invalid. The Election Officer will make a clear record of those who have voted by email, and any unconfirmed or invalid ballot forms.
- 9.8 The names of all the candidates concerned are printed in alphabetical order on the ballot form. The elector shall put a horizontal line across the box to complete the arrow, i.e. from  to , in the space provided against the candidate so preferred. The number of arrows completed shall not exceed the number of vacancies. A ballot form which records votes exceeding this number shall be regarded as invalid.
- 9.9 Having completed the ballot form, the elector shall place it in the ballot box provided for the purpose and leave the Polling Station. Electors shall not take away from the Polling Station any ballot forms, whether blank or completed.
- 9.10 The preference(s) expressed by each elector shall be secret, and no attempt shall be made to identify the completed ballot forms.
- 9.11 The Election Officer shall be responsible for the security of the ballot box.
- 9.12 At 5:00 p.m. sharp on the last day of the polling period, the Election Officer shall seal the ballot box.

10. Spoiled or Invalid Votes

The following shall be regarded by the Election Officer as constituting cases of a spoiled or invalid vote:

- (a) A form recording votes in excess of the number of seats available;
- (b) A form recording a vote or votes other than by completing arrow(s) as instructed.

11. Determination and Announcement

11.1 The Election Officer shall inform all the candidates of the appointed time and date for counting the votes. These candidates shall have the right to be present at the counting or to nominate staff members to represent them.

11.2 At the appointed time, the Election Officer shall unseal the ballot box in the presence of the Returning Officers and those who have the right to be present. The Returning Officers shall then proceed to count the votes.

11.3 The Election Officer shall make any final decisions on the validity of a vote.

11.4 Ballot forms which have been declared spoiled or invalid shall still be counted by the Returning Officers.

11.5 Those candidates (not exceeding the number of seats available) who receive the most valid votes shall be deemed elected. If two or more candidates each receive the same number of votes and only one of them can be elected, the Election Officer shall draw lots in their presence to determine who shall be elected.

11.6 The Election Officer shall monitor the counting of votes and may call for a recount at the conclusion of the count.

11.7 After the count or counts and a result reveals, all the ballot forms, whether valid, invalid or spoiled shall be returned by the Returning Officers to the Election Officer in a sealed envelope. The Returning Officers shall also list the number in each of the categories of ballot forms and sign their names to the list.

11.8 The Election Officer shall in accordance with paragraph 5.8 above publish an announcement of the election results, giving the following information:

- (a) the name(s) of the successful candidate(s);
- (b) the number of votes cast for each candidate;
- (c) the number of valid votes;
- (d) the number of votes declared invalid or spoiled if any; and
- (e) the period of office of each successful candidate.

The announcement shall be placed on official University notice-boards. Each candidate shall receive a copy of such announcement.

12. Confirmation of Results

- 12.1 Any complaint concerning the conduct of the election shall be lodged with the Election Officer. Except in the case of a complaint against himself/herself, the Election Officer shall investigate the complaint and his/her decision on the matter shall be final.
- 12.2 The complaint must be signed by the person(s) lodging the complaint, but it shall be treated in strict confidence.
- 12.3 If no complaint is received, or if the Election Officer is satisfied with the result of any investigation into complaint(s) so lodged, he/she shall report to the Senate in due course that the election concerned has been properly conducted.
- 12.4 If the Election Officer is not satisfied with the result of investigation into any such complaints, he/she shall immediately report and refer the matter to the Chairman of the Senate, who shall decide on a further course of action.
- 12.5 Any complaint against the Election Officer shall be directly lodged with the Chairman of the Senate, who shall investigate the matter. The Chairman's decision on such matter shall be final.
- 12.6 The following decisions are considered as final on complaints concerning the conduct of the election concerned :
 - (a) when it is found that complaints other than those against himself/herself are not justified, the Election Officer shall rule that the election results already announced as confirmed;
 - (b) when it is found that complaints are justified on reasonable grounds, the Election Officer or the Chairman of the Senate, depending on the circumstances, may choose the following courses of action without an obligation to reveal the reasons for such :
 - (i) that the candidate against whom a complaint has been received and found justified be disqualified, and the person who has received the next highest number of valid votes be declared elected instead;
 - (ii) that the polling of the election concerned be declared null and void and that a new polling exercise be arranged as soon as possible;
 - (iii) that the whole election concerned be declared null and void, and that a new election be conducted as soon as possible;
 - (iv) that any course of action deemed appropriate be undertaken.

12.7 The Election Officer shall, after reporting to the Senate, submit to the Council via its Secretary the names of the successful candidates elected for appointment to the Court or the Council. When the Council confirms the appointments, the Secretary of the Council shall inform the candidates, the Chairman of the Court as appropriate, and the Election Officer accordingly.

12.8 All the ballot forms shall be destroyed by the Election Officer one month after the results are confirmed unless a complaint is substantiated. In the event of a substantiated complaint, the ballot forms shall be retained until the Chairman of the Senate or the Election Officer has made a final decision and has chosen a course of action.

13. Revision of Regulations

13.1 The Election Officer may authorize a departure from these Regulations, subject to his/her reporting it to the Chairman of the Senate, should an exact application of such Regulations be deemed impracticable in a particular situation.

13.2 The Council may at its absolute discretion decide to alter these Regulations generally or for the purpose of a particular election.

Statute 6

Establishment of the Community College and its Board of Governors

Establishment

1. There shall be established within Lingnan University (“the University”) a separate academic entity called “The Community College at Lingnan University” (“the Community College”) for the purpose of providing quality Associate Degree Programmes.

Board of Governors

2. There shall be a Board of Governors of the Community College and Lingnan Institute of Further Education (“LIFE”) appointed by the University Council for the proper administration of the Community College and LIFE. The Board of Governors shall be accountable to the University Council.
3. Unless otherwise specified by the University Council, the Board of Governors shall be the supreme governing body of the Community College and LIFE provided that the University Council shall have the power to vet from time to time, vary or veto the decisions of the Board of Governors.
4. The Board of Governors appointed by the University Council shall consist of:

Chairman	:	Deputy Chairman of the Council
Deputy Chairman	:	Supervisor of the Director of LIFE, ex-officio
Members	:	Three members nominated by the University Council Five members from the stakeholders in the community University Comptroller, ex-officio Secretary to the Council, ex-officio Director of LIFE, ex-officio *Three Staff representatives, with two elected from among the full-time teaching staff of LIFE and one elected from among the full-time administrative staff of LIFE One student representative from the undergraduate students Two student representative from the full-time LIFE students
Observers	:	Associate/Assistant Directors of LIFE
Secretary	:	Associate/Assistant Director of LIFE

Remarks: *In case there is no staff representative elected from among the full-time administrative staff owing to the lack of nomination, such a place will be reallocated to the teaching staff representative, or vice versa.

Chairman

5. The Deputy Chairman shall act as Chairman if the Chairman is absent from Hong Kong or is, for any other reason, unable to act as Chairman.
6. If for any period both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman are unable by reason of absence from Hong Kong or inability to act in their respective offices, or if for any period both of those offices are vacant, the members may appoint one of the ex-officio members except for the Director of LIFE referred to in paragraph 4 to act as Chairman during that period.

Voting Right

7. Each member of the Board of Governors shall have one vote. In case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote. All resolutions of the Board of Governors shall be passed by a simple majority of votes of those members who are present and voting at the meeting.

Observers

8. The Chairman may invite any staff members or students of the University which for the avoidance of doubt shall include any staff member or students of the Community College and LIFE to be in attendance at Board of Governors meetings as observers either regularly or for any particular item of business provided always that such observers shall have no voting rights.

Term of Office and Resignation of Members

9. Any member of the Board of Governors appointed under section 4 above shall hold office for a term of 3 years or such lesser period as the University Council may determine.
10. A member (except for the ex-officio members) may at any time by notice in writing to the Chairman of the University Council resign from the Board of Governors.

Meetings and Procedures of the Board of Governors

11. (a) The Board of Governors shall meet four times per academic year.
(b) The Chairman may convene a meeting of the Board of Governors at such time and places as the Chairman may appoint and shall, at the request of not less than 30% of the number of members of the Board of Governors, convene within 10 working days after receiving the request and by giving not less than 21 days' notice an extraordinary meeting for the purpose of discussing such matters as are specified by the requesting members.

- (c) 50% members shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Board of Governors.
- (d) If a member has a personal interest, whether it is major or minor or whether directly or indirectly, in any matter to be considered at a meeting of the Board of Governors, either he/she shall make full disclosure in writing stating the fact and nature of the interest to the Board of Governors before the meeting; or if he/she is present at the meeting, he/she shall as soon as possible after the commencement of the meeting state again the fact and the nature of the interest and shall, if required by a majority of the members present, withdraw from the meeting while the matter is considered and in any case shall not vote thereon.
- (e) In paragraph 11 (d), “interest” includes a pecuniary interest.
- (f) A meeting of the Board of Governors may be adjourned by the Chairman or the person presiding or, where a majority of the members present so resolves, by the members.
- (g) Subject to the statute establishing the Board of Governors and other statutes stipulating committee procedures, the Board of Governors may determine its own procedure and may exclude from any of its meetings or any part thereof any member when, in the opinion of the Chairman or the person presiding, such exclusion is in the best interests of the Community College and LIFE or the University.

Removal of Members

- 12. (a) The Board of Governors may, without giving any reason, by a resolution, recommend to the University Council the removal of any member.
- (b) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph 12(a), the Board shall recommend to the University Council the removal of a member, if that member :-
 - (i) becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his/her creditors generally;
 - (ii) shall be sentenced to a custodial sentence for a criminal offence whether such sentence is directed to take immediate effect or be suspended;
 - (iii) becomes of unsound mind; or
 - (iv) commits a breach of paragraph 11(d) of this statute.

Transaction of Business by Circulation of Papers

- 13. The Board of Governors may without a meeting transact any of its business by circulation of papers, and a resolution in writing signed by a majority of the members shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board of Governors duly convened and held.

Committees Generally

14. (a) The Board of Governors may create and appoint boards, committees, working parties and such other bodies for any general or special purposes and upon terms as it thinks fit and any such committee may consist partly of persons who are not members of the Board of Governors.
- (b) The Chairman of any committee appointed under paragraph 14(a) shall be appointed by the Board of Governors from among the members of the Board of Governors.
- (c) Subject to any statutes, the Board of Governors may in writing, with or without restrictions or conditions as it thinks fit, delegate any of its powers and duties to any committee appointed under paragraph 14(a).
- (d) The Board of Governors shall not delegate a power that the University Council has no power to delegate including but not limiting to powers of a similar nature as mentioned under Section 16(2) of the Ordinance.
- (e) Subject to any statutes, each committee may determine its own procedure at its meetings.

Dissolution and Reappointment of the Board of Governors

15. The Board of Governors shall be dissolved upon a resolution being passed by the University Council that the Board of Governors be dissolved.
16. Any vacancy in the Board of Governors may be filled up by the University Council and after the dissolution of the Board of Governors, the University Council shall have the power at any time to establish the Board of Governors again by reappointing the members as stated under paragraph 4 hereof.

[Notes

1. The Council approved in April 2013 that the Board of Governors of the Community College be expanded to be the Board of Governors for the Community College and LIFE.
2. The Council approved in June 2016 on the merger of the Community College and LIFE from 1 July 2017, i.e. LIFE to become the single self-financing arm of the University to provide all Associate Degree programmes (previously offered by the Community College), Higher Diploma, Diploma, Diploma Yi Jin, overseas Top-up Degree and other Lifelong Learning programmes, while the Community College to become a virtual unit to grant the Associate Degree awards until all the Community College students admitted before 2016-17 complete their studies. Subsequently, the Council approved in February 2017 that the governance structure of LIFE as a separate academic entity within the University by virtue of a Lingnan University Statute with effect from 2020-21 would be adopted while the Community College would become a virtual unit with effect from 1 July 2017, and that all Associate Degree programmes and related operations would be administered by LIFE.]

Statute 7

Powers and Duties of the Board of Governors

Subject to the supervision of the University Council, the Board of Governors shall be the supreme governing body of the Community College at Lingnan University (“the Community College”) and Lingnan Institute of Further Education (“LIFE”) and shall have the following powers and duties:

1. To consider the strategic plan prepared by LIFE biennially and ensure that it is in congruence with the directions of the University;
2. To endorse the annual budgets prepared by LIFE and submit to the University Council for approval;
3. To approve academic awards offered by the Community College and LIFE and submit to the University Senate for noting;
4. To approve new partner institution(s) for the purpose of offering degree programmes with LIFE;
5. To consider admission targets of LIFE programmes;
6. To determine conditions of employment and other employment benefits of LIFE;
7. To receive the annual report and relevant financial reports of LIFE; and
8. To appoint sub-committees as necessary.