

Composition, Procedures and Power of the Senate
(specified in the Statutes on the Senate approved by the Council)

I. Membership of 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 Affairs, 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.

[#] (i) The following staff may attend the Senate meetings as observers: Deputy Director of Information Technology Services Centre, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Director of Human Resources, Director of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs, Director of Office of the President and Director of Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer. Observers have no voting power and shall speak at the meeting only with the permission of the Chairman.

(ii) A student member of the Academic Board of LIFE will be invited to attend Senate meetings as an observer when relevant issues affecting sub-degree students, except for items which are designated for staff members only, are discussed.

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.

II. Meetings and Procedure of the Senate

1. The Senate shall meet at least twice in each term of every academic year.
2. 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.
3. One half of the members shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Senate.
4. 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.

5. In paragraph 4, “interest” includes a pecuniary interest.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.

9. 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 9(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 9(a).
 - (d) The Senate shall not delegate a power which the Council has determined shall not be delegated.

III. 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 advisers.
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.