

**STATUTE 9 – CAMPUS STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

**Campus Student Associations, ACUNSA, ACUPGA and Student Member of Senate**

9.1.1 Student Associations on each Campus of the University may apply to the Senate for recognition as official Campus Student Associations of the University in accordance with this Statute 9. For the avoidance of doubt, the Campus Student Associations and Other Student Organisations are not separate legal entities and operate entirely within the University.

9.1.2 The University may levy and shall hold on behalf of a Campus Student Association or any other Student Organisation that is formed or to be formed any fees, subscriptions and other monies payable by any Student or other person who is enrolled or seeking to enrol or engage with the University for services and amenities of a non-academic nature. The University will disburse any such monies to the Campus Student Association in accordance with the Campus Student Association Finance Protocol which shall be determined by the Vice-Chancellor and President from time to time.

9.1.3 For the purposes of this Statute 9, the Senate recognises the Australian Catholic University National Student Association (**ACUNSA**) as a committee of Students comprising the Presidents of all recognised Campus Student Associations and a President elected in accordance with Section 9.1.4 of this Statute 9 and the Election Manual approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President, who associate for the purposes of:

- (a) furthering the mission and ethos of the University;
- (b) facilitating and encouraging the Student experience at ACU;
- (c) advocating for and representing Students by assisting in the communication of issues raised by Students to the University; and
- (d) providing advice to the University on the allocation of revenue raised through any Student Services and Amenities Fees (**SSAF**) the University may levy.

The Senate may, in its absolute discretion, withdraw its recognition of ACUNSA.

9.1.4 The following provisions apply to the election of the President of ACUNSA:

- (a) the President of ACUNSA shall be elected from amongst candidates who are Student members of each Campus Student Association in accordance with the Election Manual approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President from time to time;
- (b) the electorate for the election of the President of ACUNSA shall be the Student members of each Campus Student Association;
- (c) the President of ACUNSA shall only be entitled to hold office for a single term of one (1) year calculated from the date the President assumes office;
- (d) the President of ACUNSA shall not be entitled to stand for election for, or assume, the same office on a second or subsequent occasion;
- (e) subject to sub-paragraph (d) of this section 9.1.4, any candidate for the office of President of ACUNSA who is unsuccessful may nominate and stand for election to that office on any second or subsequent occasion.

- 9.1.5 The Student member of Senate shall be notified of any meeting of ACUNSA in accordance with the meeting procedures adopted by ACUNSA from time to time, whether in a Constitution or any other document adopted by ACUNSA for that purpose. The Student member of Senate:
- (a) shall be entitled to attend all meetings of ACUNSA;
  - (b) may report to Senate on any matter raised by ACUNSA; and
  - (c) notwithstanding sub-paragraphs (a) and (b), is not a member of ACUNSA and is not entitled to exercise any voting rights at any meeting of ACUNSA.
- 9.1.6 If the members of ACUNSA do not include an international Student, the President of ACUNSA shall, before the first meeting of ACUNSA in a calendar year, invite one Student to be a member of ACUNSA from among the International Student category of the recognised Campus Student Association Management Committees in accordance with the Student Association Constitution as may be amended from time to time by ACUNSA and approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President.
- 9.1.7 The University shall on behalf of ACUNSA arrange for ACUNSA's books and accounts to be reviewed on an annual basis by an independent auditor and shall publish the financial statements and report on the University's website within twenty eight (28) days of the completion of the review.
- 9.1.8 For the purposes of this Statute 9, the Senate recognises the Australian Catholic University Postgraduate Association (**ACUPGA**) as a committee of coursework and research postgraduate Students comprising a President, a Vice-President (Coursework) and a Vice-President (Research) elected in accordance with section 9.1.9, 9.1.10, 9.1.11, 9.1.12 of this Statute 9 and the Election Manual approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President from time to time, who associate for the purposes of:
- (a) furthering the mission and ethos of the University;
  - (b) facilitating and encouraging the postgraduate Student experience at ACU;
  - (c) advocating for and representing postgraduate Students by assisting in the communication of issues raised by postgraduate Students to the University; and
  - (d) providing advice to the University on the allocation of revenue raised through any SSAF the University may levy.
- The Senate may, in its absolute discretion, withdraw recognition of ACUPGA.
- 9.1.9 The following provisions apply to the President of ACUPGA:
- (a) the President shall be elected from amongst candidates who are enrolled postgraduate Students undertaking at least one unit of study in a Course (in the case of postgraduate coursework students) or not suspended from their Course (in the case of postgraduate research students) at the time of nomination;
  - (b) the electorate for the election of the President shall be all enrolled postgraduate Students, including postgraduate coursework and postgraduate research Students;

- (c) the President shall only be entitled to hold office for a single term of one (1) year calculated from the date the President assumes office and only for so long as the President is undertaking at least one unit of study in a Course (in the case of postgraduate coursework students) or not suspended from their Course (in the case of postgraduate research students) during the entire term of office.

9.1.10 The following provisions apply to the Vice-President (Coursework) of ACUPGA:

- (a) the Vice-President (Coursework) shall be elected from amongst candidates who are enrolled coursework postgraduate Students in accordance with the Election Manual approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President from time to time;
- (b) the electorate for the election of the Vice-President (Coursework) shall be all enrolled coursework postgraduate Students;
- (c) the Vice-President (Coursework) shall only be entitled to hold office for a single term of one (1) year calculated from the date the Vice-President (Coursework) assumes office.

9.1.11 The following provisions apply to the Vice-President (Research) of ACUPGA:

- (a) the Vice-President (Research) shall be elected from amongst candidates who are enrolled research postgraduate Students in accordance with the Election Manual approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President from time to time;
- (b) the electorate for the election of the Vice-President (Research) shall be all enrolled research postgraduate Students;
- (c) the Vice-President (Research) shall only be entitled to hold office for a single term of one (1) year calculated from the date the Vice-President (Research) assumes office.

9.1.12 In the event that:

- (a) there are insufficient nominees for the roles of Vice-President (Coursework) and/or Vice-President (Research); and/or
- (b) there are insufficient enrolled Students in any given electorate for the election of Vice-President (Coursework) and/or Vice-President (Research),

the returning officer identified in the Election Manual may, at their discretion:

- (c) permit nominees for the Vice-President (Coursework) role to be drawn from the electorate representing enrolled postgraduate research Students; and/or
- (d) permit nominees for the Vice-President (Research) role to be drawn from the electorate representing enrolled postgraduate coursework Students; and/or
- (e) combine the electorates for postgraduate coursework Students and postgraduate research Students for the election of any given role.

9.1.13 The Student member of Senate shall be notified of any meeting of ACUPGA in accordance with the meeting procedures adopted by ACUPGA from time to time, whether in a Constitution or any other document adopted by ACUPGA for that purpose. The Student member of Senate:

- (a) shall be entitled to attend all meetings of ACUPGA;

- (b) may report to Senate on any matter raised by ACUPGA; and
  - (c) notwithstanding sub-paragraphs (a) and (b), is not a member of ACUPGA and is not entitled to exercise any voting rights at any meeting of ACUPGA.
- 9.1.14 A Student cannot concurrently be elected to or hold office in respect of more than one of the following positions at the same time:
- (a) the President of ACUNSA;
  - (b) an Office Holder of a Campus Student Association Management Committee (as defined in the Student Association Constitution);
  - (c) an Ordinary Member of a Campus Student Association Management Committee (as defined in the Student Association Constitution);
  - (d) the President of ACUPGA;
  - (e) an Office Holder of ACUPGA;
  - (f) the Student member of Senate pursuant to Clause 13.2(j) of the Constitution of the University; or
  - (g) the Student member(s) of Academic Board pursuant to Statute 2.5.1(q).
- 9.1.15 Any Student who seeks to nominate for any position listed in Section 9.1.14 must, at the time of the call for nominations, elect to nominate for one position only, and may not concurrently nominate for multiple positions. However, in the event that a Student is unsuccessful in being elected to a position for which the Student has nominated, the candidate may nominate for a different position during that same calendar year provided that it does not result in the Student nominating for two or more positions at the same time.
- 9.1.16 Subject to Section 9.1.17, the Vice-Chancellor and President retains the discretion to deem any Student ineligible for nomination to any role referred to in Section 9.1.14 of this Statute 9 where any of the following circumstances apply:
- (a) there has been an adverse finding recorded against the Student under the *Academic Honesty Policy* or any similar policy promulgated by the University from time to time;
  - (b) there has been an adverse finding recorded against the Student under the *Student Conduct and Discipline Policy* or any similar policy promulgated by the University from time to time; or
  - (c) there has been an adverse finding recorded against the Student under the *Research Code of Conduct* and/or the *Procedures for Dealing with Alleged Misconduct: Students* or any similar policy or procedures promulgated by the University from time to time.
- 9.1.17 Where an appeal has been lodged by a Student against an adverse finding of the type referred to in Section 9.1.16 and such appeal is unresolved at the time of the call for nominations or at any stage during the election process, the Student shall not be prevented from nominating for office or for participating in the election process outlined in this Statute 9 or the Election Manual. However, upon the determination of any final appeal, any student elected to office under this Statute 9 who is subject to an adverse finding of the type referred to in Section 9.1.16 shall be dealt with in accordance with Section 9.1.29 of this Statute 9.

- 9.1.18 Nominees for the roles outlined in this Statute 9 must be non-partisan and are not permitted to run for office on the basis of any affiliation with a political party or association.

**Recognition of Campus Student Associations**

- 9.1.19 There shall be only one recognised Campus Student Association per Campus of the University. Senate will not recognise or continue to recognise any second or subsequent Campus Student Associations at a Campus if there is an existing Campus Student Association that has been recognised by and continues to be recognised by the Senate. The Senate may, in its absolute discretion, withdraw recognition of any Campus Student Association.
- 9.1.20 In the event that a Campus does not have a recognised Campus Student Association, or the recognition for the existing Campus Student Association has been withdrawn by the Senate, upon written application to the Senate by any Student organisation purporting to be a new Campus Student Association of the University, the Senate will recognise and continue to recognise that Student organisation as an official Campus Student Association of the relevant Campus of the University provided that:
- (a) the Campus Student Association adopts the Student Association Constitution including any amendments approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President from time to time; and
  - (b) the Campus Student Association complies with and conducts its affairs in accordance with the Student Association Constitution.
- 9.1.21 Upon receipt of a Campus Student Association's written application, and upon confirmation by the Vice-Chancellor and President to the Senate that:
- (a) the Vice-Chancellor and President recommends approval of the written application; and
  - (b) a resolution has been passed by a Campus Student Association to adopt the Student Association Constitution,
- the Senate shall:
- (c) in the case of a new Campus Student Association adopting the Student Association Constitution for the first time – resolve to recognise the Campus Student Association as an official Campus Student Association of the University; or
  - (d) in the case of an existing Campus Student Association adopting any amendments to the Student Association Constitution approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President – note the Vice-Chancellor and President's approval of the amendments to the Student Association Constitution and confirm Senate's continued recognition of the Campus Student Association.
- 9.1.22 Any Campus Student Association adopting the Constitution for the first time or any existing Campus Student Association adopting amendments to the Student Association Constitution approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President shall, within twenty eight (28) days of the Vice-Chancellor and President's approval, lodge a final, approved copy of the Student Association Constitution (as adopted or amended) with the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and President.

- 9.1.23 Where a Campus Student Association fails to conduct its affairs in accordance with the Student Association Constitution and, upon receiving advice from the Vice-Chancellor and President, the Senate may by resolution allow the Campus Student Association at least two (2) months to rectify the breach, failing which the Senate may by resolution withdraw the recognition of the Campus Student Association.
- 9.1.24 In the event of a Campus Student Association being wound up by its members or its recognition being withdrawn by the Senate, all subscriptions and other monies levied by the University and/or paid by any Student or other person and allocated to the Campus Student Association shall be held over by the University for a successor Campus Student Association at that Campus.
- 9.1.25 Membership of any Campus Student Association shall be entirely voluntary.

#### **Allowances for Office Bearers**

- 9.1.26 The University shall pay the President of ACUNSA, the President of ACUPGA and the President of each Campus Student Association a payment which is equivalent to 40% of the Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend (base level) (**Allowance**) applicable under the RTP (or equivalent) as may be indexed annually and subject to the requirements of this Statute 9. The Allowance shall be paid for the terms of office for each position referred to in this Section 9.1.26.
- 9.1.27 The University shall pay the Vice-President (Coursework) and the Vice-President (Research) of ACUPGA a payment which is equivalent to 20% of the Research Training Program (RTP) Stipend (base level) (**Allowance**) applicable under the RTP (or equivalent) as may be indexed annually and subject to the requirements of this Statute 9. The Allowance shall be paid for the terms of office for each position referred to in this Section 9.1.27.
- 9.1.28 For the avoidance of doubt, any Allowance referred to in Sections 9.1.26 and 9.1.27 of this Statute 9 is an ex gratia payment to recognise the contribution to the Campuses and the Students by the President of ACUNSA, the President and Vice-Presidents of ACUPGA, and the Presidents of each of the Campus Student Associations.

#### **Removal from office and suspension of Allowance**

- 9.1.29 In the event that the President of ACUNSA, the President or Vice-Presidents of ACUPGA or any other Office Holder of a Campus Student Association (**Responsible Officer**) is found guilty of a breach of conduct or discipline in accordance with the *Student Conduct and Discipline Policy* and/or or any Policy promulgated by the University from time to time relating to student conduct and discipline, or is the subject of an adverse finding under the *Academic Honesty Policy*, the *Research Code of Conduct* and/or the *Procedures for Dealing with Alleged Misconduct: Students* or any similar policy or procedures promulgated by the University from time to time (**Policies**), a Discipline Committee, a Discipline Appeals Committee or a University Appeals Committee (as relevant) may, in addition to any other penalties available under the Policies:

- (a) suspend the Allowance of the Responsible Officer paid in accordance with Sections 9.1.26 and 9.1.27 of this Statute 9; and/or
- (b) remove from office the Responsible Officer elected in accordance with this Statute 9,

provided that the penalty or penalties imposed under this Section 9.1.29 shall only be effective from the date of the ultimate finding of a breach or an adverse finding under the relevant Policy or Procedures, including any appeals process.

- 9.1.30 The Vice-Chancellor and President may at their sole discretion suspend any Allowance paid to any Responsible Officer if the Responsible Officer in receipt of the

Allowance is unable, in the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor and President, to fulfill the ordinary duties of the position for a period greater than four (4) weeks provided that:

- (a) the Vice-Chancellor and President provides particulars to the relevant Responsible Officer in writing of the Vice-Chancellor and President's concerns regarding the Responsible Officer's inability to fulfil the ordinary duties of the role for a period greater than four (4) weeks;
- (b) the Vice-Chancellor and President gives the Responsible Officer a period of (2) two weeks to provide written submissions to the Vice-Chancellor and President including any supporting documentation that the Responsible Officer may wish to rely upon; and
- (c) after considering the Responsible Officer's submissions, the Vice-Chancellor and President notifies the Responsible Officer in writing of the discretion exercised by the Vice-Chancellor and President within two (2) weeks of receipt of the Responsible Officer's submissions.

9.1.31 Notwithstanding Section 9.1.31, the Vice-Chancellor and President may extend the payments of the recipient of the Allowance who is unable to complete their ordinary duties for any period greater than four (4) weeks at the Vice-Chancellor and President's discretion and on a case-by-case basis.

9.1.32 Any Allowance referred to in this Statute 9 shall be paid by the University, the source of which shall be determined at the Vice-Chancellor and President's discretion.

#### **Other Student Organisations**

9.1.33 Subject to Section 9.1.34 of this Statute 9, clubs or other associations of Students of the University (not being ACUNSA, ACUPGA or Campus Student Associations) formed for any purpose whatsoever must apply in writing to the Vice-Chancellor and President for permission to be established within the University.

9.1.34 Any application made in accordance with Section 9.1.33 must set out the full details of the proposed club or association including:

- (a) the name of the club or association;
- (b) the object(s) or purpose(s) of the club or association;
- (c) details of the proposed activities of the club or association;
- (d) details of any affiliations with a Faculty or School within the University; and
- (e) details of any affiliations with an external body the club or association may have.

#### **Vice-Chancellor and President's Discretion**

9.1.35 The Vice-Chancellor and President shall, at the Vice-Chancellor and President's discretion, within one (1) calendar month of receipt by the Vice-Chancellor and President of an application made pursuant to Sections 9.1.33 and 9.1.34, approve or reject the application. The Vice-Chancellor and President shall approve an application if, in the Vice-Chancellor and President's opinion, the relevant club or association:

- (a) is a fit and proper organisation suitable and deserving to operate within the University ;
- (b) acknowledges the ethos and mission of the University;
- (c) conducts its activities in a manner consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church; and



- (d) conducts its activities, promotions, advertising and branding (including, but not limited to, the use of the University name, University logo, Faculty name or School name) in a manner consistent with the brand of the University published in any Brand Guidelines promulgated by the University from time to time.

**Cessation of right to be established under the auspices of the University**

- 9.1.36 The Vice-Chancellor and President may in the Vice-Chancellor and President's sole discretion at any time by notice in writing to a club or an association withdraw its right to be established within the University pursuant to Section 9.1.33 of this Statute 9.

**Unauthorised Student Organisations**

- 9.1.37 Irrespective of whether a Student Organisation applies to the Vice-Chancellor and President in accordance with Section 9.1.33 and 9.1.34, any Student Organisation operating from any Campus of the University which has not been formally approved by the Vice-Chancellor and President and, in the Vice-Chancellor and President's opinion, is not a fit and proper organisation because it does not operate consistently with any of the matters set out in Section 9.1.35 (a) to (d), shall not be entitled to receive any benefits from the University in respect of its operations including, but not limited to, funding, insurance or any form of logistical support or assistance.

**ORIGINATED BY SENATE RESOLUTION:  
DATED:**

**48/2003  
30 November 2003**

**COMMON SEAL AFFIXED  
BY SECRETARY**

**AMENDMENT NO:  
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