

# Constitution of the



# Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Students' Union

Adopted in May 1992  
Eighteenth Amendment, March 2013

## *Enactment History*

<i>Drafted and Adopted by the HKUST Students' Union Organizing Committee (May, 1992)</i>	<i>Adopted</i>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 23, 1994)</i>	<i>First Amendment</i>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting (November 8, 1994)</i>	<i>Second Amendment</i>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Extra-ordinary General Meeting of Session 1995 - 1996 (May 23, 1995)</i>	<i>Third Amendment</i>
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (February 26, 1996)</i>	<i>Fourth Amendment</i>
<i>5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (February 19, 1997)</i>	<i>Fifth Amendment</i>
<i>6<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (February 26, 1998)</i>	<i>Sixth Amendment</i>
<i>7<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (February 25, 1999)</i>	<i>Seventh Amendment</i>
<i>8<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 2, 2000)</i>	<i>Eighth Amendment</i>
<i>9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (February 28, 2001, March 1, 2001)</i>	<i>Ninth Amendment</i>
<i>10<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (February 26 - 27, 2002, February 28 - March 1, 2002, March 6 - 7, 2002)</i>	<i>Tenth Amendment</i>
<i>11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 3 - 4, 2003, March 6 - 7, 2003, March 9 - 10, 2003)</i>	<i>Eleventh Amendment</i>
<i>13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 3 - 4, 2005, March 21 - 22, 2005, May 3 - 5, 2005)</i>	<i>Twelfth Amendment</i>
<i>16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 5, 2008, March 13, 2008, April 27, 2008)</i>	<i>Thirteenth Amendment</i>
<i>17<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 12, 2009, March 19, 2009, March 25, 2009, April 1, 2009)</i>	<i>Fourteenth Amendment</i>
<i>18<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 13, 2010, May 5, 2010)</i>	<i>Fifteenth Amendment</i>
<i>19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 9, 2011)</i>	<i>Sixteenth Amendment</i>
<i>20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 8, 2012, March 15, 2012, March 30, 2012)</i>	<i>Seventeenth Amendment</i>
<i>21<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting (March 13, 2013, March 28-29, 2013)</i>	<i>Eighteenth Amendment</i>

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## ARTICLE 1 : GENERAL

- 1.1 The name of the Union shall be “*Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Students’ Union*” (or in short, HKUSTSU) in English and “香港科技大學學生會” in Chinese.

*Amended in 8th AGM*

- 1.2 The official languages are English and Chinese and they should enjoy equal status. In case of discrepancy, unless otherwise stated, the English version shall be referred to.

*Appended in 8th AGM*

- 1.3 The official logo of the Union shall be:



*Appended in 9th AGM*

## ARTICLE 2 : OBJECTS

2.1 The objects of the Union shall be:

(a) To promote social, culture, sporting and academic activities amongst members;  
*Amended in 10th AGM*

(b) To promote civic consciousness amongst members;  
*Amended in 10th AGM*

(c) To promote the welfare of members;  
*Amended in 17th AGM*

(d) To represent members in matters affecting their interest; and  
*Amended in 17th AGM*

(e) To facilitate the development of the University.  
*Appended in 17th AGM*

## ARTICLE 3 : MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 The Union shall consist of the following types of members:
- (a) Full Members;
  - (b) Associate Members;
  - (c) Life Members; and
  - (d) Honorary Members.
- 3.2 All undergraduates and postgraduate students shall be eligible for Full Membership.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
- 3.3 All members of the University, other than students eligible for Full Membership, shall be eligible for Associate Membership.  
*Amended in 9th AGM*
- 3.4 Any person who has been a Full Member or Associate Member for not less than two regular terms shall be eligible for Life Membership.  
*Amended in 21st AGM*
- 3.5 Honorary Membership may be conferred at the General Meeting on such persons as the Council may determine by resolution.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
- 3.6 All undergraduate and postgraduate students shall cease to be Full members upon graduation or otherwise upon ceasing to be undergraduate or postgraduate students.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
- 3.7 A Full Member shall be entitled to enjoy all facilities provided by the Union, to take part in all its activities, to become a member or office bearer of all Sub-organizations of the Union, to attend and vote at all elections, General Meetings and Referenda conducted by the Union, and to stand for election or hold office as an office bearer of the Union.  
*Amended in 11th AGM*
- 3.8 Associate Members, Life Members and Honorary Members shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of Full Members, except they shall not have the right of Full Members to become full members or office bearers of any association affiliated to the Union, to vote at all elections, General Meetings and Referenda conducted by the Union, and to stand for election or to become office bearers of the Union.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
- 3.9 Applications for Full, Associate or Life Membership made to the Union shall be accepted upon the applicant satisfying the requirements of membership set out in this Constitution. All members of the Union shall undertake to abide by the provisions of this Constitution.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
- 3.10 Any member can apply for withdrawal of the membership upon written notice to the Executive Committee.  
*Appended in 17th AGM*

## ARTICLE 4 : ORGANIZATION

- 4.1 The ultimate authority in the Union shall be vested in a Referendum of Full Members.  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- 4.2 The authority of the General Meeting shall be second only to the Referendum with the exception of matters specifically reserved to the Court.  
*Amended in 21st AGM*
- 4.3 The legislation and the regulation of finance of the Union shall be vested in the Council.  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- 4.4 The jurisdiction of the Union shall be vested in the Court.  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- 4.5 The administration of the Union shall be vested in the Executive Committee with the exception of matters specifically reserved to the Council, the Court or other bodies under this Constitution, and subject to the ultimate authority of Referendum of Full Members.  
*Appended in 13th AGM*
- 4.6 The Union may seek advices from the Honorary Advisor(s) and Honorary Legal Advisor(s), who shall be invited by the Executive Committee and approved by the Council, in terms of management, external affairs and legal advices.  
*Amended in 20th AGM*

## ARTICLE 5 : REFERENDUM

5.1 A resolution passed by a Referendum shall possess the ultimate authority. Such resolution passed can only be revoked by a subsequent Referendum.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

5.2 The Executive Committee, the Council, the Court, a General Meeting or Full Members of the Union may refer any question to the Referendum, and the Referendum shall be held:

- (a) By a resolution of the Executive Committee; or
- (b) By a resolution of the Council; or
- (c) By a resolution of the Court; or
- (d) By a resolution of a General Meeting; or
- (e) By the Executive Committee in not more than fourteen days on receiving a written requisition signed by not less than 180 Full Members with necessary details as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

5.3 All sub-organizations and members of the Union shall thereafter be bound to act in accordance with the result of such Referenda in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

5.4 The Executive Committee shall give not less than five consecutive clear working days' notice of a Referendum, such notice to be given in the same manner as the notice for a General Meeting. The question to be referred to a Referendum shall be put in the form of a resolution and Full Members shall be requested to vote for or against the motion.

The Referendum shall be staged and conducted by the President of the Executive Committee, as well as the Executive Committee.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

5.5 The resolutions to dissolve the Union shall be declared carried if:

- (a) The total number of valid votes is not less than 18% of the total Full Membership of the Union; and
- (b) The total number of valid votes for is not less than three-quarters of the total number of valid votes at a Referendum.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

5.6 The resolutions to amend the Constitution, to remove any popularly elected office bearer of the Union and to remove any Judge of the Court shall be declared carried if:

- (a) The total number of valid votes is not less than 18% of the total Full Membership of the Union; and
- (b) The total number of valid votes for is not less than two-thirds of the total number of valid votes at a Referendum.

*Amended in 21st AGM*



5.7 Unless otherwise stated in both Article 5.5 and 5.6, the resolutions shall be declared carried if:

- (a) The total number of valid votes is not less than 18% of the total Full Membership of the Union; and
- (b) The total number of valid votes for is greater than the total number of valid votes against the resolution.

*Amended in 16th AGM*

5.8 Unmarked and improperly marked ballot papers shall be deemed invalid.

*Appended in 13th AGM*

5.9 Voting at a Referendum shall be by secret ballot and shall take place on the appointed three consecutive working days from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Each Full Member shall have one vote. Votes shall be counted within 24 hours after the close of balloting and shall be open to all members of the Union. The Executive Committee shall conclude the vote counting immediately and post the results in the Official Notice Area within twenty-four hours thereafter and for not less than seven consecutive clear working days.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

5.10 Any complaints shall be referred to the Court within seven consecutive clear working days after the conclusion of vote counting. The result of the referendum shall be officially approved and announced by the Executive Committee, if no complaint is referred to the Court within the same seven consecutive clear working days. All officially approved result of the referendum shall be posted by the Executive Committee on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

5.11 Any resolution passed by a Referendum should be consistent with this Constitution.

*Appended in 13th AGM*

5.12 The Council Chairperson shall be the Returning Officer of the Referendum. The Returning Officer shall be responsible for overseeing the Referendum in accordance to this Constitution or regulations for its proceedings.

In the event of vacancy of the Council Chairperson or the Council refusing the Council Chairperson to be the Returning Officer, the Council shall appoint another Council Member to be the Returning Officer.

*Appended in 21st AGM*

5.13 The Executive Committee and the Editorial Board shall deem it their duty to publicize any Referendum to be held by any channel.

*Appended in 21st AGM*

## ARTICLE 6 : THE GENERAL MEETING

6.1 A resolution passed by a General Meeting can only be revoked by a subsequent Referendum or a General Meeting.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

6.2 An Annual General Meeting, being a general meeting of Members, shall be commenced between the start of the first week and the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> week of the Spring Term in each Academic Year, inclusively.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

6.3 The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be determined by the Council.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

6.4 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

(a) To consider and if thought fit to approve the annual report of the Executive Committee;

(b) To consider and if thought fit to approve the annual report of the Editorial Board;

(c) To consider and if thought fit to approve the annual report of the Council;

*Amended in 8th AGM*

(d) To consider and if thought fit to approve the annual report of individual Popularly Elected Councilors;

*Amended in 8th AGM*

(e) To consider and if thought fit to approve the annual report of the Court;

*Amended in 10th AGM*

(f) To consider and if thought fit to approve the financial report of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

(g) Presentation of the popularly elected offices of the next Union Session; and

*Amended in 17th AGM*

(h) Any other business determined by the resolutions of the Council.

*Appended in 17th AGM*

6.5 In addition to the Annual General Meeting, a general meeting of Members, to be known as an Extraordinary General Meeting, may be convened:

(a) By a resolution of the Executive Committee; or

(b) By a resolution of the Council; or

(c) By a resolution of the Court; or

(d) By the Executive Committee not more than fourteen days on receiving a written requisition signed by not less than 150 Full Members with the necessary details as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 16th AGM*

6.6 The Executive Committee shall give not less than five consecutive clear working days' notice for a General Meeting of Full Members. The notice shall be in writing and shall specify the date, time and venue of the meeting and the business to be transacted thereat. Notice shall be given by posting the notice of meeting on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

6.7 Any resolution or requisition for an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be in writing and shall specify the resolution to be proposed at such meeting. No other resolution shall be proposed at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

6.8 The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 100 Full Members of the Union.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

6.9 All the resolution passed by a General Meeting should be consistent with this Constitution.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

## ARTICLE 7 : PROCEDURE AT GENERAL MEETINGS

7.1 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum of Full Members is present at the time when the meeting proceeds business and continues to be present until the conclusion of the meeting.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.2 The Council Chairperson or in his/her absence the Council Vice-Chairperson shall preside as the Chairperson at every General Meeting. If neither of them shall be present, the Full Members present shall elect one of them to preside as the Chairperson.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.3 The Council Secretary or in his/her absence the Internal Secretary shall preside as the Secretary at every General Meeting. If neither of them shall be present, the Full Members present shall elect one of them to preside as the Secretary.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.4 The Chairperson may, with the consent of the meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourned the meeting from time to time and from place to place.

*Appended in 13th AGM*

7.5 The General Meeting shall be postponed in case of absence of the quorum for not less than an hour. The date of the postponed meeting shall be determined by the Chairperson and the announcement of the postponed meeting shall be made in accordance with this Constitution.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.6 No resolution shall be passed at any General Meeting other than the resolution specified in the notice of meeting. A resolution may be amended with the consent of a majority of the Full Members present but no amendment shall be permitted which has the effect of substantially altering the meaning or intent of the original resolution. The Chairperson shall not put to the meeting any amendment which he/she considers to have such effect.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.7 At any General Meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless the meeting decides on a procedural motion to vote on the resolution by secret ballot, or unless the Chairperson decides to do so in which a vote by secret ballot shall be held.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.8 A General Meeting may resolve that, in place of voting on a resolution at the meeting, the resolution should be put to all Full Members by a Referendum conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

7.9 Each Full Member shall have one vote at any General Meeting or Referendum held pursuant to a resolution at a General Meeting. With the exception of resolutions to amend the Constitution, remove any popularly elected office bearer of the Union, remove the any Judge of the Court and dissolve the Union, a simple majority shall in all cases be sufficient to carry or defeat a resolution. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

## ARTICLE 8 : ELECTIONS

8.1 Election shall be held for the cabinet of the Executive Committee, the Popularly Elected Councilors and the cabinet of the Editorial Board between the start of the first week and the end of the fourth week of Spring Term in each Academic Year, inclusively. Re-election(s) shall be held when the election(s) is/are voided. A by- election shall be held to fill a vacancy in any of the offices referred to above at the occurrence of the vacancy:

- (a) by a resolution of the Executive Committee; or
- (b) by a resolution of the Council; or
- (c) by the Executive Committee not more than fourteen consecutive clear days on receiving a written requisition signed by not less than fifty Full Members with the necessary details as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

8.2 The Election Committee shall be appointed by the Council in accordance with this Constitution for each election or by-election and provided that no candidate in the election shall be member. The Election Committee shall conduct the election and shall take charge of every business, including decision of voiding the election(s) and/or candidate(s) and/or cabinet(s), pertaining to the election.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

8.3 The Election Committee shall determine the election date and announce the same not less than three weeks in advance in the case of a by-election, not less than one week in advance in case of re-election(s), and not less than one month in advance in case of all other elections. The Election Committee may in determining the election date appoint three consecutive working days to be election days on which votes may be cast.

*Amended in 16th AGM*

8.4 Nomination for the posts or cabinets open for election may be made from the day of announcement of the election date to the day, which is ten clear working days before the date of the election. Nominations must be made in the form prescribed by the Election Committee. No person shall be nominated for more than one post at the same time. No person shall be nominated, stand for election or hold office for more than one popularly elected offices. Members of the Election Committee shall not be eligible as nominators for any candidate of the election.

*Appended in 9th AGM*

8.5 The Election Committee shall verify the contents of the nomination form and thereafter immediately announce the candidate or nominated cabinet by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council.

8.6 Elections shall be held by secret ballot. Each Full Member shall have one vote in respect of each post and/or cabinet open for election. Votes may be cast from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the Election Day and shall be counted within 24 hours after the close of the balloting and in the presence of not less than three members of the Election Committee. The counting of the votes shall be open to all members of the Union. At the conclusion of the counting of votes, the result shall immediately be declared by the Election Committee, unless a candidate shall demand a recount, in which event the declaration shall be made after the recount. The Election Committee shall post the results in the Official Notice Area immediately after the conclusion of vote counting.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

8.7 Any complaints concerning the Election shall be made in writing to the Chairperson of the Election Committee within two clear working days after conclusion of vote counting and the Election Committee shall handle the complaints immediately and refer the cases to the Court if necessary. The result of the election shall not be officially approved or announced before all complaints are settled. The result of the election shall then be officially approved and announced by the Election Committee. All officially approved result of election shall be posted by the Election Committee on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

8.8 Unmarked and improperly marked ballot papers shall be deemed invalid.

*Amended in 9th AGM*

8.9 Where a post is uncontested the candidate(s) shall be declared elected if:

- (a) The total number of valid votes for is not less than 7% of the total Full Membership of the Union; and
- (b) The total number of valid votes for is greater than the total number of valid votes against the candidate(s).

Where a cabinet is uncontested the nominated cabinet shall be declared elected if:

- (a) The total number of valid votes for is not less than 14% of the total Full Membership of the Union; and
- (b) The total number of valid votes for is greater than the total number of valid votes against the cabinet.

*Amended in 16th AGM*

8.10 Where there are two or more nominated cabinets for a cabinet, the Multiple Seats Multiple Votes system shall be used, and the total number of valid votes shall be not less than 14% of the total Full Membership of the Union. When the number of candidates for the posts of the Popularly Elected Councilors is more than the number of the vacancies of the Popularly Elected Councilors, the Multiple Seats Multiple Votes system shall be used, and the total number of valid votes shall be not less than 7% of the total Full Membership of the Union.

*Amended in 16th AGM*

8.11 The following procedures shall be followed in respect of the Multiple Seats Multiple Votes system:

- (a) Up to N votes could be indicated in the ballot paper. Where N = number of places to be filled
- (b) In the case of cabinet, the one who gets the majority number of votes is deemed elected.
- (c) In the case of Popularly Elected Councilors, all the candidates are ranked according to the number of valid votes supporting them, the first N candidates are deemed elected.
- (d) Any candidates could be deemed elected only when the total number of valid votes supporting them shall be not less than 7% of the total Full Membership of the Union.

*Amended in 16th AGM*

8.12 No cabinet for the election of the Executive Committee shall be nominated, stand for election or deemed elected unless in that cabinet, at least seven posts including the posts for the President, the Vice-President (Internal), Vice-President (External) and the Financial Secretary are filled. No cabinet for the election of the Editorial Board shall be nominated, stand for election and deemed elected unless in that cabinet, at least seven posts including the posts for the Editor-in-Chief, one Assistant Editor-in-Chief and the Financial Controller are filled.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

8.13 *(Repealed in 16th AGM)*

8.14 *(Repealed in 16th AGM)*

## ARTICLE 9 : FINANCE

9.1 Full Members, Associate Members and Life Members shall be liable to pay such non-refundable subscription to the Union as the Council may from time to time determine by resolution.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

9.2 The Executive Committee, the Editorial Board, the Council and the Court shall submit applications of the Master Budget to the Financial Secretary in writing not later than 28 days since the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

*Appended in 10th AGM*

9.3 The Financial Secretary shall prepare the Master Budget in accordance with the applications and submit the Master Budget to the Finance Committee of the Council not later than 30 days since the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting

*Appended in 10th AGM*

9.4 The Finance Committee of the Council shall make recommendations on the Master Budget of the Union to the Council for approval by not later than six weeks since the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting. The Council shall approve the same with or without amendment, and shall publish the approved budget by posting it on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council within seven working days.

*Appended in 10th AGM*

9.5 The approved Master Budget shall not be amended unless by a further resolution of the Council with two-thirds majority.

*Appended in 10th AGM*

9.6 All subsidy applications for Union funds shall be submitted to the Financial Secretary in the application form prescribed by the Council. The Finance Committee shall receive and make recommendations on all subsidy applications for Union funds to the Council for approval.

*Appended in 10th AGM*

9.7 All bank accounts of the Union shall be operated by the Financial Secretary for the current Union session and any two of the three members of the Finance Committee appointed by resolution of the Council for the current Union session. In case of vacancy of the Executive Committee, all bank accounts of the Union shall be operated by any three of the four members of the Finance Committee appointed by resolution of the Council for the current Union session

*Appended in 10th AGM*

9.8 In the event of vacancy of Financial Secretary, the duties stated in Article 9.2, 9.3 and 9.6 shall be born by the Finance Committee until the post of Financial Secretary is filled.

*Appended in 13th AGM*

9.9 In the event that the Council refuses to approve the Master Budget, the Financial Secretary may apply to the Finance Committee of the Council for provisional appropriations. The Finance Committee of the Council shall make recommendations on the provisional appropriations to the Council for approval.

*Appended in 20th AGM*



## ARTICLE 10 : THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10.1 The Executive Committee shall hold office from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the year of their election until conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the following year.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

10.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members:

- (a) The President, who shall
  - (i) be the head of executive of the Union;
  - (ii) be responsible for administration of the Union; and
  - (iii) represent the Union externally;

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

- (b) The Vice-President (Internal), who shall assist the President in carrying out his/her duties and in addition, is responsible for all internal coordination of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (c) The Vice-President (External), who shall assist the President in carrying out his/her duties and in addition, be responsible for all external matters of the Union, and jointly with the Current Affairs Secretary be responsible for all matters concerning current affairs of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (d) The Internal Secretary, who shall assist the Vice-President (Internal) in carrying out his/her duties and in addition, be responsible for maintaining all minutes and documents of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (e) Up to a maximum of two External Secretaries, who shall assist the Vice-President (External) in carrying out his/her duties and in addition, be responsible for maintaining all external correspondence of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (f) The Financial Secretary, who shall be responsible for all financial matters of the Union;

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

- (g) The General Secretary, who shall be responsible for all matters concerning general affairs of the Union.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (h) The Current Affairs Secretary, who shall be responsible (jointly with the External Secretary) for all matters concerning current affairs of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (i) The Information Technology Secretary, who shall be responsible for all matters concerning Information Technology of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (j) The Administrative Secretary, who shall be responsible for all administrative matters of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (k) The Promotion Secretary, who shall be responsible for all promotion matters of the Union.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (l) The University Affairs Officer, who shall be responsible for all matters concerning University affairs of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (m) The Academic Affairs Officer, who shall be responsible for all matters concerning academic affairs of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (n) The Public Relations Officer, who shall be responsible for all matters concerning the public relations of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (o) The Welfare Officer, who shall be responsible for all matters concerning the welfare of members of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (p) The Publication Officer, who shall be responsible for all publication activities of the Union (excluding those reserved for the Editorial Board exclusively);

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (q) The Social Affairs Officer, who shall be responsible for all social activities of the Union;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (r) The Marketing Secretary, who shall be responsible for all marketing activities of the Union.

*Appended in 18th AGM*

- 10.3 In addition to the duties as specified in Article 10.2, members of the Executive Committee shall collectively and individually be responsible for the performance of the duties of the Executive Committee under this Constitution.

*Amended in 11th AGM*

- 10.4 The President or in his/her absence the Vice-President (Internal) shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Executive Committee and individual office bearers. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President (Internal), the Vice-President (External) shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Executive Committee and individual office bearers.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- 10.5 The Executive Committee shall submit half-year report to the Council on its activities.  
*Amended in 11th AGM*
- 10.6 The Executive Committee shall consider the recommendation of the standing committees and shall approve the same with or without amendment, if thought fit.  
*Amended in 11th AGM*
- 10.7 The Executive Committee may by resolution delegate its duties to its committees having such composition and terms of reference as may be specified in such resolution, provided that no decision or recommendation of such Committee shall have effect unless approved by a further resolution of the Executive Committee.  
*Appended in 11th AGM*

## **ARTICLE 11 : STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

11.1 There shall be eight standing committees for each session, which shall assist the Executive Committee to exercise its power and fulfill its duties.

11.2 The standing committees shall hold office during each session of the Union.

11.3 The Academic Affairs Committee

(a) The Academic Affairs Committee shall consist of the following members and shall be appointed by the Executive Committee:

- (i) Academic Affairs Officer, who shall act as the Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Academic Affairs Secretary, the Chairperson of the Academic Affairs Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
- (ii) President;
- (iii) Two University Student Senators who are elected at the University Student Senators Election and are Full Members of the Union;
- (iv) Two student representatives who seat in University Senate Committees and are Full Members of the Union;
- (v) Three or more other members of the Executive Committee;
- (vi) One or more Full Members of the Union;

(b) The Academic Affairs Committee shall have the following duties:

- (i) To be responsible for the academic development of the University;
- (ii) To assist the Academic Affairs Officer on all matters concerning academic affairs of the Union;
- (iii) To organize activities on academic affair, any person may be invited to participate in the discussion;
- (iv) To encourage and stimulate Union Members' interests and participation in academic affairs;
- (v) To openly nominate students to University Senate Committees with approval of the Executive Committee;
- (vi) To conduct University Student Senators Election;
- (vii) To compile reports from student seats in University Senate Committees for the information of the Union;
- (viii) To co-ordinate the efforts of student seats in University Senate Committees; and
- (ix) To facilitate communication among student seats in University Senate Committees.

(c) Members of the Academic Affairs Committee shall elect from among themselves the Secretary for current Session.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

#### 11.4 The External Affairs Committee

- (a) The External Affairs Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) Vice-President (External), who shall act as the Chairperson of the External Affairs Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Vice-President (External), the Current Affairs Secretary shall act as the Chairperson. In the event of vacancy of the Vice-President (External) and the Current Affairs Secretary, the Chairperson of the External Affairs Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
  - (ii) External Secretary, who shall act as the Secretary of the External Affairs Committee. In the event of vacancy of the External Secretary, the Secretary of the External Affairs Committee shall be elected from among themselves the Secretary for current Session;
  - (iii) President;
  - (iv) Current Affairs Secretary;
  - (v) Two or more other members of the Executive Committee; and
  - (vi) One or more Full Members of the Union;
- (b) The External Affairs Committee shall have the following duties:
  - (i) To assist the Executive Committee on all external matters, external correspondences and matters concerning current and international affairs of the Union;
  - (ii) To organize activities on economic, political, social, international and other related topics, any person may be invited to participate in the discussion; and
  - (iii) To encourage and stimulate Union Members' interests and participation in current and international affairs.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

#### 11.5 The Public Relations Committee

- (a) The Public Relations Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) Public Relations Officer, who shall act as Chairperson of the Public Relations Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Public Relations Officer, the Chairperson of the Public Relations Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
  - (ii) President;
  - (iii) Two or more other members of the Executive Committee; and
  - (iv) One or more Full Members of the Union.
- (b) The Public Relations Committee shall assist the Public Relations Officer on all matters concerning the public relations of the Union.
- (c) Members of the Public Relations Committee shall elect from among themselves the Secretary for current Session.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

## 11.6 The Publication Committee

- (a) The Publication Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) Publication Officer, who shall act as Chairperson of the Publication Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Publication Officer, the Chairperson of the Publication Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
  - (ii) Two or more other members of the Executive Committee; and
  - (iii) One or more Full Members of the Union.
- (b) The Publication Committee shall assist the Publication Officer on all publication activities of the Union (excluding those reserved for the Editorial Board exclusively).
- (c) Members of the Publication Committee shall elect from among themselves the Secretary for current Session.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

## 11.7 The Social Committee

- (a) The Social Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) Social Affairs Officer, who shall act as the Chairperson of the Social Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Social Affairs Officer, the Chairperson of the Social Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
  - (ii) Two or more other members of the Executive Committee; and
  - (iii) One or more Full Members of the Union.
- (b) The Social Committee shall assist the Social Affairs Officer on all social activities of the Union.
- (c) Members of the Social Committee shall elect from among themselves the Secretary for current Session.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

## 11.8 The Orientation Affairs Committee

- (a) The Orientation Affairs Committee shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) The Vice-President (Internal), who shall act as the Chairperson of the Orientation Affairs Committee;
  - (ii) The Internal Secretary, who shall act as the Secretary of the Orientation Affairs Committee;
  - (iii) Two representatives from House Associations;
  - (iv) Two representatives from Independent Clubs;
  - (v) Two representatives from School of Business and Management Departmental and School Societies;
  - (vi) Two representatives from School of Engineering Departmental and School Societies;
  - (vii) Two representatives from School of Science Departmental and School Societies;
  - (viii) One representative from Interdisciplinary Programs Societies;
  - (ix) Two representatives from Sports Clubs;
  - (x) One representative from the Editorial Board;
  - (xi) One representative from the Executive Committee; and
  - (xii) One representative from School of Humanities and Social Science Departmental and School Societies.
- (b) The Orientation Affairs Committee shall take charge and be responsible for coordination of all orientation affairs of the Union. "Orientation Affairs" shall include matters and programmes concerning Orientation Days, Orientation Camps and Orientation Weeks.
- (c) In the event of vacancy of the Vice-President (Internal), the Executive Committee shall appoint one other member of the Executive Committee to act as the Chairperson of the Orientation Affairs Committee.
- (d) In the event of vacancy of the Internal Secretary, the Executive Committee shall appoint one other member of the Executive Committee to act as the Secretary of the Orientation Affairs Committee.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

## 11.9 The University Affairs Committee

- (a) The University Affairs Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) University Affairs Officer who shall act as the Chairperson of the University Affairs Committee. In the event of vacancy of the University Affairs Officer, the Chairperson of the University Affairs Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
  - (ii) President;
  - (iii) Two student representatives who seat in University Senate Committees and are Full Members of the Union;
  - (iv) Two student representatives who seat in University Advisory Bodies and are Full Members of the Union;
  - (v) Three or more other members of the Executive Committee; and
  - (vi) One or more Full Members of the Union.
- (b) The University Affairs Committee shall have the following duties:
  - (i) To assist the University Affairs Officer on all matters concerning university affairs of the Union;
  - (ii) To organize activities on university affair, any person may be invited to participate in the discussion;
  - (iii) To openly nominate students to University Advisory Bodies and University Senate Committees with approval of the Executive Committee;
  - (iv) To compile reports from student seats in University Advisory Bodies and University Senate Committees for the information of the Executive Committee;
  - (v) To co-ordinate the efforts of student seats in University Advisory Bodies and University Senate Committees; and
  - (vi) To facilitate communication among student seats in University Advisory Bodies and University Senate Committees.
- (c) Members of the University Affairs Committee shall elect from among themselves the Secretary for current Session.

*Amended in 17th AGM*



#### 11.10 The Welfare Committee

- (a) The Welfare Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following members:
  - (i) Welfare Officer, who shall act as the Chairperson of the Welfare Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Welfare Officer, the Chairperson of the Welfare Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Executive Committee;
  - (ii) President;
  - (iii) Two or more other members of the Executive Committee; and
  - (iv) One or more Full Members of the Union.
- (b) The Welfare Committee shall assist the Welfare Officer on all matters concerning welfare of members of the Union.
- (c) Members of the Welfare Committee shall elect from among themselves the Secretary for current Session.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

#### 11.11 *(Repealed in 17th AGM)*

## ARTICLE 12 : THE COUNCIL

12.1 There shall be a Council for each Session of the Union, which shall hold office during such Session.

*Appended in 1st AGM*

12.2 The Council shall be legislature of the Union, and shall have the following power and duties:

(a) To appoint standing committees of the Council;

*Appended in 6th AGM*

(b) To consider the recommendation of the standing committees and shall approve the same with or without amendment, if thought fit;

*Appended in 6th AGM*

(c) To consider and approve or disapprove applications for affiliation to the Union;

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

(d) To appoint ad-hoc committees when necessary;

*Amended in 9th AGM*

(e) To regulate the finance of the Union;

*Amended in 8th AGM*

(f) To supervise and advice on all sub-organizations of the Union so as to ensure proper administration and representation of members by them;

*Amended in 8th AGM*

(g) To pass any rules or regulations that shall be binding on all sub-organizations of the Union;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

(h) To interpret the Constitution; and

*Amended in 10th AGM*

(i) To receive and consider half-yearly report of the Executive Committee, the Editorial Board and Popularly Elected Councilors.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

(j) *(Repealed in 10th AGM)*

12.3 The Council shall consist of the following Full Members of the Union:

- (a) The Council Chairperson;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
- (b) The Council Vice-Chairperson;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
- (c) The Council Secretary;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
- (d) The President and the two Vice-Presidents;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
- (e) The Financial Secretary;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
- (f) Four representatives of the Independent Clubs Association elected by its office-bearers;  
*Appended in 8th AGM*
- (g) Three representatives of the Sports Association elected by its office-bearers;  
*Amended in 7th AGM*
- (h) Four representatives from all House Associations elected by their office-bearers;  
*Amended in 8th AGM*
- (i) Eleven representatives of the Schools, comprising one representative from the School of Humanities and Social Science, three representatives from the School of Business and Management, three representatives from the School of Engineering, three representatives from the School of Science and one representative from the Interdisciplinary Programs to be elected by their respective Departmental and School Societies or, where there is no Departmental and School Society for a School by students of that School who are Full Members;  
*Amended in 20th AGM*
- (j) Eight Popularly Elected Councilors;  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- (k) The Editor-in-Chief;  
*Amended in 8th AGM*
- (l) The Financial Controller of the Editorial Board;  
*Amended in 8th AGM*
- (m) One member of the Council of the previous Union session elected from among themselves;  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- (n) One member of the Editorial Board of the previous Union session elected from among themselves. In the event of vacancy of the Editorial Board in the previous Union session, the Council of the previous Union session shall elect one member from among themselves to substitute the position.;  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- (o) One member of the Executive Committee of the previous Union session elected from among themselves. In the event of vacancy of the Executive Committee in the previous Union session, the Council of the previous Union session shall elect one member from among themselves to substitute the position.  
*Appended in 8th AGM*

12.4 No members of the Council shall at the same time hold more than one representation in the Council.

*Appended in 1st AGM*

12.5 Members of the Council shall elect from among themselves the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary for the current session. The persons as elected shall resign from all their original offices in any sub-organization of the Union. The vacancies in respect of their original offices in the Council shall be filled in the original manner.

*Amended in 9th AGM*

12.6 The Council Chairperson shall be responsible for the administration of the Council, take the Chair of all Council Meetings of the current session and convene the First Council Meeting of the next session. The Council Vice-Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in carrying out his/her duties. The Council Secretary shall take minutes of all Council Meetings of the current session.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

12.7 In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Council and be the Chair of the Council Meeting. In the absence of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Council and be the Chair of the Council Meeting.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

12.8 The Council shall meet at least once in every regular term and may be by resolution make regulations for its proceedings. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairperson or by the Vice-Chairperson or Secretary upon receipt of a written requisition from not less than one-fifth of the Council Members.

- (a) In the event of vacancy of the Chairperson, all Council Meetings shall be called by the Vice-Chairperson.
- (b) In the event of vacancy of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson, all Council Meetings shall be called by the Secretary upon receipt of a written requisition from not less than one-fifth of the Council Members.
- (c) In the event of vacancy of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson and the Secretary, all Council Meetings shall be called by any member upon receipt of a written requisition from not less than one-half of the Council Members. The members shall elect themselves the Chair of the meeting.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

12.9 The Council may by resolution delegate its duties to a committee of its members having such composition and terms of reference as may be specified in such resolution, provided that no decision or recommendation of such Committee shall have effect unless approved by a further resolution of the Council.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

## ARTICLE 13 : STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

13.1 There shall be five standing committees for each session, which shall assist the Council to exercise its power and fulfill its duties.

*Appended in 21st AGM*

13.2 The standing committees shall hold office during each session of the Union.

*Amended in 6th AGM*

13.3 The Affiliated Societies Committee

(a) The Affiliated Societies Committee shall be appointed by the Council and shall consist of the following members of the Council:

(i) Council Vice-Chairperson, who shall act as the Chairperson of the Affiliated Societies Committee. In the event of vacancy of the Council Vice-Chairperson, the Council Secretary shall act as the Chairperson. In the event of vacancy of the Council Vice-Chairperson and the Council Secretary, the Chairperson of the Affiliated Societies Committee shall be elected and appointed among its members by the Council;

(ii) Council Secretary;

(iii) Vice-President (Internal);

*Amended in 17th AGM*

(iv) Two representatives of the Schools;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

(v) One representative of the Independent Clubs Association;

(vi) One representative of the Sports Association;

(vii) One representative of the House Associations; and

(viii) Three Popularly Elected Councilor.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

(b) The Affiliated Societies Committee shall have the following duties:

(i) To conduct review on the Constitution of the affiliated societies;

*Amended in 10th AGM*

(ii) To ensure the proper administration of the affiliated societies;

(iii) To process and make recommendations on the applications of affiliation to the Council which shall consider the recommendations and shall approve or disapprove the applications;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

- (iv) To receive and handle complaints concerning affiliated societies and shall refer the cases to the Court by the resolution of the Council if necessary; and

*Amended in 21st AGM*

- (v) To refer cases to the Court for the purpose of imposing penalties to affiliated societies.

*Appended in 21st AGM*

#### 13.4 The Constitution Committee

- (a) The Constitution Committee shall be appointed by the Council and shall consist of the following members of the Council:

- (i) Council Chairperson, who shall act as the Convener of the Constitution Committee;

*Amended in 9th AGM*

- (ii) Council Vice-Chairperson;

- (iii) Council Secretary;

- (iv) President;

- (v) Editor-in-Chief;

- (vi) Two representatives of the Schools;

*Amended in 17th AGM*

- (vii) One representative of the Independent Clubs Association;

- (viii) One representative of the Sports Association;

- (ix) One representative of the House Associations; and

- (x) Three Popularly Elected Councilor.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

- (b) The Constitution Committee shall have the following duties:

- (i) To receive and discuss any written requisition of proposed amendments of the Constitution of the Union.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

- (ii) To conduct review and make recommendations on the amendments of the Constitution of the Union to the Council. The Council should consider the recommendations and endorse the same with or without amendment. Any amendment of the Constitution should only be made according to what have stated in Article 20.5 of the Constitution.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

### 13.5 The Election Committee

- (a) The Election Committee shall be appointed by the Council and shall consist of the following members of the Council:
- (i) Two or more of the following members:
    - Council Chairperson; or
    - Council Vice-Chairperson; or
    - Council Secretary;Whereas one of the them shall act as the Chairperson of the Election Committee;

*Amended in 10th AGM*
  - (ii) One representative from the Executive Committee;

*Amended in 18th AGM*
  - (ii) One representative from the Editorial Board;

*Appended in 18th AGM*
  - (iv) Three or more other representatives from the Council.

*Appended in 18th AGM*
- (b) The Election Committee shall have the following duties:
- (i) To conduct the elections of the Union according to what stated in the Article 8 of the Constitution.
  - (ii) *(Repealed in 10th AGM)*

## 13.6 The Finance Committee

- (a) The Finance Committee shall be appointed by the Council and shall consist of the following members of the Council:
- (i) The Council Chairperson who shall act as the Chairperson of the Finance Committee;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
  - (ii) The Financial Secretary;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
  - (iii) The Financial Controller;  
*Amended in 8th AGM*
  - (iv) One representative of the Independent Clubs Association;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
  - (v) One representative of the Sports Association;  
*Amended in 2nd AGM*
  - (vi) One representative of the House Associations;  
*Amended in 2nd EGM, Session 95 - 96*
  - (vii) Two representatives of the Schools; and  
*Amended in 17th AGM*
  - (viii) Three Popularly Elected Councilor.  
*Amended in 13th AGM*
- (b) The Finance Committee shall have the following power and duties:
- (i) To regulate all financial matters of the Union between Council Meetings in accordance with its resolution and instructions;  
*Amended in 9th AGM*
  - (ii) To investigate all matters of Union finance in cases that the Finance Committee deemed necessary; and  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
  - (iii) To review and make recommendations to the Council for approval on any policy related to financial matters of the Union or the allocation of Union funds for affiliated societies.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*
  - (iv) *(Repealed in 10th AGM)*
  - (v) *(Repealed in 10th AGM)*
  - (vi) *(Repealed in 10th AGM)*



### 13.6 The Council Administration Committee

- (a) The Council Administration Committee shall be appointed by the Council and shall consist of the following members of the Council:
- (i) Council Chairperson, who shall act as the Chairperson of the Council Administration Committee;
  - (ii) Council Vice-Chairperson;
  - (iii) Council Secretary;
  - (iv) Three or more other representatives from the Council.
- (b) The Council Administration Committee shall have the following duties:
- (i) To assist the Council Chairperson in carrying the administration of the Council;
  - (ii) To make recommendation on the agenda paper of the meetings and oversee the legislative agenda of the Council;
  - (iii) To discuss and submit applications of the Master Budget of the Council to the Financial Secretary;
  - (iv) To monitor the resource of the Council;
  - (v) To conduct review on the Standing Orders for the Conduct of Council Meeting and any other regulations for the proceedings of Council Meetings and make recommendations to the Council for approval on its adoption, amendments or rescindment;
  - (vi) To review the conduct of the members of the Council and make recommendations to the Council for approval;
  - (vii) To receive and discuss any written requisition of proposed rules, regulations or their amendments with binding force on all sub-organizations of the Union and Standing Committees of the Council and make recommendations to the Council for approval;
  - (viii) To receive nomination and determine the mechanism on the appointment of the Council Members and Standing Committees of the Council in the event of any vacancy of the Council Members and Members of the Standing Committees of the Council; and
  - (ix) To promote the Council by any channels.

*Appended in 21st AGM*

## ARTICLE 14 : THE COURT

14.1 There shall be a Court for the Union, which shall hold office when the total number of existing Judges is greater than or equal to five.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.2 *(Repealed in the 21st AGM)*

14.3 The Court shall be the judiciary body of the Union and shall have the following power and duties:

(a) To settle disputes within the Union;

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

(b) To call for further information and may require any member or sub-organization of the Union to give any relevant evidence in respect of its arbitration;

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

(c) To impose penalties on sub-organizations or members of the Union in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution;

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

(d) To quash any resolution of a General Meeting, that is in conflict with this Constitution or a resolution passed by a Referendum;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

(e) To quash any legislative resolution of the Council, that is in conflict with this Constitution, a resolution passed by a Referendum or a General Meeting, or an existing valid legislative resolution passed by the Council;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

(f) To quash any administrative resolution of the Council, the Executive Committee and the Editorial Board that is illegal, irrational, or procedurally improper; and

*Appended in 21st AGM*

(g) To interpret the Constitution.

*Appended in 21st AGM*

14.4 Judges shall hold offices until ceasing to be Full Members of the Union. No Judge shall hold any other position in the Union.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.5 Registered Jurors shall hold such positions until ceasing to be Full Members of the Union. No Juror shall hold any other position in the Union.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.6 The Chief Justice, also considered as a Judge, shall be appointed by means of an election among all existing Judges themselves in a Court Meeting in the event of his or her vacancy, provided that the total number of existing Judges is greater than or equal to five. The Court shall thereafter immediately announce the appointment by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.7 There shall be a maximum of ten Judges in the Court. In the event of any vacancy, new Judges may be appointed by means of a recommendation by Judge Recommendation Committee from Registered Jurors, provided that the total number of existing Judges is greater than or equal to five, and the recommendation shall seek approval of the Council or a General Meeting.

The Judge Recommendation Committee shall consist of the following members:

- (a) The Chief Justice, who shall act as the Chairperson of the Judge Recommendation Committee;
- (b) All other existing Judges; and
- (c) Equal number of representatives as appointed by the Executive Committee as the number of Judges excluding the Chief Justice;

Judges shall cease to be Jurors. The Court shall thereafter immediately announce the appointment of new Judges by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.8 Registration for Jurors may be made at any time in the form prescribed by the Executive Committee. Such registration shall be deemed successful upon the applicant being a Full Member of the Union. The Executive Committee shall verify the contents of the application form and thereafter immediately announce the application by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.9 The Chief Justice may appoint Court Secretaries from Full Members of the Union, who shall be responsible for all secretarial work of the Court. Court Secretaries shall hold offices until ceasing to be Full Members of the Union, resigning by giving written notice to the Chief Justice, or dismissed by the Chief Justice.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.10 The Court shall consist of the following judicial committees to exclusively exercise the power and duties of the Court in accordance with the provision of Article 14.3 and to hold Court Meetings and pass resolutions in accordance with the regulations for the Court proceedings:

- (a) The Court of First Instance, where fresh cases are heard, which shall hold office from arbitration to arbitration and consist of the following members:
  - (i) One Designated Judge as determined by a lottery in a Court Meeting from all existing Judges;
  - (ii) One Designated Secretary as appointed by the Designated Judge from the Court Secretaries; and
  - (iii) One Jury of seven, or nine if the Designated Judge so orders, Designated Jurors as determined by a lottery from all Registered Jurors and in accordance with the regulations for the Court proceedings.

- (b) The Court of Appeal, where appeal cases are heard, which shall hold office from arbitration to arbitration and consist of the following members:
- (i) Chief Justice, who shall act as an Appellate Judge;
  - (ii) Two other Appellate Judges as determined by a lottery in a Court Meeting from all existing Judges except for the Designated Judge before whom the case was resolved in the Court of First Instance; and
  - (iii) One Designated Secretary as appointed by the Chief Justice from the Court Secretaries.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.11 The Court shall have the power to revoke the determination of appointing any Designated Judge or Appellate Judge to any judicial committee so as to prevent conflict of interest as long as the revocation is without prejudice and in a fair and reasonable manner and in accordance with any regulations for the Court proceedings.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.12 The Court shall give not less than five consecutive clear working days' notice for Court Meeting. The notice shall be in writing and shall specify the date, time and venue of the meeting and the business to be transacted thereat. Notice shall be given by posting the notice of meeting on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

14.13 All meetings of the Court shall be open to all members of the Union.

*Amended in 9th AGM*

14.14 The Judge shall determine any point of law in a case whilst the Jury shall determine any point of fact.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.15 The Court may make regulations for its proceedings.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.16 The adjudication passed by the Court in the form of a resolution shall be binding unless revoked by a Referendum. The point of law therein contained shall be binding on all sub-organizations and members of the Union unless repealed by a further resolution of the Court or a legislative resolution of the Council, a General Meeting or a Referendum.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

14.17 All records and resolutions of the meetings shall be posted in the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council within five days for not less than five clear working consecutive days.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

## ARTICLE 15 : THE EDITORIAL BOARD

15.1 The Editorial Board shall hold office from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the year of their election until conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the following year.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

15.2 The Union shall maintain the Official Publication with the name of ‘WINGS’ in English and in Chinese “振翅” in the initial position of the title. The Official Publication will be published by the Editorial Board and at such intervals as the Editorial Board may determine.

*Amended in 5th AGM*

15.3 The functions of Official Publication shall be:

- (a) To promote the objects of the Union; and
- (b) To provide opportunities for and encourage the free expressions of opinion by students of the University.

*Amended in 5th AGM*

15.4 The duties of the Editorial Board shall be:

- (a) To maintain an Official Publication of the Union;
- (b) To promote literary development among students by means of the Official Publication and other activities;
- (c) To submit half-year report to the Council on its activities.

*Appended in 9th AGM*

15.5 The Editorial Board shall consist of the following members:

- (a) The Editor-in-Chief;
- (b) Up to a maximum of two Assistant Editors-in-Chief;
- (c) Up to a maximum of four Designers;
- (d) The Administrative Officer;
- (e) The Marketing Officer;
- (f) The Financial Controller; and
- (g) Up to a maximum of twelve Feature Editors.

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

*Amended in 17th AGM*

*Amended in 17th AGM*

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

*Amended in 7th AGM*

- (h) *(Repealed in 9th AGM)*

15.6 Members of the Editorial Board shall collectively be responsible for the performance of the duties of the Editorial Board under this Constitution.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

15.7 The Editorial Board shall maintain a channel to carry reports of all official business of the Union, including but not limited to notices of and resolutions passed at General Meeting, announcements in respect of all elections and their results, resolutions passed by the Court, the budget as approved by the Council and the half-yearly report of the Editorial Board, the Executive Committee and Popularly Elected Councilors as approved by the Council.

*Amended in 20th AGM*

15.8 In carrying out its functions, the Editorial Board may invite members of the public to become members of the Advisory Board of the Editorial Board. The term of service shall be determined by the Editorial Board.

*Appended in 5th AGM*

15.9 The Editorial Board may by resolution delegate its duties to its committees having such composition and terms of reference as may be specified in such resolution, provided that no decision or recommendation of such committee shall have effect unless approved by a further resolution of the Editorial Board.

*Appended in 9th AGM*

## **ARTICLE 16 : AFFILIATED SOCIETIES**

16.1 All societies whose objects are consistent with the objects of the Union shall be eligible to be granted affiliation to the Union upon application being made to the Council, provided that as a condition of granting affiliation the Council may impose requirements in respect the Constitution of such societies to ensure proper administration and representation of their members by the office bearers of such associations.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

16.2 Only Full Members of the Students' Union shall be eligible for being Full Members or office bearers of affiliated societies.

*Appended in 8th AGM*

16.3 A society, which is granted affiliation to the Union, shall be eligible to apply for a grant of funding of the Union for the purpose of its activities.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

16.4 All special interest societies excluding those established for sporting purposes, House Associations, Departmental Societies and School Societies desiring affiliation to the Union shall become members of the Independent Clubs Association in accordance with a constitution approved by the Council.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

16.5 All societies established for sporting purposes desiring affiliation to the Union shall become members of the Sports Association in accordance with a constitution approved by the Council.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

16.6 House Associations, Departmental Societies and School Societies may apply directly to the Union for affiliation.

*Amended in 2nd EGM, Session 95 - 96*

16.7 All affiliated societies shall be undertaken to be abide by this Constitution, the rules and regulations passed by the Council, the resolutions passed by the Court, or the Referendum or the General Meeting.

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

## ARTICLE 17 : VACATION OF OFFICES

17.1 Any popularly elected office bearer of the Union may at any time resign from office by giving written notice to the Executive Committee five days in advance. Upon the resignation becomes effective, the Executive Committee, which shall post the notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council within two clear working days. Such notice shall be posted for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

17.2 Any member of the Council may at any time resign from his/her membership of the Council by giving written notice to the Council.

*Amended in 1st AGM*

17.3 Any Registered Juror of the Court may at any time resign from such position by giving written notice to the Executive Committee five days in advance. Upon the resignation becomes effective, the Executive Committee, which shall post the notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council within two clear working days. Such notice shall be posted for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.4 Any Judge of the Court, may at any time resign from office by giving written notice to the Court five days in advance. Upon the resignation becomes effective, the Court, which shall post the notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council within two clear working days. Such notice shall be posted for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.5 Any popularly elected office bearer of the Union may be removed from office by a vote of no-confidence passed by a two-thirds majority at a General Meeting of Full Members or a Referendum under the provision in this Constitution.

*Amended in 11th AGM*

17.6 Any member of the Council who ceases to maintain his/her qualification for such membership shall immediately cease to be a member of the Council.

17.7 Any member of the Council, other than Popularly Elected Councilor, may be removed from such membership by a vote of no-confidence passed by a two-thirds majority at Council Meeting. The Council Chairperson, Council Vice-Chairperson and Council Secretary may also be removed from office by a vote of no-confidence passed by a two-thirds majority at General Meeting of Full Members or a Referendum under the provision in this Constitution.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.8 Any Judge of the Court may be removed from office by a vote of no- confidence passed by a two-thirds majority at General Meeting of Full Members or a Referendum under the provision in this Constitution.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.9 *(Repealed in 21st AGM)*



17.10 Any resulted vacancy shall then be filled in accordance with this Constitution, provided that the vacated member shall not be eligible for the same position again within the current session.

*Appended in 9th AGM*

17.11 In the event of any vacancy of the President of the Executive Committee, the Vice-President (Internal) shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Executive Committee. In the event of vacancy of both the President and Vice-President (Internal), the Vice-President (External) shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Executive Committee.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

17.12 The Executive Committee shall have at least seven members, including the President or any one of the Vice-Presidents and the Financial Secretary; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall dissolve. In the event of vacancy of Financial Secretary, the Executive Committee shall co-opt members of the Union to fill up the vacancy within two weeks.

*Amended in 13th AGM*

17.13 In the event of any vacancy of the Editor-in-Chief of the Editorial Board, one of the Assistant Editors-in-Chief shall preside over and coordinate the work of the Editorial Board.

*Appended in 8th AGM*

17.14 The Editorial Board shall have at least seven members, including the Editor-in-Chief or any one of the Assistant Editors-in-Chief; otherwise, the Editorial Board shall dissolve.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

17.15 Notwithstanding Article 8.1, where vacancies for individual posts of the Executive Committee or the Editorial Board, other than the President, the two Vice-Presidents of the Executive Committee and the Editor-in-Chief, the two Assistant Editors-in-Chief of the Editorial Board, occur, the existing Executive Committee or the Editorial Board shall have the power to co-opt members of the Union to fill up these vacancies, provided that the total number of co-opted members in the Executive Committee or the Editorial Board shall not exceed the number of popularly elected ones. Notice about co-opt members shall be given by posting on the Official Notice Areas as determined by the Council.

In the event of any vacancy of any one of the Vice-Presidents, a Popularly Elected Office Bearer of the Executive Committee may be nominated by the Executive Committee and appointed by the Council to be an Acting Vice-President to take up the work, who shall have the same authorities and duties as the respective posts, but such authorities and duties are subject to limitations imposed by the Council.

In the event of any vacancy of any one of the Assistant Editors-in-Chief, a Popularly Elected Office Bearer of the Editorial Board may be nominated by the Editorial Board and appointed by the Council to be an Acting Assistant Editor-in-Chief to take up the work, who shall have the same authorities and duties as the respective posts, but such authorities and duties are subject to limitations imposed by the Council.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.16 In the event of the total number of existing Judges less than five, the Court shall not exercise any power or duties as provided in Article 14.3. The Council shall then take over them except for the power set out in Article 14.3(d), (e), and (f). The Executive Committee shall then announce such situation by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council within two clear working days. Such notice shall be posted for not less than five consecutive clear days.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.17 In the event of vacancy of the Court Secretaries, the Chief Justice shall be responsible for all the secretarial work of the Court. In the event of any vacancy of the Designated Secretary of the Court of First Instance or the Court of Appeal, the Designated Judge or the Chief Justice shall act as the Designated Secretary as well.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.18 In case there are not enough Registered Jurors for the Court of First Instance of the Court to select from, the affected proceedings shall be halted immediately and the Court shall announce such situation by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council. Such notice shall be posted until the number of Registered Jurors satisfies the demand of the halted proceedings.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.19 *(Repealed in 21st AGM)*

17.20 In the event of the total number of existing Judges less than five as provided in Article 17.16, nomination for new Judges may be made at any time by ten Full Members of the Union, in the form prescribed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall verify the contents of the nomination form and thereafter immediately announce the nomination by posting a notice on the Official Notice Area as determined by the Council. A General Meeting shall be convened to elect new Judges from nominees by not later than one month on receiving the nomination by the Executive Committee. The sum of the number of newly-elected Judges in the General Meeting plus the number of existing Judges shall not exceed five.

*Amended in 21st AGM*

17.21 In the event of any vacancy of the Executive Committee, a maximum of eight Full Members shall be nominated by the Executive Committee of the previous Union session and appointed by the Council to become the Provisional Executive Committee to take up the administrative work of the Union. In case where the Executive Committee of the previous Union session makes no nomination at the end of the forth week since the vacancy of the Executive Committee of the current Union Session or there is a vacation of the Executive Committee of the previous Union Session, the Council shall nominate and appoint a maximum of six Full Members to become the Provisional Executive Committee. In the event of any vacancy of the Provisional Executive Committee, the Council shall take up the necessary administrative work of the Union. The Council may by resolution remove any members of the Provisional Executive Committee.

*Amended in 19th AGM*

17.22 In the event of any vacancy of the Editorial Board, a minimum of three and a maximum of six Full Members shall be nominated by the Editorial Board of the previous Union session and appointed by the Council to become the Provisional Editorial Board to maintain an Official Publication. In case where the Editorial Board of the previous Union session makes no nomination at the end of the fourth week since the vacation of the Editorial Board of the current Union Session or there is a vacancy of the Editorial Board of the previous Union Session, the Council shall nominate and appoint a minimum of three and a maximum of ten Full Members to become the Provisional Editorial Board. In the event of any vacancy of the Provisional Editorial Board, the Editorial Board shall remain vacant. The Council may by resolution remove any members of the Provisional Editorial Board.

*Amended in 18th AGM*

17.23 The Provisional Executive Committee shall be dissolved:

- (a) when a nominated cabinet for the Executive Committee is deemed elected during the Union session; or
- (b) at the end of the Union session.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

17.24 The Provisional Editorial Board shall be dissolved:

- (a) when a nominated cabinet for the Editorial Board is deemed elected during the Union session; or
- (b) at the end of the Union session.

*Appended in 5th AGM*

## ARTICLE 18 : PENALTIES

18.1 All members and sub-organizations of the Union shall undertake to abide by the provisions of this Constitution, in case of contravention with the provisions, the following penalties may be imposed:

(a) The Court may, by resolution suspends the status of affiliation from affiliated societies of the Union for a set period or indefinitely;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

(b) The Court may, by resolution withholds or rescind the Union's funding to any affiliated societies for a set period or indefinitely;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

(c) The Court may, by resolution suspend part/all of the rights of affiliated societies of the Union for a set period or indefinitely;

*Amended in 21st AGM*

(d) The Court may, by resolution suspend part/all of the rights of members or sub-organizations of the Union for a set period or indefinitely; and

*Amended in 10th AGM*

(e) The Court may, by resolution suspend any members from the Union for a set period or indefinitely.

*Appended in 10th AGM*

18.2 All resolutions of penalties passed must be posted in the Official Notice Area within three days for not less than seven consecutive clear working days. Such resolutions should also be published in the Official Publications of the Union.

*Amended in 17th AGM*

## **ARTICLE 19 : DISSOLUTION**

19.1 The dissolution of the Union shall only be passed by a resolution made in a General Meeting or Referendum with a three-quarters majority.

*Amended in 10th AGM*

19.2 After dissolution, members of the Executive Committee shall be responsible for all matters of the dissolved body.

*Appended in 2nd AGM*

19.3 Notice of dissolution shall be posted in the Official Notice Area within twenty-four hours for not less than seven consecutive clear working days.

*Appended in 17th AGM*

## ARTICLE 20 : INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENT

20.1 In this Constitution, unless where the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

<b>“Academic Year”</b>	shall mean an academic year of the University. <i>Appended in 1st AGM</i>
<b>“Council”</b>	shall mean the body of persons referred in Article 12.
<b>“Court”</b>	shall mean the body of persons referred in Article 14. <i>Appended in 2nd AGM</i>
<b>“Departmental Society”</b>	shall mean a society of students of an academic department of a School and/or an academic program offer by the university formed for the purpose of representing the common interest of such students, the majority of whom are Full Members. <i>Amended in 17th AGM</i>
<b>“Editorial Board”</b>	shall mean the body of persons referred in Article 15.
<b>“Executive Committee”</b>	shall mean the body of persons referred in Article 10. <i>Amended in 10th AGM</i>
<b>“House Association”</b>	shall mean an association of students of a House of the University formed for the purpose representing the common interest of such students, the majority of whom are Full Members. <i>Amended in 2nd EGM, Session 95 - 96</i>
<b>“Independent Clubs Association”</b>	shall mean the association of special interest referred to in Article 16.4. <i>Amended in 17th AGM</i>
<b>“Official Notice Area”</b>	shall mean the specific area within the campus of the University as determined by the Council in which notices given by the Union referred to in this Constitution shall be posted there. <i>Appended in 1st AGM</i>
<b>“Official Publication”</b>	shall mean the official publication of the Union referred to in Article 15. <i>Amended in 10th AGM</i>
<b>“Popularly elected offices”</b>	shall mean any posts of the Executive Committee, the Editorial Board and the Popularly Elected Councilors. <i>Amended in 10th AGM</i>
<b>“Regular Term”</b>	shall mean Fall Term or Spring Term. <i>Appended in 21st AGM</i>
<b>“School Society”</b>	shall mean a society of students of a School formed for the purpose of representing the common interest of such students, the majority of whom are Full Members. <i>Amended in 17th AGM</i>
<b>“Semester”</b>	<i>(Repealed in 21st AGM)</i>
<b>“Sports Association”</b>	shall mean the association established for sporting purposes referred to in Article 16.5. <i>Amended in 17th AGM</i>

<b>“Student”</b>	shall mean a student of the University.
<b>“Sub-organization”</b>	shall mean any bodies of the Union, including the Council, the Court, the Executive Committee, the Editorial Board and all affiliated societies of the Union. <i>Amended in 17th AGM</i>
<b>“Term”</b>	shall mean a term of an academic year of the University. <i>Appended in 21st AGM</i>
<b>“Union”</b>	shall mean “Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Students’ Union”. <i>Amended in 10th AGM</i>
<b>“Union Session”</b>	shall mean a session beginning with the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in one year and ending at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in the following year.
<b>“University”</b>	shall mean “The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology”.

20.2 In this Constitution, unless where the context otherwise requires, the plural shall be deemed to include the singular and vice versa and the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and neuter genders.

20.3 The interpretation of this Constitution shall rest with the General Meeting, and between successive General Meetings, with the Council and the Court.  
*Amended in 10th AGM*

20.4 In case there is no interpretation by the General Meeting or the Council on particular provision of the Constitution, the Court shall have the power to interpret the particular provision of the Constitution with respect to its arbitration.  
*Appended in 17th AGM*

20.5 An amendment to this Constitution may be made by a resolution of not less than two-thirds of the Full Members voting at a General Meeting or a Referendum under the provision in this Constitution for with proper notice has been given. The Council shall publish the Amended Constitution by posting on the Official Notice Areas as determined by the Council.  
*Amended in 21st AGM*