

UNIVERSITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA



STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

CONSTITUTION



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CONTENTS

PART

1:

PRELIMINARY 1

PART

II:

THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 2

DIVISION 1: THE COUNCIL 2

DIVISION 2: THE EXECUTIVE 4

DIVISION 3: TERMS OF OFFICE 9

DIVISION 4: COMMITTEES OF THE SRC 9

DIVISION 5: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SRC 11

PART

III

FINANCE 11

PART

IV

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW 13

PART

V

MISCELLANEOUS 14

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. PREAMBLE

We the students of the University of Papua New Guinea in, realising the need to govern our affairs, declare and acknowledge our ruling principles to be:

1. Equality
2. Justice
3. Non-violence
4. Peaceful expression of dissent
5. Freedom of speech and action free from threat and harassment
6. Fairness; and
7. Unity

We will be guided by three basic principles

1. Democracy
2. Christian principles
3. Customs and Traditions

With the help of God, we here by declare, adopt and present to ourselves the Constitution as the original and as such shall over-ride all other previous Constitutions of the SRC.

2. STATUS OF THE PREAMBLE

The Preamble to this Constitution part of this Constitution, and the University Council and all other courts of law shall give effect to the

Preamble in the Interpretation and application of this Constitution.

3. NAME OF COUNCIL

The name of the Council shall be the University of Papua New Guinea Students Representative Council (UPNG SRC).

4. INTERPRETATION

In this Constitution, unless the contrary intention appears:

"absolute majority" means two-thirds majority of all the persons who are members of the SRC, whether elected or appointed;

"academic day" means a day during the first or second semester not being a Saturday, Sunday, or a University holiday or a Public Holiday;

"academic year" means that period falling between the first day of the first semester and the last day of the second semester;

"administration" means the UPNG Executive Management;

"Council" means the Student Representative Council of the University of Papua New Guinea;

"Constitution" means the Constitution of the UPNG SRC.

"executive" means the executive of the SRC of the University of Papua New Guinea as established under the 13;

"full-time student" means students enrolled on the register of students as a fulltime student for a degree, a diploma, a certificate or a post-graduate student at UPNG;

"part-time student" means a student enrolled on the register of students as a parttime student for a degree, diploma, or a certificate at UPNG

"Registrar" means the registrar of the UPNG

"SARO" means the Sports And Recreation Office of the University

"SRC" means the Students Representative Council of the University of Papua New Guinea;

"school" means any of the schools so declared by the University Council; "status" means a condition of standing and can mean the academic workload, wellbeing, and current condition of progression or non-progression or whether a student is undertaking courses on full-time or part-time basis;

"student" includes full-time and part-time degree, diploma, certificate or a postgraduate student, including those enrolled in distance education;

"student body" means the entire full-time student population excluding Open College students;

"University Council" University of Papua New Guinea Governing Council; "UPNG" means the University of Papua New Guinea.

"UPNG SRC" means the Council referred to under s.5 of this

Constitution.

PART II

THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

DIVISION 1: THE COUNCIL

5. Establishment of the Council

1.

A UPNG SRC is hereby established under the University of Papua New Guinea Act and statutes.

2.

The SRC shall comply with this Constitution, the Governing Statute and laws of UPNG.

6. Aims and Objectives of the Council

The objectives and aims of the Council shall include to:

- (a) afford a recognised means of communication between the students and UPNG authorities; and
- (b) represent students in matters affecting their welfare and interests
- (c) promote social life of students; and

- (d) organise academic activities such as debates, seminars, or conferences for students; and
- (e) organise sporting activities for students; and
- (f) organise general gatherings of students; and
- (g) publish newspapers, pamphlets, magazines and other publications on matters concerning student affairs; and
- (h) encourage and co-ordinate the activities of affiliated student organisations; and
- (i) promote harmony and understanding among all students whatever their colour, race, creed, country and province; and
- (j) foster good order and discipline among students of UPNG; and
- (k) co-operate with student representatives in universities, national institutions, and other student organizations within and outside Papua New Guinea in accordance with this section.

7. Composition of the Council

- (a) the Executives; and
- (b) two representatives, being a male and a female, from each of the four regions; and
- (c) two representatives, being a male and a female, for each school; and
- (d) two representatives, being male and a female, of the Open College students, registered under the Open College campus in the National Capital District; and
- (e) two representatives, being a male and a female, registered with the Centre for Research and Post Graduate Studies; and
- (f) two

representative, being a male and a female, of

international students; and

(g) two representatives from the religious groups a male and a female.

8. Responsibilities of the Council members

Members of the council other than the Executives shall act to represent the interests of their respective schools, regions and centres at Council meetings.

9. Vacation of Membership

1.

Where a member of the Council, other than an executive member, is--(

a) unable to perform his/her duties due to physical and\or is mental incapacity; or

(b) involved in disciplinary or criminal offences; or (c) excluded from studies; or

(d) dies,

that member ceases to be a member of the Council.

2.

Where a position becomes vacant by virtue of sub-section (1), the Secretary shall immediately notify the Registrar or conduct a by-election to fill in the vacancy.

3.

Where the vacancy occurs within the final two months of the term of office of the council, that position shall remain vacant until the election of the new SRC.

4.

A by-election to fill the vacancy shall be conducted within the two academic weeks of the vacancy occurring.

10. Meeting of the Council

1.

The SRC shall hold at least one general meeting bi-monthly during the academic year of its tenure in office.

2.

Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Council may hold emergency meeting from time to time for the efficient conduct of its affairs.

3.

Council meetings may be held in a lecture theatre and may be open to the UPNG public.

4.

The procedures and standing orders of the Council meetings shall be as determined by the Council or this Constitution, and these shall be reviewed at its first meeting every year.

5.

At a Council meeting--(

- a) a third of the elected SRC shall be the quorum; and
- (b) to pass a valid decision fifteen shall be the required quorum; and
- (c) the President or one of the Vice-President shall preside; and
- (d) all decisions shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting; and
- (e) the person presiding has a deliberative and,
in the event of an
equality of votes in a matter, a casting vote.

6.

No other meetings may be held without the presence of the President, or in his/her absence, one of the Vice Presidents, and at least two other executive members.

7.

The Council shall cause minutes of its meetings to be kept; and forward copies of the minutes to the University Administration.

8.

The exercise or performance of any function of the Council shall not be invalidated by reason only of a vacancy in the membership of the Council.

9.

The Procedures of the Council meeting shall be as determined by the Councilor this Constitution.

11. Indemnity of members

A member of the Council is not personally liable for an act of the Councilor of a member acting in good faith.

DIVISION 2: THE EXECUTIVE

12. Establishment of the Executive

An Executive body of the Council is hereby established.

13. Composition of the Executive

The Executive shall consist of--

- (a) the President; and
- (b) a male Vice President; and
- (c) a female Vice President; and
- (d) a Secretary; and
- (e) a Treasurer.

14. Duties and Responsibilities, etc

1.

The President shall;

- a) Be the chief executive and the Chairman of the Council; and
- b) Be the chief financial delegate and trustee of the council;
- c) Hold the power to recommend the removal of any Executive;
- d) Oversee the performances of other members of the Executive

Council;

e) Issue press statements on matters within his/her powers that directly or indirectly affect the students;

f) Hold the power to delegate and shall exercise other powers and responsibilities reasonably conferred on him under this constitution.

g) Advise the university on all student matters; and,

h) Ex-officio members on all council appointed Committees; and,

i) Represent the students on the University Council and other UPNG

Committees.

j) Ensure that minutes of council meetings are sent to the Vice Chancellor.

2.

The male Vice President shall;

a) Act and assume all powers and responsibilities in the absence of the President.

b) Act as Chairman of any working committee that is established by the Council from time to time.

c) Represent the students on the UPNG Council, and other sub-committees of the UPNG Council where the membership of that committee includes two students, if the President is a female.

3.

The female Vice President shall;

- a) be the overall spokeswoman for the female students;
- b) be the Chairperson of the Council Social Committee;
- c) act and assume all powers and responsibilities in the absence of

both the President and the male Vice President;

- d) represent the students on the UPNG Council where the membership of that committee includes two students, if the President is a male.

4.

Notwithstanding the conditions under subsection (3) (c), the female Vice President shall;

- a) if the male Vice President is so directed by the President but is unwilling to act in his/her absence nor in his/her presence; and
- b) if the President chooses to delegate directly to her;

accordingly assume all powers and responsibilities of the President.

5.

The Treasurer shall;

- a) act as advisor to the President on financial matters;
- b) Manage Council revenue sources and keep records of all Council financial transactions.

c) Prepare the Council financial statement for presentation to the student body at the end of the academic year as provided for under

s.32 of this Constitution.

d) Prepare and present the Council budget and also exercise other powers and responsibilities that may reasonably be conferred on him or her under this Constitution.

6.

The Secretary shall;

- a) convene and keep minutes of Council meetings;
- b) provide administrative support to the President;
- c) receive motions and letters of resignation;
- d) make appointments and other duties delegated to him or her by the

President or the Council as a whole;

- e) organise any Council functions; and
- f) shall perform other duties and responsibilities reasonably conferred

on him or her under this Constitution.

7.

The other members of the Council shall;

- a) Act to represent the interest of their respective student organizations at the Councils meetings; and

- b) Be eligible to be voted as members of sub-committees; and
- c) Be responsible to report back to their respective organizations after attending these Council meetings.

If the President is a male then the female Vice President should be a member to the University Council or if the President is a female then the male Vice President should be a member to the University Council.

15. Vacation of and resignation from Executive post

1.

A member of the Executive ceases to hold office if:

(a)

he/she ceases to be a student at the University; or

(b)

he/she is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings without leave of absence; or

(c)

he/she is involved in serious disciplinary or criminal offences which places his/her integrity in question; or

(d)

is he/she is unable to perform his/her duties due to physical and/or mental incapacity; or

(e)

resigns from office under this section; or

(f)

he/she is voted out by a vote of no-confidence under Section 17;

or

(g)

he/she dies.

2.

A member of the executive may resign from his/her office by delivering a signed notice of his/her resignation, to the Secretary to the Council, who shall then forward the notice of resignation to the President.

3.

A member resigning under subsection (2) shall cease to hold office immediately after the President has received and accepted the resignation, and has notified the member of the acceptance.

4.

Where a President wishes to resign from office, he/she may notify in writing, the Secretary to the Council who shall in turn inform the Registrar of the vacancy.

16. Votes of No-Confidence against the Executive

1.

An Executive member of the whole executive of the Council may be voted out of office by a vote of no-confidence at any time after the end of March in that academic year.

2.

A motion of no-confidence against an Executive member shall be submitted in writing to the secretary who shall, with the advice of the other Executive members call on a Council meeting not less than ten (10) academic days after the receipt of the motion.

3.

Where the motion is against the Treasurer or Secretary, it shall be signed by no less than five (5) members of the Council.

4.

Where a motion is against the President or any of the Vice Presidents, it shall be signed by no less than eight (8) members of the Council.

5.

The motion shall be tabled in the Council meeting and, the Council by majority resolution, may endorse the motion.

6.

Where a the Council votes, by simple majority, in favour of a motion for vote of no confidence against the Secretary or the Treasurer, the Treasurer or Secretary, as the case may be, shall immediately cease to hold office.

7.

Where the motion against an executive member, or the executive as a whole, is endorsed by the Council--a)
the student body shall be informed by the Council; and

b)

the Registrar or his/her nominee shall conduct a referendum to determine the motion.

8.

Where the referendum under subsection (7) is in favour of the motion, the executive member against whom the motion is held against, or the executive as a whole, as the case may be, shall immediately cease to hold office, and a by-election shall be conducted as provided for under

Section 23.

17. Grounds to justify a Vote of No-Confidence

1.

A vote of no-confidence may be called on any executive member if he or she;

(a)

is seen to be lacking in his/her performance and ineffective at his/her tasks; or

(b)

has been found to have misappropriated SRC funds; or

(c)

University of Papua New Guinea.

2.

A Vote of No-Confidence shall be called on the whole Executive if, as a whole, it--(

a)

has been found to have misappropriated SRC funds; or

(b)

has violated relevant provisions of this Constitution or the by-laws of UPNG; or

(c)

has been absent, consecutively or otherwise, from two (2) meetings of the Council without a valid reason; or

(d)

has failed, or neglected, to address students issues; or

(e)

has failed to achieve any of its objectives states under section 6 (aims and objectives).

3.

The procedure of the vote of no-confidence shall be as provided for under section 16 of this Constitution.

18. Meetings of Executives

1.

The executive shall hold at least one meeting in each of the months after total assumption of power.

2.

From the month of May to November executive meetings shall be held at least seven days earlier, than the holding of the Council meeting.

3.

Notwithstanding sub-section (1) the Executive may hold emergency meetings from time to time for the proper conduct of its affairs.

4.

The exercise or performance of any function of the Executive shall not be invalidated by reason only of a vacancy in the membership of the executive.

5.

The exercise or performance of any function of the Executive shall not be invalidated by reason only of a vacancy in the membership of the executive.

6.

At a meeting of the executive-

a) three shall be the quorum; and two of whom shall be elected executives; and

b) the President or the Vice Presidents either male or female shall preside; and

c) all decisions shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the

executives present and voting; and

d) the person presiding has a deliberative and in the event of equality of votes on a matter, also a casting vote; and

e) the executives shall cause of its meetings to be kept, copies of which shall be forwarded to the University Administration; and

f) the procedure of the executive meeting shall be as determined by

the President or this Constitution.

19. Delegation

The Executive may delegate to its own members or to a member of the Council, at a meeting; all or any of its powers and functions, except this power of delegation.

20. Allowance for the SRC members

1.

Members of the Council, including the Executives and Chairperson of the SRC Committees shall be paid an allowance as approved by Council from time to time.

DIVISION 3: ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE

21. Election of members of the Council

1.

Members of the Council, except the Executive, representing Schools and Centres, shall be elected to represent students by schools subject to the following:

(a) The school representatives under Section 7(c) shall be elected only by students enrolled in that school; and

(b) The

Open College representatives under Section 7(d) shall be elected only by students enrolled in the Open College campus in the National Capital District; and

(c) The

Centre for Research and Post-Graduate Studies representatives shall be elected only by students registered in the Honours and post-graduate programs.

2.

The two international students' representative shall be elected only by all full-time international students.

3.

Executives of provincial groups of each of the regions shall elect, from amongst themselves, two representatives for the particular region at a

meeting convened for that purpose during the SRC elections period.

4.

Students nominating for election to the council must

(a) have a clean disciplinary and criminal record; and

(b) be a registered full-time student of UPNG.

5.

All council members shall be elected annually by the respective schools, centres and respective groups no later than the last week of August to take office at the commencement of the following academic year.

22. Election and appointment of Executive

1.

For the purposes of occupying the executive posts all executive posts shall be elective posts.

2.

The elective posts of the Executive shall be voted in an open election by the UPNG student body in accordance with this section.

3.

Annual elections of the post of President and the two Vice Presidents shall be conducted no later than the last week of August of each academic year.

4.

An election officer, appointed by the Registrar of the University, shall be responsible for the conduct of the elections.

5.

The elections shall be conducted by a secret ballot on the basis of the Limited Preferential Voting (LPV) system.

23. By-Election and re-appointment of Executives

1.

In the event that an elected post of the executive becomes vacant under a provision in this Constitution, a by-election shall be conducted to fill that vacancy.

2.

A by election shall be conducted as soon as is practical but no more than four (4) weeks after the occurrence of the vacancy.

3.

Where the post of President becomes vacant, the SRC shall elect one of the Vice Presidents as acting president pending a by-election.

4.

Where a post of a Vice President becomes vacant, the Council shall elect from amongst itself an acting Vice President pending a by-election.

5.

In the event that all three elective posts become vacant, the SRC shall appoint one of its members, and in the case of—

(a)

the post of President, to be acting President;

(b)

the post of Vice Presidents (male), to be acting Vice President

(male);

(c)

the post of Vice President (female), to be acting Vice President

(female);

(d)

the Treasurer, to be acting Treasurer;

(e)

the Secretary, to be acting Secretary;

pending the by-election.

6.

If the vacancy occurs after July, a by-election shall not be obligatory

and the SRC may appoint one of the Vice-Presidents as acting

President for the remainder of the term.

24. Terms of office of Council Members

1.

All Executive members shall hold office for a period of one year.

2.

For the purpose of sub-section 1, the calendar for the Council shall commence on the 1st of January each year and end on the 31st of December of the same year.

3.

The next SRC executives elected each year shall assume office as provided for under sub-sections (1) and (2).

4.

A “handover-takeover” ceremony may take place no later than the fourth week of September after general elections as provided for under section 22 (Election and appointment of executive), but the newly elected executives shall not be deemed to assume office until 1st January of the following year.

5.

The Secretary and the Treasurer of the SRC shall assume official duties upon approval by the SRC at the first SRC meeting of the new academic year.

6.

All incumbent members shall be eligible to stand for re-election.

DIVISION 4: COMMITTEES OF THE SRC

25. SRC Committees

The SRC shall have the following committees

(a)

the Social and Welfare Committee (SWC);

(b)

the Sports Committee (SC)

(c)

the Academic Committee (AC)

(d)

the Spiritual Committee (SC), and

(e)

any other committees the council deems necessary to carry out relevant activities pursuant to Section 6 (Aims and objectives of the Council) of this Constitution.

26. Membership of the SRC Committee

1.

Except for Chairperson, the membership of these Committees shall be gender balanced.

2.

Each of the SRC Committees shall have five members including the Chairperson, who shall be council members.

3.

Members of each SRC Committees shall be elected by and from within the council present at the first council meeting in semester one of the academic year.

4.

Notwithstanding sub-section (3)—

a.

the Spiritual Committee shall have two chaplains as ex-officio(s) appointed by the committee at its first meeting subject to Executive approval.

b.

other committee chairpersons may appoint at least one non-council member to their respective committees.

5.

For the purposes of proper accommodation of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the SMHS representatives may nominate a non-Council member to each of the Council committees.

27. Functions of the SRC Committees

1.

The Social and Welfare Committee shall:

a)

Have overall responsibility for the planning and organization of all the social and welfare activities on behalf of the council consistent with Section 6 (Aims and objectives of the Council) of this Constitution.

b)

Present plans for social and welfare activities together with a budget for approval by the council at its first meeting.

c)

Ensure that funds budgeted for social and welfare activities are

spent and accounted for as approved by the council.

2.

The Sports Committee shall:

a)

Have overall responsibility for the planning and organization of all the sports activities on behalf of the SRC consistent with Section 6 (Aims and objectives of the Council) of this constitution.

b)

Present plans for sporting activities together with a budget for approval by the SRC at its first meeting.

c)

Ensure that funds budgeted for sporting activities are spent and accounted for as approved by the SRC.

3.

The Academic Committee shall:

a)

Have overall responsibility for the planning and organization of all the academic and academic related activities such as seminars, debates, workshops and short courses on behalf of the SRC consistent with Section 6 (Aims and objectives of the Council) of this constitution.

b)

Present plans for academic activities together with the budget for approval by the SRC at its first meeting.

c)

Ensure that funds budgeted for academic activities are spent and accounted for as approved by the SRC.

d)

Advise the SRC and UPNG on matters that affect the academic life of students.

4.

The Spiritual Committee shall:

a)

Have overall responsibility for the planning and organization of all the spiritual activities and programs on behalf of the council consistent with Section 6 (Aims and objectives of the Council) of this Constitution.

b)

Present plans for spiritual activities and programs together with the budget for approval by the council at its first meeting.

c)

Ensure that funds budgeted for spiritual activities and programmes are spent and accounted for as approved by the council.

DIVISION 5: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

28. Powers and Functions

1.

The council shall have all the powers expressly conferred upon it by this Constitution and in addition take all reasonable steps to further the objectives outlined under Section 6 (Aims and objectives of the Council) of this Constitution.

2.

The Council may also exercise any power conferred upon it in respect to good order or discipline pursuant to the relevant disciplinary statute

of the university and may by writing addressed to the Vice Chancellor petition the Senate on any matters affecting that good order and discipline.

3.

In exercising those powers and responsibilities, the Council shall be accountable to the student body for all its actions, and shall also ensure that all its actions are subject to this constitution.

PART III

FINANCE ETC.

29. Interpretation

For the purposes of this part:

‘emergency’ means

(a) An incident of death of a student or staff member whereby the SRC wishes to financially assist in; or

(b) A sustaining of injury or illness by a student(s) that needs attention and the SRC wishes to assist; or

(c) Where

an urgent matter arises externally and requires urgent attention by the SRC in terms of running a press statement where the urgency of the matter renders it impractical to summon an executive meeting.

30. General

The Council:

1.

Shall have control of real and personal property vested in it; and

2.

Shall not borrow money at interest by way of mortgage or pledge, nor shall it alienate, charge or dispose of any of its real or personal property other than money except with the expressed approval of the council.

31. Financial Year

The financial year for the SRC shall be from 1st of January to the 31st December.

32. Budget

1.

At its meeting, the Council shall consider a draft budget detailing income sources and expenditures.

2.

After the first general meeting, the draft budget shall be circulated to the students through their representatives and a copy put up on the main notice board at least five (5) academic days prior to the second

Council meeting or the extraordinary meeting specially convened for that purpose; and

3.

At its second meeting or the extraordinary meeting prior to the second meeting, the budget shall be approved by the majority of representatives present and shall take effect covering the period of the term of the SRC in accordance with this section.

4.

Pending approval of the budget, the council may be suspended up to K500 provided that such expenditure is built into the budget.

5.

Once approved, the budget shall be submitted to the University Planning and Resources Committee for its endorsement.

33. Failure to pass the Budget

1.

The number required to pass a Council budget shall be a two-third majority of those Council members present and voting.

2.

In the event of a failure to successfully pass a Council budget, the students shall give the Council a second attempt to pass it.

3.

If, in that second attempt, the budget is still not passed, then the matter shall be referred to the Vice Chancellor who;

a)

Shall determine the reasonableness of the blockage of the budget;
and

b)

May, after determining that reasonableness, either pass or refuse to pass that budget.

4.

Where, in the third attempt, the budget is refused by the Vice Chancellor.

a)

The Executive shall automatically step down from office; and

b)

The Vice Chancellor shall appoint a caretaker executive, pending re-election of the new SRC Executive to take charge of Council duties and responsibilities.

34. Banking

1.

All monies paid to the Council shall be;

a)

Paid to the Accounts Section of the University Administration
and credited to the Council Trust Account; or

b)

Paid to the Treasurer and deposited by him/her in the name of the
Council in such account and bank as the Executives determine
from time to time.

2.

Except where approved by the Executives, all disbursements shall be
made by cheque drawn on the Council's account.

3.

A cheque or other instruments drawn on the bank accounts of the
Council shall be—

a)

approved by the Executives in an executive meeting; and

b)

signed by the President and counter-signed by the Treasurer and
any of the two Vice-Presidents.

4.

A cheque, letter of approval or other instrument pertaining to a
disbursement, shall be deemed to be invalid if there is an absence of
any of the three signatures as provided for in subsection (3) (b).

5.

In the event where an emergency arises whereby the circumstances

render or make it impossible for the executives to hold a meeting to determine on a matter(s), the President, shall, with his/her discretion, authorize, by way of his/her signature, any instrument(s) and such instruments shall be counter-signed any one of the executive members.

6.

Where such a situation in subsection 5 arises the President shall exercise that discretion over funds not exceeding the amount stipulated in the budget for such purposes.

35. Books of Account

The SRC shall keep such books and accounts as is determined by the SRC and shall be responsible for its proper keeping.

36. Auditor

The Auditor shall be:

a)

The University Internal Auditor; or

b)

Any other person(s) appointed by the Vice Chancellor in consultation with the Council.

37. Powers of the Auditor

1.

An auditor shall for the purpose of and in reference to an audit of the Council account:

a)

be entitled to full and free access to all accounts, records, vouchers or documents and papers of the Council relating directly to the receipt, custody or disposal of assets of the Council.

b)

interview and take statements from any member or officer.

2.

The auditor shall immediately draw to the attention of the President any irregularity(ies) revealed by the Audit.

3.

The auditor shall be entitled to attend and be heard if any meeting at which accounts have been examined or audited by him or her are presented or discussed.

38. Annual Audit

1.

At the close of each financial year, the Council, shall, with the aid of the Bursar as provided for under s, 34 of this Constitution, prepare an annual report of its activities of the year, together with audited financial statements.

2.

Should the Council fail to produce an audited financial statement as provided for under subsection (1), it shall be subjected to the relevant applicable penalties under the sections of the Students Discipline Statutes as provided for under the UPNG By-laws.

3.

Notwithstanding subsection 1, the SRC shall prepare for the presentation to the representatives, financial statement son a quarterly basis.

PART IV

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

39. Amendment

1.

The provisions of this Constitution may be amended or repealed by a resolution of a meeting of the SRC of which not less than ten (1) academic days shall set out the place, the date, the time of the meeting and the text or the amendment sought.

2.

The text of the proposed alteration must be submitted in writing no less than ten (10) academic days before the date of the proposed meeting

3.

No motion for the amendment or repeal of the Constitution or any part thereof may be considered unless the requirements of s. 43 of this Constitution have been complied with.

4.

No amendments to a motion for the amendment or repeal of this Constitution or any part thereof is to be considered, unless two thirds (2/3) of the representatives present at the meeting.

5.

No motion for the amendment or repeal of the whole or any part of this constitution shall be deemed to have been agreed to unless two-thirds (2/3) of the representatives present at the meeting vote in favour of it.

6.

Within seven (7) days of the passing of any motion for the amendment or repeal of this constitution in the manner herein provided, the secretary to the SRC shall forward such a motion to the registrar who shall submit it to Council for its consideration.

7.

Alterations to this Constitution shall be subject to approval by UPNG Council and shall take effect from the date of such approval.

PART V

MISCELLANEOUS

40. Rules

The Council may propose rules relating to the proper running and management of student affairs to the appropriate UPNG Committees.

41. Validity of Former Actions

To the extent that this Constitution does not allow for matters and things done or suffered before the commencement of this Constitution, by any person in the SRC under the authority or purported authority, expressed or implied, under a former constitution, shall be deemed to have been, and to continue to be, as validly done or suffered as if they had been done or suffered after the commencement of this Constitutional, and under the authority of the Council.

42. Affiliation of Student Groups

1.

There shall be an affiliation fee to be determined at the first SRC meeting and this shall be charged to all UPNG based student groups in the next academic year.

2.

Each group shall be affiliated under one of the following categories:

- a) Social and Welfare
- b) Sports
- c) Academic
- d) Religious

3.

The conditions of affiliation shall be as determined by the Council in consultation with the SRC Committees and the SARO office.

43. Motions

1.

At any Council meeting, all motions shall be determined by a majority of members present and voting as provided for under Section 10 of this Constitution.

2.

Subject to this Constitution, all motions that come before any Council meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes in accordance with the specified quorum provided for under Section 10 (Meetings of the Council) of this Constitution.

44. Exercise of Power

1.

The Council and/or the Executives as the case may be, shall exercise its powers under this Constitution, in a manner that it considers to be in the best interest of the students and the University.

2.

In the event of an issue relating to a possible strike that due notice of at least 14 days is given to the Vice Chancellor in writing.

3.

For any decision to be taken on the recommendation for strike action the SRC Council shall hold a referendum to allow all full-time students, excluding Open Campus students in NCDC to vote either for or against the recommendation for strike action to be supervised by the Electoral Commission with an outcome of 2/3 majority, in favour of strike action to take place or otherwise.

45. Natural Justice

In addition to Section 44 (Exercise of Power) of this Constitution and in exercising its powers, the Council or the Executive as the case may be, shall give due regards to the principles of Natural Justice, the minimum requirement of which, is the duty to act fairly and, in principle, to be seen to act fairly.

46. Sanctions on non-performing executives and members

1.

Where an executive, committee chairperson or an ordinary member has neglected his or her duties to the SRC and to the general student body, the President may impose sanctions by reducing or forfeiting that member's fortnightly allowance.

2.

The President may recommend to the council whether an executive should be dismissed from office if that executive is deemed by him or her to be negligent towards his/her duties towards the SRC and the general student body.