

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Telephone: 251 11 5517700 Fax: 251 11 5517844
website: www.au.int

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Twenty-Second Ordinary Session

21 - 25 January 2013

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

EX.CL/757(XXII)Rev.1

Original: English

STATUTES OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY

STATUTES OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY

Preamble

The Member States of the African Union,

RECALLING the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.290 (XV) adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union adopted during its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in July, 2010 in Kampala, Uganda creating the Pan African University.

AWARE of the central role that higher education and scientific and technological research play as a cornerstone of social integration, economic development and competitiveness.

ACKNOWLEDGING that the establishment of the Pan African University is a first step towards the creation of high quality continental institutions that bridge the above gaps and promote innovative teaching, learning and research within Africa, to meet the developmental needs of the continent.

INSPIRED by the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa 2006-2015, and the Consolidated Plan of Action for Science and Technology 2006-2011.

RECOGNIZING that in order for the Pan African University to meet its objectives, it will require sustainable financial resources that should be assured in terms of allocation, adequacy, and timely disbursement.

Article 1 Definitions

In this Statute:

“Assembly” means the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union;

“AU” means the African Union established by the Constitutive Act;

“African Diaspora” means the African Diaspora as defined by the Executive Council in Decision EX.CL/Dec. 221 (VII);

“COMEDAF” means the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union;

“Commission” means the African Union Commission;

“Executive Council” means The Executive Council of the African Union;

“Graduate” means any studies undertaken after the first university degree including all post-graduate studies;

“Institute” means an Institute of the PAU;

“PAU” means the Pan African University established by the African Union;

“RECs” means the Regional Economic Communities;

“Statute” means the present Statute of the Pan African University;

“Thematic Partner” means a development partner engaging in support of one or more of the thematic areas of the PAU.

Article 2 Principles

1. The Pan African University is a continental academic and research institution operating in African Union Member countries and is based on the following guiding principles:

- i) Academic freedom, autonomy and accountability;
- ii) Quality assurance;
- iii) Strengthening existing African institutions at the graduate level to enable them to serve the whole continent;
- iv) Promotion of African integration through the mobility of students, academic and administrative staff, as well as the development of collaborative research linked to the challenges faced by African countries;
- v) Excellence and international partnerships in academic and research activities;

- vi) Institution of an appropriate framework and a conducive environment to enable the African Diaspora to contribute towards the development of higher education and research in Africa;
- vii) Promotion of inter-disciplinary and multidisciplinary research programmes integral to policy making processes in Africa;
- viii) Promotion and harnessing of productive linkages with the industrial sector for innovation and dissemination of new knowledge and technology;
- ix) Strengthening of research in information sciences and digitalization;
- x) Promotion of optimal use of Information and Communication Technologies for pedagogy, research and management;
- xi) Promotion of gender parity and equality at all levels and in all university functions;
- xii) Promotion of access to higher education for persons with disabilities.

2. The PAU shall take into account basic principles of the Constitutive Act of the AU, the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Article 3 Objectives

1. The training and research activities of the PAU shall be focused on priority issues which shall enable it to attain the following objectives:

- i) To develop continent-wide and world-class graduate programmes in science, technology, innovation, humanities and social sciences and governance;
- ii) To stimulate collaborative, internationally competitive, leading edge fundamental and economic growth-oriented research, in areas having a direct bearing on the scientific, economic and social development of Africa;
- iii) To enhance the mobility of students and academic staff among African universities to improve on teaching and collaborative research;
- iv) To contribute to the capacity building needs of present and future stakeholders of the African Union;
- v) To improve on the attractiveness of African higher education and research institutions to attract and retain talented young professionals on the African continent;
- vi) To initiate and invigorate mutually beneficial partnerships with public and private sectors within Africa and the Diaspora as well as internationally; and

- vii) To facilitate the emergence and strengthening of an African higher education and research platform.
2. To realize its aims and objectives, the PAU is authorized to enter into agreements and contracts with competent bodies, for pedagogic, research, management and funding purposes.

Article 4 Academic Freedom and Autonomy

1. The PAU shall benefit from the basic principles applicable to all higher education institutions, particularly academic freedom, autonomy and accountability. The observance and respect of these rights shall enable the PAU to function under the best attainable conditions and standards within the framework of the common rules governing the institutions of the African Union.
2. The PAU as well as the host countries of its institutes and centres shall grant its members the academic freedom and self-governance in teaching and research. In this respect, the PAU shall accord academic and research staff appropriate full independence, and shall equally grant students full learning rights and privileges.
3. The PAU may conclude specific agreements with host universities where it operates to provide the former with the requisite conditions for its functioning.

Article 5 Structure

1. The PAU shall be an academic network hosted by existing African institutions operating at graduate level.
2. The PAU shall comprise five Institutes corresponding to the thematic areas defined in Article 5 sub-article (3) below.
3. The following five thematic areas shall constitute the academic structure of the PAU in accordance with the geographic regions they shall be located at:
- i) Space Sciences in Southern Africa;
 - ii) Water and Energy (including climate change) in Northern Africa;
 - iii) Life and Earth Sciences (including health and agriculture) in Western Africa;
 - iv) Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation in Eastern Africa;
 - v) Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences in Central Africa.
4. Affiliated to each Institute, there shall be a network of Centres located on the continent and working on the same thematic area as the thematic Institute.

5. The Centres of the PAU shall be identified following a competitive process.
6. Hosting Agreements shall be signed between the Commission and the host countries of Institutes and Centres. Host agreements of the thematic Centres should be in compliance with the terms of reference of the host agreements of their thematic institutes.
7. There shall be an internationally recognized quality management system established for the PAU structures.

Article 6 Governance and Management

1. The management of PAU shall be based on the institutional values of quality, excellence, efficiency, flexibility, transparency, equity, responsibility, accountability and continuous assessment. To this effect, strategic plans with qualitative and quantitative performance indicators as well as follow-up tools shall be drawn up.
2. The Commission has the supreme overall responsibility of overseeing the PAU.
3. The management organs of the PAU shall be:
 - i) The PAU Council;
 - ii) The Rectorate;
 - iii) The Senate;
 - iv) Boards of Institutes
4. The Regulations of the PAU shall be adopted by the PAU Council.
5. The PAU graduation ceremony will be presided over by the Chairperson of the Commission or his/her representative.

Article 7 The PAU Council

1. The PAU Council shall be the highest governing body and shall have oversight of the policy, finances and properties of the PAU.
2. Council members shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the Commission, following consultation with the Bureau of the COMEDAF and the concerned organizations.
3. The Chairperson of the Commission shall ensure merit and competence with due consideration for gender parity and equity in deciding on the appointment of the Council members.
4. The Council shall be constituted of thirty (30) members as follows:

- i) President;
- ii) Vice President;
- iii) the Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology or his/her representative;
- iv) the representative of UNESCO;
- v) the representative of the Association of African Universities (AAU) or his/her representative; (Observer status);
- vi) the Chairperson of COMEDAF or his/her representative;
- vii) the representative of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) (Observer status);
- viii) a representative from each of the five geographic regions of the African Union represented in the COMEDAF Bureau. Representatives shall be from academia, civil society or industry;
- ix) the Directors of the Five Institutes;
- x) a representative of academic staff;
- xi) a representative of administrative staff;
- xii) two representatives of students;
- xiii) Vice-Chancellors/Rectors of the host universities of Institutes;
- xiv) PAU Rector
- xv) Vice Rectors

5. The Executive Council shall select the President and Vice President of the PAU Council from a list of five candidates who should be citizens of the AU member States presented by the Bureau of the COMEDAF.

6. Council members shall serve a three-year term with a possibility of being re-appointed for one additional term. Half of the council members shall be replaced at the end of their three year tenure.

7. The Council shall be responsible for the following:

- i) promotion and discipline of academic and research staff;
- ii) Issuing all PAU regulation rules and measures and setting a code of conduct;

- iii) promoting socio-cultural activities;
 - iv) adoption, review and amendment of staff terms and conditions of service;
 - v) identification and recommendation of new Centres;
 - vi) approval of the PAU programmes and budgets;
 - vii) consideration and approval of the Rector's annual report;
 - viii) approval of the strategic plan and operational plans;
 - ix) approval of agreements and conventions to be signed by the Rector;
 - x) performing all other functions within its mandate necessary for the smooth operation and development of the PAU.
- 8.** The President of the Council shall:
- i) set the agenda of the Council sessions in consultation with the Rector;
 - ii) summon the Council members to attend Council sessions;
 - iii) preside over the Council;
 - iv) monitor discussions;
 - v) represent the Council;
 - vi) receive all communications addressed to the Council; and sign all official documents issued by the Council.
- 9.** In the absence of the President, the meeting shall be chaired by the Vice-President.
- 10.** The Rector shall serve as Secretary to the Council.
- 11.** Minutes of the Council sessions shall be sent to the Commission for information.
- 12.** The Council shall meet once a year in an ordinary session. Extraordinary sessions of Council may be convened at the request of the President or at least 2/3 of Council members and in consultation with the Commission.
- i) All meetings of the PAU Council will require a quorum of 2/3 of the members.
- 13.** The decisions of the Council will be adopted by simple majority.
- 14.** The Council shall constitute committees or working groups as it deems necessary, including a forum for consultation with Thematic Partners.

Article 8 The Rector

- 1.** The Rector is the Chief Executive of the PAU. He/she shall be appointed by the Chairperson on the recommendation of COMEDAF. COMEDAF shall first shortlist three candidates for this position, on the basis of a call for applications, after consulting with the PAU Council.
- 2.** The Rector shall be appointed for a non-renewable term of five years.
- 3.** The Rector is responsible for implementing the general policy, strategy and multi-annual planning; he/she is also responsible for the corporate and public image of the University, including its external relations. He/she shall specifically be in charge of the following:

 - i) preparing and presenting the activity report of the University to the Council;
 - ii) ensuring the implementation of the decisions of the Council;
 - iii) ensuring the required co-ordination between Directors of Institutes and Coordinators of Centres;
 - iv) ensuring the implementation and the periodical monitoring of the multi-annual strategic development plan approved by the Council;
 - v) Authorizing and managing budget allocations;
 - vi) managing the University personnel;
 - vii) signing agreements between PAU and host institutions as approved by the Council;
 - viii) providing services necessary for the functioning of the Council.
- 4.** The Rector shall have the discretion to set up specific consultative committees related to the formulation or the implementation of the multi-annual strategic development plan of the Pan African University.
- 5.** The Rector shall be supported in his/her functions by three Vice Rectors:

 - i) Vice-Rector Research, Development and Cooperation;
 - ii) Vice-Rector Academic and Students Affairs; and
 - iii) Vice-Rector Administration and Finance
- 6.** The Vice Rectors are appointed under the same procedure as the Rector

Article 9
The PAU Senate

1. The Senate shall be the organ of the PAU in charge of academic affairs and research.
2. The Senate shall make recommendations to Council in the following domains:
 - i) organisation, promotion and control of teaching and research activities;
 - ii) admission, welfare and discipline of students, as well as awarding of degrees; and
 - iii) Collaboration with host institutions to develop policies for realization of PAU goals.
3. The Senate shall be presided over by the Rector or in his/her absence, by the Vice-Rector of Research Development and Cooperation or the Vice-Rector Academic and Students Affairs.
4. The Senate shall meet at least twice a year in ordinary sessions. Extraordinary sessions may be convened at the request of the Rector or at least 2/3 of Senate Members.
5. The membership of the Senate shall be appointed by PAU Council on the recommendation of the Rector and be constituted as follows:
 - i) Rector as a Chairperson;
 - ii) A representative of the Department in charge of education within the Commission;
 - iii) Vice-Rector Research, Development and Cooperation;
 - iv) Vice-Rector Academic and Students Affairs;
 - v) Vice- Rector Finance and Administration;
 - vi) The five Directors of Institutes;
 - vii) Five representatives of academic and research staff, one from each thematic area;
 - viii) Five student representatives (one from each geographic region);
6. The Senate shall sit at the Rectorate or any other convenient place within the five thematic institutes
7. The Senate quorum shall be formed by two-third majority

8. The following three Committees shall assist the Senate:
 - i) The Committee of Directors of Institutes;
 - ii) The Committee of Coordinators of Centres;
 - iii) Finance and Administrative Committee.
9. The Committees of the Senate shall meet twice a year. The Committee sessions shall immediately precede the Senate ordinary sessions.
10. The Vice Rector Administration and Finance shall serve as Secretary to the Senate.

Article 10 **Directors and Boards of Institutes**

1. Each Institute shall be headed by a Director. Directors shall be appointed by the Rector, following consultation with the Council and the host institution.
2. The Director of an Institute shall ensure the effective co-ordination between the Coordinators of Centres operating within the same thematic area. In this respect, he/she shall preside over the corresponding Annual General Meeting of the Coordinators of Centres in order to draw up the sectoral report including an activity report. This report shall be sent to the Rector prior to the Senate meetings among others.
3. In addition, the Director shall have the following functions:
 - i) ensure effective co-ordination between the Coordinators of all PAU Centres of the respective thematic area;
 - ii) be a Senate Member of the host University and reports periodically to the Rectorate/Vice-Chancellery on the activities of the host University;
 - iii) liaise between the host University, host government and the PAU;
 - iv) prepare and present activities report of the Institute quarterly to the Rectorate;
 - v) ensure implementation of the decisions of the PAU;
 - vi) ensure required co-ordination between Centres of the Institute;
 - vii) ensure implementation and the periodic monitoring of the multi-annual strategic development of the Institute and its affiliate Centres;
 - viii) ensure commitment and release of funds for which provision was made in the budget approved by the Rectorate/Vice-Chancellery and he/she shall be the authorizing officer for the Institute;

- ix) manage the Institute personnel, property, equipment etc;
 - x) sign agreements, on the approval by the Rectorate, pertaining to voluntary donations or contributions from Governments, national or international organizations, private or public or any other donor organization for the benefit of Institute and the Pan African University;
 - xi) keep records on the progress of postgraduate research, and in this connection receive from Faculties and Centres recommendations for the de-registration of candidates whose work is unsatisfactory or for their discontinuation for sufficient cause and make such recommendations for the Senate as it shall deem appropriate;
 - xii) process the appointment of Board of Examiners for Postgraduate theses, projects or other related presentations;
 - xiii) send out invitations to examiners for postgraduate research presentations, on the recommendation of the relevant faculties or schools;
 - xiv) make copies of submitted theses, projects or similar presentations to be forwarded to examiners;
 - xv) receive written assessment of such theses, projects or similar presentation from the examiners;
 - xvi) convene Board of Examiners meetings in consultation with the Deans of Faculties, Schools or Centres concerned;
 - xvii) forward recommendations of the board of examiners to the Vice Chancellor of Host University and PAU Rector for approval on behalf of the respective Senates where the verdict of such Board is unanimous; provided that in the absence of unanimity of the examiners recommendations shall be deliberated upon by the Board and recommendations thereon made to the Senates;
 - xviii) undertake any other work or responsibility as may be assigned to him/her by the Rector
- 4.** The conditions of service, including rights and privileges for Directors shall be defined in a specific policy document.
- 5.** The Institute shall have a Board. The Director shall be supported and guided in running the Institute by a Board whose membership shall consist of the following:
- i) Director of the Institute;
 - ii) Five Center coordinators on rotational basis;

- iii) All full time professors;
- iv) Two representatives of Host University Senate;
- v) One representative of the lead Thematic Partner;
- vi) The administrative officer of the Institute shall be the secretary of the Institute Board; and
- vii) The Board shall have power to invite other scholars of the Host University to attend its meetings in advisory capacity only and without the right to vote at such meetings.

6. There shall be Departments and any other sub-structures related to teaching, research and extension activities within the Institutes and Centres.

7. The Departments and any other sub-structures related to teaching, research and extension activities shall be created by the Chairperson of the Commission on the recommendation of the PAU Council.

8. The Board of the Institute shall be responsible for the supervision of academic, administrative, and financial management of the Institute. In this regard, its function shall include :

- 1) Recommendations to Senate with regard to the creation of Departments, Research Laboratories, creation of teaching programmes, organization of studies, and recruitment and promotion of Teaching Staff ;
- 2) Supervision in the areas of:
 - i) Management of personnel, facilities and finance;
 - ii) Planning and budget;
 - iii) Curriculum development, regulations and teaching;
 - iv) Research and cooperation;
 - v) Postgraduate thesis;
 - vi) Research projects;
 - vii) nominations of supervisors for all Master and PhD theses;
 - viii) Students affairs.

9. The quorum of the Board shall be half of its membership plus one.

10. Decisions of the Board shall be adopted by simple majority of those present. In case of equality the voice of the Chair Person counts twice.
11. The Board of the Institute shall constitute committees or working groups as it deems necessary.
12. The Board of the Institute shall meet at least twice a year on the invitation of the Chairperson.
13. The Board shall be presided over by the Director of the Institute.
14. The Senior Administrative Officer of the Institute shall serve as Secretary to the Board.

Article 11 University Staff

1. The PAU staff shall comprise the following categories:
 - i) Full-time academic and administrative staff from host countries;
 - ii) Full-time academic staff from other Member States;
 - iii) Staff from Diaspora, partners and elsewhere as need arises;
 - iv) Part-time academic and administrative staff from host countries; and
 - v) Part-time academic staff and visiting academic and research staff from Member states, partners and African Diaspora.
2. Academic and administrative staff put at the disposal of the PAU by the host country, shall remain employees of their host institution. This includes:
 - i) Academic and research staff;
 - ii) Administrative personnel;
 - iii) Technical personnel; and
 - iv) Support personnel.
3. Full-time academic staff from host and other Member States shall be hired by the PAU for specific periods in line with the AU rules and regulations.
4. A visiting academic and research staff shall obtain a mission order signed by the Rector of the PAU at the request of the host institution.

5. All full time professors, lecturers and administrative staff and of PAU shall be granted with AU travelling privileges according to AU procedures.
6. Students of the PAU shall travel using their own national passports and access shall be facilitated by the host countries.
7. The Level and entitlements of PAU staff will be determined by the PRC Structure.

Article 12 Coordination of Centres

1. There shall be Centres under each Institute. Each centre shall be regarded for administrative purposes as being a constituent part of the Institute.
2. Each Centre shall be headed by a Coordinator. Coordinators shall be appointed by the PAU Rector, following consultation with the Council and the host institution.
3. In addition to his teaching, research and other duties and responsibilities, the Coordinator of a Centre shall:
 - i) ensure effective co-ordination between the Centre and the Institute as well as the host University;
 - ii) liaise between the host University, host government and the PAU;
 - iii) prepare and present activities report of the Centre monthly to the Director of the Institute;
 - iv) ensure implementation of the decisions of the PAU and the Institute in the Centre;
 - v) ensure implementation and periodic monitoring of the multi-annual strategic development of the Centre;
 - vi) ensure commitment and release funds for which provision was made in the budget approved by the PAU of which he/she is the authorizing officer for the Centre;
 - vii) manage the Centres' personnel, property, equipment etc.;
 - viii) be in charge of executing the academic and research programmes of the Centre with the assistance of programme officers, He/She shall particularly ensure the follow up in relations to trainers, admission and graduation of students, promotion of relationship with students, management of internships, follow-up, assessment and issuance of degrees;
 - ix) act as the representative of the Rector in the Centre and administer the Pan African University policies at the Centre level;

- x) act as the academic and administrative head of the Centre;
- xi) hold regular Centre meetings and ensure that the members of staff attend such meetings where the Coordinator and the entire staff have an opportunity to exchange ideas on policy matters;
- xii) represent the Centre on the appropriate University Committees and other bodies as required;
- xiii) ensure that proper and acceptable standards of teaching and research are maintained in the Centre;
- xiv) be required to publish annual reports on the Centre's performance;
- xv) submit the Centre budget, procurement plans, annual reports and performance contracts;
- xvi) undertake any other work or responsibility as may be assigned to him/her by the Director ;

4. The conditions of service, including rights and privileges for Coordinators shall be defined in a specific policy document.

5. There shall be, "Affiliated Centres" associated with PAU Institutes, selected by the PAU Council, in consultation with the PAU Rector. The policy document mentioned under sub article (4) above shall also include issues relating to Affiliated Centres.

Article 13 Intellectual Property Rights

1. All the ideas, inventions and innovations emanating from the research/activities done under PAU shall be patented in the host country in the name of the innovator(s), host University and PAU. PAU shall develop a policy document in consultation and concurrence with the host University/country on Intellectual Property Rights registration, patenting and sharing of proceeds from commercialized patents.

2. The policy document shall be reviewed in line with the international treaties and conventions on intellectual property rights

3. The host country intellectual properties regulations should have supremacy over other policies in event of ambiguity or otherwise.

Article 14 PAU Research Policy

1. The PAU shall develop its own research policy which may vary from one institute to another depending on the nature of their activities and programmes.

2. The research policy shall be in consonance with the AU Member States scientific and technological research policy.
3. The host country scientific research regulations should have supremacy over other policies in event of ambiguity or otherwise..

Article 15 Budgeting and Financing of the PAU

1. All African Union Member States pledge to support and finance the PAU.
2. The PAU budget shall be managed under the general financial regulations approved by the PAU Council. The annual budget prepared by the Rector shall be adopted by the PAU Council.
3. Following the approval of the annual budget, the Rector shall proceed to execute the budget in conformity with the provisions of the PAU financial regulations.
4. The Rector shall prospect for financial opportunities and, on the approval of the Council, conclude agreements and conventions under which funding would be raised for the University;
5. The Rector shall present annually a financial report to the Council for approval.
6. The budgeting and financing of the PAU shall be managed through a special fund created by the Commission for PAU and managed according to the modalities endorsed by the PAU Council.
7. The accounts of the PAU shall be audited annually as per the AU rules and procedures.

Article 16 The Endowment Fund

1. An Endowment Fund shall be created based on voluntary contributions.
2. The following may be contributors to the Endowment Fund:
 - i) Member States of the African Union;
 - ii) Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
 - iii) Development Partners and relevant Donors;
 - iv) Public and private sources;
 - v) Other sources as maybe determined by the PAU Rector and Council

3. The management of the Endowment Fund shall be in conformity with the general financial principles endorsed by the PAU Council;
4. Each country hosting an Institute, a Centre or the Rectorate shall be required to commit additional resources.

Article 17
Headquarters

1. The headquarters of the Rectorate shall be located in one of the AU Member States.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding shall be signed with the host country selected.

Article 18
Staff and Student Disciplinary Committee

1. The Rector shall set up a disciplinary committee in each PAU Institute and Centre comprising not less than seven (7) members and not more than eleven (11) members but the total membership must always be an odd number.
2. The disciplinary committee shall conduct hearings and make decisions on students and staff act of indiscipline in accordance with the staff/students rules and regulations.

Article 19
Award of Scholarships, Degrees and Examination Regulation

1. The regulations and criteria of scholarship shall be determined by the PAU Council in accordance with AU principles and values.
2. The degrees shall be jointly awarded by the PAU and the Host Institutions. The examination regulations and the modalities of awarding the joint degrees shall be issued by the Chairperson of the Commission based on the recommendation of the PAU Council.

Article 20
Amendments

1. This Statute may be amended by the Assembly upon recommendation of the Executive Council after it has obtained the opinion of PAU Council.
2. The amendments shall come into force upon their adoption by the Assembly.

Article 21
Working Languages

The working languages of the PAU shall be English and French. The PAU Council shall determine the process and practical modalities for the use of the other AU official languages by the PAU.

Article 22
Entry into Force

This Statute shall enter into force upon its adoption by the Assembly.

.....

Adopted by the Twentieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Addis Ababa,
Ethiopia in January 2013

MODALITIES FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREES

MODALITIES FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREES

Introduction

For the PAU to maintain a competitive edge over other premier universities, its degree awarding postgraduate research programmes will have to adhere to stringent programme guidelines and formats so as to observe high quality academic standards as well as to prioritise areas of relevance and scientific research strength to advance Africa's development.

The PAU postgraduate research programmes for degree awards shall be full-time degree programmes within the 5 prioritised thematic areas.

MASTERS PROGRAMMES

The Master's Degree award programmes subscribed to by the PAU shall be by coursework and research and shall conform to the following content and structural requirements.

1. Objectives

They shall have clear objectives, which, among other programme-specific aspects, shall include provision for:

- a) capacity building of the human resources necessary for scientific, economic, social and cultural development of the African continent;
- b) capacity building for scientific research and its application;
- c) developing a professional and skilled workforce that loves to contribute to the community and to promote good governance;
- d) instilling the desire and ability of resourcing Africa;
- e) building a cadre that is capable of providing leadership in their respective fields of study.

2. Duration of training

Not less than one year and not more than two years.

3. Programme Structure

To specify the courses offered per semester and the Course Units earned per course. Most programmes have recess terms, in addition to the two semesters, for

greater focus on the practical aspects of the programmes, such as clinical clerkship, teaching practice, survey projects, field attachments, industrial training, etc.

i) Course Units

- a) The programmes shall be conducted on Course Unit (CU) basis;
- b) One CU is equivalent to one contact hour a week over a semester or a series of weeks of at least 15 contact hours;
(A semester contains 17 weeks, 15 of teaching/ study/practice and two weeks of examinations);
- c) One contact hour is equivalent to one hour of a lecture /tutorial/ seminar, or two hours of practicals.

The total Course Units required at the end of a Semester must be at least 15.

The Course Units required at the end of a year must be at least 30.

ii) Course Work and Research requirements

- a) A candidate shall not be permitted to formally start on research work unless he/she has passed a minimum of at least 2/3 of the courses offered in the first year of course work;
- b) All masters' degree programme students are also required to present at least one seminar before completing their degree programme;
- c) A candidate for the Master's degree shall undertake a research project with the guidance of one or two supervisors appointed by the Institute Board and approved by the Senate;
- d) The Masters candidate shall present a Dissertation in accordance with the general rules and regulations pertaining to all Masters Degrees submitted to the PAU.

iii) Award

The degree of a Master of ----- shall be awarded to a candidate who has accumulated a minimum of 30 CU for the courses passed; and has successfully fulfilled the requirements of the dissertation and passed the viva voce examination.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE PROGRAMMES

1. Purpose of Doctoral Training

The purpose of doctoral training is to impart skills to doctoral students in the art and science of scholarship and to promote broader skills acquisition; and above all, to develop independent and critical thinkers who are able to conduct quality research and initiate innovations that will contribute to the transformation of communities. The end products of PhD training are researchers who can engage with the broader environment of stakeholders. Doctoral Scientific and academic training promotes the acquisition of scientific methodology, critical analysis and the initiative for independent study. Doctoral students are expected to probe deeply into their subjects and be at the forefront of research and innovation in their field.

2. Types of Doctorates to be offered by the PAU

The PAU will offer two types of doctorates: the doctorate by research only and the doctorate by course-work and dissertation/ thesis.

2.1. Doctorate by Research Only

Doctorate students on a doctorate programme by research only receive no structured instruction apart from the required cross-cutting courses. However, the students define their research area in consultation with their supervisor/s, and are expected to spend approximately three years conducting independent research in the selected area.

In the course of that research period, students may audit courses from within their discipline or across disciplines to enhance knowledge and scholarship in their research work. Apart from the cross-cutting or audited courses, students pursuing a doctorate by research only are not subjected to any other examination, except the examination of their thesis/dissertation plus the viva-voce examination (oral defence).

2.2. Doctorate by Coursework and Dissertation/ Thesis

A student pursuing a doctorate by coursework and dissertation/thesis is expected to attend formal training in a set of courses and secure a number of course units before embarking on the dissertation/thesis. The number of courses to be studied and the length of the dissertation/thesis may vary from discipline to discipline or from programme to programme. The student is expected to work with his/her supervisor/s to select the most appropriate courses from within and outside his/her respective faculty/institution/school. After completing the coursework component and passing the examination set at the end of it, the student will then spend approximately two years completing the dissertation under the guidance of the supervisor and Doctoral Committee.

The student is required to have a specified minimum number of course units as prescribed by the Unit in order to graduate, in addition to submitting a satisfactory dissertation and successfully defending it in a public viva-voce examination.

3. Viva Voce Examination

An oral examination is compulsory for Masters students and for the PhD candidates it is a public defence. The viva voce examination for Masters students is a closed one conducted by the appointed panel only. In a viva voce examiners shall identify the areas to be covered during the oral examination and the kind of questions to be discussed in the examination. The panel shall examine the knowledge base on the subject matter or the research.

4. Award of Degrees

A letter of award of the degree shall be processed by the Directorate of Graduate Studies and Scholarships (DGSS) of the PAU only when the examiners have certified in writing and with signatures that the candidate presented a meritorious dissertation and passed the viva voce with distinction. Where a candidate has to make corrections on the dissertation as recommended by the viva voce panel, the letter of award of the degree shall only be processed when the candidate has made the corrections to the satisfaction of the examiner who was entrusted by the viva voce panel to oversee the corrections. The latter shall write to the Director of the DGSS certifying that he/she was satisfied with the corrections.

Three copies of the dissertation, in acceptable binding with a hard black cover, endorsed by the student and supervisor(s) shall be presented to the DGSS. In addition, the viva voce examination report shall be made available to the DGSS before the award letter is prepared.

Only those candidates who will have received their letters of award shall be eligible for inclusion in the book of graduating students and to attend the graduation ceremony.

JOINT AWARDS

1. Definition

Joint award of a qualification in a University system refers to an award that ensues from jointly executed teaching, supervision and examination or all such multiple responsibilities involving more than one unit in a given university, for instance the PAU, and other relevant and recognized Universities. A joint award presupposes that collaboration/co-operation exists between the partner institutions to create an enabling environment in which students, academic staff and other stakeholders are willing to participate.

1.1 Advantages of Joint Awards in Regional/ International Education

- i) Strengthening collaboration through research sharing; both universities will improve their organizational and human resource capacity for research management and postgraduate training. This will include the development of joint research projects and training programmes as well as other forms of staff and student mobility.
- ii) The collaboration has the potential to yield international visibility through excellence in research outputs on global issues exhibited through joint publications and conferences.

1.2 Advantages of a joint PhD research degree

A joint PhD research degree will strengthen the collaboration between senior scientists/Scholars and facilitate staff development. It will also lead to the enhancement of research initiatives and administrative procedures in both universities. A holder of a joint PhD degree will have the versatility of being a beneficiary of the two universities and he/she will be in position to take the lead in maximizing the exploitation of the resources available in Africa to accelerate the development of the continent.

1.3 Guidelines for the Joint Award

1.3.1 Collaborating Institutions

The Institution to collaborate with should be a recognized one. There should exist structures and expertise to manage, teach, supervise, examine and carry out research for the joint award. Ethical issues related to the award should be noted and agreed upon as jointly acceptable by either University. The students and staff involved must be made aware of all the joint award procedures.

1.3.2 Agreement to justify and strengthen the complementary and equal partnership between universities.

There shall be a collaborative agreement to justify and strengthen the complementary and equal partnership between universities.

1.3.3 Funding Mechanism

There shall be an enabling funding mechanism to operationalize the joint award.

1.3.4 Intellectual Property Rights

The intellectual property rights shall belong to the partner universities and the details of sharing financial proceeds shall be worked out as applicable in each university, on the basis on a mutually agreed upon format.

1.3.5 Admission Requirements

The admission requirements of the relevant institutions shall be equivalent and any modifications/additions to such qualifications shall be mutually agreed upon.

1.3.6 Requirements and Procedures of Application

- i) The application requirements of the relevant institutions shall be equivalent and any modifications/additions to such qualifications shall be mutually agreed upon.
- ii) The programme shall be openly advertised to give equal opportunity to candidates to apply; and for the staff to be informed and to get involved. Standing procedures, guidelines and statutes shall be put in place for any given joint award programme.

1.3.7 Duration of Study

The duration of study shall be defined and shall as much as possible not significantly differ from the existing ones in the participating universities. The duration of stay in a particular university shall be stated as a requirement before the award is given.

1.3.8 Fees Payment and Sharing of Fees between Collaborating Institutions

The modalities of fees payment and sharing shall be established between the partner universities.

1.3.9 Coordinating Office

The University organs to manage and coordinate the award shall be clearly identified in each university. A coordinator shall therefore be identified.

1.3.10 Courses and Coursework Load

The type of courses and coursework load required for the specific degree awards shall be jointly defined and agreed upon by the collaborating universities.

1.3.11 Quality Assurance

The course curricula and the methods of progress monitoring shall be agreed upon using the quality assurance procedures established in the collaborating universities.

1.3.12 Examinations

The examination process and grading of the award shall be agreed upon by both universities.

1.3.13 Preparation and presentation of Research Projects/ Dissertations

The format and other specifications pertaining to the processing and presentation of research projects/dissertations shall be clearly defined and agreed upon by the partnering universities.

1.3.14 Withdrawal of students

The mechanism of withdrawal from the joint award degree shall be defined and the withdrawal shall be granted only following an investigation.

1.3.15 Transcripts

The type and format of the transcripts shall be agreed upon by the partner universities with the specification: "Transcript for the Joint Award" included in the heading of the document.

1.3.16 Joint Award Certificate

- i) The name of the joint award degree shall be endorsed by the partner universities and both official languages (if different) shall be used on the award certificate by mutual consent;
- ii) The joint Award certificate shall bear both/all the logos of the collaborating universities side by side, a lead statement of the awarding bodies in the partner universities, the title of the degree (and class, if applicable), candidate's name, date of award and signature of the relevant university authorities. The quality of paper used shall be agreed upon and the relevant university seals shall be embossed;
- iii) The graduating candidate shall receive the joint award only once at a graduation ceremony in a partner university of his/her choice. However, the names of the candidate shall be included in the graduation lists of both the partner universities and the candidate shall be free to attend both graduation ceremonies.

1.4 Conflict Resolution

- i) Special situations of variance shall be resolved by consultation and mutual consensus among the bodies responsible for the joint wards in the partner universities;
- ii) The agreement pertaining to the joint awards shall provide for the appointment of an arbitrator or arbitrators.

1.5 Termination of the Joint Award

The termination of the Joint Award Agreement by one of the collaborating universities shall be by one year's notice with mutual consent, but shall not affect the registered students: they shall continue with their studies up to completion.

AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE

African Union Common Repository

<http://archives.au.int>

Organs

Council of Ministers & Executive Council Collection

2012

Statutes of the Pan African Univeristy

African Union

African Union

<http://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/4295>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository