

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, MAYNOOTH

STATUTES

***Adopted by the Governing Authority, 14 February 2000 (as
amended 6 November 2006
and 11 April 2019)***

CHAPTER V

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

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1. Members of Academic Council

The Academic Council shall consist of the following persons, namely:

- (a) The President;
- (b) The Vice-President Academic/Registrar;
- (c) The Vice President responsible for research;
- (d) The Dean of the Faculty of Arts Celtic Studies and Philosophy.
- (e) The Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts Celtic Studies and Philosophy.
- (f) The Dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering.
- (g) The Associate Dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering.
- (h) The Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- (i) The Associate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- (j) The Dean of Teaching and Learning.
- (k) The Dean of Graduate Studies
- (l) The Dean of Internationalisation.
- (m) Director of MU Social Sciences Institute
- (n) Director of the MU Arts and Humanities Institute
- (o) Director of MU Hamilton Institute
- (p) Director of the MU Human Health Institute
- (q) Each Head of an established Department and Head of an established School.
- (r) 12 Professors (A or B), four elected by each Faculty, of which two female and two male.

Those eligible for election will be all Professors (A or B) who are members of the Faculty.

The electorate shall include all Professors, Senior Lecturers, Lecturers and Assistant Lecturers, whether full-time or part-time (if part-time, with contracts equivalent to 50% or more of full-time staff), in each of the academic units of the Faculty. However, where a person who is entitled to vote in the election of members of the Academic Council is a member of more than one Faculty then he or she is only entitled to vote in respect of one of the Faculties of which the person is a member; such a person must, prior to the circulation of ballot papers, declare to the duly appointed returning officers the person's intention to vote in one such Faculty and must name that particular Faculty when declaring that intention.

- (s) 12 Academics of below Professor grade, four elected by each Faculty, of which two female and two male.

Those eligible for election will be all Assistant lecturers, Lecturers or Senior Lecturers, who are members of the Faculty.

The electorate shall include all Professors, Senior Lecturers, Lecturers and Assistant Lecturers, whether full-time or part-time (if part-time, with contracts equivalent to 50% or more of full-time staff), in each of the academic units of the Faculty. However, where a person who is entitled to vote in the election of members of the Academic Council is a member of more than one Faculty then he or she is only entitled to vote in respect of one of the Faculties of which the person is a member; such a person

must, prior to the circulation of ballot papers, declare to the duly appointed returning officers the person's intention to vote in one such Faculty and must name that particular Faculty when declaring that intention.

- (t) Four students; two undergraduate students, one taught postgraduate student, and one doctoral student.
- (u) The Assistant Registrar/Admissions Officer
- (v) The Librarian
- (w) Up to four other members of the administrative and professional staff nominated by the President.
- (x) Such co-options as may be recommended by the President and approved by Academic Council provided that at no time does the total membership of Academic Council exceed 82 members.

2. Student Members

The undergraduate and the postgraduate student members of the Academic Council shall each be a member of the Academic Council for a period of one year.

Each undergraduate student member of the Academic Council shall be an elected student officer of undergraduate status selected by the elected officers of Maynooth Students' Union.

The taught postgraduate student member of the Academic Council shall be the postgraduate representative who shall have been elected to membership of the Governing Authority provided that the elected postgraduate representative of Governing Authority is a taught postgraduate student. If the postgraduate representative elected to membership of the Governing Authority is not a taught postgraduate student then Maynooth Students' Union shall hold an election to elect a taught postgraduate student member of the Academic Council, using the normal procedures adopted by Maynooth Students' Union for such purposes.

The doctoral student member of the Academic Council shall be the postgraduate representative who shall have been elected to membership of the Governing Authority provided that the elected postgraduate representative of Governing Authority is a doctoral student. If the postgraduate representative elected to membership of the Governing Authority is not a doctoral student then Maynooth Students' Union shall hold an election to elect a doctoral student member of Academic Council, using the normal procedures adopted by Maynooth Students' Union for such purposes.

3. Voting

Voting in the election of members of the Academic Council (with the exception of students members of the Academic Council) shall be by proportional representation as operated in the elections to Seanad Éireann.

In respect of elections to membership under Statute L1(r) (Professors) and (s) (Non-Professorial Academic Staff), to ensure the prescribed gender representation, separate ballots will be held for male and female candidates.

4. Procedure and Arrangements

Procedures and arrangements for the election of members of the Academic Council, including without limitation arrangements for filling casual vacancies which shall be filled in the same manner as outlined in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 above and in accordance with the other provisions of this Statute, shall be settled on behalf of the Governing Authority by the Returning Officer and/or the Assistant Returning Officer appointed for Governing Authority elections or by a representative of the University appointed for that purpose by the Governing Authority.

5. Functions of Academic Council

The Academic Council shall, subject to the financial constraints determined by the Governing Authority of the University and to review by the Authority, control the academic affairs of the University including the curriculum of, and instruction and education provided by, the University.

Without limitation to the generality of the foregoing the functions of the Academic Council shall include, within those constraints and consistent with the functions of the University and those applying to the academic council in existence prior to the adoption of this Statute and in accordance with the provisions of the Act:

- (a) to design and develop programmes of study;
- (b) to establish structures to implement those programmes;
- (c) to make recommendations on programmes for the development of research;
- (d) to make recommendations relating to the selection, admission, retention and exclusion of students generally;
- (e) to propose the form and content of statutes to be made relating to the academic affairs of the University including the conduct of examinations, the determination of examination results, the procedures for appeals by students relating to the results of such examinations and the evaluation of academic progress;
- (f) to make recommendations for the awarding of fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, prizes or other awards;
- (g) to make general arrangements for tutorial or other

academic counselling;

- (h) to perform any other functions which may be delegated to it by the Governing Authority; and
- (i) to implement any statutes and regulations made by the Governing Authority relating to any of the matters referred to above.

6. Meetings

Subject to any directions of the Governing Authority the Academic Council shall hold such meetings as it thinks necessary to perform its functions and may regulate its own procedures.

7. President to Preside

The President shall be entitled to preside at all meetings of the Academic Council or a committee of the Council at which he or she is present, but if the President at any time chooses not to so preside he or she shall nominate a person to preside in his or her place.

8. Committees

- (A) The Academic Council may establish such and so many committees as it thinks necessary to assist in the performance of its functions.
- (B) A committee may consist either wholly of members of the Academic Council or of such combination of members and non-members of the Academic Council as the Council thinks fit.

9. Replacement of previous Academic Council

The Academic Council established pursuant to the Statute adopted on the 11th April 2019 was substituted for and replaced the academic council of the University in existence prior to that date.