

Statutes

University College Student Representatives of the Netherlands





Terms

Article 1

In these statutes these terms are understood as follows:

1. 'University Colleges' (hereinafter to be referred to as: 'the UCs') are liberal arts and science colleges that are part of at least one university in the Netherlands.
2. 'Student' is a member of an Association.
3. 'Associations' are formal bodies of Students of the UCs, either directly or indirectly chosen by Students.
4. 'The Board' is the body of the University College Student Representatives the Netherlands (hereinafter to be referred to as: 'UCSRN') that is elected by the delegates to represent the UCSRN and consists of at least three members.
5. 'Absolute majority' is the majority of at least two-thirds of a General Assembly, excluding abstentions to determine the majority.
6. 'Simple majority' is the majority of 50% plus one of all eligible voters present at a General Assembly, excluding abstentions to determine the majority.
7. 'Advisory votes' are non-binding recommendations or opinions.
8. 'Policy Manual' (hereinafter to be referred to as: 'PM') shall be the document including rules about the execution and application of these statutes, as well as including regulations which are not included in the law or these statutes.

Name, Registered Office, Duration

Article 2

1. The name of the association shall be: University College Student Representatives of the Netherlands, abbreviated as: 'UCSRN'.
2. The registered office shall be in Utrecht.
3. The UCSRN was formed on the
4. The UCSRN's year will also be the financial year, and runs from the first of July of each year to the thirtieth of June of the following year.
5. The official language of communication, either verbal and in writing, shall be English.

Objectives

Article 3

1. The aim of the UCSRN is to assist Students in creating an optimal academic and social environment for personal development, as well as to facilitate and coordinate activities between Students.



2. The UCSRN's objectives shall therefore be to represent Students in the broadest sense of the word and with a view to their missions and visions.
3. The UCSRN shall seek to achieve the following objectives:
 1. representing Students to external parties;
 2. stimulating the exchange of experiences to the benefit of Students;
 3. stimulating Student interaction between the UCs through organized events;
 4. maintaining contacts with organizations relating to the UCSRN's objectives;
 5. using all such other means necessary and available to it under law.
4. The Association pursues objects without differentiating on the grounds of sex, nationality, race, personal beliefs, religion, gender identity or sexual orientation.

Members, Members' Rights and Obligations

Article 4

The UCSRN consists of:

1. Members
2. Benefactors
3. Honorary members

Article 5

1. Members shall be the association of UCs in the Netherlands.
2. Members can be brought forward at a GA and will need to be approved by at least an absolute majority.
3. Members have six delegates, who will represent the Member at the GA.
4. Delegates will be Students.
5. Delegates will have the right to cast one vote at a GA.
6. Delegates cannot be part of the Board.
7. Students shall be entitled to participate in all of the UCSRN's activities, unless the Board decides that participation in a certain activity shall be limited to a group of students.
8. Membership shall end:
 1. upon the UCSRN's disbanding;
 2. upon the Member ceasing to exist;
 3. upon resignation of the Member, or
 4. upon the termination of membership on the UCSRN's behalf, as decided at a GA by absolute majority. Membership shall be terminated on the UCSRN's behalf:
 - i. If the Member has ceased to fulfill the requirements for membership;
 - ii. If the Member does not fulfill its requirements towards the UCSRN; or
 - iii. If the UCSRN cannot reasonably be required to allow membership to continue.



9. A Member may be removed by the General Assembly if it acts contrary to the UCSRN's Statutes, PM or resolutions, or unreasonably disadvantages the UCSRN.
10. If membership ends during the course of a financial year, the entire annual fee shall nonetheless still be paid, unless the Board decides otherwise.

Article 6

1. Benefactors shall be persons or organizations that have expressed to the Board their willingness to support the UCSRN through financial contributions or gifts and that, at their request, have been admitted as benefactors.
2. The GA shall decide on the admissions of benefactors. The Board shall send a written statement to all UCSRN Members whenever a possible benefactor has approached them.
3. Being a benefactor shall end:
 1. upon the benefactor ceasing to exist;
 2. upon withdrawal by the benefactor, or
 3. upon termination of benefactor on the UCSRN's behalf, as decided upon at a GA.
4. If membership ends during the course of a financial year, the entire annual fee shall nonetheless still be paid.

Article 7

1. Honorary members shall be natural persons who, because of their special service to the UCSRN, have been appointed by the GA by an absolute majority.
2. Honorary members shall be appointed on the Board's recommendation or pursuant to a written request submitted to the Secretary by at least ten percent (10%) of the delegates.
3. Honorary membership shall end:
 1. upon the honorary member ceasing to exist
 2. upon resignation of the honorary member, or
 3. upon the termination of honorary membership on the UCSRN's behalf, as decided upon at a GA by an absolute majority.

The Board

Article 8

1. The Board consists of at least three Students.
2. The Board members are elected to the functions of the chair, the secretary and the treasurer.
3. The GA elects the Board. Election will follow from a closed ballot vote.
4. A Board member may be suspended or dismissed by the GA at any time.
5. Suspension may follow:



1. If the Board member committed any violation against the law, the PM or these statutes;
2. If the Board member does not fulfill its requirements towards UCSRN, or
3. If the UCSRN cannot reasonably be required to allow the Board member to continue.
6. Suspension can only follow after an absolute majority vote in favor of suspending the board member.
7. A suspension that has not been followed by dismissal within three months shall end after this period has expired.
8. Board membership shall be appointed for a one-year period, and may be reappointed for at most one year.
 1. The Board membership will run from the first of July of each year to the thirtieth of June of the following year.
9. A Board member can terminate their membership of the Board, taking in consideration a period of notice. The GA should be informed on this by the Board and can decide upon appointing or not appointing a new board member.
10. Board membership shall also end when the Association the Student is a member ends, in any way, the membership to the UCSRN.

Board Authority and Representation

Article 9

1. The Board shall represent the UCSRN.
2. If the number of Board members falls below the required minimum, the Board shall still have the authority to act. The Board must, however, convene a GA within 60 days in which filling the vacancies is discussed.
3. At least one Board member, or at least one third party, shall also have the authority to represent the UCSRN, if and insofar as the persons concerned have been given a power of attorney by the Board; the aforementioned power of attorney must have been granted in writing and have been signed by two board members not including the board member receiving the power of attorney. All members should be notified about this.
4. The treasurer shall independently have the authority to dispose of bank and giro balances.
5. The treasurer shall, together with one other board member, have the authority to make financial transactions.
6. The Board may designate a board member with independent authority to conclude sponsor contracts.
7. The Board shall not have the authority to enter into agreements to acquire, dispose of or encumber property subject to registration, or enter into agreements in which the UCSRN binds itself as a surety or joint and several co-debtor,



warrants performance by a third party or provides security for someone else's debt.

8. The Board is only mandated to accept testamentary dispositions to the benefit of an inventory.

Funds, Financial Year and Financial Accounts

Article 10

1. The Board shall be responsible for raising funds for the UCSRN from:
 1. Annual fees from Members;
 2. Contributions from benefactors;
 3. Subsidies;
 4. Gifts, specific legacies and testamentary dispositions; and/or
 5. Any other income
2. Members must pay an annual fee, which shall be determined by the GA.
3. The Board is responsible for presenting the Budget as specified in Article 12.3; the budget that will be presented shall be voted upon at the first GA of the year. In case it has not been approved at that GA, it shall be voted upon at the first following GA.
4. The Board is responsible for maintaining the UCSRN's financial records in such detail that her right and obligations can be ascertained from these at any time.
5. The Board, in particular, the treasurer, shall draw up the annual accounts each year within three months after the financial year ends. The financial accounts shall consist of a balance sheet and a statement of income and expenditure.
6. The Board must keep the annual books and other records referred to in these Statutes for the term as required by law.

Independent Body

Article 11

1. Each year, the GA shall appoint an Independent Body made up of at least three Students who are not Board members. The IB shall serve for one year.
2. Students shall be eligible for IB membership.
3. The tasks of the IB shall be to:
 1. act as an appeal court to settle disputes between the UCSRN Board, members, Students and/or an external party that cannot be settled between these parties independently;
 2. audit the accounts of the UCSRN twice a year;
 3. count and administer the votes at a UCSRN GA, and
 4. monitor whether the Board upholds the statutes and PM.
4. The IB shall audit the documents referred to in article 12.3 of these Statutes, and



5. shall issue a report of its findings to the GA. The Board must furnish any information requested by the IB for its audit.
 - a. If the audit of the accounts and explanation requires specialized accounting knowledge, the IB may be assisted by an expert at the Association's expense only after the UCSRN's Members have been consulted.
6. Appeals can be solved by the IB when the appeal has been sent to the IB in writing by one of the parties involved in the appeal. The appeal should be relevant to the internal workings of the UCSRN or be a case between the Board or the UCSRN and an external party.
7. The IB will have one week to notify the UCSRN board and can set up a hearing between all parties involved if deemed necessary.
 - a. All requested documents that are necessary for the investigation will be provided to the IB.
8. The IB can give binding advice in case of appeals made by members, Students or the Board, to be followed by all parties the advice is aimed at. The GA will have the power to revoke or overrule the decisions made by the IB, with a simple majority vote. The parties involved shall follow the advice of the IB if and until the GA decides otherwise.
9. Any IB member may be appointed or discharged from his or her position by the GA at any time.

General Assemblies

Article 12

1. The GA shall have all powers not assigned to the Board by law, the PM or these Statutes.
2. GAs will take place at least twice a year, of which the first no later than three months after the financial year starts.
3. The Board will have the responsibility to present and discuss at least the following subjects at the first GA of the financial year:
 1. the financial report, financial accounts and explanation with the IB's audit.
 - i. The Audit report needs to be available to all Members before the GA.
 - ii. The IB should present the audit at the GA.
 2. appointment of the IB for the following financial year;
 3. the budget for the current financial year;
 4. discharge of liability for the outgoing Board; and
 5. filling of any vacancies;
4. The chairperson of the Board will chair the GA. In the event that the chair is not available another Board member shall take up its position, unless the GA decides otherwise.
5. Other GAs shall be held whenever the Board deems this desirable. In addition, GAs shall be held on each occasion when at least one tenth of the delegates



submit a written request to that effect to the chairperson of the Board providing a precise description of the issues to be addressed at that meeting.

- a. If the chairperson fails to act on the request in the sense that no such assembly can be held within four weeks of the request being made, the applicants may convene an assembly themselves whilst duly observing the requisite formalities.
6. Assemblies shall be convened by giving notice to the members of the UCSRN in a written format, with a notice period of at least fourteen days. The notice shall indicate the location and time of the Assembly, minutes of the previous GA and the preliminary agenda. All members can suggest additions to the agenda.
7. The minutes of the previous GA and the agenda need to be voted upon when presented.
8. The UCSRN's Members, Delegates, Students and Honorary Members shall be admitted to the GA. Suspended members, and suspended Board members shall not be admitted, unless the Assembly is in regard to their suspension. The GA shall decide whether to admit other persons.
9. Each delegate of a Member shall be entitled to cast one vote, provided he/she has not been suspended.
10. Honorary members shall only have an advisory vote.
11. Each delegate may have his/her vote be cast by another delegate holding a written proxy.
12. A delegate may act as a proxy for at most one delegate. These proxy votes need to be communicated to the IB before the GA opens.
13. All resolutions by the GA shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes validly cast, insofar as the law or these Statutes do not require a larger majority.

Policy Manual

Article 13

1. The GA must adopt, amend or revoke one or more sets of regulations, stated and combined in the PM.
2. Delegates, Students, members and the Board may put amendments and motions to change the PM forward.
3. The PM may not be inconsistent with the law or these statutes.
4. The regulations stated in these statutes overrule the PM.
5. In all cases not provided for by law, or under these articles or the PM, the Board shall decide.

Amendment of the Statutes and Dissolution

Article 14



1. A resolution to amend the statutes or to dissolve the UCSRN must be passed by an absolute majority in which at least a majority of two-thirds of the members are present or represented.
2. If not at least two-thirds of the members are present or represented, a second Assembly shall then be convened and held within six weeks, during which a resolution regarding the proposal raised in the previous Assembly may be passed, irrespective of the number of members present or represented, provided the resolution is passed by a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast.
3. The notice convening the GA, in which amendment of the statutes or dissolution of the UCSRN shall be proposed, must expressly mention the subject concerned and, if the proposal relates to amendment of the statutes, must state that, at least five days before the Assembly, a copy of the proposal containing the proposed amendments verbatim shall be made available for inspection by the members at the location determined by the Board, and shall be kept available for inspection there until the end of the day on which the Assembly is held.
4. Amendment to the statutes shall not take effect until a notarial deed has been drawn up. Each Board member shall be authorized to have the deed executed, complying to article 9.3.
5. The Board is obliged to deposit an authentic copy of the amendment as well as the amended statutes with the trade Register at the Chamber of Commerce.

Liquidation

Article 15

1. After dissolution, the Board shall liquidate the UCSRN, unless the GA has designated one or more other persons as liquidators.
2. During liquidation, the provisions under or pursuant to these Statutes shall apply as much as possible.
3. The surplus remaining after liquidation shall revert back to the Members, unless otherwise specified by the GA.