

STUDENT COUNCIL REGULATIONS of  
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

Student Council Regulations of Wageningen University, as enacted on 23 May 2011.

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# **STUDENT COUNCIL REGULATIONS OF WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY**

## **I Definitions**

### Section 1 Definitions

1. In these regulations, the main concepts are defined as follows:
  - a. the University: Wageningen University;
  - b. the Executive Board: the Executive Board of Wageningen University;
  - c. the Central Works Council: the Central Works Council of Wageningen UR;
  - d. the Participation Council: the participation council of university of applied sciences Van Hall Larenstein;
  - e. the Council: the Student Council;
  - f. the Act: the Higher Education and Research Act.
2. In these regulations, the masculine gender (he, him, his etc.) is generally used for the sake of simplicity, but should be understood to include the feminine gender as well (she, her, hers etc.).

## **II Composition and term of office of Council**

### Section 2 Composition

The Council is composed of 12 members.

### Section 3 Term of office

1. The term of office of the members of the Council is one year and begins on a date determined by the Executive Board following consultation with the Council.
2. The members of the Council step down after one year in office.

## **III Preparations for the election, active and passive voting rights, nomination of candidates**

### Section 4 Organisation of elections

1. The organisation of the elections of Council members is the responsibility of the Council.
2. The Council delegates the organisation of the election to an Election Committee.
3. The Election Committee is comprised of three members and three alternate members who are appointed by the Council.
4. The Election Committee handles the matters concerning the election of the Council. With respect to these matters, the Election Committee exercises the authority that is assigned to the Council.
5. The members of the Election Committee are appointed by the Council for a period that begins at the time of appointment and ends at the time the term of office of the Council members ends.
6. The Election Committee selects from its members a Chair, an alternate Chair and a secretary.
7. The members of the Election Committee can resign from the committee at any time. Resigning members must notify the Chair of the Council, the Chair of the Election Committee, the Technical Chair and the Co-Chairs.

## Section 5 Active and passive voting rights

1. Voting rights are held by individuals who are registered as a student in one of the study programmes provided by the University, as defined in the Administration and Management Regulations.
2. Students who are eligible for election as a Council member are those students referred to in Subsection 1.

## Section 6 Determining the election period

1. Following consultation with the Executive Board, the Council determines the days on which voting can take place; these days are known as the election period. The secretary of the Election Committee announces the election period to all Wageningen University students, from here on to be called "student body", and the Executive Board. There must be a period of at least 12 weeks between this announcement and the day on which the elections are held.
2. The Executive Board takes effort to support the Council to bring the elections and the importance of student's participation under the attention of the Wageningen University students.

## Section 7 Nomination of candidates

1. No less than 11 weeks before the planned election, the Election Committee should draw up a list of the students, as referred to in Section 5 Subsection 1, who hold voting rights and who are eligible for election, and should publicise this list at the University.
2. Candidates are nominated by submitting a list of one or more candidates to the secretary of the Election Committee. The secretary provides a dated receipt in the name of the individual who submitted the list.
3. Lists of candidates can be submitted up to five weeks before the election date. Simultaneously with the announcement referred to in Section 6 Subsection 1, the secretary of the Election Committee makes an announcement to this effect to the student body and Executive Board.
4. Each list of candidates must be signed by at least five students with voting rights.
5. Every candidate list must include a statement from each candidate on the list that he accepts the candidacy.
6. The name of a candidate can appear on only one candidate list.

## Section 8

1. The Election Committee evaluates whether or not the submitted candidate lists and the candidates on these lists meet the requirements of law and of these regulations.
2. The Election Committee declares invalid any candidate list that does not meet the requirements in the previous Subsection and reports this immediately in writing, including the reasons for its invalidity, to the individual(s) who submitted the list. During one week after this report, there is an opportunity to modify the list so that it becomes valid.
3. The Election Committee makes the candidate lists known to the student body no less than two weeks before the election date.

## Section 9

If no more candidates are nominated than there are places on the Council, there will be no election, and the nominated candidates are assumed to be elected.

## **IV Voting procedure during elections**

### Section 10 Voting procedure during the elections

1. The election takes place by means of a secret electronic ballot.
2. No less than two working days before the election period, the Election Committee sends a link to an electronic ballot via the Internet to every student who holds voting rights, including a brief explanation of the voting procedure. This includes the candidate lists as referred to in Section 7, which are made known as a result of the provision in Section 8 Subsection 3, and other information required by the voter, all of which are sent electronically.

### Section 11

1. Each voter may vote only once.
2. The voter must identify himself to the Election Committee by means of his personal password.
3. The voter makes his vote by marking the name of the candidate of his choice on the election ballot, via the Internet, and sending this ballot to the Election Committee before the end of the election period referred to in Section 6.
4. Ballots received after the end of the election period referred to in Section 6 are set aside by the Election Committee and are not counted to determine the election results.

### Section 12

1. If any irregularities have occurred during the electronic voting referred to in the previous Sections, and the Election Committee believes that these irregularities affect the election results, the Election Committee can decide to declare the election invalid. In that case, the Election Committee immediately calls a new election.
2. The secretary of the Election Committee immediately announces a decision, as referred to in the above Subsection, to the student body and the Executive Board.

### Section 13 Determining the results of the election

1. To determine the election results, immediately after the end of the election period the ballots (received electronically) are processed (in a way to be determined in due course by the Election Committee).
2. The election results are approved by the Election Committee and announced in full to the student body and the Executive Board.
3. An official report containing the election results is drawn up by the Election Committee and is signed by all its members.

### Section 14

1. A ballot on which more than one candidate has been marked is invalid.
2. A ballot on which no candidate is chosen is assumed to be an unmarked ballot.

### Section 15

1. To determine the election results, the Election Committee first calculates the quota by dividing the total number of votes by the number of seats to be filled on the Council. Then as many seats are allocated to each candidate list as are shown by dividing the number of valid votes for that list by the quota. Any votes left as a remainder, as well as any votes for a list that did not receive the minimum number of votes to meet the quota, are surplus votes. Council seats that cannot be filled in

this way are then allocated as remainder seats to the lists with the largest number of surplus votes. If there are two or more lists with an equal number of surplus votes, the list that receives the first remainder seat is decided by drawing lots. The seats allocated to a list are then assigned to the candidates on the list in the sequence in which they appear on the list, provided that a candidate who personally received enough votes to equal or exceed the quota is chosen in any case.

2. If more seats are allocated to a list than there are candidates on the list, then the list is given one month (from the date the election results are approved) to nominate the number of candidates that are required to fill all assigned seats. Candidates nominated in this way are considered to be elected.
3. Seats that cannot be filled by taking account of the provision in Subsection 2, are then allocated to the lists with the largest numbers of surplus votes as referred to in Subsection 1.
4. If all seats still cannot be assigned by applying Subsection 3, the Council can decide to fill the vacant seats by holding an interim election.

#### Section 16

Immediately after the time period referred to in Section 19, within which an objection can be filed to the decision referred to in Section 13 Subsection 2, the Election Committee will inform every candidate by registered mail if he has been elected.

#### Section 17

The used ballots are kept by the secretary of the Election Committee for at least three months.

### **V                   Retreat or exclusion of SC members, filling interim vacancies**

#### Section 18 Retreat or exclusion of SC members

1. SC members can resign at their own wish or the SC can, subject to the provisions of this section, on its own initiative or on recommendation of the EB, exclude a member from its membership of the SC for a maximum term of the remaining term of office.
2. Exclusion is only possible if the member in question, in the opinion of the other members of the SC or of the EB, seriously fails to uphold his responsibilities as an SC member, as described in the code of order regulations of the SC, and or the SC Regulations or relevant laws and regulations or if he seriously obstructs the consultation process between SC and EB and or the work of the SC. Before the SC decides for exclusion, the relevant member will be provided sufficient opportunity to be heard on this matter.
3. A decision to exclude a member requires a majority of 2/3 of the validly cast votes in a meeting in which all members are present. If not all members are present, the Technical Chair will convene a new meeting within three weeks but not earlier than after one week. In this meeting the decision to exclude the member will require still 2/3 of the validly cast votes however notwithstanding the number of members present.
4. The SC announces the exclusion to the excluded member in a written motivated registered letter-
5. If the excluded member doesn't agree with his exclusion, this member and the SC have the dispute settled by binding advice. Hereto the excluded member and the SC appoint in consultation an independent advisor. If the excluded member and the SC cannot reach agreement, they both appoint an independent advisor and the two advisors appoint a third advisor.

The advisor(s) will hear the excluded member and the SC before they give their advice. The advisors give their advice after consultation and without the excluded member and or the SC being present. The advisors can give any advice they consider reasonable and fair for solving the dispute. Within three weeks the advisors give a decision by binding advice.

#### Section 19 Interim vacancies

1. In case of an interim vacancy on the Council, the Council will appoint as a successor to the member who has stepped down the candidate who, according to the results of the last election, would be the first to qualify.
2. The appointment takes place within one month of the seat becoming vacant and is announced to the student body and the Executive Board.
3. If no successor as referred to in the first Subsection is available, the Council can decide to fill the vacancy by holding an interim election, unless a general election will be held within six months.

### **VI                    Objection**

#### Section 20 Objection

1. An objection against a decision of the Council or Election Committee that concerns
  - a. determining the date of the election and the time of the beginning and end of the voting (Section 6 Subsection 1);
  - b. drawing up the list of students holding voting rights and individuals who can stand for election (Section 7 Subsection 1);
  - c. the validity of a candidate list (Section 8);
  - d. determining the results of the election (Section 13 Subsection 2);
  - e. filling an interim vacancy (Section 19);can be submitted to the Council by every interested party within one week after the announcement of the decision.
2. The Council immediately decides if the objection is valid, reports this without delay in a well-reasoned response in writing to the individual(s) who submitted the objection and takes any measures that are necessary as a result.

### **VII                    Structure and mode of operation of the Council**

#### Section 21 Technical Chair of the SC

1. The Technical Chair of the Council is appointed and discharged as such by the Executive Board. The Technical Chair is not a member of the Council. The Council chooses an alternate Chair from its members.
2. The Technical Chair is responsible for preparing for the Council meetings. The Technical Chair makes agreements with the Executive Board about the procedures to be followed.
3. The Executive Board consults regularly with the Technical Chair and the alternate Chair of the Council so that good progress in decision making is assured as much as possible.
4. The Technical Chair, or in his absence the alternate Chair, represents the Council during any disputes between the Council and the Executive Board.

## Section 22 Mode of operation of the Council

1. The Council meets at least six times per year.
2. The Technical Chair convenes the meetings and the office of secretaries sends a notice in writing about the meetings to the members. Except for emergencies, the call to a meeting must take place at least 14 days before the meeting.
3. If one-third of the Council members request a meeting, giving reasons for doing so, the Technical Chair will convene a meeting. In that case, the meeting will take place within 14 days after the request has reached the Technical Chair.
4. A meeting can be held only if the majority of the members of the Council are present. If the Technical Chair and alternate Chair are both absent, the Council will choose a Chair for that meeting from its members.

## Section 23 Consultation meeting

1. There is a consultation meeting between the Council and the Executive Board.
2. The consultation meeting takes place at least six times per year.
3. The consultation meeting is held publicly. As an exception to the previous provision, the Council and the Executive Board can decide that a consultation meeting, or a portion thereof, will not be held in public if the interests of parties involved or third parties could suffer disproportional damage.
4. The Council and the Executive Board can establish additional rules concerning the confidentiality of matters addressed during a non-public meeting or portion thereof.
5. The Technical Chair, at the request of the Executive Board, convenes a meeting and the office of secretaries sends a written notice about the meetings to the members.

## Section 24 Decision making

1. Unless otherwise stipulated in these regulations, the Council makes decisions by a simple majority of votes. Issues are decided by voice vote, and matters concerning individuals are decided by written ballot.
2. As part of a decision about the appointment of an individual, if none of the candidates receives a simple majority during the first vote, a second vote is held between the two candidates who received the largest number of votes in the first vote. During the second vote, the candidate who receives the largest number of votes is chosen. If there is a tie vote, the winner is decided by drawing lots.
3. If there is a tie vote on a decision to be made by the Council which does not concern individuals, this proposal is again addressed at the next meeting. If there is another tie vote, the proposal is considered to be rejected.

## Section 25 Committees

The Council can establish the committees it requires to reasonably fulfil its task. The Student Council presents its resolution to establish a committee to the Executive Board, including the task, composition, authority and mode of operation of the committee.

## Section 26 Public nature of the meetings

1. The meetings of the Council are public.
2. As an exception to the provision in the first Subsection, the Council can decide that a meeting, or a portion thereof, will not be held in public if the interests of parties involved or third parties could suffer disproportional damage.
3. The Council can establish additional rules concerning the confidentiality of matters addressed during a non-public meeting or portion thereof.

## Section 27 Facilities

The Executive Board ensures, among other things, that

- a. the Council has access to meeting space and workspace;
- b. the Council is allocated a budget which includes official and secretarial support;
- c. the Council members receive financial reimbursement for their participation activities;
- d. the Council members receive the training that they require to fulfil their tasks (Section 9.48 Subsection 2 Higher Education and Research Act).

## Section 28

The Executive Board ensures that the members of the Council are not put at a disadvantage on account of their Council membership.

## **VIII Authority of the Council**

### Section 29 General authority and tasks (9.32 Higher Education and Research Act)

1. At least twice each year, the Executive Board provides the Council with the opportunity to discuss the general course of affairs at the University with them.
2. At least twice per year, the Supervisory Board consults with a delegation of the Student Council, the Central Works Council and the Participation Council (VHL).
3. The Council is authorised to make proposals to the Executive Board concerning all matters involving the University and to make its standpoints on such matters known. The Executive Board will respond within two months to the proposals referred to in the previous sentence with a well-reasoned reply to the Council in the form of a proposal. Before making the reply referred to in the previous sentence, the Executive Board provides the Council with at least one opportunity to consult with them about their proposal.
4. To the best of its ability, the Council promotes openness, mutual consultation and the public nature of the University.
5. The Council guards in general against discrimination at the University on any grounds whatsoever and specifically promotes the equal treatment of men and women as well as disabled individuals and immigrants.

### Section 30 Right of approval (Sections 9.33 and 9.38 of the Higher Education and Research Act)

1. The Executive Board requires the approval in advance of the Council for every decision made by the Executive Board concerning establishing or amending the following:
  - a. regulations in the areas of safety, health and welfare;
  - b. the choice of participation systems;
  - c. regulations concerning the financial support of students, as referred to in Section 7.51, Subsection 4, of the Higher Education and Research Act;
  - d. the education and examination regulations, referred to in Section 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act, with the exception of the topics referred to in the second Subsection of Section 7.13, points a through g, while taking account of the other provisions in this Section;
  - e. the educational frameworks of the University;
  - f. the free-choice subjects that do not fall directly under the responsibility of one of the Educational Institutes;

- g. the Student Charter as referred to in Section 7.59 of the Higher Education and Research Act;
  - h. the guidelines with respect to the ethical aspects linked to the activities of the University, as referred to in Section 1.7 of the Higher Education and Research Act;
  - i. the policy concerning internship and thesis contracts;
  - j. the policy concerning student supervision;
  - k. the policy concerning student facilities;
  - l. the policy concerning study facilities;
  - m. the budgets for student facilities;
  - n. major changes in the allocation of central financial means to the Educational Institutes.
2. The Executive Board requires the advance approval of two-thirds of the members of the Council for any decision to be taken by Executive Board to establish or amend Council regulations.

### Section 31 Advisory right

1. The Council has the right to provide advice on every decision to be taken by the Executive Board that concerns the following:
  - a. matters involving the continued existence of, and proper course of affairs at, the University;
  - b. the budget, which must include the amount of the institutional tuition fees;
  - c. matters of general importance to the special legal position of the staff of the University, to the extent this is not already arranged in or pursuant to the statutory regulations or a collective bargaining agreement;
  - d. the code of order of the Examination Appeals Board;
  - e. the code of order for the Advisory Committee for Objections and Appeals.
  - f. the general personnel and hiring policy, unless Section 9.36 subsection 2 of the Higher Education and Research Act applies, i.e. when this matter is arranged within the University in a regulation pursuant to law and or a statutory regulation, or in a collective labour agreement, or when this matter has been constituted after participation has been taken place in another way;
  - g. the policy concerning the institutional tuition fees, as referred to in Section 7.46 of the Act;
  - h. the arrangements made by the institutional administration on repayment of the statutory tuition fees, as referred to in Section 7.48 subsection 4 of the Act.
2. Before appointing or discharging a member of the Executive Board, the Supervisory Board holds a confidential hearing with the Council concerning the resolved decision to appoint or discharge. This hearing takes places in a timely fashion so that it can have an actual effect on the decision making.
3. The Student Council, the Central Works Council and the Participation Council (VHL) are jointly given the opportunity to advise the Supervisory Board about the profiles referred to in Section 9.7 subsection 4 of the Act and Section 10.3d subsection 4 of the Act; these profiles are used to appoint members of the Board.
4. One of the members of the Supervisory Board is nominated jointly by the Student Council, the Central Works Council and the Participational Council (VHL). The names of at least two nominees must be submitted. If none of the nominees are appointed by the Minister, the Student Council, the Central Works Council and the Participational Council (VHL) are given an opportunity to nominate new candidates. The Minister can be at variance with the second nomination, but must explain the reasons for doing so.

## Section 32

1. A resolved decision that requires the approval or advice of the Council as referred to in Section 31, Subsection 1, will be presented in writing by the Executive Board to the Council in a timely fashion so that the treatment in the Council can have an actual effect on the decision making.
2. The Executive Board explains the resolved decision and indicates as much as possible what it believes the consequences will be for the institution and what measure it believes must be taken during the implementation of the decision.
3. The Executive Board ensures that the Council is given an opportunity to consult with them before the Council provides its advice.
4. As quickly as possible, and in any case within 30 days after the resolved decision is presented to the Council, the Council will provide written advice to the Executive Board, or the Council will state whether or not the requested approval has been provided.
5. The time period referred to in Subsection 4 of this Section can be changed if the Executive Board and the Council agree to this.

## Section 33

1. If it does not want to follow the Council's advice entirely or partially, the Executive Board ensures that the Council is given the opportunity to consult with the Board before the definitive decision is made.
2. If the Executive Board does not follow the Council's advice entirely or partially, it informs the Council in writing about the reasons for this within four weeks after the advice has been sent to the Board in writing.

## Section 34 Provision of information

1. At the beginning of the academic year, the Executive Board provides the Council with the basic information concerning the composition of the Executive Board, the Supervisory Board, the organisation within the University and the main points of the already established policy.
2. At least once each year, the Executive Board informs the Council about the policy resolutions for the coming year concerning the financial, organisational and educational aspects of the University.
3. The Executive Board informs the Council immediately about any resolutions concerning matters described in the Institutional Plan.
4. The Executive Board provides the Council in a timely fashion, whether it is requested to or not, with all information that it needs within reason to fulfil its task. This always includes information, provided at least once per year, about employment compensation and benefits and the arrangements concerning specific groups of institution employees, as well as the members of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board.
5. The information provided by the Executive Board in accordance with the first Subsection will be provided in writing unless agreed otherwise.
6. The Programme Committees, submit recommendations to the Council about the annually enacted Education and Examination Regulations as well as, on request and on their own initiative advices about all matters concerning the study programmes for which the relevant Programme Committee is established.

## Section 35 Code of Order

To ensure an orderly mode of operation and orderly meetings, the Council compiles a Code of Order which must not be in conflict with law or with these Regulations. At the beginning of the academic year members of the Council must sign a written

statement that they have read, understood and will comply with the Code of Order and the SC Regulations.

#### Section 36 Minutes

1. Minutes are taken at every meeting of the Council. These minutes are made available to the public, except for the confidential items on the agenda.
2. The Council makes an annual written report of its activities and ensures that all parties concerned at the University are able to read this report.

### **IX Disputes concerning participation**

#### Section 37 Dispute Resolution Committee

There is a Dispute Resolution Committee for participation bodies in higher education ("the Committee" or "the Dispute Resolution Committee"). The website [www.onderwijsgeschillen.nl/medezeggenschap](http://www.onderwijsgeschillen.nl/medezeggenschap) contains information about this committee and its mode of operation.

#### Section 38 Authority and procedure of the Dispute Resolution Committee for participation bodies.

1. The Committee has jurisdiction to disputes between the Council and the Executive Board concerning:
  - a. the creation, amendment or application of the Student Council Regulations, and
  - b. the right of approval (Sections 9.30A, 9.33 and 9.38 of the Act), the general competencies and the tasks of the Council (Section 9.32 ), the advisory right, (Sections 9.33A and 9.35) and the special competencies (Section 9.36).
2. If there is a dispute between the Council and another body besides the Executive Board, the Executive Board will determine, while if there is a dispute between the Council and the Executive Board, the Supervisory Board will determine whether an amicable settlement is possible between the parties. If this is not possible, either the Council or the body with decision competency with which the Council has a dispute will submit the dispute to the Dispute Resolution Committee, as described below and in the Act, subject to the process rules of this Dispute Resolution Committee.

#### Section 39 Dispute concerning advisory right

1. If the dispute concerns the partial or complete failure to comply with an advice of the Council, the Executive Board/decision-competent body postpones the enactment of the decision by four weeks, unless the Council does not object to immediate enactment of the decision.
2. The Dispute Resolution Committee is authorised to arrange an amicable settlement between the parties.
3. If the Dispute Resolution Committee cannot attempt an amicable settlement or cannot reach an amicable settlement, it will settle the dispute by giving a binding decision. As part of this decision, the Committee reviews whether:
  - a. the Executive Board or the decision-competent body has complied with the stipulations in the law and the Student Council regulations,
  - b. the Executive Board or the decision-competent body made the proposal or decision while taking the reasonable interests of the parties concerned into account, and

- c. the Executive Board or the decision-competent body acted negligently with respect to the Council.

#### Section 40 Dispute concerning right of approval

1. If the Executive Board or the decision-competent body has not received approval from the Council, the Executive Board or the decision-competent body cannot make the decision as long as the dispute resolution committee has not settled the dispute. Hereto, the Executive Board or the decision-competent body requests the dispute resolution committee for permission to make the disputed decision.
2. The Dispute Resolution Committee grants this permission at the request of the Executive Board only if the decision of the Council to not give their approval is unreasonable or if the resolved decision of the Executive Board or the decision-competent body is required by substantial organisational, economic or societal reasons.

#### Section 41 Dispute about disregarding the advice of the programme committee

If the advices of the programme committee are disregarded entirely or in part, the Council can submit a request for a dispute settlement to the Dispute Resolution Committee for Joint Representative Advisory Bodies. The Council is authorised to take this action autonomously. During this process, the content of the programme committee's recommendation cannot be amended or supplemented by the Council.

#### Section 42 Appeal

1. A decision of the dispute resolution committee is subject to appeal at the Ondernemingskamer (Enterprise Section) of the Gerechtshof (Court of Appeal) in Amsterdam. This does not apply to decisions in disputes about disregarding the advices of the programme committee.
2. Appeal can be filed by a notice of appeal which must be submitted within one month following the date of the decision of the dispute resolution committee. The party who lodges appeal against the decision informs the other party about this action.
3. An appeal can only be made on the grounds that the dispute resolution committee has applied the law incorrectly.
4. The decision given on appeal by the Enterprise Section of the Court of Appeal in Amsterdam is final. Further appeal in cassation to the Supreme Court (Hoge Raad) is not possible.

#### Section 43 Authority to engage in legal proceedings

1. The Council can act judicially regarding a dispute, specifically as stipulated in these Council regulations and generally to the extent that the action has the object to have the Executive Board comply, regarding the Council, with its obligations that result from law and these regulations.
2. The Council cannot be ordered to pay the costs of litigation for the procedure of the dispute resolution committee and or for the procedure with the Enterprise Section of the Court of Appeal in Amsterdam.

**X Final provisions**

Section 44

These regulations are enacted by the Executive Board and require the approval of two-thirds of the members of the Council.

Section 45

These regulations are known as the Student Council Regulations 2010.

Section 46

These regulations take effect as soon as the approval as referred to in Section 30 subsection 2 has been provided.

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

### **I Definitions**

### **II Composition and term of office of Council**

#### Section 3

1. It is possible that members of the Council will sit on the Council for more than one year.
2. It is possible that some members of the Council will step down at a different time.

### **III Preparation for the election, active and passive voting rights, nomination of candidates**

#### Section 5

Besides the regular study programmes, the Administration and Management Regulations also describe study programmes for MSc students. MSc students are therefore included in the category of individuals who hold voting rights and are eligible for election.

### **IV Voting procedure during elections**

Sections 10 through 17 of these regulations replace Sections 10 through 20 of the Wageningen University Student Council Regulations, as these regulations were in force in November 1998. For the first time in 2003, students holding the right to vote can vote only via the Internet.

Therefore, they can no longer vote by means of written ballot.

Please Note: In cases where an electronic ballot procedure, as referred to in Sections 10 and following of these regulations, is not possible due to unforeseen circumstances, the Council and the Executive Board agreed during the consultation meeting on 16 December 2002 that in such a case, election by written ballot can take place with the application of Sections 10 through 20 of the Wageningen University Student Council Regulations, as these Regulations were in force in November 1998.

### **V Retreat of exclusion of SC members, filling interim vacancies**

### **VI Objection**

### **VII Structure and mode of operation of the Council**

For more extensive information about the mode of operation of the Council, refer to the Code of Order of the Council.

#### Section 21

Regarding the facilities for the Chair, refer to the most recent facility arrangements for the Student Council.

#### Section 22

This Section concerns the Council meeting.

## Section 23

Besides the Council meeting, there is also a consultation meeting between the Council and the Executive Board. This consultation meeting can be given shape in two ways.

1. The Council can invite the Executive Board to be present at a meeting of the Student Council.  
This consultation meeting is chaired by the Chair of the Council. The aim of this meeting is to exchange information.
2. The Executive Board can invite the Council for a meeting. This consultation meeting is chaired by the Executive Board. During this meeting, the Executive Board requests advice or approval for a proposal of the Executive Board. In addition, the Executive Board can invite the Council when it wants to exchange ideas with the Student Council.

## Section 24

The voting procedure of the Council is described in the Code of Order of the Student Council.

## Section 25

Every year, a facilities arrangement is made by the Executive Board in consultation with the Council.

## **VIII Authority of the Council**

### Section 29

This Section describes the general areas of authority of the Council. The authority of the Council is based on Section 9.32 of the Higher Education and Research Act.

### Section 30

This Section describes the approval authority of the Council.

Note to e: The Educational Frameworks refer to the substantive and organisational preconditions which the educational programmes of the University must satisfy. These Educational Frameworks can be considered as guidelines by virtue of Section 9.5 of the Higher Education and Research Act (referring to Section. 9.15, Subsection 1, point a of the Higher Education and Research Act) concerning the education and examination regulations.

Note to g: The Student Council has approval authority concerning all regulations that refer to the Student Charter. The Executive Board consults with the Student Council where implementation issues are concerned.

Note to k: With respect to the facilities referred to here, the approval authority concerns the form, accessibility and function of the facility. The Executive Board consults with the Student Council where implementation issues are concerned.

Note to l: With respect to the facilities referred to here, the approval authority concerns the form, accessibility and function of the facility. The Executive Board consults with the Student Council where implementation issues are concerned.

Note to n: Major changes take place if:

- the study programmes no longer satisfy the Educational Frameworks due to a change in the funding;
- the changes in the funding of education are the result of strategic considerations.

## Section 31

This Section describes the advisory authority of the Council.

The University budget (Subsection 1, point b) will take full account of the expected income and expenses. The budget will include an extensive explanation regarding the most important sources of income and expenses, as well as an explanation of how the financial means are allocated to the various parts of the organisation.

Specifically, there will be an explanation of how the aims of the University as formulated in the Institutional Plan will be realised by means of the policy formulated in the budget.

## Section 33

The procedure referred to in this Section when the advice of the Council is not followed indicates that the Council has a qualified advisory right with respect to the advisory authority as referred to in Section 30 Subsection 1.

## Section 34

The information referred to in Subsection 4 of this Section is understood to mean, among other things, the agenda and the resolution list of Executive Board meetings and information on its resolved policy, to the extent this concerns the authority of the Council.

## **IX            Disputes concerning participation**

### **X             Final provisions**