

UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI

***ELECTION OF ALUMNI MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
REGULATIONS,
2019***

Short Title

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Elections of Alumni Members of Council Regulations 2019.

Interpretation

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires-
 - ‘approved form’ means a form approved by the Electoral Officer;
 - ‘candidate’ means a person nominated as a candidate for election;
 - ‘counting officer’ means a person appointed by the Electoral Officer as a counting officer;
 - ‘nomination day’ means a day prescribed by the Electoral Officer as the day on which candidates are nominated at a place designated for this purpose by the Electoral Officer;
 - ‘election day’ means a date announced by the Electoral Officer as an election day;
 - ‘nomination paper’ means a form prescribed by the Electoral Officer for the purpose of a candidate registering his intention to contest an election;
 - ‘presiding officer’ means a person appointed by the Electoral Officer as such;
 - ‘University’ means the University of eSwatini, University of Swaziland, UBLS, UBS, PIUS XII and UBBS;
 - ‘Voters Card’ means the card issued by the Electoral Officer for an eligible voter;
 - ‘Registrar’ means the Registrar of the University of Eswatini.

Electoral Officer

3. (1) The Registrar is designated as an Elections Officer for purposes of the election of members of Council in terms of section 14 of the University of Swaziland Act, 1983.
 - (2) The Registrar may appoint such number of presiding officers and counting officers as may be necessary for purposes of conducting the election.
 - (3) Such counting officers or presiding officers shall be members of the University of eSwatini staff.

Qualification for Election

4. A person qualifies to be elected to Council if that person-
 - (a) is a former graduate of the University of eSwatini, University of Swaziland, UBLS, UBS, PIUS XII and UBBS;
 - (b) resides in eSwatini;
 - (c) not a current employee of the University of eSwatini; and

- (d) is not convicted of a crime involving dishonesty or any crime that may bring the name of the University into disrepute;

Tenure of Office

- 5. (1) Subject to section 14 of the University of Swaziland Act, a person elected in terms of these Regulations shall hold office for a term of not more than 3 years.
- (2) A person elected in terms of these Regulations shall not be in office for more than two consecutive terms.

Vacation of Office

- 6. A person elected in terms of these Regulations shall vacate his office where-
 - (a) he ceases to be qualified to be a member;
 - (b) he resigns in writing addressed to the Registrar
 - (c) if Council is satisfied that such member is, by reason of physical or mental infirmity unable to exercise the functions of his office, or by absence from three consecutive meetings without permission of the Chairman;
 - (d) on his demise;
 - (e) the terms expires;
 - (f) he is convicted of a crime involving dishonesty or any crime that may bring the name of the University to disrepute; or
 - (g) a vote of no confidence is passed on the person (where he conducts himself in an unprofessional manner without abiding by the ethical procedures expected of Council members).

Polling Centre

- 7. (1) For the purposes of these Regulations, the Kwaluseni Campus is designated as the polling centre.
- (2) Where for any reason it becomes impossible to hold an election at Kwaluseni Campus, the Electoral Officer shall designate any other suitable place as a polling centre for purposes of an election under these Regulations.
- (3) The Electoral Officer shall ensure that at the polling centre there is available the following-
 - (a) register of the candidates;
 - (b) ballot papers with passport size pictures of nominees;
 - (c) ballot paper markers;

- (d) ballot box (s); and
- (e) other material that may be necessary for conducting the elections.

Power to Adjourn Election Day

- 8. (1) The Electoral Officer may adjourn an election day in the event of an emergency.
- (2) Where an election has been adjourned in terms of sub-regulation (1) the Electoral Officer shall ensure that the next election date is set immediately within 14 days after the aborted election day.
- (3) The list of nominees shall not be affected by such adjournment.

Voter Register

- 9. (1) Only persons who are former students of the University of Eswatini, University of Swaziland, UBLS, UBS, PIUS XII and UBBS are eligible to participate in the elections.
- (2) Any person wishing to participate in the elections must register with the University Registrar (Electoral Officer) in person or online or other available means.
- (3) When registering a person shall be required to produce a university student identity card or university certificate or university transcript or such other proof that the person is a former student of the University.
- (4) Registration of voters shall be verified and those unsuccessful shall not be allowed to vote.

Nomination of Candidates

- 10. (1) At least twenty-one days before the election day, the Electoral Officer shall run an announcement in at least one local daily newspaper and one radio station, informing all interested, of the impending election.
- (2) On a date specified by the Electoral Officer as a nomination day, eligible voters shall attend to nomination of candidates.
- (3) Normally, the number of nominated candidates shall not exceed ten (10) and that will be determined by the number of voters supporting each candidate.
- (4) The nomination of a candidate for the election shall be endorsed with the consent of the candidate for nomination and supported by at least 4 voters.
- (5) The nomination of a candidate shall be made on an approved form which shall be designed by the Electoral Officer.
- (6) Nomination forms must be submitted to the office of the Registrar or emailed to a specified email address.

- (7) Only people who qualify to vote shall be nominated for purposes of the elections.

Withdrawal of a Candidate

11. (1) A candidate may, by written notice delivered to the Electoral Officer, withdraw his candidature any time before the election.
- (2) Where a candidate withdraws or for whatever reason is unable to participate as a nominee, that candidate shall not be replaced.

Right to Vote

12. (1) Every person who qualifies (in line with section 9 and section 4) shall be entitled to vote on the election day.
- (2) A voter shall be entitled to cast only one vote for each candidate of his choice.
- (3) Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Voting Results

13. (1) The results shall be ascertained by counting the votes cast for each candidate
- (2) The candidate that receives the most valid votes cast shall be declared elected.

Voting Time

14. (1) The voting time shall be as announced by the Electoral Officer.
- (2) A person shall not be allowed to vote after the voting time has elapsed.
- (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-regulation (2), where a voter was already at the polling centre at the time the voting was closed that person shall be allowed to cast his vote.

Electoral Officer's Duties

15. (1) The Electoral Officer shall ensure that elections are properly conducted in terms of these Regulations.
- (2) The Electoral Officer may delegate his functions to a presiding officer or counting officer for purposes of ensuring that an election is properly conducted.

Voting Procedure

16. (1) A voter is entitled to vote at the polling centre-
 - (a) on production of a national identity card; and
 - (b) the voter's name should be in the list of the voter's register.
- (2) A person who produces a false identification shall not be permitted to vote.

- (3) A voter shall be issued with a ballot paper which that person shall then mark by putting a cross against the picture of the candidate he wishes to be elected and cast into the ballot box.
- (4) After casting the vote, the voter shall not be permitted to cast another vote and the Electoral Officer shall ensure that this does not occur.

Spoilt Ballot Paper

17. (1) A voter who mistakenly spoils a ballot paper may be issued with a fresh ballot paper.
- (2) The Electoral Officer shall set aside such spoilt ballot paper.

Counting of Votes

18. (1) Counting of votes shall be conducted immediately after the close of the voting time.
- (2) Counting shall be done in the presence of all candidates or their duly authorised representatives.

Equality of Votes

19. In the event of the number of votes for two or more candidates being equal, the Electoral Officer shall announce the date on which a by-election shall be held to decide the winner between the tying candidates.

Declaration of Results

20. After counting and ascertaining the number of votes for each candidate, the Electoral Officer shall declare the candidate(s) who has received the highest vote(s) to have won the election.

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