

## **University Joint Assembly Regulations**

### Article 1      *Joint Assembly: right to information and special meetings*

- 1.1 At the beginning of the committee's year, the Executive Board provides the Joint Assembly with basic written information on the composition of the Executive Board, the Supervisory Board, and in relation to the organization of the University and the main points of the policy that has been established. At least once a year, the Executive Board informs the Joint Assembly in writing about the policy implemented by the Board in the past year and the policy plans for the University in the coming year in the areas of finance, organization and education. The Joint Assembly shares this information with the Staff Council and the University Student Council.
- 1.2 Unsolicited and in good time, the Executive Board provides the Joint Assembly with all the information the Joint Assembly needs in all reasonableness and fairness to perform its duties and, upon request, it provides in good time all the information the Joint Assembly deems necessary in all reasonableness and fairness for it to perform its duties. This includes information at least once a year regarding pay and the contents of terms of employment and arrangements for each group of people working at the institution, and for Executive Board members and the Supervisory Board. The Executive Board informs the Joint Assembly without delay of its plans with regard to the matters described in the Strategic Plan.
- 1.3 At least once a year, the Executive Board gives the Joint Assembly the opportunity to discuss the general affairs of the University with the Board. The Joint Assembly is authorized to invite the Executive Board at least once a year to discuss the proposed policy on the basis of the agenda it has drawn up. Instead of the two opportunities for discussion described above, the Executive Board and the Joint Assembly may decide to hold a meeting twice a year in which both forms of consultation are combined.

Article 2      *Joint Assembly; right of initiative*

The Joint Assembly is authorized to make proposals to the Executive Board and make its positions known to the Board on all matters that concern the University. The Executive Board furnishes the Joint Assembly with a well-founded written response to the proposals in the form of a proposal, within three months but not before the Joint Assembly has been given the opportunity to consult with the Executive Board regarding this proposal.

Article 3      *General powers and duties*

- 3.1 The Executive Board and the Joint Assembly meet in response to a justified request from the Executive Board, the Joint Assembly, the Staff Council or the University Student Council.
- 3.2 To the best of its ability, the Joint Assembly promotes openness, transparency and consultation within the University.
- 3.3 The Joint Assembly guards in general against discrimination on any grounds whatsoever and promotes in particular the equal treatment of men and women, and the involvement within the University of people with a disability or with a non-Western cultural background.
- 3.4 The Joint Assembly is authorized to submit a written request to the Institute for Human Rights if it judges that actions are being taken that are in violation of paragraph 3.
- 3.5 The Joint Assembly can appoint the committees that it reasonably needs in order to perform its duties. The Joint Assembly informs the Executive Board in writing of any intention to appoint a committee, detailing the committee's task, composition and working method.

Article 4      *Joint Assembly; power of advice*

- 4.1 The Executive Board gives the Joint Assembly the opportunity in good time to give advice on any decision to be made by the Executive Board concerning:
  - a. matters that affect the future existence and the good state of affairs within the University;
  - b. the adoption or amendment of the University's budget, which should make clear, among other things, the amount of the institutional tuition fees;
  - c. the adoption of the annual report, including the University's statement of accounts;
  - d. an amendment to the Charter of the VU Foundation.
- 4.2 The Supervisory Board gives the Joint Assembly the opportunity in good time to give advice on a decision to be made by the Supervisory Board to appoint or dismiss the members of the Executive Board. If a decision deviates from the advice given, the Supervisory Board shall justify this. However, the deviation cannot lead to a dispute regarding participation.

- 4.3 The Supervisory Board gives the Joint Assembly the opportunity in good time to give advice on the profile for Executive Board members and the recruitment process. If a decision deviates from the advice given, the Supervisory Board shall justify this.

Article 5      *Joint Assembly: power of approval*

- 5.1 The Executive Board requires prior approval from the Joint Assembly for every decision to be made by the Executive Board relating to the adoption or amendment of:
- a. the Strategic Plan;
  - b. the design of the Quality Assurance system (Article 1.18(1) Higher Education and Research Act), as well as the planned policy in the light of the results of the quality assessment (Article 2.9(2), second sentence Higher Education and Research Act);
  - c. the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Management Regulations.
  - d. provisions within the format for Teaching and Examination Regulations that are required to be adopted verbatim in all Teaching and Examination Regulations and which, when adopting such regulations, are subject to the right of approval of the Faculty Joint Assembly; and
  - e. education policy insofar as this leads to a change in provisions in the format for Teaching and Examination Regulations referred to under d.
- 5.2 The Executive Board requires prior approval from the Joint Assembly for the broad lines of the annual budget, considering at least the planned distribution of funds among the policy areas teaching, research, accommodation and management, investment, and personnel. This right also includes the power of approval regarding changes to the internal allocation system. The Executive Board involves the Joint Assembly in evaluating the allocation system in accordance with the multi-year evaluation cycle agreed with the Joint Assembly. If changes effectively lead to an entirely new model, this is submitted to the Joint Assembly for approval. The power of approval is not exercised if it relates to a part of the budget that is substantively regulated in a provision under or pursuant to the Higher Education and Research Act.

Article 6      *General procedure and deadlines for approval or advice*

- 6.1 The Executive Board or the Supervisory Board ensures that it requests advice at a time such that the advice can have a significant influence on decision-making. Furthermore, the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board asks the Joint Assembly for approval in good time.
- 6.2 The Joint Assembly is given the opportunity to consult the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board before it issues a recommendation or before approval is given or withheld.

- 6.3 Approval, a refusal to give approval or advice are communicated in writing to the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board.
- 6.4 A request for approval or advice is replied to within a reasonable time following receipt of the request.
- 6.5 The Executive Board or the Supervisory Board informs the Joint Assembly in writing as quickly as possible regarding the way in which it will respond to the advice given by the Joint Assembly.
- 6.6 If the Executive Board or the Supervisory Board does not want to act in accordance with the Joint Assembly's advice, or does not want to follow it completely, the Joint Assembly is given the opportunity to hold further consultations with the Executive Board before the final decision is made.