

Council Newsletter September 2016

Revision of the NWU Statute

Council mandated the Exco on 22 June 2016 to appoint a refinement committee consisting of legal experts, to work under the following mandate to provide a final text for consideration by all relevant stakeholder groups:

- Formulating the text in plain language and in clear and unambiguous terms.
- Checking the general structure of the document and ensuring a logical sequence.
- Ensuring the substantiveness and comprehensiveness of the text and sufficient referencing to the Statute made practical by means of relevant sets of rules.
- Attention to any relevant matters that would need to be brought to the attention of Council.

The Refinement Committee concluded the finalisation of the text on 30 August, after which a consultative phase, as approved by Council Exco on 25 August, commenced.

The following structures were invited to provide input by no later than 15 September 2016 into the revised draft of the Statute for the consideration of Council:

- Members of the NWU Council and all Council committees
- NWU Senate and its standing committees
- Faculty boards or faculty managements of the 15 NWU faculties
- The Institutional Forum
- The Institutional Student Representative Council (ISRC) and the respective Campus Student Representative Councils (CSRCs)
- The NWU Convocation and NWU Alumni Association
- The NWU Board of Donors
- The NWU Institutional Management Committee
- The Institutional Bargaining Forum
- Any staff member of the NWU

Feedback was received from the following groups and individuals:

- The Council Exco Finalisation Committee and individual Council members
- Campus senate committees
- Campus managements
- Faculty boards and faculty managements
- CSRCs and the acting Dean of Students
- Members of the NWU Convocation and Alumni Association
- The NWU Institutional Management Committee
- NWU Convocation and Alumni Association
- Individual NWU staff members

In accordance with a request for final professional input by the Council Finalisation Committee (at a meeting held on 13 September 2016), the Refinement Committee considered the input at a meeting held on 20 September 2016.

Council received and noted a cleaned-up text (finalised after account of all input as recommended by the Refinement Committee), as well as a working document in which the text of 30 August as well as the input received by stakeholders (and considered by the Refinement Committee on 20 September 2016), is provided.

Council resolved to approve the revised Statute in principle to allow the institutional registrar to begin the process of engagement and consultation with the DHET in terms of initial feedback from the Department on the Statute that could be taken into account in the finalisation. The Statute would therefore not yet be submitted for approval to the Department, and consideration would be given to the input provided by Council members at the meeting.