

# THE EAST AFRICAN UNIVERSITY



## TEAUSA CONSTITUTION

# **REVIEWED: AUGUST 2014**

## **THE EAST AFRICAN UNIVERSITY (TEAU)**

### **THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL CONSTITUTION/ TEAUSA CONSTITUTION.**

#### **Preamble.**

We the students of The East African University, look with concern to the world we inherit and hoping to exert influence upon its development, fostering a culture of social love, in which we put the common good ahead of private good and we extent our charity to our immediate community and the whole world. Our generation needs to give back to the material world, to work and study, to culture and social life, to politics and economics, to family life, and to all human endeavors, their noble and original meaning.

As students of The East African University (TEAU), we are ready to teach, examine and govern ourselves, to give each other mutual help, and to contribute to the welfare of all members of our university to the best of our ability. This constitution sets forth the structure and guidelines by which we hope to do so.

The East African University Student Council is established with accordance with the rules and regulations governing student conduct and discipline in the university. The East African University Student Council (TEAUSC) shall be governed by the terms and provisions set in this constitution.

This constitution shall not discriminate on the basis of age, color, ethnicity, gender, national origin, disability or handicap, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio – economic background or unique individual style.

#### **a. Purpose of the Council**

- i. The association shall be guided by the sole purpose of voicing students concerns.
- ii. To promote the economic, spiritual, social and physical welfare of the students.

- iii. To advance gender equity and promote and protect the interest of members with physical disability.

#### **b. Core-Values of the Association**

The association is dedicated to service delivery in accordance with the provisions of this constitution on the lines of TEAU core values;

- Professionalism
- Commitments
- Integrity
- Reverence for God
- Quality
- Firmness
- Honesty
- Flexibility
- Innovativeness

#### **c. Objectives of the Association**

- i. The association shall object to ensure a liaison with the directors of alumni concerning the interest of the students.
- ii. To promote students with the opportunity suitable for their healthy social life through sports, arts, entertainment clubs and any other curriculums that develop students' ability and creativity.
- iii. To facilitate initiatives amongst students that foster the spirit of unity, healthy academics through research, pursuit for knowledge and community services.
- iv. To engage in works through cooperation with institution with similar objectives for the common good and development of the student welfare.
- v. With approval of the Vice Chancellor, to collaborate with non-political organizations, professional associations and students groups that share the aims and objectives of TEAUSC

#### **d. Principles of the Associations**

The association shall affirm to the following principles of the (University) community of The East African University.

1. To respect, preserve, protect and promote the heritage of the students association.
2. To promote understanding, tolerance and appreciation of diversity.
- 3.

## **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

1. **TEAU** – The East African University
2. **TEAUSC** – The East African University Student Council
3. **SC** – Student Council
4. **TEAUSA** – The East African University Student Association.
5. **SGM** – Special General Meeting.
6. **AGM** – Annual General Meeting.
7. **DOS** – Dean of Students.
8. **VC** – Vice Chancellor.
9. **E. G. M.** – Emergency general meeting.

## **ARTICLE 1:**

### **CONSTRUING THE CONSTITUTION**

#### **1.1 Construing the Constitution**

1. This constitution shall be interpreted in a manner that :
  - Promotes its purpose, values and principles
  - Enhances the rights and obligation of students
  - Contribute to peaceful co-existence among the students and the entire University
  - Permits the development of the University Policy and the University charter.
2. If there's a conflict between different versions of this constitution, the English version shall prevail
3. Every provision of this constitution shall be interpreted according to the doctrine of interpretation that the
4. Law is always speaking and therefore:
  - a) Grant power and duties imposed by this constitution and the exercised or performed as occasion requires by the person holding the office.
  - b) A reference to this constitution to an office shall be read with any formal alteration necessary to make it applicable to the circumstances.

- c) A reference to this constitution to a TEAUSC office or a person holding such an office includes a reference to the person discharging the functions of that office at any particular time.
- d) A reference to this constitution to an office is a reference to that office, if the office has ceased to exist, is a reference to its successor or to the equivalent office.
- 5. In this constitution, unless the context shall otherwise require –  
The word “includes” shall mean “including, but not limited to.” A word or expression as defined in this constitution, the grammatical variation or cognate expression shall bare correspond at meaning, as read with the changes required by the context.
- 6. In this constitution, when determining the time frame between two events, if the time is expressed-
  - a) As days, the day of occurrence of the first events shall be excluded and the day of occurrence of last events shall be included
- 7. Any period of time prescribed by this constitution for any purpose, Sundays, Public holidays, Climax of the cultural week shall not count when computing the time
- 8. If any person or official has authority under this constitution to extend a period of time prescribed by this constitution, the authority will be exercised ONLY before the expiry of the period.
- 9. A person who has vacated an office as established under this constitution shall only be elected or recalled to the post in accordance with this constitution.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **3.1 Membership of TEAUSA**

- I. Unless or otherwise provided, any student admitted to The East African University for a course leading to qualification for the award of a certificate, diploma, undergraduate, postgraduate or any other course offered in The East African University as provided by university senate shall be a member of TEAUSA.
- II. Clause (1) refers to full time, part time and school based excluding distance learning.

#### **2.2 Obligation of members**

- i. Member shall abide and bind themselves by the spirit of and the corporate organs thereby established by this constitution.

- ii. Every member is required to respect the property of TEAUSA, the University and the public, failure to which the member shall be subjected to the disciplinary provision set by the university.
- iii. Every member is required to honor, his or her financial obligations to TEAUSA.
- iv. Every member shall recognize TEAUSA officials as the legitimate representatives of the students' body.
- v. Every member shall be obliged to honor the subsequent acts as shall be now and then enacted by the students' parliament.
- vi. Members shall be required to conduct themselves in a manner that does not infringe the right of
  - a) The other member
  - b) The environment
  - c) The public
  - d) The administration and
  - e) Any other persons with goodwill interest to the university.

### **2.3 Deprivation of Membership**

1. A member can be deprived of their right of membership upon

- a. Expulsion by the university.
- b. If membership was acquired by fraud, false representation or concealment of any material fact

### **2.4 Cessation of Membership**

i) Membership shall cease upon;-

- a. Death of a member
- b. Termination of studies
- c. Transfer
- d. Discontinuation by the university and
- e. Completion of studies.

### **2.5 Membership fee**

- i) Membership fee should be determined by the Association's supreme council and shall be subject to approval by the university senate.

## **ARTICLE 3.**

### **SOVEREIGNTY OF THE STUDENTS AND SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION**

#### **3.1 Sovereignty of the students**

- i. All sovereign power and authority belongs to the students of The East African University and shall be exercised only in accordance with this constitution.
- ii. The students shall exercise the sovereign power and authority either directly or through their democratically elected representatives.
- iii. Authority is delegated to the following Association organs;-
  - a. The executive council
  - b. The supreme council
  - c. The parliament and
  - d. The governing council

### **3.2 Supremacy of this constitution**

- I. This constitution is supreme and binds all students, all association organs and all offices mentioned here in at all levels of governance.
- II. No person may claim or exercise association powers, except as authorized under this constitution.
- III. The university policies and code of conduct shall form part of this law.
- IV. A law or action that is consistent with this constitution shall stand void and
- V. The legality or validity of this constitution shall not be subject to challenge by or before any meeting and should only be amended by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the members' signatures and subjected to parliament for approval. When such an event happens the parliament should meet within a bracket of 14 days to decide.

### **3.3 Legal reference**

1. This constitution shall stand as source of legal reference in line with the university policies as stated in Article 3.3(3) and hence, any attempts to institute a grouping against this constitution is unlawful.
2. Article 2.2 (i.) shall apply.
3. There shall not shoot up or attempt to be another Association of the caliber of TEAUSA in TEAU.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **BILL OF RIGHTS AND PUNITIVE MEASURES**

#### **4.1 Rights to access information.**

1. Every member shall have the right to access information pertaining to TEAUSA operations.
2. Every member shall have the right to access TEAUSA financial information

#### **4.2 Rights not to be discriminated against**

1. Every member shall have the right not to be discriminated on the line of
  - a) Health status
  - b) Gender
  - c) Nationality
  - d) Campus
  - e) Tribe
  - f) Age and
  - g) Faculty

#### **4.3 Right of contribution**

1. It shall be the right of every member to follow provision of Article 2.2(ii).

#### **4.4 Right to participate in the proceedings of any Association forum**

1. Every member shall have the right to be heard in ;–
  - a. Annual general meeting
  - b. Special general meeting
  - c. Parliamentary proceedings as stipulated in article 1

#### **4.5 Limitation of rights**

1. Financial information shall only be accessible by a member after a submission of a letter requesting to do so in fourteen calendar days.
2. The right shall be limited to the extent of what shall be deemed by this constitution that it does not prejudice or its in contrast with **Article 4.2**
3. Every member seeking an elective post shall have to comply with the electoral guidelines as shall be given by the university Electoral Commission must have had no previous criminal/indiscipline record, and meet University required policies.

#### **4.6 TEAU vs. TEAUSC**

- i. Every member to be elected into a TEAUSC office shall champion the vision, mission and the philosophy of the University.

#### **4.7 Right to access TEAUSC facilities and services**

- i. Right to access TEAUSC amenities shall only be exercised in such a manner that it shall not be through unlawful means or otherwise stipulated in this constitution and the University policies.

#### **4.8 Right to be heard**

- i. Right to be heard shall only be accorded if the content of the speaker shall fail to be derogatory as so put forth in this constitution and whether rules and regulations of such proceedings shall be in accordance with this constitution.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **Leadership and Integrity**

#### **5.1 Oath of affirmation**

1. Before assuming office a person shall take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation described in the fourth schedule

#### **5.2 Conduct of TEAUSC official**

1. A TEAUSC official shall at all times conduct himself or herself in such a manner that
  - a. Avoids compromising the interests of members in favor of personal interests.
  - b. Avoids demeaning the office or the position the official holds.
  - c. Avoids any conflict between personal interest and that of members and the University policies.
  - d. Avoid contravening TEAU rules and regulations.
2. An official who contravenes clause (1)
  - a. Shall be subject to the applicable disciplinary procedure for the relevant office.
  - b. May in line with section (a) be dismissed or otherwise removed from office and
  - c. Shall be disqualified from holding any other office under this constitution.

#### **5.3 Restriction on activities of TEAUSC officials.**

1. A holder of a TEAUSC office shall not hold more than one office.
2. Any TEAUSC official shall not hold office in a political party.
3.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the cabinet must reside in the Main Campus (Kitengela Campus).
4. Parliament shall enact legislation to effect clause (3).

#### **5.4 Responsibility of Leaders**

1. The guiding principles of leadership and integrity shall include:-
  - a. The mission statement, the vision statement and the philosophy of the university in the
  - b. Objectivity and impartiality in decision making and in ensuring that decisions are not influenced by nepotism, favoritism, any improper motive, as may so be determined by this constitution or ungodly practices.
  - c. Service to God and humanity based solely on the interest of members, demonstrated by-
  - d. Accountability to stakeholders for decision and actions and

- e. Discipline and commitment in service to the people.
- 2. Honesty in execution of official duties.
- 3. Compromise of any personal interest that may conflict with association duties.

### **5.5 Membership and leadership**

- 1. Leaders shall be appointed, elected or nominated to their offices as stipulated in chapter 3.
- 2. A person is not eligible for appointment, election or nomination to the TEAUSC office or any other office created by this constitution unless he or she is a member of TEAUSA.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **6.1 The Students' Council.**

- i. The name of this organization shall be The East African University Student Council (TEAUSC). Herein after as the Student Council (SC).
- ii. The head Quarters of the SC shall be in the main campus Kitengela.
- iii. The student council is a student organization at The East African University.
- iv. The office of the SC will be located in the SC office in the main university campus. It will also have its branches in other branch campuses.
- v. The student council shall constitute of students of The East African University only.

### **6.2 Mission**

The SC shall exist to serve and represent the students of The East African University (TEAU). The members of the SC shall serve as official representatives of the student body both to the TEAU Community and to the external world. In fulfilling these purposes, the SC shall support the mission and objectives of TEAU and shall act at all times within the terms of this constitution.

### **6.3 Objectives**

- i.** To ensure that the views and needs of the students are adequately represented in the SC, in the university, local community and at a national level.
- ii.** To provide welfare service of students. The SC regards the well – being of all students as a top priority and firmly believes in the importance of student services being run by the students themselves. Through its various committees, together with the Student Help Center, the SC offers students a comprehensive network of support.
- iii.** To foster a sense of community by promoting the cultural, religious, social and sporting welfare of students through clubs, societies, campus organizations and myriad of other activities such as community service, both on and off campus.
- iv.** To provide the best quality service to the students in all areas including service such as Entertainment, sports, etc.
- v.** To adapt to the changing needs of students, and changes in students aspirations, by constantly revising policies and procedures as necessary, ensuring that the best interests of the students are always upheld.
- vi.** To be representatives and to ensure that the SC members and all SC appointed official work are done in a transparent manner and are accountable to the student body and TEAU Community at large. The SC shall use all means of communication and consultation to encourage student participation in its decision making process.
- vii.** The SC should help to promote mutual contact, a democratic outlook and a spirit of oneness among the students of TEAU

#### **6.4 The Student Council May Also Organize The Following Activities.**

- i.** Debates, lectures, transportation, discussions, study circles essays, etc.
- ii.** Competitions.
- iii.** Cultural performances.
- iv.** Indoor games and other sporting activities.
- v.** Publication of magazines, bulletins and wall newspapers.
- vi.** Trips and tours to places of historical and educational importance.

- vii. Social service and social reliefs' activities.
- viii. Organizing and running co-operatives.
- ix. Supervising bi – elections and referenda.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **Composition and Essential Duties**

#### **7.1 Voting Members**

- i. The SC shall consist of eleven voting members whose positions, duties and responsibilities are outlined in section 8.2 below
- ii. The SC members shall work together as dedicated, effective and responsible representatives of the entire student body.
- iii. All members of the SC shall hold office for a one university calendar year term.
- iv. In order to carry out their duties as specified in this constitution, the SC members must attend ordinary and extra – ordinary meetings of all committees which they are assigned.
- v. The SC shall be responsible for the appointment of two student representatives (Male and Female each) to each Departmental Board of the University, and to such other committees as may from time to time require student representatives, for supervising elections and referenda in accordance with Article 1, section 4.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **The East African University Student Council by - Laws and The Cabinet.**

#### **8.1 Patron.**

1. The Dean of Students of TEAU shall be the patron of the SC.
2. The patron shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the SC functions in accordance with this constitution.

#### **8.2 The Cabinet.**

### **8.2.1 The President**

The president shall

- 1) Be the chairperson of –
  - i. TEAUSC
  - ii. The executive council and
  - iii. The supreme council
- 2) Be answerable to all matters on behalf of TEAUSC
- 3) Be an ex-official member of all ad-hoc committees
- 4) Be a co-signatory to all TEAUSC chapters and others negotiable instruments.
- 5) Represent members in the University Senate.
- 6) Represent members in the governing Council.
- 7) Address the opening of each parliament.
- 8) Subject to this constitution carry out any other duties that may be delegated to him or her by the executive or parliament provided that such duties are consistent with the laws of the land and the policies of the university.
- 9) Lay the report of every ad-hoc committees to the Annual General Meeting.
- 10) Uphold, safeguard and respect this constitution and ensure the protection of the rights of members.
- 11) Be the custodian of their constitution and shall ensure that it is free of malicious interference.
- 12) Calls regular and special meetings.

### **8.2.2 Vice President.**

- i. Assume responsibility of the president in his or her absentia.
- ii. Be the deputy to the president.
- iii. Assists the president in coordinating activities.
- iv. Be in charge of all administration and internal administration matters of the association.
- v. Attend all association meetings not unless prevented by sufficient reasons made known to the executive council and
- vi. Subject to this constitution perform duties as delegated to them by the president and or the executive.

**8.2.3** Be a representative of TEAUSC in the University Senate and the governing Council if the President is not available.

### **8.2.4**

## **8.2.5 General Secretary**

### **8.2.6**

- i.** The secretary general shall
  - a) Be secretary to the executive council and the organization
  - b) Shall take the minutes of all executive council meetings and association meetings.
- ii.** Be co-signatory to all **TEAUSC** instruments and or all documents with the President or any other official as stipulated under this constitution.
- iii.** Be a representative of **TEAUSC** in the University Senate and the governing Council if both the President and his/her vice – president is not available.
- iv.** Take and keep true and accurate minutes of the proceedings of every executive council meetings, supreme council and any other General association meetings.
- v.** In consultation, with the President and the vice - president of parliament draw the **TEAUSC** programme of events.
- vi.** Supervise every official information and external relations relevant to **TEAUSC** and all association official publication.
- vii.** The custodian of all **TEAUSC** documents, reports of committees and a copy of the sitting government’s election results and
- viii.** Be an ex-official to the parliament. (the speaker of parliament)
- ix.** The secretary of the governing council
  - x.** Keep accurate minutes of the meetings of the governing council and custodian of all documents pertaining to his or her governing council and shall-
  - xi.** Be the custodian of all reports and progress details of clubs at campus level
  - xii.** Be the sender of notices for the governing council in consultation with the chairperson and
- xiii.** Chair the clubs committee meetings.

**8.2.7** Supervises fundraising activities.

### **8.2.8 Treasurer.**

The treasurer shall;

- 1) Prepare annual budget for TEAUSA
- 2) Shall report to the finance as duly required by the supreme council (shall prepare financial report to finance director)
- 3) Liaison to office of Students Activities and Organization for the purpose of organization funding (TEAUSC funding, etc.)

4) Responsible for dispensing funds in accordance with goals and programs established by organization.

5)

### **8.2.9 Health**

The health and sanitation director shall

- 1) Promote gender equity in the University
- 2) Represent TEAUSC at the students' welfare committee and the catering and accommodation service board.
- 3) Work in liaison with service provider and the administration in ensuring quality welfare services.
- 4) Ensure a nourishing and affordable menu is provided to members of the association in the various areas of the cafeteria within the university.
- 5) Establish and maintain cordial relationship with catering department and housekeeping and the human resource department and any other department within the university whose operation affect the living environment of members of the association.
- 6) Ensure all members of the association receive valuable and quality medical assistance from the University's health clinic.
- 7) Ensures that no student relates with a poor environment due to in attention from any of the relevant university departments.

### **8.2.10 Sports.**

The sports minister shall;

- 1) Develop sports policies and table them in parliament for deliberation.
- 2) Creates a sports committee and be the chair of sports committee and nominate members of the sports committee.
- 3) Represent TEAUSC in all university sports council and all university sports committees at the campus level.
- 4) Organizes indoor and outdoor sporting activities for the institution.
- 5) Ensures all games are available and all gaming kits are available, i.e. balls, jerseys, etc.
- 6) Ensures that all the players are provided with all necessary support from the SC and administration.

### **8.2.11 Transport**

The transport minister shall;

- 1) Be in charge of the transport of the students and the union trips.

- 2) Should be concerned with the maintenance and whereabouts of the institution transportation facilities.
- 3) Prepare the transportation schedule and bus stations, together with the university transport officer.

#### **8.2.12 Education**

The education minister shall;

- 1) Ensure results gets to the students in time and proper channels are followed.
- 2) Ensures all students are provided with internship letters and academic transcripts when requested.
- 3) Liaises with the administration to ensure that the library is equipped with text books and other learning facilities such as e-books.
- 4) Ensure that any academic complain such as lectures poor attendance is reported through its right channel.

#### **8.2.13 Environment**

The environment minister should;

- 1) Ensure that TEAU environment is kept clean and neat at all times.
- 2) Make preservations of the environment, i.e. trees, grass, flowers, etc.
- 3) Reports any action made with the violation of the natural nature of the environment, to the SC.
- 4) Organizes environment activities such as, tree planting, water conservation, cleaning of the compound in and the surrounding of the institution.

#### **8.2.14 Entertainment.**

The minister of entertainment should;

- 1) Develop entertainment policies and table them in parliament for deliberation.
- 2) Represent association in the committees of the university choir and the university drama team.
- 3) Entertainment services are paid on time, and that all facilitator are in goods working conditions.
- 4) Organize and hold cultural and other entertainment events in the institution i.e. freshers bash, cultural week, etc.

### **8.3 The Student Council and The Administration**

- Every member of the SC should be properly and adequately motivated by the administration.
- Proper channels should be used i.e. if the administration wants a rule to be made, they shall involve the SC president first, and who should consult the council.

- No student should go directly to the administration without going through any member of the SC first.
- All members of the SC and the administration should work hand in hand in helping each other in the benefit of The East African University.

#### **8.4 Removal from office**

1. Any member of the executive council may be removed from office if;-
  - a) They constantly fail to champion the vision, mission, philosophy and core values of the university.
  - b) They fail to honor this constitution, the university statutes or the laws of the land.
2. Clause (1) shall apply to all members of the government.
3. Is suspended from the university.
4. There are claims and evidence of gross misconduct by the official.
5. Persistent inability to execute the duties of the office as provided in this constitution or as may be determined by the parliament.

#### **8.5 Vacancy of a TEAUSC Office**

1. A TEAUSC office shall be declared vacant by the president in writing to the Dean of Students and the Vice Chancellor.
2. Clause (1) shall mature if;-
  - a. An official resigns
  - b. Is removed from office on the grounds stipulated in article 8.4.
  - c. Continued absence from office
  - d. Is recalled by the electoral commission
  - e. Has received from the university more than one warning letters for contravening the regulations governing students' conducts as contained in the university statutes.
  - f. Is convicted of criminal offence in a court of law.
3. The office of the vice-chancellor shall facilitate a by election in an event a matter as so raised by this article arises.

### **ARTICLE 9**

#### **Elections**

##### **9.1 General Principle for the Electoral System**

The system of elections shall abide with the following principles.

- a) Not more than two thirds the number of commissioners in the electoral commission shall be of the same gender.
- b) Fair representation of the persons with disability.
- c) Free and fair elections, which are –
  - i. By secret ballot
  - ii. Free of (from) violence, intimidation, improper influence or corruption.
  - iii. Conducted by a body independent of either aspiring and or outgoing TEAUSC officials or members.
  - iv. Transparent and
  - v. Administered in an impartial, neutral, efficient, accurate, verifiable and accountable manner.

## **9.2 Establishment and composition of Electoral Commission**

- i. The electoral commission shall be instituted during a Student General Meeting.
- ii. It shall compose of twelve graduating students in their final semester representing the various campuses as stipulated in article 4.1(b) and two administration members
- iii. The electoral commission shall enact any other rules and regulations pertaining the electoral process and which are not mentioned in the constitution.
- iv. Legislation provided for by clause (c) shall ensure that voting at every election or referenda is –
  - a. Simple
  - b. Transparent and
  - c. Takes into account the special needs of
    - I. Persons with disability and
    - II. Other persons with special needs.
  - v. A candidate shall be declared a winner by the presiding officer on the basis of having acquired a simple majority of votes.
  - vi. The election of all cabinet members shall have its results announced by the chief presiding officer at the main polling center. The main polling station should be a central place that has been agreed by the majority of electoral commission.

## **9.3 Voters and Voting**

- 1) Every TEAUSA member who qualifies into membership on the lines stipulated in this constitution shall qualify to be a voter.

## **9.4 Votes**

- 2) Votes cast shall include both valid and rejected votes as may so be determined by the electoral commission and only the ballot papers authorized by the electoral commission shall be valid.

### **9.5 Election**

- 3) At every election, the Electoral Commission shall ensure that –
  - a. Any voting method adopted by the commission is simple, accurate, verifiable, secure, accountable and transparent.
  - b. The votes cast are counted, tabulated and the results announced promptly by the presiding officer at each polling center.
  - c. Appropriate structures and mechanisms shall be put in place by the office of the Dean of Students to eliminate malpractice and ensure the safe keeping of election materials.
  - d. A member who qualifies to be a voter as so stipulated in *article sixteen* shall be registered at only one registration center and shall therefore only be eligible to vote at that level.
  - e. Electoral Commission shall not be eligible to participate in the voting process.
  - f. Electoral Commission shall work in constituency with this constitution and in consultation with the office of the dean of students.

### **9.6 Electoral Disputes**

- 1) Petition concerning an election shall be filled within 24hrs after declaration of election results by the senior presiding officer.
- 2) The subject of petition shall be directed to the office of the Dean of Students.
- 3) A candidate with a petition shall be required to collect a minimum of 100 signatures at the constituent campus level.
- 4) The Dean of Students may either appoint himself or herself or any other person into the panel that shall hear the petition, the university chaplain and D.V.C. academics appointee shall also be part of that panel.
  - i. There shall be appointed students by the S.G.M. who should have at least a minimum legal knowledge.
  - ii. The chairperson of the panel shall be appointed at the special general meeting and shall have legal knowledge and be a finalist.
- 5) Clause (d) in case a member or members to the panel as appointed by a S.G.M. is deemed unfit for the position the students' parliament shall appoint a replacement.
- 6) The names of the appointees shall be presented to the office of the Dean of Students within 12 hours after appointment.

### **9.7 The Ruling of the Petition**

- 1) The ruling of the petition shall serve as precedence for other such panels as shall in the future be established by the authorities mentioned in clause (d).

## **9.8 Political Parties**

- 1) Political parties shall subscribe to the rules set by the Electoral Commission.
- 2) They shall uphold the spirit and strength of their constitution.
- 3) Shall subscribe to the universities code of conduct.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **10. PROCEDURES**

- 10.1** A quorum of not less than  $2/3$  of the members of the SC is required to convene meetings and conduct votes.
- 10.2** All meetings, including committees shall be presided over by the chair of the body assembled. The chair of any meeting shall determine the rules and procedures of that meeting within bounds laid out by this constitution and the by – laws of the SC and if the chair is not available the vice will chair the meetings.
- 10.3** All motions shall be decided by consensus or, when requested by no less than  $1/2$  of the members present, by an open vote. In case of an open vote, a number of votes cast for and against shall be recorded in the minutes, unless  $2/3$  of the members present are in favor of waiving this requirement. A member must be present in order to cast his/her vote.
- 10.4** Any member of the SC who wishes to vote on a particular issue to be held by secret ballot shall request such a ballot at or before the meeting, in which case voting shall be done by secret ballot
- 10.5** For a regular motion to pass, the number of members voting in the affirmative must be greater than the number of the members voting in the negative. In the case of a tie, the chairperson shall have the deciding vote. (casting vote)
- 10.6** Any issue concerning the students should go to the SC first before forwarding to administration through the Dean of Students
- 10.7** The president is the only one to forward any issue to the Dean of Students, and in his absence the vice should.
- 10.8** The president has the power to handle minor matter or issues of the students.
- 10.9** The president must consult the SC in making major decisions.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **11. The Administration**

#### **11.1 Office of the Dean of Students**

1. The Dean of Students shall be the mandatory signatory to TEAUSC finance from the accounts office.
2. Shall advise the parliament.
3. Shall be the sole custodian of all electoral materials.
4. Shall in consultation with any petition panel determine the verdict of the panel.
5. May call for an E.G.M. if;-
  - a. He or she so deem it necessary in accordance with this constitution
  - b. If the sitting government fails to convene an A.G.M. as so required by this constitution.
6. Shall be the immediate recipient of the election results from the senior presiding officer.

### **11.2 The office of the Vice Chancellor**

- 1) The vice-chancellor shall promulgate this constitution.
- 2) Facilitate;-
  - a. any by election as may so be reported by the Dean of Students
  - b. Facilitates the transportation of the members of council from branch campuses to the main campus.
  - c. The provision of a full board accommodation for the head of the executive council (Guild President).
- 3) The vice chancellor shall in consultation with the senate approve the dissolution of TEAUSC as stipulated in section **14.2**

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **12. MEETINGS**

#### **12.1 The A.G.M.**

- a. The president in consultation with the supreme council and dean of students shall convene an Annual General Meeting at the end of every financial year.
- b. The meeting shall receive annual reports and accounts from
  - i. The president
  - ii. The secretary general
- c. The **A.G.M.** shall delegate roles to the parliament and shall handle **A.O.B.** proposed with the approval of the president.

#### **12.2 The S. G. M**

- 1) A Special General meeting may be called by the supreme council through the secretary general.

- 2) Notice in writing of such meetings and agenda shall be sent to all members not less than seven days (7) days before the day of such meetings.
- 3) The proceedings of such meetings shall entail the appointment of –
  - a. Auditors
  - b. Electoral commission
  - c. Petition panel

### **12.3 The E. G. M**

The E. G. M shall be convened by the Dean of Students

### **12.4 Extra Ordinary meetings.**

A meeting shall be called for any purpose or purposes of an emergency nature by the president or in the absence of the president the deputy president or in the absence of the two above, any member of the supreme council as so stipulated in this constitution.

### **12.5 Procedure for meetings**

- 1) The chair of the meeting as so provided for in this constitution shall call the meeting to order and lead the members systematically through the items of the agenda.

### **12.6 Quorum of the meetings**

Quorum of any association's meeting shall be not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all the members.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **13. OATHS AND AFFIRMATIONS**

#### **13.1 Swearing in**

- 1) The elected TEAUSC government shall be sworn in two weeks after the release of the election results or exactly seven days after the determination of an election petition.
- 2) Elected officials shall take office upon being sworn in.
- 3) No member of the government shall be sworn in after there is a successful petition against them.
- 4) The swearing ceremony shall take place in front of the Vice chancellor and shall be conducted by the University Chaplain at a place that shall be determined by the Dean of Students.

#### **13.2 Oaths and Affirmations**

- 1) As so stipulated in schedule three, incoming officials shall swear in allegiance to the Bible or Koran and the university core values.
- 2) All officials taking oath of office shall lift the Bible/Koran and take directions as.

### **13.3 By-elections**

- 1) Any by election shall take place within 21 days after the seat has fallen vacant and shall follow all the election procedures determined by the electoral commission.
- 2) Any seat falling vacant within three months to a general election shall not attract a by-election.
- 3) If a seat in the executive falls vacant, members of the supreme council shall nominate one of them to take an acting position in an event that the seat falls vacant within three months to the general election.
- 4) Provided further that a parliamentary seat falls vacant, members of the governing council in that particular satellite college shall in consultation with the supreme council appoint one of them to the vacant position in an acting capacity if the seat so falls vacant within three months to the general elections.
- 5) All the appointments in clause (3) and clause (4) will be subject to the approval of parliament.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **14. DISSOLUTION AND VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE**

#### **14.1 A vote of no confidence**

- 1) A vote of no confidence in any office bearer shall arise only from a member of TEAUSC.
- 2) A vote of no confidence on a member of the executive shall warrant a petition by at least a quarter (1/4) of all TEAUSC members and in case of Member of Parliament (1/4) of all members from the member's constituency.
- 3) Any vote of no confidence shall mature when (2/3) of the members herein stated have in any forum as so granted by this constitution reached a *consensus ad idem* to do so.
- 4) In an event that a vote of no confidence as herein stated passes, the official shall vacate office and shall hand over his or her tools of power to the Dean of Students immediately.

#### **14.2 Dissolution**

- 1) TEAUSC shall not dissolve except by a resolution passed by an A. G. M through a vote not less than 2/3 of all members.
- 2) Where such a motion to dissolve TEAUSC is passed, TEAUSC shall cease existence and the office of the vice-chancellor shall take over to settle any debts or lien owing as first and paramount consideration.

### **14.3 Amendment of the constitution**

- 1) Any member of parliament may propose an amendment of the constitution by bringing to parliament for debate a motion to do so.
- 2) Any amendment to the constitution shall pass if approved by not less than 2/3 of the members as shall so be present in an A. G. M.

## **ARTICLE 15**

### **15. RULES, REGULATIONS, TRANSITION AND MISCELLINIOUS**

#### **15.1 Rules and Regulations**

- 1) Subject to this constitution and the university charter, parliament shall have the sole mandate of enacting rules and regulations for implementing this constitution.
- 2) Any such rules and regulations shall be advised by this constitution and the policies of T. E. A. U

#### **15.2 Transition process**

- 1) This constitution shall come into effect once it has been adopted by the supreme council.
- 2) Upon its enactment, any document that has before served as a TEAUSC constitution shall cease strength and stand void.
- 3) In an event that parliament is to enact legalities as so provided for in this constitution, all other rules including those to be replaced shall stay in effect until new ones are adopted.
- 4) Acts by either the executive council and or the supreme council shall be regarded valid under this constitution.

**END**