EXAMPLE

THE COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Council *governs* the University and must ensure effective management. The Council is constituted and mandated by the Statute in paragraphs A, B & C, and the Higher Education Act, 1997 (Act No. 101 of 1997) as amended. Subject to Senate's academic authority, the Council has responsibility for the affairs of the University.

The Council also determines the nature and scope of the University's social responsibilities, protects the institutional and academic autonomy of the University, upholds the academic freedom of the University's members, and deliberates on the nature and role of the University.

In performing these tasks, the Council commits itself to

- good governance, which includes transparency, responsiveness, and accountability, and preserving institutional autonomy;
- the vision, mission and stated values of the University;
- governing in such a way as to enable the members of the University to realize their full potential as academics, researchers, students, and support staff; and
- acting with the duty of care and skill that is owed as a matter of law to the University.

Council members undertake collectively and individually to

- act always in the best interests of the University as a whole, and accept that this obligation precedes any duty a member may owe to the person or institution that elected or appointed him or her to the Council in all Council matters;
- act in good faith, honestly, truthfully and for proper purpose;
- exercise appropriate care and diligence in decision making;
- be diligent in performing Council responsibilities;
- not improperly use their position as Council members to gain an advantage for themselves or third parties;
- avoid conflicts of interests and comply with Council's policy on the disclosure of interests and recusal; and
- respect the decisions of the Council.

All Council members should, to the best of their ability and knowledge

- spend as much time as is required to perform their duties (this will normally mean devoting more time over and above that required for attending Council meetings);
- attend and contribute to Council meetings, and meetings of committees of the Council on which they may serve;
- critically read all agenda documents before each meeting;
- critically review all proposals to the Council;
- maintain the confidentiality of confidential matters;
- act in a financially responsible manner for and to the University; and
- commit themselves to this code both in dealing with Council business and other council members and also in dealing with the University community and persons interested in the University's work.

Adopted by Council after consultation with the IF, on date in terms of Section 7E of the Higher Education Act, 1997 as amended.