

THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF JAMAICA
ACT

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THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF JAMAICA
ACT

Acts
23 of 1987,
16 of 1991
S. 64.

[1st October, 1987.]

Preliminary

1. This Act may be cited as the University Council of Jamaica Act. Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires— Interpreta-
tion.

“associated institutions” means such institutions providing tertiary education as the Minister may, by order, determine;

“Chairman” means the Chairman of the Council;

“the Council” means the Council appointed under section 3;

“functions” includes powers and duties;

“Executive Secretary” means the Executive Secretary to the Council appointed under section 6.

The University Council of Jamaica

3.—(1) There shall be established for the purposes of this Act, a body to be called the University Council of Jamaica which shall be a body corporate to which section 28 of the Interpretation Act shall apply. Establish-
ment and
constitu-
tion of
Council.

(2) The Council shall consist of not less than fifteen members of whom—

(a) the principals of the associated institutions and the person appointed as Executive Secretary of the Council, shall be *ex officio* members;

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF JAMAICA

- (b) six members shall be appointed by the Minister as representatives of universities and at least one such member shall be a representative of the University of the West Indies;
- (c) nine members shall be appointed by the Minister from among persons appearing to the Minister to be representatives of—
 - (i) professional bodies or organizations;
 - (ii) the Ministry of Education and other segments of the public sector;
 - (iii) organizations other than those specified in sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii), but nothing in this sub-paragraph shall prevent the appointment, pursuant to this sub-paragraph, of a person who is a member of a body, organization or sector referred to in those sub-paragraphs.

(3) The Council shall have power to assume Armorial Bearings.

(4) The appointment of every member of the Council other than the *ex officio* members shall be evidenced by instrument in writing, and such instrument shall state the period of office of the member which shall not exceed five years.

(5) Every member of the Council shall be eligible for reappointment.

(6) The Minister shall appoint a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman from among the members of the Council.

(7) In the case of the absence or inability to act of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman shall perform the function of the Chairman; and in the case of the absence or inability to act of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the Minister may appoint any other members to perform the functions of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

(8) The seal of the Council shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Chairman and any other member of the Council authorized to act in that behalf and such seal shall be officially and judicially noticed.

(9) All documents, other than those required by law to be under seal, made by, and all decisions of, the Council may be signified under the hand of the Chairman or the Executive Secretary.

(10) No act or proceeding of the Council shall be questioned on account of any vacancy in the membership thereof; and no defect in the appointment of any member of the Council shall vitiate any proceedings thereof.

(11) The Council shall have power to regulate its own proceedings.

(12) The Chairman shall preside at meetings of the Council, and if the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the persons appointed under subsection (7) are absent from a meeting, the members of the Council present shall elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.

(13) The quorum of the Council shall be nine.

(14) The decisions of the Council shall be by a majority of votes and, in addition to an original vote, the Chairman or other person presiding at a meeting shall have a casting vote in any case in which the voting is equal.

(15) The names of all members of the Council as first constituted and every change in the membership thereof shall be published in the *Gazette*.

4. The function of the Council shall be to promote the advancement in Jamaica of education, learning and knowledge in the fields of science, technology and the arts by means of the grant of academic awards and distinctions and for that purpose—

**Function of
the Council.**

- (a) to determine the conditions governing the grant of such awards and distinctions; and
- (b) to approve courses of study to be pursued by candidates to qualify for such grants, including, where appropriate, arrangements for training and experience in industry or commerce associated with such courses.

**Powers of
the
Council.**

5. In the exercise of its functions the Council shall have power—

- (a) to grant and confer Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic awards and distinctions to and on persons who have pursued courses of study approved by the Council at associated institutions and have passed such examinations or other tests as may from time to time be required by the Council;
- (b) to grant and confer Degrees to and on persons who have carried on research under the supervision of an educational or research establishment under conditions approved by the Council;
- (c) to grant and confer, subject to such conditions as the Council may determine, Honorary Degrees and distinctions to and on persons selected by the Council;
- (d) on what the Council may deem to be good and sufficient cause, to deprive persons of any Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates or other awards and distinctions granted to or conferred on them by the Council;
- (e) to accept, in partial fulfilment of the study and examination requirements for the awards of the Council, such periods of study and examinations as are recognized by the Council and successfully completed by students on courses other than those leading to the awards of the Council;