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Royal Decree 1677/2009, of November 13, 2009, approving the
Regulations of the Council of Universities.

Ministry of Education
"BOE" No. 292, of December 4, 2009 Reference: BOE-
A-2009-19439

CONSOLIDATED TEXT

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Title IV of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, as amended by Organic Law 4/2007, of April 12, 2007, establishes the principles governing coordination in the field of university education. Article 28 of this law creates the Council of Universities, as a body for academic coordination and cooperation, consultation and proposal in university matters.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 30, the Council of Universities will function in Plenary and in Commissions, and the Plenary will be responsible, among other functions, for drawing up the regulations of said Council and submitting them to the Minister responsible for universities for approval by the Government.

In compliance with the aforementioned mandate, the Plenary of the Council of Universities, meeting in session on June 1, 2009, has agreed to submit to the Minister of Education these regulations, which regulate its organization, competencies and operation.

By virtue thereof, at the proposal of the Minister of Education, with the prior approval of the First Vice-President and Minister of the Presidency, in agreement with the Council of State and after deliberation of the Council of Ministers at its meeting held on November 13, 2009,

PROVIDED:

Sole Article. *Approval of the Regulations of the Council of Universities.*

The Regulations of the Council of Universities, the text of which is inserted below, are hereby approved.

Sole additional provision. *Means.*

The Ministry of Education shall provide the Council of Universities with the human, technical and economic resources necessary for the development of its functions.

Sole derogatory provision. *Repeal of regulations.*

Royal Decree 1504/2003, of November 28, 2003, approving the Regulations of the University Coordination Council, and any other provisions of equal or lower rank that oppose the provisions of this Royal Decree are hereby repealed.

Sole Final Provision. Entry into force.

This Royal Decree shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the Official Gazette.

"Boletín Oficial del Estado".

Given in Madrid, on November 13, 2009.

JUAN CARLOS R.

The Minister of Education,
ÁNGEL GABILONDO PUJOL

**REGULATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF
UNIVERSITIES**

CHAPTER I

General Provisions

Article 1. Nature and functions.

1. The Council of Universities is the body for academic coordination, as well as for cooperation, consultation and proposal in university matters. In general, in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, as well as Royal Decree 1312/2007, of October 5, 2007, which establishes national accreditation for access to university teaching bodies, issued in development of Article 58 of the aforementioned Law, and in accordance with the provisions of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, 2007, which establishes the organization of official university education, the following functions correspond to it:

- a) To serve as a channel for collaboration, cooperation and coordination in the academic field.
- b) To report on legal and regulatory provisions affecting the university system as a whole.
- c) To provide such advice on university matters as may be required by the Ministry of Education, the General Conference on University Policy or, as the case may be, the competent university bodies of the autonomous communities.
- d) To formulate proposals to the Government on matters relating to the university system and to the General Conference on University Policy.
- e) The verification of the adequacy of the curricula to the guidelines and conditions established by the Government for official degrees, as well as their accreditation, in accordance with the procedures established in Chapter VI of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, which establishes the organization of official university education.
- f) National accreditation for access to university teaching bodies, in accordance with the procedure established in the aforementioned Royal Decree 1312/2007, of October 5.
- g) The development of any other tasks entrusted to it by the laws and their implementing provisions.

2. The Council of Universities is administratively related to the Ministry of Education through the General Secretariat of Universities.

3. For the fulfillment of its functions and the achievement of its objectives, the Council of Universities shall collaborate with the competent public administrations in matters of higher education, as well as with the universities, within the scope of their respective competencies.

CHAPTER II

Of the members of the Council of Universities

Article 2. Composition.

1. The Council of Universities shall be chaired by the head of the Ministry of Education and shall be composed of the following members in accordance with the provisions of Article 29 of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21:

a) The Rectors of the universities.

b) Five members appointed by the Presidency of the Council, one of whom shall be appointed at the proposal of the head of the Ministry of Science and Innovation from among the heads of the bodies of his Department with a minimum rank of Director General.

Regardless of the representation they hold, the members of the Council of Universities shall at all times exercise their functions in the general interests of higher education and shall ensure that the functions and objectives of the Council of Universities are fulfilled.

2. The rectors shall exercise their functions from the date on which they take office and shall cease to hold office at the end of their term of office.

The Vice-Chancellors may be replaced, at their own request and for a specific meeting, by a Vice-Chancellor or by the Secretary General of the corresponding University, unless, due to the importance or special characteristics of the matters to be dealt with, the Chair of the Council considers that the replacement is not appropriate. If substitution is not possible, this circumstance shall be stated in the notice of meeting.

In the event of vacancy, absence, illness, abstention or recusal, the person acting as acting rector or alternate rector shall be summoned.

3. The members of the Council of Universities referred to in paragraph 1.b) above shall be appointed and removed by resolution of the President of the Council of Universities.

CHAPTER III

The bodies of the Council of Universities, their composition and functions

Article 3. The organs of the Council of Universities.

1. The Council of Universities shall have the following bodies:

a) Chairmanship.

b) Vice presidencies.

c) Secretary.

d) Plenary.

e) Commissions.

2. The Council of Universities shall exercise its functions in plenary session and in committees.

3. The committees of the Council of Universities are, in addition to those that may be established in accordance with the provisions of section 4, the following:

a) Standing Committee.

b) Teaching Staff Accreditation Committees, provided for in Chapter II of Royal Decree 1312/2007.

c) The Faculty Accreditation Grievance Committee, as provided for in Article 16.1 of Royal Decree 1312/2007.

d) Commission for the Verification and Accreditation of Study Plans in relation to the procedures set forth in Chapter VI of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, 2007, which establishes the organization of official university education.

e) Curriculum Verification and Accreditation Claims Committee.

4. The Plenary, at the proposal of its Chairman, may approve the creation of such other committees as may be necessary to address the various functions of the Council of Universities.

5. Subject to the agreement of the General Conference on University Policy, the Plenary may agree, at the proposal of its President, on the participation of the Council of Universities in joint Conference-Council commissions.

6. The Plenary and the committees of the Council of Universities may create papers and working groups in relation to the matters within their sphere of competence, and may count on the collaboration of external experts in the matters within their competence.

Article 4. Presidency.

1. The President of the Council of Universities shall be the head of the Ministry of Education.

2. The following functions correspond to the President:

a) To represent the Council of Universities, to exercise its direction and to ensure the proper functioning of its bodies and services.

b) To call ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the Plenary and the committees and to set the agenda, taking into account, as the case may be, the requests of the other members made sufficiently in advance.

c) To preside over the meetings of the Plenary, the Standing Committee and the committees created by the Plenary, to moderate the debates and to suspend them for justified reasons.

d) To resolve ties with its vote, for the purpose of adopting resolutions.

e) Legitimize with his signature the agreements, opinions and recommendations adopted by the Council of Universities.

f) To endorse the minutes and certifications of the resolutions of the Board, issued by the Secretary.

g) To ensure compliance with these regulations and resolve any doubts regarding their interpretation.

h) Appoint and remove by resolution the members provided for in Article 2.1.b).

i) To ensure the resolution of the claims filed by the universities against the resolutions of the Verification Commission for the Verification of Study Plans.

j) To appoint the Vice Presidents of the Council of Universities by resolution, in accordance with the provisions of Article 5.

k) Exercise any other function attributed to him/her by these regulations or inherent to his/her condition as President of the Council of Universities.

Article 5. Vice-Presidencies.

1. The Council of Universities shall have two Vice Presidents of equal rank, one of whom shall be appointed from among the Rectors by the Plenary; the other shall be appointed by the President from among the members appointed pursuant to Article 2.1.b).

2. In the event of vacancy, absence, illness or other legal cause, the Chairman shall be replaced by the Vice-Chairman designated by him.

3. The Vice Presidents shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties and shall perform such duties as may be delegated to them by the President.

Article 6. The Secretary.

1. The Secretary of the Council of Universities shall be appointed by the Minister of Education from among the members referred to in Article 2.1.b) of these Regulations.

2. The Secretary shall perform the following duties:

a) Attending plenary and committee meetings and providing technical support to the University Council, receiving the members' communications with the body and the notifications, requests for data, rectifications or any other type of written documents of which he/she must be aware; preparing the dispatch of matters; drafting and authorizing minutes

of the sessions, as well as certifying or notifying the resolutions adopted to the competent bodies or those interested in the procedure.

b) To prepare the annual report of the Council of Universities.

c) The performance of such other duties as are inherent to his or her position as Secretary, as well as any other duties assigned to him or her by the Chairman, the Plenary or the committees.

In addition, it will provide the material and human resources to implement the agreements.

3. The Deputy Director General for University Coordination of the Directorate General for University Policy shall act in substitution of the Secretary in the event of absence, vacancy, illness or other legal cause.

Article 7. *The Plenary.*

1. The Plenary of the Council of Universities shall be composed of the President and all the members of the Council. The Secretary of the Council of Universities shall act as Secretary of the Plenary.

2. The Plenary shall be chaired by the President of the Council of Universities or by the Vice-President replacing him/her.

3. The Plenary shall have the following functions:

a) To draw up the regulations of the Council and submit them to the Minister responsible for universities for approval by the Government.

b) To propose, as the case may be, the modifications deemed appropriate to the regulations of the Council of Universities.

c) To report on legal and regulatory provisions affecting the university system as a whole.

d) To inform the coordination criteria on the evaluation, certification and accreditation activities regulated in Title V of Organic Law 6/2001.

e) Approve the annual report of the Council of Universities.

f) To examine, at the initiative of the President or any of the commissions, any matter relating to higher education or scientific research in the universities, and to submit, if necessary, reports or proposals to the public authorities and the universities.

g) Examine, in the hearing phase, the general offer of teaching and vacancies.

h) Previously inform the rules that regulate the progress and permanence in the university of the students.

i) To report on the establishment in Spain of centers that teach courses leading to foreign higher education degrees.

j) To inform the regulatory norms of the general framework in which teaching leading to foreign university higher education degrees is to be imparted in Spain, as well as the conditions to be met by the centers that intend to impart such teaching.

k) Appoint the members of the various committees provided for in these regulations.

l) To resolve claims against the verification resolutions issued by the Commission for the Verification and Accreditation of Study Plans.

m) Any other duties that correspond to the Council of Universities and are not expressly attributed to another body.

4. In matters exclusively affecting the public university system, the President of the Council, the rectors of the public universities and the five members of the Council appointed by the President shall have the right to vote.

Article 8. *Commissions.*

1. The Plenary of the Council of Universities, at the proposal of its President, may set up as many committees as it deems necessary for the proper execution of the powers and functions of the Council, in addition to the committees expressly provided for in these regulations.

2. The commissions shall be created by agreement of the Plenary of the Council of Universities, which shall establish:

- a) The composition of the committee.
- b) Its functions.
- c) Its duration.

Likewise, the composition, functions and duration shall be in accordance with the provisions of the specific regulations.

Article 9. *The Standing Committee.*

1. The Standing Committee of the Council of Universities shall be made up of the President, the Vice-Presidents and eight members elected by the Plenary at the proposal of the President, which must include one of the members provided for in Article 2.1.b). The Secretary of the Council of Universities shall act as Secretary.

2. The Standing Committee is responsible for the following functions:

- a) To coordinate and promote the work of the various bodies of the Council of Universities.
- b) To prepare the reports to be issued to the Plenary of the Council of Universities.
- c) To prepare a proposal for the modification of these regulations.
- d) Any other functions attributed to it by the Plenary.

Article 10. *National Accreditation Commissions for access to university teaching bodies.*

1. The National Accreditation Commissions for access to university teaching bodies shall be governed by the provisions of Article 4 of Royal Decree 1312/2007.

2. Likewise, a committee shall be set up to evaluate the merits of the teaching staff belonging to the body of University School Heads who hold the title of doctor, in accordance with the provisions of the first additional provision of the aforementioned Royal Decree 1312/2007.

Article 11. *National Accreditation Claims Commission for access to university teaching bodies.*

1. The Complaints Committee provided for in Article 66 of Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, shall be composed of seven members, elected by the Plenary at the proposal of the Presidency, which shall include one of the members provided for in Article 2.1.b), who shall chair the committee.

2. The main function of the Complaints Commission will be to examine the complaints made against the proposals of the accreditation commissions in order to ensure the guarantees established in Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, and its implementing provisions on accreditation.

3. The committee will examine the file relating to the verification to ensure the established guarantees and may ratify the resolution or, if applicable, accept the claim and send it to the National Agency for Quality Assessment and Accreditation (ANECA), indicating specifically the aspects of the evaluation that must be reviewed, all within a maximum period of three months.

4. When the Grievance Committee deliberates on an application submitted by a professor belonging to a university whose rector belongs to the same university, the rector shall abstain.

5. The head of the General Sub-Directorate to which the Royal Decree on the structure of the Department responsible for universities assigns the functions related to the accreditation of university professors shall act as instructor of the procedures for complaints against the resolutions of the Accreditation Commissions, as provided for in Article 16 of Royal Decree 1312/2007, of October 5, 2007.

Article 12. *The Curriculum Verification and Accreditation Commission.*

1. The Curriculum Verification and Accreditation Commission will be composed of seven members elected by the Plenary, at the proposal of the President, from among whom the following must be elected

one of the members referred to in article 2.1.b), who shall chair the committee.

2. The functions of the Curriculum Verification and Accreditation Commission shall be the following:

a) To issue the resolution of verification referred to in section 7 of Article 25 of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, 2007, which must be justified in any case, once the evaluation report of ANECA has been received.

b) Any other functions related to the verification of university curricula that may be entrusted to it.

Article 13. *The Curriculum Verification and Accreditation Appeals Committee.*

1. The Curriculum Verification and Accreditation Appeals Committee shall be composed of seven members elected by the Plenary, at the proposal of the President, including one of the members referred to in Article 2.1.b), who shall chair the committee.

2. The committee will examine the file relating to the verification in order to ensure the established guarantees and will decide whether it has sufficient elements of judgment to propose to the Plenary the ratification of the previous resolution or whether, on the contrary, it deems appropriate to send the file again to ANECA, indicating specifically the aspects of the evaluation that must be reviewed.

3. The Complaints Committee, once it has received, if applicable, the report from ANECA, will prepare a resolution proposal and will submit it to the Plenary, which will decide in accordance with the provisions of Article 25.11 of Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29, 2007, within a maximum term of three months.

Article 14. *Other bodies.*

1. The Council of Universities may agree to the creation of working groups and papers for the study of specific issues.

2. The composition and operating regime of each body, as well as the tasks corresponding to its purpose, shall be specified in the resolution of the Council of Universities that establishes its creation.

Article 15. *On the rights and obligations of the members of the Council of Universities.*

The members of the Council of Universities shall be responsible, with respect to the body of which they form part:

a) Propose to the Chairperson the inclusion of items on the agenda.

b) To receive, sufficiently in advance, the notice and the agenda of the meetings. Information on the matters appearing on the agenda shall be made available to the members within the same period of time, except for reasons of urgency.

c) Participate in the deliberations of the sessions.

d) To exercise his right to vote, except in the cases expressly established in these regulations, and to formulate his individual vote, as well as to express the sense of his vote and the reasons justifying it.

e) Formulate requests and questions.

f) Obtain the information necessary to fulfill the functions assigned to the body of which they form part.

CHAPTER IV

The functioning of the bodies of the Council of Universities

Article 16. *Meetings of collegiate bodies.*

1. The Plenary of the Council of Universities shall meet in ordinary session at least three times a year. On an extraordinary basis, the Plenary shall meet when so required.

agreed by its President, the Standing Committee or at the request of one third of the members of the Plenary. In the latter case, the request must be accompanied by the agenda to be discussed in the Plenary.

2. The Committees shall meet when so agreed by its Chairman or President or at the request of one third of its members, in accordance with the procedure set forth in the preceding paragraph.

3. The Standing Committee shall meet when convened by the President of the Council of Universities and at least once every three months.

4. The notice of the meetings shall be signed by the Secretary and shall contain the agenda for each meeting. The agenda may only be modified, including new matters, if, all members being present, the majority of the members of the Plenary or of the committees so agree.

Article 17. *Convening of collegiate bodies.*

1. Notice of meetings of the collegiate bodies shall be given at least seven days in advance.

2. The notice shall include the time, date and place of the meeting, as well as the agenda of the meeting and a copy of the most relevant specific documentation on the matters to be discussed.

3. The summons for the first call shall include the summons for the second call, in accordance with the provisions of article 18.2.

4. The agenda may be extended or additional documentation may be sent by the Secretary up to forty-eight hours prior to the plenary session.

Article 18. *Constitution of the organs.*

1. For the valid constitution of the bodies of the Council of Universities, the presence of the President and the Secretary or, as the case may be, of those replacing them, and of at least half of its members, shall be required.

2. In the event that a sufficient quorum is not reached at the first call, a second call shall be deemed to have been made half an hour after the time initially set, and the corresponding meeting may be held with the members in attendance, provided that they represent at least one third of its members by right.

Article 19. *Deliberations.*

1. The matters included in the agenda shall be deliberated at the meetings. Notwithstanding the foregoing, other matters not included in the agenda may be deliberated or, as the case may be, agreed upon at the sessions, provided that all the members of the collegiate body are present and the majority of its members so agree. components.

2. The members of the bodies of the Council of Universities may intervene in the deliberations, after having requested and been given the floor by the Chairman of the body or his substitute.

At the request of the President or with the prior agreement of the corresponding body, the heads of administrative units of the Ministry, of the autonomous communities or of other bodies with powers related to university matters may attend its meetings, without the right to vote, to report, as the case may be, on matters within their competence.

3. The Chairman of the body shall order the deliberations; for this purpose, he shall establish the number of interventions for and against any proposal or report, fix the maximum time for each of them, give the floor to those referred to, determine the order of interventions, the turns to reply, the duration of interventions and of the debate and the manner of voting and shall close a deliberation when he deems that a matter has been sufficiently debated, as well as any other aspect referring to the conduct of the debates.

The Chairman shall ensure the good order of the session; to this end, he/she may issue warnings to the speakers and members in attendance, call the meeting to order and withdraw the floor.

Article 20. *Voting and adoption of resolutions.*

1. The resolutions of the bodies of the Council of Universities shall be adopted by a majority of the members present and entitled to vote, without prejudice to the provisions established for certain cases provided for in these regulations.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, in order to modify the regulations of the Council of Universities, the agreement of two thirds of the members of the Plenary shall be necessary.

3. In matters exclusively affecting the public university system, the rectors of private universities shall not have the right to vote in the Council of Universities and its bodies.

4. During the voting, the Chairman shall not give the floor and none of the members of the body may enter or leave the meeting room.

5. Voting may be:

a) By assent to the proposal of the Chairman.

b) Public, by show of hands or by call.

c) By secret ballot, by ballot, in the case of election of persons, if so decided by the Chairman or requested by at least three members.

6. In the event of a tie in the voting results, the Chairman, or the Vice Chairmen in the event that they replace him/her, shall cast the deciding vote.

7. In any case, the members of the Council of Universities may express their individual opinion on a resolution adopted, submitting it in writing within forty-eight hours from the date of adoption of the resolution, to be included as an annex to the minutes of the meeting, provided that express mention has been made of the intention to use such power at the time of the resolution or resolution adopted.

8. Resolutions of a general nature adopted by the bodies of the Council of Universities in the exercise of their respective competencies shall be published.

Article 21. *Reports of the Council of Universities.*

1. The Council of Universities shall issue the reports stipulated in Organic Law 6/2001, of December 21, 2001, on Universities, within a maximum period of three months, counted from the date on which the body with attributed competence requests it.

2. When the issuance of a report by the Council of Universities requires the prior report of any of its committees, the Standing Committee shall establish in each case the terms and period within which such reports must be made.

Article 22.

1. Minutes of each meeting held by the various bodies of the Council of Universities shall be taken by the Secretary and, after approval at the subsequent meeting, shall be approved by the Chairman of the body.

2. The minutes shall necessarily contain the following items:

a) Indication of attendees.

b) Agenda of the meeting.

c) Circumstances of place and time in which the meeting was held.

d) Main points of the deliberations.

e) Content of the resolutions adopted.

f) The result of any votes that may have been taken.

g) At the request of the respective members of the corresponding body, the minutes shall succinctly reflect the reasons for abstentions and the votes cast in favor or against.

3. Any member of the body has the right to request the full transcription of his intervention or proposal, provided that he submits on the spot, or within the term indicated by the Chairman of the body, the text that corresponds faithfully to his intervention; this shall be recorded in the minutes or a copy thereof shall be attached as an annex to the latter.

Article 23. *Legal Regime.*

In all matters not provided for in this regulation, the provisions on collegiate bodies in Chapter II of Title II of Law 30/1992, of November 26, 1992, on the Legal Regime of the Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure, as well as in Chapter IV of Title II of Law 6/1997, of April 14, 1997, on the Organization and Functioning of the General State Administration, shall apply.

This consolidated text has no legal value. More
information at info@boe.es