

**UNIVERSITY FOR FILM, JOURNALISM AND  
LANGUAGES BILL, 2020**

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**SCHEDULE**

*Part A – The Official Oath*

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A  
**BILL**

ENTITLED

**UNIVERSITY FOR FILM, JOURNALISM AND LANGUAGES  
ACT, 2020**

**AN ACT** to establish the University for Film, Journalism and Languages  
and to provide for related matters.

**PASSED** by Parliament and assented to by the President:

*University for Film, Journalism and Languages*

**Establishment of the University**

1. (1) There is established by this Act, a body corporate with perpetual succession to be known as the University for Film, Journalism and Languages.

(2) For the performance of the functions of the University, the University may acquire and hold property, dispose of property and enter into any contract or any other related transaction.

(3) Where there is a hindrance to the acquisition of land, the land may be acquired for the University under the State Lands Acts, 1962 (Act 125) and the cost shall be borne by the University.

**Aims of the University**

2. (1) The aims of the University are to provide higher education, disseminate knowledge related to development in the film industry, journalism and languages, stimulate the creative arts industry in the country and undertake research and foster relationships with persons outside the institution in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) higher education shall be made equally accessible to persons qualified and capable to benefit from that education;
- (b) in determining the subjects to be taught, special attention shall be given to courses of special relevance to the needs and aspirations of the country;
- (c) use of critical tools including information and communication technology for teaching, research, dissemination of knowledge and administration;
- (a) institute curricula and pedagogy within the context of learner-centred and problem-based learning techniques that are practical and relevant to the national needs and aspirations in films, journalism and languages;
- (e) use of teaching methods that promote critical and independent thinking for the benefit of humanity;
- (j) disseminate the results of research through the publication of books, papers and any other suitable means;
- (g) undertake research in courses that are within the mandate of the University, but with special emphasis on
  - (i) films, journalism and languages issues within and outside the country; and
  - (ii) subjects that relate to the social, cultural, economic, scientific or technological aspects of films, journalism and languages studies within and outside the country; and
- (h) provision of service through extension and consultancy in films, journalism and languages related courses in higher education.

(2) For the purpose of achieving the aims of the University, the University shall emphasise studies in films, journalism and languages and shall have

- (a) an independent Institute of Journalism with the objective of training students in the skills and techniques of
  - (i) journalism;
  - (ii) mass communication;

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- (iii) advertising;
  - (iv) public relations;
  - (v) information technology; and
  - (vi) any other related subject that the Council may determine;
- (b) an independent Institute of Film and Television to specialise in areas including
- (i) script writing;
  - (ii) film directing;
  - (iii) television production;
  - (iv) motion picture;
  - (v) photography;
  - (vi) film sound production;
  - (vii) editing;
  - (viii) animation; and
  - (iv) production design;
- (c) an Institute of Theatre and Performing Arts to specialise in areas including
- (i) theatre;
  - (ii) dance;
  - (iii) sound engineering,
  - (iv) music production; and
  - (v) acting for the screen;
- (a) an Institute of Digital Media Arts to specialise in areas including
- (i) publishing;
  - (ii) graphics and web design;
  - (iii) video and computer gaming;
  - (iv) digital media production; and
  - (v) multimedia production;
- (e) an Institute of Languages to specialise in areas including
- (i) teaching in Ghanaian and foreign languages;
  - (ii) translation;
  - (iii) interpretation; and
  - (iv) bilingual secretaryship; and
- (j) any other Institute, School or Centre that the Council may determine.

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**Structure of the University**

3. (1) The University shall be a holding university with constituent institutions.

(2) The Institutes specified in subsection (2) of section 2 shall be referred to as constituent institutions of the University.

(3) Each constituent institution shall have an Academic Board to maintain and promote the identity and speciality of the constituent institution in the various respective fields of the constituent institution.

(4) A constituent institution shall be a constituent member of the holding University with the power to award degrees.

**Campuses of the University**

4. The University shall establish a campus in

(a) each of the following existing constituent institutions:

(i) the Ghana Institute of Languages;

(ii) the Ghana Institute of Journalism; and

(iii) the National Film and Television Institute; and

(b) any other place that the Council may determine.

**Award of degrees**

5. (1) The University shall, in accordance with subsection (7) of section 15, award degrees, honorary degrees, diplomas and certificates.

(2) The University may withdraw a degree, diploma or certificate that the University has awarded if the University has evidence that proves that

(a) the degree, diploma or certificate was obtained through fraud or academic malpractice; or

(b) the process of acquiring the degree, diploma or certificate was tainted by an act that in the opinion of the University undermines the integrity of the award.

(3) Subsections (1) and (2) apply to a constituent institution of the University.

*Governance of the University*

**The University Council**

6. (1) The governing body of the University is a Council consisting of

(a) a chairperson nominated by the President;

(b) the Vice-Chancellor;

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- (c) a representative of the University Teachers' Association of Ghana nominated by the University Teachers' Association of Ghana;
- (a) the Rector of each constituent institution;
- (e) a representative of the undergraduate students of the University nominated by the Students' Representative Council;
- (j) a representative of the alumni of the University nominated by the alumni association of the University;
- (g) an expert in media, arts or communications from industry nominated by the Minister responsible for Communications; and
- (h) two other persons nominated by the President, one of whom is a woman.

(2) The President shall, in making the nominations, under paragraphs (c) and (h) of subsection (1), have regard to the academic qualifications, leadership qualities, gender, expertise in finance, management, knowledge and relevant experience in films, journalism and languages.

(3) The President shall, in accordance with article 70 of the Constitution, appoint the chairperson and other members of the Council

(4) The chairperson of the Council shall, in the absence of the Chancellor, preside at the Congregation and other ceremonies and meetings of the University.

**Functions of the Council**

7. The Council shall

- (a) ensure the implementation of the aims of the University;
- (b) determine the strategic direction of the University;
- (c) monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies of the University;
- (a) promote income-generating activities as part of the programmes of the University;
- (e) control the finances of the University and determine the allocation and proper use of funds of the University;
- (j) ensure the conservation and augmentation of the resources of the University, specifically in relation to matters affecting income or expenditure of the University;
- (g) ensure the creation of an environment of equal opportunity

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for members of the University without regard to ethnicity, gender, sex, race, religious belief or political affiliation; and

- (h) on the recommendation of the Appointments Committee of the Academic Board, make professorial level appointments as may be prescribed in the Statutes of the University.

**General powers of the Council**

8. (1) Subject to this Act, the Council may act or provide for any matter in relation to the University which the Council considers necessary or expedient.

(2) The conferment of particular powers on the Council by other provisions of this Act, shall not limit the generality of this section.

**Tenure of office of members of the Council**

9. (1) A member of the Council other than the Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period of three years and is eligible for re-appointment for another term only.

(2) Where a member of the Council other than the Vice-Chancellor is absent from three consecutive meetings without reasonable cause, the office of that member shall become vacant.

(3) A member of the Council, other than the Vice-Chancellor, may resign from office in writing addressed to the President through the Minister.

(4) Where the office of a member becomes vacant by death, resignation or the absence of the member for three consecutive meetings without reasonable cause, another person nominated by the relevant body shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the office.

**Meetings of the Council**

10. (1) The Council shall meet at least once every three months in an academic year for the despatch of business at the time and in the place determined by the chairperson.

(2) The quorum at a meeting of the Council is seven members of the Council.

(3) The chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Council and in the absence of the chairperson, members of the Council shall elect one of the nominees of the President to preside.

(4) Matters before the Council shall be decided by consensus or by



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a simple majority of the members present and voting and in the event of an equality of votes, the person presiding shall have a casting vote.

(5) The Council may co-opt a person to attend and participate in any of the meetings of the Council but a co-opted person is not entitled to vote at a meeting.

(6) The Pro Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar and the Director of Finance shall attend meetings of the Council but are not entitled to vote.

(7) The proceedings of the Council are not invalidated by reason of a vacancy among the members or by a defect in the appointment or qualification of a member.

(8) Subject to this section, the Council may, by the Statutes of the University, regulate the procedure for meetings of the Council.

**Disclosure of interest**

11. (1) A member of the Council who has an interest in a matter for consideration by the Council shall disclose in writing the nature of that interest and is disqualified from participating in the deliberations of the Council in respect of that matter.

(2) Where a member contravenes subsection (1), the chairperson shall notify the Minister who shall inform the President in writing to revoke the appointment of that member.

(3) Without limiting any further cause of action that may be instituted against a member of the Council, the Council shall recover the benefit derived by a member who contravenes subsection (1) in addition to the revocation of the appointment of the member.

**Establishment of committees**

12. (1) For the purpose of achieving the aim of the University, the Council

- (a) may establish standing or ad hoc committees made up of members or non-members of the Council; and
- (b) shall assign to a committee of the Council functions that the Council considers appropriate.

(2) A committee of the Council comprised entirely of non-members shall be advisory only.

(3) Section 11 applies to a member of a committee of the Council.

**Allowances**

13. Members of the Council and members of a committee of the Council shall be paid allowances approved by the Minister in consultation with the Minister responsible for Finance.

*Administrative Provisions*

**Principal Officers of the University**

14. (1) The Principal Officers of the University are

- (a) the Chancellor;
- (b) the Vice-Chancellor; and
- (c) the Pro Vice-Chancellor.

(2) The Principal Officers of the University shall, before assuming office, take and subscribe to the Official Oath and Oath of Secrecy as specified in the Schedule.

**Chancellor of the University**

15. (1) The University shall have a Chancellor.

(2) The Council shall appoint a Chancellor for the University in accordance with the Statutes of the University.

(3) The Chancellor is the head of the University and the Chancellor takes precedence over the other officers of the University.

(4) The criteria and modalities for the nomination and election of the Chancellor shall be prescribed by the Council in the Statutes of the University.

(5) The Chancellor shall hold office for a period of five years and is eligible for re-appointment for another term only.

(6) The Chancellor shall be served with the summons, minutes and other documents related to meetings of the Council and may attend the meetings of the Council.

(7) The Chancellor shall confer on qualified persons, degrees, honorary degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded by the University in accordance with this Act and procedures prescribed by the Council in the Statutes of the University.

(8) The Chancellor may delegate functions, under subsection (7) by directions in writing, to the Council.

(9) Where the integrity or well-being of the University is threatened by any matter, the Chancellor may in consultation with the Council intervene.

**Vacancy in the office of the Chancellor**

16. (1) The office of the Chancellor shall become vacant on
- (a) resignation;
  - (b) death;
  - (c) removal from office; or
  - (a) the expiry of the term of office.
- (2) The grounds and procedures for the removal of the Chancellor from office shall be specified in the Statutes of the University.

**Vice-Chancellor of the University**

17. (1) The University shall have a Vice-Chancellor.
- (2) The Council shall appoint a Vice-Chancellor for the University in accordance with the Statutes of the University.
- (3) The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office on the terms and conditions specified in the letter of appointment.
- (4) The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period of three years and is eligible for re-appointment for another term only.
- (5) The Vice-Chancellor is the academic and administrative head and chief disciplinary officer of the University.
- (6) The Vice-Chancellor is responsible to the Council for maintaining order and ensuring the efficient administration of the University.
- (7) The Vice-Chancellor shall perform any other functions as may be prescribed by the Council in the Statutes of the University.

**Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University**

18. (1) The University shall have a Pro Vice-Chancellor.
- (2) The Council shall appoint a Pro Vice-Chancellor for the University in accordance with the Statutes of the University.
- (3) The Pro Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period of three years and is eligible for re-appointment for another term only.
- (4) The Pro Vice-Chancellor shall attend a meeting of the Council but shall not vote at the meeting.
- (5) The Pro Vice-Chancellor shall be assigned duties as the Council or the Vice-Chancellor shall determine.
- (6) The Pro Vice-Chancellor shall perform the functions of the Vice-Chancellor in the absence of the Vice-Chancellor.

**Academic Board**

19. There is established by this Act, an Academic Board for the University which is answerable to the Council.

**Composition of the Academic Board**

20. (1) The Academic Board consists of
- (a) the Vice-Chancellor as the chairperson;
  - (b) the Pro Vice-Chancellor;
  - (c) Deans and Vice-Deans;
  - (d) Directors of Schools, Institutes and Centres;
  - (e) Heads of Academic Departments;
  - (f) Professors and Associate Professors;
  - (g) a representative each of
    - (i) a College;
    - (ii) an Academic department;
    - (iii) a School;
    - (iv) an Institute; or
    - (v) a Centre;
  - (h) the Librarian of the University;
  - (i) the Registrar of the University; and
  - (j) nine other members of the University, five of whom are non-teaching staff, elected by Convocation in accordance with the Statutes of the University.

(2) A person who is a member of the Academic Board by virtue of office may be represented at a meeting of the Academic Board by a person designated by that member.

**Functions of the Academic Board**

21. The Academic Board shall, subject to the powers of the Council,
- (a) formulate and implement the academic policies of the University;
  - (b) devise and regulate courses of instruction;
  - (c) regulate the
    - (i) conduct of examinations; and
    - (ii) award of degrees, diplomas and certificates;
  - (d) authorise the grant of funds for research;
  - (e) advise the Council on the appointment of academic staff, admission of students and the award of scholarships and bursaries;

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- (j) report on matters that the Council refers to the Academic Board;
- (g) make representations to the Council on any matter connected with the University; and
- (h) perform any other functions prescribed by the Council in accordance with the Statutes of the University.

**Committees of the Academic Board**

22. (1) The Academic Board may, for the purpose of carrying out functions under this Act, establish standing and ad hoc committees as may be determined by the Statutes enacted by the Council.

(2) A committee of the Academic Board comprised entirely of non-members shall be advisory only.

**The Registrar**

23. (1) The University shall have a Registrar.

(2) The Council shall appoint a Registrar for the University.

(3) The Registrar shall hold office on the terms and conditions specified in the letter of appointment in accordance with the Statutes of the University.

(4) The Registrar is the Secretary to the

- (a) office of the Chancellor;
- (b) Council; and
- (c) Academic Board.

(5) The Registrar is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor for the day-to-day administration of the affairs of the University.

(6) The Registrar may perform any other functions provided for in the Statutes of the University.

(7) The Registrar is the Secretary to the Council.

**Director of Finance**

24. (1) The University shall have a Director of Finance.

(2) The Council shall appoint the Director of Finance for the University.

(3) The Director of Finance shall perform functions as prescribed in the Statutes of the University.

(4) The Director of Finance is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor in the performance of the functions of the Director of Finance.

**Appointment of other staff**

25. The Council may appoint other staff necessary for the effective performance of the functions of the University.

**Internal organisation of the University**

26. (1) Subject to this Act, the Council may make arrangements as the Council considers appropriate for the internal organisation of the University, including the

- (a) establishment, variation and supervision of academic Divisions, Faculties, Schools, Centres, Institutes, Departments, hostels and other bodies in the campuses of the University;
- (b) award of professorships;
- (c) appointment and promotion of academic and administrative staff;
- (a) conferment of honorary degrees and other awards;
- (e) promotion of professional development; and
- (j) development of other facilities including hostels.

(2) The University may

- (a) enter into an agreement or relationship with another institution whether academic or non-academic within or outside the country; and
- (b) incorporate within the University, another institution or body, taking over the property, rights, privileges and liabilities of that other institution or body.

(3) The Council shall exercise the powers referred to in subsection (1), only after consultation with the Academic Board on matters which in the opinion of the Council are academic matters.

*Financial Provisions*

**Funds of the University**

27. (1) The Funds of the University include

- (a) moneys approved by Parliament;
- (b) internally generated funds including
  - (i) fees paid by students duly registered by the University;
  - (ii) fees, charges and dues in respect of services rendered by or through the University;
  - (iii) proceeds from the sale of publications of the University;
  - (iv) tuition and hostel fees; and

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- (v) subscriptions, rents and royalties;
  - (c) returns on investments;
  - (a) endowments, grants, donations and gifts; and
  - (e) moneys from any other source approved by the Council.
- (2) Any sum of money received by or on behalf of the University shall be paid into a bank account of the University opened by or on the authority of the Council.
- (3) Moneys received by or standing to the credit of an establishment of the University shall form part of the funds of the University.
- (4) The Council may invest the funds of the University that are not required for immediate use as the Council considers appropriate.

**Borrowing powers**

- 28.** (1) Subject to article 181 of the Constitution and section 76 of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921), the University may borrow money.
- (2) The University may, for the purpose of borrowing money under subsection (1), use a property of the University as security.

**Internal Audit Unit**

- 29.** (1) The University shall have an Internal Audit Unit in accordance with section 83 of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921).
- (2) The Internal Audit Unit shall be headed by an Internal Auditor who shall be appointed in accordance with the Internal Audit Agency Act, 2003 (Act 658).
- (3) The Internal Auditor is responsible for the internal audit of the University.
- (4) The Internal Auditor shall, subject to subsections (3) and (4) of section 16 of the Internal Audit Agency Act, 2003 (Act 658), at intervals of three months
- (a) prepare and submit to the Council, a report on the internal audit carried out during the period of three months immediately preceding the preparation of the report; and
  - (b) make recommendations in each report with respect to matters which appear to the Internal Auditor as necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the University.
- (5) The Internal Auditor shall, in accordance with subsection (4)

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of section 16 of the Internal Audit Agency Act, 2003 (Act 658), submit a copy of each report prepared under this section to the Minister and the chairperson of the Council.

**Accounts and audit**

**30.** (1) The Council shall ensure that the University keeps books of account, records, returns and other documents relevant to the accounts in the form approved by the Auditor-General.

(2) The Council shall submit the annual accounts of the University to the Auditor-General for audit at the end of the financial year.

(3) The accounts shall be under the signature of the Vice-Chancellor and the Director of Finance.

(4) The Auditor-General shall, within six months after the end of the immediately preceding financial year, audit the accounts and forward a copy of the audit report to the Minister and the Council.

(5) The financial year of the University is the same as the financial year of the Government.

**Annual report and other reports**

**31.** (1) The Council shall within one month after receipt of the audit report, submit to the Minister an annual report covering the activities and the operations of the University for the year to which the report relates.

(2) The annual report includes

(a) the report of the Auditor-General; and

(b) any other information that may be required by the Minister in conformity with the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921) or that may be relevant to enhance transparency and accountability.

(3) The Minister shall, within one month after the receipt of the annual report from the University, submit the report to Parliament with a statement that the Minister considers necessary.

(4) The Council shall submit to the Minister any other reports which the Minister may require in writing.

**Exemption from taxes, duties and other charges**

**32.** (1) The University is exempt from the payment of taxes, duties and other charges that the Minister responsible for Finance may in writing determine with the prior approval of Parliament.



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(2) A hall, hostel and any other residential facilities for students, lecture hall, library, hospital, staff quarter, bungalow, guest house, recreation ground and any other tenements of the University shall be exempt from the assessment and payment of a rate levied by a local authority.

*Miscellaneous Provisions*

**Statutes of the University**

**33.** (1) The Council shall enact Statutes of the University for the implementation of this Act.

(2) The Statutes of the University shall

- (a) regulate the following in respect of the employees of the University
  - (i) appointment;
  - (ii) conditions of service;
  - (iii) termination of appointment; and
  - (iv) retirement benefits;
- (b) determine the persons who form the academic staff of the University;
- (c) determine the persons who are authorised to sign contracts, cheques and other documents on behalf of the University and regulate the procedure in relation to transactions entered into by the University;
- (d) fix the academic calendar of the University;
- (e) determine the rules and procedures relating to discipline of students and employees of the University;
- (f) ensure that the seal of the University is kept under proper custody and is used only on the authority of the Council; and
- (g) provide for any matter required by this Act to be prescribed by the Statutes of the University.

**Convocation**

**34.** (1) There shall be a Convocation of the University with the membership prescribed by the Statutes of the University.

(2) The Registrar shall compile a register of the members of Convocation for publication each academic year.

(3) A person whose name appears in the register is entitled to vote at the Convocation.

(4) The Convocation shall meet at least once each academic year at the time and place determined by the Vice-Chancellor.

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(5) Despite subsection (4), the Convocation shall meet on a request made by a number of members as prescribed in the Statutes of the University.

(6) The Convocation shall receive and discuss a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the state of the University and future plans for the University.

(7) The Convocation may express an opinion on any matter that affects the University and may refer the matter to the Council or the Academic Board.

**Matriculation**

35. (1) A student admitted to the University shall

- (a) take the Matriculation Oath; and
- (b) sign the Matriculation Register.

(2) The University shall not permit a student who fails to sign the Matriculation Register to graduate.

**Congregation**

36. The University may hold a Congregation composed of the persons prescribed by the Council in the Statutes of the University for the purpose of awarding a degree, diploma or certificate.

**Student governance**

37. (1) The University shall have a Students' Representative Council.

(2) The Students' Representative Council is responsible for representing students duly admitted and registered to study at the University.

(3) The constitution and other governing instruments of the Students' Representative Council shall

- (a) be drawn up by the students subject to the approval of the Academic Board; and
- (b) conform to this Act, the Statutes of the University and any other rules, regulations, directives and edicts duly issued by the University.

(4) A constitution or a governing instrument, drawn up by the Students' Representative Council which is inconsistent with paragraph (b) of subsection (3) shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void.

(5) The Statutes of the University may grant the Students' Representative Council representation on appropriate bodies and organs of the University.

**Intellectual property**

38. (1) The intellectual property right in a creative work, research or any other intellectual enterprise, funded or otherwise undertaken with resources of the University, shall vest in the University.

(2) The Council shall enact Statutes of the University in accordance with the laws on intellectual property to govern the creation, ownership and use of intellectual property including copyright, patents, trademarks, trade names and industrial designs by employees of the University.

(3) The Council shall, in enacting the Statutes of the University under subsection (2), determine the incentive for a person who undertakes any work, research or other intellectual enterprise, funded or otherwise undertaken with resources of the University to enable that person benefit from the work, research or intellectual enterprise.

**Anti-discrimination**

39. (1) Without limiting the power of the University to adopt affirmative action policies, the University or an officer of the University shall not discriminate against a person on the basis of the race, ethnic origin, political opinion, colour, gender, occupation, religion or creed, disability, social or economic status of that person to determine whether that person is to be

- (a) admitted as a student of the University;
- (b) registered as a student of the University;
- (c) permitted to graduate from the University;
- (a) appointed as an academic staff or other staff member of the University;
- (e) promoted as an academic staff or any other member of the University; or
- (j) granted any advantage, privilege or other benefit accorded to other persons.

(2) For the purpose of this section

- (a) “discriminate” means to give different treatment to different persons attributable only or mainly on the grounds stated in subsection (1); and
- (b) “officer of the University” includes
  - (i) a Principal Officer;
  - (ii) a staff;
  - (iii) an employee;

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- (iv) an agent;
- (v) a servant; or
- (vi) any other person performing or acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of the University.

**Dispute settlement**

**40.** (1) There is established by this Act a body to be known as the University for Films, Journalism and Languages Appeals Board.

(2) The Appeals Board shall consist of

- (a) a chairperson who is a retired Justice of the Superior Courts of Judicature or a lawyer qualified to be appointed as a Justice of the Superior Courts of Judicature;
- (b) two lawyers of at least ten years standing at the Bar who are persons of high moral integrity and professional integrity, at least one of whom is a woman; and
- (c) two other persons of high moral integrity who are not lawyers or employees of the University, at least one of whom is a woman.

(3) The Council shall appoint the members of the Appeals Board.

(4) The Appeals Board shall hear and determine on appeal, matters on

- (a) an act or omission in contravention of this Act or the Statutes of the University enacted by the Council;
- (b) breach of an employment contract by the University;
- (c) the promotion of persons duly employed by the University;
- (a) grievances by a student against the University on matters related to welfare and discipline; or
- (e) any other matter or dispute referred to the Appeals Board by the Council.

(5) The chairperson and two other members of the Appeals Board shall constitute a panel for the hearing and determination of a case or matter before the Appeals Board.

(6) In the absence of the chairperson, one of the two lawyers as specified in paragraph (b) of subsection (2), shall act as chairperson.

(7) The Council shall establish the rules and procedure to govern

- (a) the proceedings of the Appeals Board;
- (b) the appointment and remuneration of the members of the Appeals Board;
- (c) the functions of the acting chairperson of the Appeals Board;

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- (a) the establishment of the Secretariat of the Appeals Board;  
and
- (e) any other relevant matter.

**Interpretation**

41. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires

- “Academic Board” means the body established under section 19;
- “Appeals Board” means the University for Films, Journalism and Languages Appeals Board established under section 40;
- “constituent institution” means an Institute, School or Centre approved by the Council;
- “Convocation” means the Principal Officers of the University and other senior members of the University appointed by the Council or the Academic Board and registered by the Registrar as members of Convocation;
- “Council” means the University Council established under section 6;
- “disclosure of interest” includes a pecuniary, material, academic and relational interest in a matter being deliberated or decided on by the University;
- “Institute” means a multi-disciplinary research or service establishment which focuses primarily on multi-disciplinary research and on the provision of extension services;
- “Minister” means the Minister responsible for Education;
- “Pro Vice-Chancellor” means the person appointed under subsection (2) of section 18 to the office of Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University;
- “Statutes of the University” means administrative guidelines enacted by the Council in accordance with this Act to govern the internal operations of the University;
- “University” means the University for Films, Journalism and Languages established under section 1; and
- “Vice-Chancellor” means the person appointed under subsection (2) of section 17 to the office of Vice-Chancellor of the University.

**Repeals and savings**

42. (1) The following enactments are repealed:

- (a) the Ghana Institute of Languages Act, 1969 (NLCD 324);
- (b) the National Film and Television Institute Act, 1978 (SMCD 151); and

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(c) the Ghana Institute of Journalism Act, 2006 (Act 717).

(2) Despite the repeal of the enactments specified in subsection (1), any regulation or instrument made under the repealed enactments and in force immediately before the coming into force of this Act shall continue in force until amended or revoked under this Act.

**Transitional provisions**

**43.** (1) Until the appointment of the members of the Council established under section 6, there shall be an Interim Council of the University which shall function for a period of not more than two years.

(2) The President shall appoint members of the Interim Council on the recommendation of the Minister given in consultation with the National Council for Tertiary Education.

(3) The Interim Council shall perform the functions of the Council.

(4) An action taken by the Interim Council before the first meeting of the Council shall have the same effect as if done by the Council.

(5) An enrolled student of the Ghana Institute of Journalism, the National Film and Television Institute or the Ghana Institute of Languages shall, on the coming into force of this Act, graduate as a student of the University for Films, Journalism and Languages.

(6) An ongoing accredited programme of the Ghana Institute of Journalism, the National Film and Television Institute and the Ghana Institute of Languages before the coming into force of this Act, shall on the coming into force of this Act remain a programme of the University.

(7) The assets and liabilities of the Ghana Institute of Journalism, the National Film and Television Institute and the Ghana Institute of Languages before the coming into force of this Act shall, on the coming into force of this Act, be transferred to the University.

(8) The University shall be guided in the operations of the University by accredited Universities in the country for a period of not more than two years.

**SCHEDULE  
PART A**

**THE OFFICIAL OATH**

*(Section 14 (2))*

I, .....do (in the name of the Almighty God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will at all times well and truly serve the University for Film, Journalism and Languages and the Republic of Ghana in the office of ..... and that I will uphold, preserve, protect and defend the University as by law established. (So help me God).

*(To be sworn before the Minister or any other person as the President may designate).*

**PART B**

**THE OATH OF SECRECY**

*(Section 14 (2))*

I, ..... holding the office of ..... do (in the name of the Almighty God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought under my consideration or shall come to my knowledge in the discharge of my official duties expect as may be required for the discharge of my official duties or as may be specially permitted my law. (So help me God).

*(To be sworn before the President or any other person as the President may designate).*

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Date of *Gazette* notification: 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2020.



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**MEMORANDUM**

The object of the Bill is to establish the University for Film, Journalism and Languages as a public tertiary institution in the country to be an outstanding internationally acclaimed applied research and practical-oriented educational institution, dedicated to the development of film, journalism and languages.

The establishment of the proposed University is part of the efforts of Government in the implementation of the right to higher education. The University is intended to be a holding university with constituent institutions. The Bill thus provides the legal framework for the transformation of the constituent institutions of the proposed University namely the Ghana Institute of Journalism (GIJ), the National Film and Television Institute (NAFTI) and the Ghana Institute of Languages (GIL) into a fully-fledged public university. The constituent institutions are, however, required to be independent of each other and focus on carving a niche for the specialised areas specified under the Bill.

The transformation will provide access to tertiary education and training for national development as well as empower the current Institutes to actively compete as a world-class University with the power to award their own degrees without the need for affiliation. The money saved from affiliation is to be channelled into research, staff development, expansion of programmes and infrastructure development.

*Clauses 1 to 5* of the Bill deal with the establishment of the University for Film, Journalism and Languages.

*Clause 1* establishes the University for Film, Journalism and Languages as a body corporate with perpetual succession whilst *clause 2* provides as the aims of the University, the provision of higher education, dissemination of knowledge related to the development of film, journalism and languages, stimulation of the creative arts industry, undertaking research and fostering relationships with persons outside the institution in accordance with the principles specified under the clause.

*Clause 3* provides for the structure of the University. The University is required to be a holding university with constituent institutions. A constituent institution is a constituent member of the holding University with the power to award degrees.

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*Clause 4* provides for campuses of the University. The University is required to establish a campus in each of the existing constituent institutions, namely, the Ghana Institute of Languages, the Ghana Institute of Journalism, the National Film and Television Institute and any other place that the Council may determine.

*Clause 5* empowers the University and the constituent institutions of the University to award degrees, honorary degrees, diplomas and certificates. The *clause* also empowers the University and its constituent institutions to withdraw a degree, diploma or certificate that the University or constituent institution has awarded, if the University or constituent institution has evidence that proves that the degree, diploma or certificate was obtained through fraud or academic malpractice or the process of acquiring the degree, diploma or certificate was tainted by an act that, in the opinion of the University or constituent institution, undermines the integrity of the award.

*Clauses 6 to 13* deal with the governance of the University.

*Clause 6* provides for the University Council. The governing body of the University is a Council that consists of members including the chairperson, Vice-Chancellor and the Rector of each constituent institution of the University. The chairperson and other members of the Council are to be appointed by the President in accordance with article 70 of the Constitution.

The functions of the University Council, as provided for under *clause 7*, include the duty to ensure the implementation of the aims of the University, determine the strategic direction of the University, monitor and evaluate the implementation of policies of the University and promote income-generating activities as part of the programmes of the University. The Council is also required to control the finances of the University and determine the allocation and proper use of funds of the University.

*Clause 8* confers powers on the Council to act or provide for any matter in relation to the University which the Council considers necessary or expedient.

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The standard provisions on the tenure of office of members of the Council, meetings of the Council, disclosure of interest, establishment of committees and allowances are provided for under *clauses* 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 respectively.

The administration of the University is dealt with under *clauses* 14 to 26.

The Principal Officers of the University are the Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor and the Pro Vice-Chancellor, *clause* 14.

*Clause* 15 provides for the appointment of the Chancellor by the Council. *Clause* 16 provides for vacancy in the office of the Chancellor. The office of the Chancellor becomes vacant on the resignation, death, removal from office or expiry of the term of office of the Chancellor.

The appointment of the Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor is provided for under *clauses* 17 and 18 respectively. The Council is required to appoint a Vice-Chancellor and a Pro Vice-Chancellor for the University in accordance with the Statutes of the University.

*Clause* 19 establishes the Academic Board. The Academic Board is answerable to the Council in the performance of functions under the Bill.

The composition of the members of the Academic Board is provided for under *clause* 20. The members of the Academic Board include the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Deans and Vice-Deans and Directors of Schools, Institutes and Centres of the University.

*Clause* 21 enumerates the functions of the Academic Board. The Academic Board is required to formulate and implement the academic policies of the University and devise and regulate courses of instruction. Other functions of the Academic Board include the regulation of the conduct of examinations and the award of degrees, diplomas and certificates as well as the authorisation of research grants and making representations to the Council on any matter connected with the University.

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*Clause 22* empowers the Academic Board to establish standing and ad hoc committees for the purpose of carrying out the functions specified under the Bill.

The Council is required by *clause 23* to appoint a Registrar of the University who is to hold office on the terms and conditions specified in the letter of appointment in accordance with the Statutes of the University.

*Clause 24* provides for the appointment of the Director of Finance. The Director of Finance is responsible to the Vice-Chancellor in the performance of the functions of the Director of Finance.

Other staff of the University are appointed under *clause 25*. The *clause* empowers the Council to appoint other staff necessary for the effective performance of the functions of the University.

*Clause 26* provides for the internal organisation of the University. The Council is empowered to make arrangements that the Council considers appropriate for the internal organisation of the University.

The financial matters of the University are dealt with under *clauses 27 to 32*.

*Clause 27* provides for the funds of the University. The funds of the University include moneys approved by Parliament, returns on investments and endowments, grants, donations and gifts.

*Clause 28* empowers the University to borrow money subject to article 181 of the Constitution and section 76 of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921). The University is further empowered to use a property of the University as security for the purpose of borrowing money.

*Clause 29* provides for the establishment of an Internal Audit Unit in accordance with section 83 of the Public Financial Management Act, 2016 (Act 921).

The standard provisions on accounts and audit and annual and other reports are provided for in *clauses 30 and 31* respectively.

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The University is exempt from the payment of taxes, duties and other charges that the Minister responsible for Finance may determine in writing with the prior approval of Parliament, *clause 32*.

*Clauses 33 to 43* deal with miscellaneous matters.

*Clause 33* requires the Council to enact Statutes for the implementation of the Bill whilst Convocation of the University is provided for in *clause 34*. The membership of the Convocation is to be prescribed by the Statutes of the University.

Matters relating to matriculation are specified in *clause 35*. Under the *clause*, a student admitted to the University is mandated take the Matriculation Oath and sign the Matriculation Register.

The University is empowered by *clause 36* to hold a Congregation composed of persons prescribed by the Council in the Statutes of the University for the purpose of awarding a degree, diploma or certificate.

Matters on student governance are dealt with in *clause 37*. *Clause 37* mandates the University to have a Students' Representative Council responsible for representing students duly admitted and registered to study at the University.

*Clause 38* provides for intellectual property of the University. The clause vests in the University, the intellectual property right in a creative work, research or other intellectual enterprise funded or otherwise undertaken with resources of the University. The Council is also required to determine the incentives for persons who undertake any work, research or other intellectual enterprise funded or otherwise undertaken with resources of the University to enable those persons benefit from their work, research or intellectual enterprise.

*Clause 39* prohibits the University or an officer of the University from discriminating against a person in determining whether that person is to be admitted or registered as a student of the University, permitted to graduate from the University, appointed or promoted as an academic

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staff or other staff member or granted any advantage, privilege or other benefit accorded all other persons.

Dispute settlement is provided for in *clause* 40. The clause provides for the establishment of the University for Film, Journalism and Languages Appeals Board. The Appeals Board is required to hear and determine on appeal, matters specified in the Bill including breach of an employment contract by the University, grievances by students against the University on matters related to welfare and discipline or any other matter or dispute referred to the Appeals Board by the Council.

*Clause* 41 provides for the interpretation of words and phrases used in the Bill whilst *clauses* 42 and 43 provide for repeals and savings and transitional matters respectively.

**HON. DR. MATTHEW OPOKU PREMPEH (MP)**  
*Minister responsible for Education*

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2020.