



# Regulation on Student Representation of the UCAM Catholic University of Murcia

Year 2019/2020



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## JUSTIFICATION

In the university sphere, the Organic Law 4/2007, of 12 April, which modifies the Organic Law 6/2001, of 21 December, on Universities (*Ley Orgánica de Modificación de la Ley Orgánica de Universidades*, LOMLOU), which establishes as one of the principles of the university policy the development of student participation through the Student Statute and the creation of a University Student Council.

On the other hand, the scenario outlined by the European Higher Education Area calls for a new figure of the student as the active subject of his/her training process, with an assessment of the work inside and outside the classroom, and the support of teaching activity and tutorial systems. Since the beginning of this process, with the signing of the Magna Charta Universitatum in Bologna on 18 September 1988, the participation of the students, the need for knowledge of the general principles of university autonomy, of academic freedom and of social responsibility in the accountability of universities, have been continuously underlined in the Declarations that have been shaping this European Higher Education Area; and the role of students in the public management of higher education was expressly recognised at the Ministerial Conference in Berlin in 2003.

In application of the principles described in the previous paragraph, Royal Decree 1791/2010 of 30 December, which approves the University Student Statute, is approved and published, with the aim of developing the rights included in Organic Law 6/2001 of 21 December, and also including the peculiarities derived from each of the training stages within the university environment. This norm established the articulation of the binomial protection of rights-exercise of responsibility by the university students, gathering mechanisms to increase the involvement of students in the university life, recognise their rights, value cultural, sports and solidarity activities. In the same previous line, Royal Decree 1393/2007, of 29 October, which establishes the organisation of official university teaching, regulated the academic and curricular recognition of the performance of duties of student representation.

Having presented the previous regulatory framework, and to develop it, the UCAM *Universidad Católica San Antonio de Murcia* has adopted this Regulation on Student Representation, the basis of which is the regulation of the activity of our

student representatives, as well as the achievement of a common legal framework in the different UCAM seats, with the aim of defining it, its functioning, and also the relationships between the different seats, the student representatives and the governing bodies of the UCAM.

## **TITLE I. UCAM STUDENT REPRESENTATION.**

### **Article 1. Definition.**

For the purpose of this regulation, the student representative is considered to be the UCAM student who, by democratic election, holds a position in which he/she represents and defends the interests of the group that elected him/her.

### **Article 2. Classes.**

Student representatives are considered to be:

- Representatives and Substitute Representatives.
- Faculty Representatives.
- Degree Representatives.
- UCAM Representative.

### **Article 3. Rights and Duties.**

3.1. Student representatives have the following duties:

- a) To attend the meetings to which they are summoned.
- b) To channel the proposals and initiatives before the appropriate bodies, as well as the claims of the group they represent.
- c) To inform the group they represent of the activities and resolutions of the bodies before which the initiatives, proposals or claims have been channelled.
- d) To protect and respect the institution and its ideology.
- e) To make good use of the information received by reason of their position.

3.2. Student representatives have the following rights:

- a) To express themselves freely with no other limitations than those established in section d) of article 3.1.

- b) The work of representation must not diminish their academic performance.
- c) To have physical spaces to be able to carry out the tasks of student representation.
- d) The credit consideration established according to the position held.

## **Article 4. Student Representation Bodies at the UCAM.**

### **4.1. Collegial:**

4.1.1. Student Council: It shall be composed of:

- UCAM Representative.
- Faculty Representatives.
- Degree Representatives.
- Representative or Substitute Representatives who have applied to be Faculty or Degree Representatives upon request to the Representatives Section to allow their incorporation to the Student Council.

The Student Council will hold two annual meetings, approximately coinciding with the end of the term, in which the action objectives shall be designed, the participation of all students in social and cultural projects shall be encouraged and complaints and suggestions from the students shall be collected.

4.1.2. Student Board: It shall be composed of:

- UCAM Representative.
- Faculty Representatives.
- Degree Representatives.
- Vice-Chancellor of Quality and Academic Organisation.
- Secretary-General.

The Student Board shall hold an annual meeting in July, where students and members of the government team of the university will exchange information relating to the academic year.

### **4.2. Individual:**

4.2.1. Representative and Substitute Representative.

*4.2.2 Faculty Representative.*

*4.2.3 Seat Representative.*

*4.2.4 Campus Representative.*

*4.2.5 UCAM Representative.*

## **Article 5. Cessation.**

The mandate established will run out in the following cases:

- a) Voluntary resignation.
- b) Motion of censure proposed by at least half of the members of the group that elected him/her. Within a maximum period of 15 days the motion of censure will be carried out and it will need the vote of at least 3/5 of the present members to succeed.
- c) Repeated breach of duties.
- d) Circumstance that prevents him/her from carrying out his/her work as a student representative.
- e) Death or legal incapacity.
- f) To cease to be enrolled in an official teaching of the UCAM.
- g) Non-payment of tuition fees.

## **Article 6. Definitive proclamation.**

After each process, a challenges period will be opened for 15 days. These challenges must be made effective before the convening body, which will decide on the matter within a maximum period of 7 days. Once the term for the challenges has elapsed or after having decided on the ones that have been presented, the definitive proclamation of the representatives will take place.

## **TITLE II. ELECTIONS OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

### **CHAPTER I. REPRESENTATIVES.**

#### **Article 7. Representatives and Substitute Representatives.**

Each degree shall have a representative and substitute representative by academic year, modality and seat. Every student is entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate.

**Article 8. Call for elections.**

Elections for Representatives and Substitute Representatives will be called by order of the management teams of the degrees at the request of the UCAM Representatives Section, within the Vice-Chancellorship of Quality and Academic Organisation (*Vicerrectorado de Calidad y Ordenación Académica, VCOA*), which shall send to Directors and Technical Secretaries, 7 days after the beginning of classes, all the information to carry out the electoral process. Elections must be held within 15 days of the call.

**Article 9. Candidatures.**

Candidatures for the positions of Representative and Substitute Representative shall be submitted on the same day of the election.

**Article 10. Provisional proclamation.**

After the counting of votes, the president of the polling station shall make the provisional proclamation of the Representative, who shall be the student with the highest number of votes, and of the Substitute Representative, who shall be the next immediate student in terms of votes. In the event of a tied vote, it shall be resolved by drawing lot.

**Article 11. Lack of representative.**

In the period of time from the beginning of the academic year until the elections are held, the positions of Representative and Substitute Representative elected in the previous academic year are in force. If for any of the reasons established in article 5, an academic year remains without representation, elections shall be called without delay.

**Article 12. Length of mandate.**



The length of the position shall be one academic year, being the re-election permitted without limitation of mandates.

**Article 13. Credits.**

The representatives shall obtain 0.5 credits per academic year, which may be accumulated with the credits obtained for representing another group.

**Article 14. Communication.**

After the end of the elections, the result shall be communicated by the Degree Administration / Technical Secretariat to the Representatives Section, within the VCOA, which shall publish the definitive proclamation.

**CHAPTER II. FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES**

**Article 15. Faculty Representatives.**

The Representatives Section shall call elections for Faculty Representative within 7 days following the final proclamation of the representatives.

**Article 16. Call.**

The Representatives Section shall issue the call that will be addressed to all the representatives of every UCAM degrees, and they will be entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate. Elections must be held within 15 days of the call.

**Article 17. Candidatures.**

The candidatures to fill the positions of Faculty Representative shall be presented the same day of the election. Each candidate shall have 5 minutes to introduce himself/herself and present his/her project before the Board. If no candidatures are presented, all the present representatives, belonging to the Faculty whose candidatures have remained unfilled shall be eligible candidates.

**Article 18. Provisional proclamation.**

After the counting of votes, the president of the polling station shall successively make the provisional proclamation of the Faculty Representatives to

the students with the highest number of votes. In the event of a tied vote, it shall be resolved by drawing lot.

**Article 19. Academic years without candidates.**

From the beginning of the academic year until the elections are held, the positions elected in the previous academic year are in force. If for any of the reasons established in article 5 an academic year remains without representation, elections shall be called without delay.

**Article 20. Length.**

The length of the mandate shall be two academic years, with re-election permitted without limitation of mandates.

**Article 21. Credits.** The Faculty Representatives shall obtain 1 credit which may be accumulated with the credits obtained for representing another group.

**CHAPTER III. DEGREE REPRESENTATIVES.**

**Article 22. Degree Representative.**

There will be a student representative for each degree at the seat of Cartagena for the sake of better cooperation and information flow.

The Representatives Section shall call elections for Degree Representative within 7 days following the final proclamation of the representatives.

**Article 23. Call.**

The Representatives Section shall issue the call that will be directed to all the representatives of every UCAM degrees that are not based in Murcia. They shall be entitled to vote and to stand as candidates. Elections must be held within 15 days of the call.

**Article 24. Candidatures.**

The candidatures to fill the positions of Degree Representative shall be presented the same day of the election. Each candidate shall have 5 minutes to introduce himself/herself and present his/her project before the Board. If no

candidatures are presented, all the present representatives, belonging to the degree whose candidatures have remained unfilled shall be eligible candidates.

**Article 25. Provisional proclamation.**

After the counting of votes, the president of the polling station shall successively make the provisional proclamation of the Degree Representatives to the students with the highest number of votes. In the event of a tied vote, it shall be resolved by drawing lot.

**Article 26. Academic years without candidates.**

From the beginning of the academic year until the elections are held, the positions elected in the previous academic year are in force. If for any of the reasons established in article 5 an academic year remains without representation, elections shall be called without delay.

**Article 27. Length.**

The length of the mandate shall be two academic years, with re-election permitted without limitation of mandates.

**Article 28. Credits.** The Degree Representatives shall obtain 1 credit which may be accumulated with the credits obtained for representing another group.

**CHAPTER IV. CAMPUS REPRESENTATIVE.**

**Article 29. Campus Representative Definition.**

In seats other than Murcia, the Degree Representatives may apply as Campus Representatives by submitting their candidature via e-mail to the Representatives Section, within 7 days of their provisional proclamation. The Representatives Section shall proceed to their appointment, by evaluating their merits and skills within 30 days from the definitive proclamation of the Degree Representatives.

**Article 30. Length.**

The length of the mandate shall be two academic years, with re-election permitted without limitation of mandates.

**Article 31. Credits.**

The Campus Representative shall obtain 1 credit per academic year, which may be accumulated with the credits obtained for representing another group.

**CHAPTER IV. UCAM REPRESENTATIVE.****Article 32. UCAM Representative Definition.**

Faculty Representatives and Degree Representatives may apply as UCAM Representatives by submitting their candidature via e-mail to the Representatives Section within 7 days of their provisional proclamation. The Representatives Section shall proceed to their appointment, by evaluating their merits and skills within 30 days from the definitive proclamation of the Degree and Faculty Representatives.

**Article 33. Length.**

The length of the mandate shall be two academic years, with re-election permitted without limitation of mandates.

**Article 34. Credits.**

The UCAM representative shall obtain 1.5 credits per academic year, which may be accumulated with the credits obtained for representing another group.

**Final provisions.****First final provision.**

With regard to the rights and duties of the student representatives, as regards what is not contained in this Regulation, the Statute of the University student shall govern as supplementary.

**Second final provision.**

This regulation shall enter into force in the academic year following its publication.