



Università di Foggia

STATUTES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS
(taking effect from March 11, 2022)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND INTERNAL REGULATIONS

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Art. 1

Art. 2

Art. 3

Art. 4

Art. 5

Art. 6

Art. 7

Art. 8

CHAPTER II

INTERNAL REGULATIONS

Art. 9 – The Statutes

Art. 10 - Regulatory Framework

TITLE II

GOVERNANCE

CHAPTER I

RECTOR

Art. 11 - Responsibilities of the Rector

Art. 12 - Election of the Rector

**Art. 13 - Appointment of the Rector, Term and Reappointment, and Early Appointment
Termination**

CHAPTER II

ACADEMIC SENATE

Art. 14 - Responsibilities of the Academic Senate

Art. 15 - Duties and Structure of the Academic Senate

**Art. 16 - Appointment, Term of Office and Reappointment, Disqualification of Members
of the Academic Senate**

CHAPTER III
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Art. 17 - Responsibilities of the Board of Directors.

Art. 18 - - Duties and Structure of the Board of Directors

**Art. 19 - Appointment, Term of Office and Reappointment, Disqualification of Members
of the Board of Directors.**

CHAPTER IV
OTHER STATUTORY OFFICERS AND BODIES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Art. 20 - Director General

Art. 21 - Board of Auditors

Art. 22 - University Evaluation Unit.

Art. 23 University Scientific Board and Scientific Area Committees.

Art. 24 - University Council.

Art. 25 - Student Council

Art. 26 - University Sports Board

**Art. 27 - Joint Committee for Equal Opportunities, Well-being at Work and Fight against
Discrimination;**

Art. 28 - Disciplinary Committee

Art. 29 - Student Ombuds Office

TITLE III
ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES
CHAPTER I
ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

Art. 30 - The Department

Art. 31 - Department Bodies.

Art. 32 – Head of the Department

Art. 33 - Functions of the Department Council

Art. 34 - Composition and Functioning of the Department Council.

Art. 35 - Department Executive Committee

.

CHAPTER II
DEGREE PROGRAMS AND INTERDEPARTMENTAL FACILITIES

Art. 36 - Degree Programs

Art. 37 - Interdepartmental Units

CHAPTER III

**OTHER FACILITIES AND BODIES OPERATING IN THE FIELD OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH**

Art. 38 - Interdepartmental and Inter-University Research Centers.

Art. 39 - Doctoral Programs

Art. 40 - University Library System

Art. 41 - Departmental Joint Teaching Boards.

TITLE IV

GENERAL AND TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS

CHAPTER I

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

Art. 42 - University Governance Regulations.

Art. 43 - Incompatibilities and Prohibitions.

Art. 44 – Obtaining Opinions

Art. 45 - Rule for rounding of percentages and fractions in the case of decimal places

CHAPTER II

TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS

Article 46 - Definition of the didactic-scientific-cultural fields and evaluation, admission, and selection of applications for the purpose of identifying the members of the Board of Directors referred to in subparagraphs b) and c) of paragraph 1 of Article 18 of these Statutes

Art. 47 - Organizational structure

TITLE I
GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND INTERNAL REGULATIONS

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1

1. The *Università degli Studi di Foggia*, hereinafter also referred to as **the University**, ensures i) freedom for faculty in teaching, research, and publication, within the scope of its own regulations, and ii) higher learning and iii) development of critical thinking in the process of knowledge acquisition.

2. It considers respect for human fundamental rights as one of its basic tenets; it enhances diversity in line with current national and EU legislation; it guarantees equal opportunities in terms of access to education and work, research, career progression of the teaching and non-teaching staff, committed as it is to removing all direct and indirect discrimination based on their sexual orientation, geographic-cultural origin, language, religious beliefs, political opinions, social and personal conditions, disabilities; it promotes, including through the enhancement of gender studies, the attainment of substantive equality between men and women; it promotes the establishment of a work environment based on organizational well-being, making a commitment to the elimination of all forms of violence within its own organization.

3. It states its independence from any ideological, political, religious and economic conditioning.

4. It ensures the full independence of its scientific and educational components and the widest pluralism of ideas.

5. It fulfills its objectives of education and promotion of scientific research, enhancement of the results of research in all its forms, of higher education, of advanced training, of lifelong learning, of the provision of services and production of public goods of a social, cultural and educational nature, and of support to local development, combining its functions in an organic manner and contributing to the cultural, social and economic progress of the country, in accordance with the general principles established by current legislation and by these Statutes.

6. It promotes high quality in teaching and scientific research and gauges the achievement thereof through the recognition its activities by the national and international scientific and academic community.

Article 2.

1. The university is a legal entity with full legal capacity under public and private law and operates within the principles of autonomy and accountability.

2. It pursues its objectives as an institution with the responsible participation of students and all teaching and non-teaching personnel, to whom it ensures participation in the forms and ways governed by the legislation in force.

Article 3

1. The University adopts as guiding criteria for carrying out its activities the principles of democracy, participation, streamlining, efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and promotion of merit, ensuring, through appropriate means of verification, the quality of the results obtained.
2. Through the use of all communication tools and, in particular, of computer and online tools, it undertakes to ensure the highest accessibility to information regarding all of its activities and decision-making and administrative processes.
3. It ensures the publication of the minutes related to the meetings of its governing collegiate bodies on its website, within the limits set by personal data protection regulations.
4. It ensures the right to access administrative documents, as well as the right to participate in administrative proceedings in accordance with the legislation in force.
5. It draws up its administrative documents and, in particular, its balance sheets and other financial documents in such a way as to ensure clarity and completeness of information.
6. It complies with the principles of full and open access to scientific literature and promotes free online dissemination of the results of its research efforts to ensure that they are disseminated as widely as possible.
7. It lays down, by specific regulations, the provisions aimed at implementing the principles of full and open access to the data and products of scientific research, encouraging their filing in its institutional archives and their disclosure to the public, in compliance with the legislation on intellectual property, confidentiality and protection of personal data, as well as on the protection, access and enhancement of cultural heritage.

Article 4.

1. The University promotes national and international cultural and scientific cooperation, encourages the European integration of higher education, and considers internationalization as an essential driver and enabler of cultural growth and development of the territory and community where it operates.

Article 5

1. The University shall organize its teaching activities in such a way as to guarantee the right to education for all students, enhancing the skillful and deserving ones even if they lack economic means.
2. It encourages the participation of students in university activities and, in particular, in teaching activities, recognizing and enhancing, according to the modalities set forth in the legislation in force, the active contribution of individuals and of free forms of association and voluntary work to the achievement of the University's institutional objectives in a constructive manner.
3. It also promotes the cultural, recreational and social activities carried out by all the University "components" and promotes the spread and enhancement of sports and physical activities, relying on the work of the University Sports Board, established in line with current legislation.

4. It considers as its essential task to promote the cultural and social growth, particularly of young people, and the enhancement of their capacities, including through cooperation with schools of all levels and with other university-level institutions.

Article 6

1. The University provides training and continuous professional development for its technical and administrative personnel to ensure a smooth running in terms of administrative management.
2. It attaches to its relationship with trade unions an important role in terms of contribution to the democratic life of the Institution, to the enhancement of personnel and to the efficiency of its organization.

Article 7.

1. The University shall ensure the necessary integration between teaching activity, scientific activity and healthcare facilities activity in the medical-surgical sector by entering into memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with *Regione Puglia*, as well as by participating, on an advisory basis, in the development of the *Regione Puglia* Health Service Plan.
2. It also provides for the regulation of specialized training of the medical-surgical sector, as well as of that of non-medical health professionals, in the regional area and, where necessary, in the interregional area, through entering into specific memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with *Regione Puglia*.
3. The MOUs referred to in this Article shall be approved by the Board of Directors, upon proposal of the competent department, or, if established, of the interdepartmental facility of the medical-surgical field in question, subject to the opinion of the Academic Senate, in compliance with the provisions set forth in the legislation and Ministerial provisions in force.
4. It considers the "*Ospedali Riuniti*" University Hospital (*Azienda Ospedaliera*) of Foggia, and the other facilities of the national health service indicated in the University/*Regione Puglia* MoUs, the main centers where the integration of the teaching, scientific and healthcare activities of the medical-surgical sector takes place, and it participates in the management of the *Azienda Ospedaliera*, as well as in the appointments of their governing bodies, in the cases provided for by law, with the relevant decisions falling within the competence of the Rector.
5. It ensures, in any case, the essential services for the fulfillment of the institutional objectives of the medical-surgical sector, pursuant to Article 2 of Legislative Decree 517\99 as amended and supplemented.

Article 8.

1. Pursuant to the provisions of current legislation, the University is allowed to establish partnerships with other universities. Partnerships can also be set up by and between the University and other higher education and research institutions, including higher technical institutes providing vocational education and training (VET).

2. In addition, pursuant to current legislation, the University can set up or participate in Foundations.

CHAPTER II

INTERNAL REGULATIONS

Article 9

(Statutes)

1. These Statutes shall be adopted pursuant to Article 33 of the Constitution, Articles 6 and 16 of Law No. 168 of May 9, 1989, and Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, and shall cover the regulations and organization of the University, subject to the limits set by current legislation.

2. Any revision of the Statutes shall be approved with the favorable vote of the absolute majority of the members of the Academic Senate, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors, adopted by an absolute majority of the members, and subject to the opinion of the department councils and the student council. A qualified majority of two-thirds of the members of the Academic Senate is required for amending the provisions contained in Title II, Chapters I, II and III and Title III, Chapter I.

3. The initiative for revising the Statutes can be taken by:

(a) the Rector;

(b) the Academic Senate, by a resolution adopted by an absolute majority of its members;

(c) the Board of Directors, by a resolution adopted by an absolute majority of its members;

(d) a department council, by resolution adopted by an absolute majority of its members;

(e) the student council, by a resolution adopted by an absolute majority of its members.

4. Proposals for revision of the Statutes must be submitted to the Rector to be processed and approved/rejected within the following six months.

5. The amendments to the Statutes shall be issued by Rector's Decree, after ministerial approval as provided for in Article 6, paragraph 9, of Law No. 168 of May 9, 1989.

Article 10

(Regulatory Framework)

1. Under its regulatory autonomy, the University shall adopt all applicable statutory regulations and any other regulations required for the organization and operation of its facilities and services, as well as for proper fulfillment of its institutional functions. In more detail, the University shall adopt the following

(a) the general regulations of the University set out, in compliance with current legislation, the fundamental rules on the organization and functioning of the University. They are approved, by the Academic Senate, adopted with an absolute majority of its members, subject to the opinion of the governing Board of Directors, adopted by an absolute majority of its members, the department councils, and the student council, in compliance with the procedures provided for in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of Article 9 of these Statutes;

(b) the teaching regulations of the University govern, in accordance with the legislation in force, the teaching structure and design of the courses made available to students, and establishes the criteria and procedures for the organization of the training activities and of the ancillary teaching services, as well as the procedures for implementing tutoring schemes. The teaching structure and design is approved by the Academic Senate, with an absolute majority of its members, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors, adopted by an absolute majority of its members, in the manner and with the procedures provided for in Article 11 of Law No. 341 of November 19, 1990, and subsequent amendments and additions;

c) the University Regulations for Administration, Finance and Accounting shall govern, in accordance with current legislation, the management criteria, including the relevant administrative, accounting and financial procedures and responsibilities, contractual procedures, forms of internal control over the efficiency and results of the overall management of the University and the individual cost centers, as well as the administration of the University's assets. These Regulations are approved by the Board of Directors by an absolute majority of its members, subject to the opinion of the Academic Senate, adopted by an absolute majority of its members, the department councils and the student council, in accordance with the procedures set forth in paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of Article 9 of these Statutes;

d) the code of ethics of the University community, made up of the university's professors, *ricercatori* (researchers i.e. starting position for a career in Italian academia), administrative and technical staff and students, which lays down the fundamental values of the community, promotes the recognition of and respect for individual rights, as well as the acceptance of duties and responsibilities towards the University, and sets the rules of conduct within the University community. The rules of the code of ethics are aimed at avoiding all forms of discrimination and abuse, as well as settling cases of conflict of interest or intellectual property, in compliance with current legislation, providing appropriate sanctions in case of their infringement. In particular, individual sanctions and sanctions for departments and other cost centers are envisaged. Individual sanctions, appropriate and proportionate to the type of infringement and to the seriousness of the case in question, consist of disqualification and/or exclusion for a period not exceeding three years from the governing bodies and committees of the University, department, center. In addition, faculty members, for the same period (not

exceeding three years), are excluded from the allocation of any research and university grant for whatever reason awarded to them. The sanctions for departments and other cost centers are of a pecuniary nature. A pecuniary sanction is exacted in installments (the number of installments must be greater than 2 *and* less than 100. The amount of an installment ranges from a minimum of 100 Euros to a maximum of 1,000 Euros. When determining the number of installments, account is taken of the seriousness of the misconduct, the degree of responsibility, and efforts made to eliminate or mitigate the consequences of the infringement and to prevent future misconduct, while the amount of each installment is set on the basis of the economic condition and of the assets of the University, taking into account, in any case, the need to ensure the effectiveness of the economic sanction. The pecuniary sanction may not exceed ten percent of the total amount of annual funds allocated to the department or other cost centers. The pecuniary sanction shall be reduced by half if the perpetrator of the act of misconduct acted in his or her own predominant interest or the interest of a third party and the department or other cost center derived no or minimal benefit. The sanction shall not apply if, prior to the initiation of the proceedings, the department or other cost centers have fully compensated for the damage and eliminated the harmful or dangerous consequences of the misconduct. It shall be reduced by one-third to one-half if the department or other cost centers have made effective efforts to do so. Sanction proceeds shall be distributed annually among departments and other cost centers in inverse proportion to the number and seriousness of the cases of misconduct against each of them. In the case of perpetrators of professional misconduct, the competence of the bodies competent in this latter prevails as per the legislation in force. The code of ethics shall be approved, by the Academic Senate, with an absolute majority of its members, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors, adopted by an absolute majority of its members, and subject to the opinion of the department councils and the student council, in compliance with the procedures provided for in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 9 of these Statutes. Once approved, the text of the Code of Ethics shall be issued by Rector's Decree;

e) additional texts of the regulations shall be approved and amended by the University body identified on the basis of the division of powers established by these Statutes. Once approved or amended these texts shall be issued by Rector's Decree.

TITLE II
GOVERNANCE

CHAPTER I
THE RECTOR

Article 11
(Responsibilities of the Rector)

1. The Rector is the “University’s” legal representative and he or she oversees the general functions of guiding, initiating and coordinating the educational and scientific activities. He or she is responsible for pursuing the “University” objectives according to quality criteria while respecting the principles of effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and merit promotion. He or she guarantees freedom of research and teaching
2. In particular, the tasks and responsibilities of the Rector include:
 - a) act as the legal representative of the University;
 - b) issuing decrees with “external” relevance within his/her competence;
 - c) convene and preside over the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors, of which he/she is an *ex officio* member;
 - d) order the application of the resolutions adopted by the governing bodies;
 - e) in cases of necessity and urgency, take the administrative measures that fall within the competence of the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors, reporting on them, for the purpose of approval at the first (available) session;
 - f) upon proposal of the Academic Senate and/or of the Board of Directors. appoint one or more standing committees with preliminary analysis and investigative functions and also entitled to formulate proposals on specific issues;
 - g) propose the appointment of the Director General to the Board of Directors;
 - h) propose the three-year plan of the University, taking into account the proposals and opinions of the Academic Senate;
 - i) propose the annual and three-year budget and the final balance sheet;
 - j) enforce his/her power of promoting initiatives and proposing disciplinary measures for professors and researchers in the manner provided for in the current legislation, and issue disciplinary measures not exceeding official reprimand against such individuals, after obtaining approval from the Disciplinary Board;
 - k) exercise the power of putting forward proposals to the Academic Senate with regard to violations of the code of ethics that do not constitute professional misconduct;
 - l) supervise the operation of University facilities and services, taking measures aimed at ensuring the identification of any responsibilities;
 - m) propose to the competent bodies to order inspections, inquiries and investigations on the state of the services and activities carried out by the facilities in question, including teaching and research efforts;

- n) designate the deputy pro-rector, choosing him/her from among tenured full professors. The deputy pro-rector replaces the Rector in all his/her functions in case of absence or inability of this latter, and also fulfills the functions delegated to him/her by Rector's Decree. Without prejudice to his/her responsibilities regarding initiatives and coordination, in the exercise of his/her functions, the Rector may also avail himself/herself of another deputy pro-rector, whom he/she selects from among the tenured full professors and appoints by a decree specifying his or her delegated powers;
- o) delegate other professors and researchers of the University, giving notice of this to the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors, to temporarily perform functions that are not peremptorily reserved for them and that involve tasks, including those of institutional representation, or are aimed at the implementation of specific projects or the performance of well-defined activities. In order to foster coordination and collective management of the activities of the delegated faculty, the Rector periodically convenes the Council of Delegates, acting as his/her advisory body;
- p) delegate by decree, without resorting to entering into special power of attorney, an employee of the University to sign deeds regarding temporary associations, as well as other deeds aimed at the submission or implementation of research projects, subject to compliance with civil law provisions that require the issuance of special power of attorney;
- (q) submit to the Minister of Universities and Research and other Central Authorities the reports required by current legislation;
- (r) exercise all functions conferred by the general and special regulations concerning the University organization and any other function not expressly assigned to other bodies under these Statutes.

Article 12

(Election of the Rector)

1. The Rector is elected from among the full professors of the Italian universities who are working full time and have put forward their candidacy. The absolute majority of votes in the first three ballots is required for the election of the Rector. In case of non-election, a second ballot shall be held between the two candidates with the highest number of votes in the last ballot; the candidate with the highest number of votes and, in case of a tie, the candidate with more seniority in the position and, in case of a further tie, the candidate with the younger age shall be elected.
2. Voting rights are vested:
 - (a) with a full vote, to tenured professors, researchers, members of the student council and two student representatives for each of the departments of the University, who are not members of the student council, selected by all the students who are members of the department council in question;

(b) by weighted vote, to technical-administrative personnel in permanent service. Votes cast by technical-administrative personnel will be assigned a weight equal to 20 percent of the number of professors and researchers casting votes in a specific round of voting.

Article 13

(Appointment of the Rector, term and reappointment, and early appointment termination)

1. The Rector is appointed by Ministerial Decree and holds office for a single term of six academic years, without the possibility of re-election
2. In all cases of the early termination of office by the Rector, he/she shall be replaced, until the new election and limited to the activity of ordinary administration and the adoption of urgent and unpostponable decisions and acts, by the dean (the senior member, in length of service) of the group of full professors of the University.

CHAPTER II

ACADEMIC SENATE

Article 14

(Responsibilities of the Academic Senate)

1. The Academic Senate is the governing body where all the components, including issues to be discussed, and the different didactic-scientific-cultural areas of the academic community are represented; the Academic Senate formulates the academic policy guidelines and verifies their fulfilment, performing a proactive, advisory and political-institutional control role; in particular, it formulates proposals and opinions for planning, teaching, research purposes and for student services; it fulfills coordination and *liaison* functions with departments and interdepartmental facilities, if any; takes the initiative for the motion of no-confidence in the Rector; approves the University regulations within the scope of its competence, as well as the regulations of the teaching and research units; verifies compliance with the requirements of internal and external candidates for the office of member of the Board of Directors and selects candidates; decides on violations of the Code of Ethics; promotes cooperation with other universities and national and international research institutes; ensures constant *liaison* with other institutions, with the civil society and the productive fabric.

2. In particular, with regard to proposals and opinions, the Academic Senate:

- a) makes proposals for any type of plan, annual and multi-year, or expresses an opinion on proposals formulated by other bodies;
- b) makes proposals on the parameters for assessing the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of the activities of the University or expresses an opinion on the proposals developed by other bodies;
- c) makes proposals on the internationalization process or expresses an opinion on proposals developed by other bodies;
- d) formulates proposals on the model to be adopted for the organizational structure of the University or expresses an opinion on the proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- e) formulates proposals on the activation, modification or suppression of degree courses and doctoral programs, master's degrees and other educational and training initiatives however named, or expresses an opinion on the proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- f) formulates proposals on the activation, modification or suppression of departments, research centers, interdepartmental facilities and other branch-campus or expresses a favorable opinion on proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- g) makes proposals on the definition of the general criteria and on the resulting allocation of funds destined to teaching, research and operation of the departments or expresses an opinion on proposals drawn up by other bodies;

- h) formulates proposals on the participation of the University as a member of the governing bodies of other organizations or institutions or expresses an opinion on proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- i) formulates proposals on the appointment of the University's contact persons for the composition of the governing bodies of other organizations or institutions or expresses an opinion on proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- (j) makes proposals on the issue of disability or expresses an opinion on proposals prepared by other bodies;
- (k) formulates proposals in the field of University sports activities or expresses an opinion on proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- (l) formulates proposals on matters related to institutional communication;
- m) formulates proposals regarding the organization of institutional events or ceremonies of general interest to the University; and
- n) expresses an opinion, formulating possible proposals, on the annual and three-year budget;
- (o) expresses an opinion on the final balance sheet;
- p) expresses an opinion on the University Regulations regarding administration, finance and accounting and on the regulations concerning the management of human resources;
- q) makes proposals on the right to education, on the implementation of guidance courses for students, on additional educational services and on the management of common services, or expresses an opinion on the proposals drawn up by other bodies;
- (r) makes proposals regarding the library system or expresses an opinion on proposals prepared by other bodies;
- (s) expresses its opinion on the stipulation of contracts for teaching activities to be entered into with internationally recognized professors, scholars and professionals;
- (t) expresses an opinion on the establishment of service centers;
- u) makes proposals or expresses an opinion on the guidelines formulated by the Board of Directors regarding the assignment of technical-administrative personnel to departments;
- (v) expresses its opinion on the appointment of the Director General;
- w) formulates a binding opinion to the Rector on the appointment of the members of the University Evaluation Unit.

3. In more detail, in carrying out its coordination and *liaison* duties with the departments and with any interdepartmental facilities, in compliance with the annual and three-year financial and personnel planning statements, the Academic Senate:

- a) determines the general criteria and, on the basis of proposals from the departments, decides, in compliance with the strategic and financial plans approved by the Board of Directors, on the assignment of faculty to the departments and/ or to a given academic discipline field in terms of positions of professors and researchers;

- b) makes decisions, upon consultation with the departments concerned, in matters of faculty internal mobility;
- c) determines the general criteria and formulates motivated proposals, taking into account the results of the assessment process, to the Board of Directors for awarding of research grants to the departments or to the academic discipline fields, as well as for the allocation of grants for research doctorates, in compliance with the overall quantification established by the Board of Directors;
- d) approves the stipulation of agreements, memoranda of understanding (MoUs) and covenants in the field of teaching, research and student services, subject to the deliberation(s) of the Board of Directors regarding any related financial aspects;
- (e) approves projects and initiatives in the field of research, subject to the deliberation that falls within the competence of the Board of Directors regarding any related financial aspects;
- (f) determines the general criteria as to awarding teaching contracts free of charge that can be entered into within the departments;
- g) decides, within the limits allowed by the legislation in force, by an absolute majority of its members, any access restrictions to a degree program, upon proposal of the department council in question;
- (h) assesses any teaching and research problems that may arise in terms of interdepartmental relations and adopts appropriate measures for the resolution of conflicts.

4. The Academic Senate also:

- a) approves, by a two-thirds majority of its members, the awarding of honorary degrees, subject to a proposal approved, with a majority of two-thirds of its members, by the council of the department concerned;
- b) awards the *Sigillo dell'Ateneo* (Seal of the University); and
- c) grants the patronage of the University to scientific-cultural events and initiatives;
- d) defines, by a two-thirds majority of its members, the five didactic-cultural sectors of the University of Foggia to be referred to for carrying out the procedures for the selection of the relevant representatives on the University's governing bodies; and
- e) approves, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors, projects of partnership/association with other universities.

5. The Academic Senate, with a two-thirds majority of its members, may propose to those with voting rights for the election of the Rector a motion of no-confidence, with reasons that must be provided to the Rector him/herself, not before two years have elapsed since the beginning of his/her term of office.

6. The procedure of no-confidence in the Rector shall be governed by special regulations approved by the Academic Senate, after obtaining the opinion of the Board of Directors, within sixty days of the entry into force of these Statutes; such regulations shall establish the power of initiative, ensure

respect for the principle of adversarial debate, identify the person in charge of the proceedings, and establish precise and possibly short-term deadlines for the conclusion of the proceedings.

7. In particular, the regulations referred to in the preceding paragraph shall comply with the following criteria:

- a) the Academic Senate, having obtained the opinion of the Board of Directors and having heard the Rector, shall approve, by a two-thirds majority of its members, the motion of no-confidence to be proposed to those with voting rights;
 - b) the time for the conclusion of the proceedings, including the holding of the new election, shall be set at a maximum of three months.
8. The Academic Senate, under its regulatory powers:
- a) adopts the University Statutes and approves the revision thereof with regard to Article 9 of these Statutes;
 - b) approves the general regulations of the University, the teaching regulations of the University and the Code of Ethics of the University Community, with regard to the provisions of Paragraph 1 of Article 10 of these Statutes
 - c) approves, subject to the opinion of the Board of Directors, the regulations governing the procedure for no-confidence in the Rector;
 - d) approves, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors:
 - the regulations on the operation of departments and interdepartmental facilities, if any;
 - the regulations on student services;
 - the regulations on the library system;
 - the regulations on the information system;
 - the remaining regulations, including those pertaining to departments and any interdepartmental facilities established, on teaching and research.
9. The Academic Senate shall verify the requirements of internal and external candidates for the office of Board member and shall be responsible for admission and selection of said candidates
10. The Academic Senate, upon the proposal of the Rector, decides on the violations of the Code of Ethics.

Article 15

(Duties and Structure of the Academic Senate)

1. The members of the Academic Senate are chosen by election, with the exception of the Rector who is an *ex officio* member of the Academic Senate, subject to the provisions contained in the last sentence of Paragraph 2(b) below.
2. The Academic Senate consists of the following twenty-four members entitled to vote for passing resolutions:
 - a) the Rector, who presides over it;

(b) five department directors, representing each one of the didactic-scientific-cultural areas defined by the Academic Senate with regard to the provisions of Paragraph 4 (d) of Article 14) of these Statutes, elected from among all the directors of the departments of the University of Foggia. If there is only one department within a didactic-scientific-cultural area, the relevant voting procedure shall not take place and the director of that department shall become an *ex officio* member of the Academic Senate to represent the area in question;

c) the identification of its representatives, elected from among all tenured full professors or *professori associati* (assistant professors or associate professors, i.e. next position, after *ricercatore*, for a career in Italian academia) and permanent researchers of the University of Foggia with positions in the same area;

d) as to the provision in (c) of this paragraph, which is being revised by the present Statutes, with regard to the transitional phase, the current terms of office of the members of the Academic Senate shall be duly completed. Upon the conclusion of these terms of office, the election procedures shall be carried out according to the revised statutory provision. The terms served by the members of the Academic Senate on the basis of the previous statutory provision shall be considered for the purpose of eligibility for reappointment;

e) five students, representing each of the didactic-scientific and cultural areas as defined by the Academic Senate under Paragraph 4 (d) of Article 14) of these Statutes. With regard to each individual didactic-scientific-cultural area, a procedure is carried out for the identification of its representative, elected from among those enrolled at the University of Foggia, -for the first time and no later than their first supplementary year to complete all the exams within the prescribed period (first year *off track*)-, in bachelor's and master's degree courses held by the departments within the same area, and from among doctoral research students who, upon enrollment in their first year, have opted for affiliation to the latter departments. As part of this specific process, the students shall be elected from among all the students enrolled in bachelor's and master's degree courses covered by the departments of the University of Foggia included in the same area and from among the doctoral research students who, upon enrollment in the first year, have opted for affiliation to the latter departments;

f) three administrative technical employees on a permanent contract, elected from all the administrative technical employees on a permanent contract at the University of Foggia.

The meetings of the Academic Senate are attended, with an advisory capacity/vote, by:

a) the deputy pro-rector, who, in the absence of the Rector, presides over the Academic Senate and casts a vote for passing resolutions, as well as the other pro-rector, if appointed;

b) the chair of the University Assessment Unit or his/her delegate who is a member of the Unit;

c) the director general, who acts as recording secretary; in case of absence, the vice director general performs the duties of director general;

d) in the case of several departments within one only didactic-scientific-cultural area, as per Article 46 of the present Statutes, the other director who has not been elected.

1. The Academic Senate shall be convened, as a rule, at least once a month and, on an extraordinary basis, whenever the Rector deems it appropriate. It shall also be convened upon a well-founded request of one third of its members.
2. Each department director who is an *ex officio* member of the Academic Senate has the right, in case of justified absence, to delegate a tenured professor in the same department to take part in the meeting. The delegate enjoys the same prerogatives and is subject to the same duties as the delegating party. Additional modalities for the functioning of the Academic Senate are set forth in the General Regulations of the University.

Article 16

(Appointment, term and reappointment, disqualification of members of the Academic Senate)

1. Members of the Academic Senate are appointed by Rector's Decree.
2. The members of the Academic Senate shall hold office for a term of four years, except for the representatives of students and doctoral students who shall hold office for two years.
3. The term of office of the members of the Academic Senate is renewable for one consecutive time only.
4. Elected members of the Academic Senate are removed from office in case of non-attendance at three consecutive meetings if the reason for non-attendance is not found to be justified during a specific disqualification procedure that gets started after their third absence. The justified reason is to be evaluated, as part of the aforementioned disqualification procedure, by an absolute majority of the members of the Academic Senate.
5. The General Regulations of the University govern the removal from office procedure of a member of the Academic Senate in compliance with the following principles: establish the power of initiative, ensure respect for the principle of adversarial debate, identify the person in charge of the proceedings, and establish precise and possibly short-term deadlines for the conclusion of the procedure.

CHAPTER III
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 17

(Responsibilities of the Board of Directors)

1. The Board of Directors is in charge of providing oversight and accountability for the University since the members of the Board are tasked with the development of the strategic policies, financial planning, human resources management and planning, supervision of the financial sustainability of the activities, and implementation of the academic policy guidelines set by the Academic Senate.
2. More specifically, under Article 14(2) of the present Statutes, the Board of Directors approves, subject to the proposal or opinion of the Academic Senate:
 - (a) any type of annual and plurennial plans;
 - (b) the annual budget and three-year budget, having also obtained the opinion of the student council;
 - (c) the financial statement;
 - (d) the parameters for evaluating the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of the activities carried out by the University;
 - (e) the organizational structure of the University;
 - (f) the setting up of service centers;
 - (g) the activation, modification or cancellation of degree and doctoral programs, master's programs and other educational and training initiatives however named;
 - (h) proposals on the right to education, implementation of guidance courses for students, of additional teaching services and management of common services;
 - (i) the definition of the general criteria and the resulting allocation of funds for teaching, research and the operation of the departments;
 - (j) the allocation of research grants to departments and/or to scientific-academic disciplines, as well as the allocation of grants for doctoral studies, in compliance with the general criteria established by the Academic Senate and upon well-grounded proposal of this latter;
 - (k) the stipulation of contracts for teaching activities with distinguished international professors, scholars and professionals;
 - (l) the participation of the university in the governing boards of other entities or institutions;
 - (m) the designation of the university's contact persons for the composition of the governing boards of other entities or institutions;
 - (n) proposals in the field of internationalization policy;
 - (o) proposals in the field of disability;
 - (p) the proposals on university sports activities;
 - (q) the proposals on the library system;
 - (r) appointment of the Director General, upon proposal of the Rector.

3. The Board of Directors, upon a proposal assented to by or with the favorable opinion of the Academic Senate, approves the activation, modification or cancellation of departments, research centers, interdepartmental facilities and branch campuses.

4. The governing Board of Directors shall also:

- a) approve budget variations;
- b) authorize cash advances;
- c) determine, after consultation with the student council, the amount of tuition fees;
- d) determine the amount of responsibility allowances owed to academic positions, as well as the amount of attendance fees, if any, due for participation in meetings of the University's governing bodies. In the event that the allowances or attendance fees are intended for members of the Board of Directors, the resolution on the amount thereof shall be made upon the opinion of the Academic Senate;
- e) determine the rates and fees payable to the University for services provided to third parties;
- f) approve departmental proposals regarding the decision on the appointment of professors and researchers that have passed national competitions. In the presence of more than one proposal that cannot all be accepted for economic reasons, the Board of Directors shall act after obtaining the opinion of the Academic Senate;
- g) provide the Director General with guidelines for the overall management and organization of services, of instrumental resources and technical-administrative personnel of the University;
- h) define the template-types of agreements and contracts;
- i) pass resolutions with respect to the financial aspects related to the stipulation of agreements, memoranda of understanding and covenants on teaching, research and student services;
- j) approve contracts that do not fall within the decision-making autonomy of cost centers and managers;
- (k) pass resolutions with respect to financial aspects related to projects and initiatives in the field of research;
- (l) pass resolutions on matters relating to keeping and enlarging/adding new movable and immovable assets;
- (m) pass resolutions regarding the campus development; plan
- (n) allocate available space, after consultation with the relevant bodies of the facilities concerned;
- (o) pass resolutions on insurance matters;
- (p) pass resolutions on matters of occupational safety;
- (q) approve proposals on institutional communication;
- r) approve proposals regarding the organization of events and ceremonies of general interest to the University;
- s) make decisions, in the absence of student representatives, on disciplinary matters with regard to professors and researchers;

- t) pass resolutions, upon the proposal of the Director General, on programs for technical administrative personnel training and updating;
 - (u) give a favorable opinion regarding projects of federation with other universities;
 - (v) express opinion in relation to decisions to be made by the Director General on legal action for and against the University.
 - (w) give a favorable opinion with regard to the revision of the Statutes, with regard to the provisions of Article 9 thereof;
 - (x) also give:
 - favorable opinion on the University Teaching Regulations and the Code of Ethics of the University community, with regard to the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 10 of the Statutes;
 - favorable opinion on the:
 - regulations on the functioning of departments and of any interdepartmental facilities that may have been established;
 - regulations on student services;
 - regulations on the library system;
 - regulations on the information system;
 - regulations, including those within the competence of departments and of any interdepartmental bodies that may have been established, on teaching and research.
 - opinion on the general regulations of the University, with regard to the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 10 of the Statutes;
 - opinion on the regulations governing the procedure for no-confidence in the Rector.
5. In terms of regulatory powers, the Board of Directors shall:
- a) approve the regulations on administration, finance and accounting, according to the provisions of Paragraph 1 of Article 10 of the Statutes;
 - b) approve all remaining regulations on financial and asset management and self-financing;
 - c) approve, subject to the opinion of the Academic Senate, regulations on the management of personnel.

Article 18

(Duties and Structure of the Board of Directors)

1. The Board of Directors is composed of the following ten members with right to vote for passing resolutions:
 - a) the Rector, who presides over it;
 - b) five tenured professors or researchers on permanent contracts at the University of Foggia, with proven expertise in the field of management or a high level of professional experience with particular regard to the fields of culture and science, representing each of the didactic-scientific-cultural areas established by the Academic Senate as set forth in paragraph 4 (d) of

Article 14) of these Statutes. A procedure for the selection of a representative is carried out for each individual didactic-scientific-cultural area. Such procedure takes place with the issuance of a call for applications. After the deadline established in the open call has expired, the Academic Senate, in a meeting that does not envisage the presence of the Rector, who is replaced in his/her role as chair, without any right to vote, by the Deputy Pro-Rector, in line with the requirements set forth in the current legislation, verifies and accepts the candidacies of professors or researchers affiliated with the specific didactic-scientific-cultural area and, by a specific resolution, selects two of them. Whenever the candidates, as a result of the preliminary check process, are not at least two, additional applications shall be obtained. The two candidates selected by the Academic Senate are submitted for approval to the Rector, who, through a decree, then proceeds to choose the representative of the didactic-scientific-cultural area from among their number. The selection incumbent on the Academic Senate and the subsequent selection incumbent on the Rector must, as far as possible, ensure, as regards the appointments referred to in this subparagraph, compliance with the principle of equal opportunities between men and women in terms of access to positions in the civil service, as well as respect for equality in terms of the number of representatives of the different positions covered by the teaching staff;

c) two members who must not have worked for the University of Foggia for three years prior to their appointment and are not allowed to work for the “University” for the entire duration of their appointment, having proven competence in the field of management or a high level of professional experience with particular regard to the fields of culture and science. A procedure for the selection of these two members takes place by issuing a call for expression of interest. After the deadline established in the open call has expired, the Academic Senate, in a meeting that does not envisage the presence of the Rector, who is replaced in his/her role as chair, without any right to vote, by the Deputy Pro-Rector, in line with the requirements set forth in the current legislation, verifies and accepts the candidacies in question and, after getting a favorable opinion from the University Council, selects four of them by means of a specific resolution. Whenever the candidates, as a result of the preliminary selection process, are not at least four, additional applications shall be obtained. The four candidates selected by the Academic Senate are submitted for approval to the Rector, who, through a decree, then proceeds to choose the two members from among their number. The selection incumbent on the Academic Senate and the subsequent selection incumbent on the Rector must, as far as possible, ensure, as regards the appointments referred to in this subparagraph, compliance with the principle of equal opportunities between men and women in terms of access to positions in the civil service, and with the principles of impartiality and independence while performing their public duties.

d) two students enrolled at the University of Foggia, for the first time and no later than their first supplementary year to complete all the exams within the prescribed period, be them enrolled in bachelor's and master's and doctoral degree programs of the University of Foggia.

These two student representatives serving on the Foggia University Board of Directors are elected from among all students enrolled in bachelor's and master's degree programs and doctoral research students of the University of Foggia.

The meetings of the Board of Directors are attended by the following members with an advisory capacity vote:

- a) the deputy pro-rector, who, in the absence of the rector, chairs the board and has right to vote for passing resolutions, as well as the other pro-rector, if appointed;
- b) the chairperson of the Board of Auditors or his or her delegate who is a member of Board of Auditors;
- c) the Director General, who acts as recording secretary; in case of absence, the director shall perform his/her duties;
- d) one technical-administrative officer, in permanent service, elected from among the all technical-administrative officers, in permanent service at the University of Foggia.

1. The Board of Directors shall be convened, as a rule, at least once a month and, on an extraordinary basis, whenever the Rector deems it appropriate. It shall also be convened when a reasoned request is made by one-third of its members.

2. The structure and functions of the Board of Directors are established by the general regulations of the University.

Article 19

(Appointment, term of office and reappointment, disqualification of the members of the Board of Directors)

1. Board members are appointed by Rector's Decree.
2. Members of the board serve four-year terms, except for representatives of students and doctoral students who serve two-year terms.
3. The term of office of the members of the Board is renewable once, consecutively
4. Selected or elected members of the Board shall forfeit their office in the event of failure to attend three consecutive meetings, unless the justified reason is found during a specific disqualification procedure that will be started after the third absence. The justified reason is to be evaluated in the above disqualification procedure by an absolute majority of the members by the Board of Directors.
5. The general regulations of the university shall govern the procedure for removal from office of a member of the Board of Directors, in compliance with the following principles: power of initiative, adversarial debate, identification of the person in charge of the proceedings, and precise and possibly short-term deadlines for the conclusion of the procedure.

CHAPTER IV
OTHER STATUTORY OFFICERS AND BODIES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Article 20
(Director General)

1. Under the guidelines established by the Board of Directors, the Director General is entrusted with the overall management and organization of the services, the instrumental resources and the technical-administrative personnel of the University. In addition, the Director General shall also perform the duties set forth in Article 16 of Legislative Decree No. 165 of March 30, 2001.

2. In particular, the Director General:

- a) is responsible for budgeting for asset acquisition;
- b) is responsible for proper management of resources, as well as for impartiality as an element of the general principle of good administration;
- c) exercises, according to the specific guidelines indicated by the competent bodies of the University, those budgetary spending powers that fall within his/her competence, adopting the procedures and measures related to the all the budgetary spending stages, in compliance with the administrative-accounting regulations provided by the relevant legislation in force and the University Regulations for Administration, Finance and Accounting;
- d) is responsible for proper implementation of the directives issued by the governing bodies of the University;
- e) is responsible for the activities carried out by the various University offices and for the implementation of the programs and projects entrusted to these offices in relation to the objectives to be achieved;
- f) issues instructions to managers on procedures and measures, monitoring their activities; and can replace them in case of inaction or delay and is responsible for their activities;
- g) guides, coordinates and controls the activities of the technical-administrative staff;
- h) appoints the Heads of University offices and those in charge of the different procedures, when it is not the responsibility of other University executives to do so;
- i) i) in compliance with current legislation, with collective bargaining agreements (CBAs), with these Statutes and in consultation with the Head of the competent administrative unit, adopts measures for the management of the technical-administrative staff, when it is not the responsibility of other University executives to do so;
- j) (j) adopts any acts relating to the procedures for the recruitment of the technical-administrative staff;
- k) (k) proposes to the Board of Directors, in compliance with collective bargaining agreements (CBAs), programs to offer training and continuing education opportunities to the technical-administrative personnel;

- l) awards contracts for the supply of goods, services and works, within the scope of the budgetary spending procedures falling within his/her competence, with the exception of those falling within the competence of departments and units with management autonomy or for which discretionary technical or economic decision-making powers have been envisaged which are usually shall draw up the relevant contracts and oversee their execution;
 - (m) enters into contracts and agreements in compliance with the provisions of the relevant legislation in force and of the Regulations for Administration, Finance and Accounting;
 - n) participates in the meetings of the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors, with advisory capacity and acts as recording secretary;
 - (o) adopts, subject to the advice of the Board of Directors, decisions on legal actions for and against the University.
3. The work of the Director-General does not cover the management of teaching and research activities.
 4. The Director General shall submit an annual report on his or her activities to the Board of Directors.
 5. The position of Director General shall be filled by a personality with high professional standing and many years of documented experience in managerial functions.
 6. The appointment of the Director General shall be decided by the Board of Directors, upon proposal of the Rector, after hearing the opinion of the Academic Senate. The appointment comes under a fixed-term employment contract under private law for a term not exceeding four years and renewable. The remuneration payable is determined in line with the criteria and parameters established according to current legislation. Should a public employee be appointed to the position, it is necessary that he/she be placed on unpaid leave for the duration of the contract with the administration to which he/she is affiliated.
 7. The Director General shall designate a Vice Director or, failing that, a Deputy Officer to replace the Director General in the event of his/her absence or incapacity. The Vice Director or Deputy Officer shall be appointed by a DG's Decree and shall cease to hold office simultaneously with the expiration or termination of the term of office of the Director General or earlier in the event of a removal from office for justified reasons. In the event of termination or revocation of the employment relationship, the duties of the Director General shall be fulfilled, until the appointment of his/her successor, by a Deputy Director, proposed by the Rector and appointed, for a period of time not exceeding ninety days, by the Board of Directors, after consultation with the Academic Senate.
 8. Regardless of any specific disciplinary actions and sanctions, the Board of Directors, after hearing the opinion of the Academic Senate, can remove from office the Director General in case of serious non-compliance with the instructions issued by the competent bodies, in case of poor/negative administrative and management performance or failure to achieve the objectives established. Removal from office takes place as provided for in current legislation.

Article 21

(Board of Auditors)

1. The Board of Auditors carries out all of the checks necessary to ensure regular performance of financial, accounting *and* asset management of the University.
2. It verifies that the books are kept regularly during the year and that all transactions and operational events are entered correctly in the accounting records; it also verifies that the financial statements agree with the results of the accounting records and that the requirements of legitimacy, regularity and correctness are met, drawing up a report attached to the proposal for approval of the final balance sheet. It expresses an opinion on the budget and budget variations. It also performs all further functions provided for in current legislation.
3. It is composed of three permanent members and two alternate members, of whom:
 - a) one permanent member, acting as Chair, appointed by the Rector, after consultation with the Board of Directors, from among administrative and judicial auditors and government legal advisers;
 - b) one permanent member and one alternate member designated by the Ministry of Economy and Finance;
 - c) one permanent member and one alternate member designated by the Ministry of University and Research.
4. At least two members of the Board must be registered as auditors.
5. The employees of the University of Foggia or any person who has pending disputes with the University of Foggia are not eligible for the appointment.
6. The members of the Board are appointed, by Rector's Decree.
7. The term of office of the members of the Board of Auditors shall be four years and the appointment may be renewed once.
8. The University shall provide the auditors with the means and personnel they need to perform their duties.
9. The structure and function of the Board of Auditors are established by the Regulations for Administration, Finance and Accounting.

Article 22

(University Evaluation Unit)

1. The University Evaluation Unit assesses:
 - a) the quality and effectiveness of teaching and professional education, including on the basis of the indicators identified by the Student-Faculty Joint Teaching Committees;
 - b) the research efforts conducted by departments;
 - c) whether the scientific or professional CVs of those with temporary teaching contracts meet the academic requirements the positions in question.
2. In line with the mission of the Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR), the Unit fulfills the functions referred to in Art. 14 of Legislative Decree No. 150 of October 27, 2009, relating to the procedures for the evaluation of facilities and

personnel, in order to promote merit and the improvement of both organizational and individual performance in universities, in full autonomy and with their own organizational systems and methods.

3. The University Evaluation Unit is composed of five members as follows:

- a) one tenured professor or researcher from the University of Foggia;
- b) three highly qualified professionals, experts in the field of evaluation, from outside the University and who, in any case, do not have any formal working or collaborative relationships with the University of Foggia;
- c) one student representative elected from among those enrolled at the University of Foggia, for the first time and no later than their first supplementary year to complete all the exams within the prescribed period (*off track*), be them enrolled in bachelor's and master's and doctoral degree programs of the University of Foggia.

4. The members referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 3 of this article shall be appointed by Rector's Decree upon a binding proposal of the Academic Senate, which shall proceed to the relevant selection through public calls for expression of interest.

5. The student representative is elected through an election process governed by specific provisions of the general regulations of the University and is appointed, by Rector's Decree.

6. When convened for the first time, the meeting of the members of The University Evaluation Unit elect the chairperson of the Unit from among the external members on the Unit. This choice is officialized by a Rector's Decree.

7. The University Evaluation Unit members serve four-year terms and may be appointed consecutively only for another four-year term, except for the Unit student representative member, who serves two-year terms and whose term may be renewed consecutively only for another two-year term.

Article 23

(University Scientific Board and Scientific Area Committees)

1. Under the General Regulations of the University, the University Scientific Board is established as a body tasked with advisory functions and responsibilities in terms of developing and submitting proposals in the field of research.
2. Scientific Area Committees can also be set up, representing the areas of scientific and academic disciplines covered by the University, with advisory functions and responsibilities in terms of developing and submitting proposals. The terms and conditions for the establishment of the above areas, their composition and election procedures for their members, as well as the responsibilities they are given, are established by the General Regulations of the University.

Article 24

(University Council)

1. The University Council is established with the purpose of overseeing relations between the University and outside bodies and institutions and increasing the number of formal contacts and exchange between the University and the main institutional, cultural, social, and economic stakeholders of the area.
2. The tasks of the Council, as well as its composition, are established by the Academic Senate.
3. A representative of the Provincial Administration of Foggia and a representative of the Municipality of Foggia are *ex officio* members of the University Council.

Article 25
(Student Council)

1. The Student Council is the body representing the students of the University.
2. The Student Council is entitled to use, in forms agreed upon with the Rector, the symbols of the University for institutional purposes and is provided with spaces/premises equipped for the organization and management of their activities.
3. For each fiscal year, the Student Council, within the limits of a budget allocated under a special budget entry of between 1 percent and 4 percent of the total amount of the fees paid by students in the previous fiscal year, shall propose to the Board of Directors specific measures for the improvement of student welfare, as well as of the training and education services provided by the University.
4. The Student Council gives their opinion on:
 - a) the University Strategic Plan;
 - b) the University budget;
 - c) on the University Teaching Regulations – “general regulations” section, as well as on other regulations and provisions, as provided for by current legislation;
 - d) on the establishment of contributions and fees charged to students;
 - e) on actions to be put in place in terms of right to study.
5. The Student Council can make proposals or request documentation regarding any matter of the exclusive or overriding interest of students.
6. The units and bodies to which the Student Council's proposals are submitted are required to consider them within sixty days.
7. The Student Council shall determine the criteria regarding the allocation of funds for self-managed educational activities.
8. The Student Council may convene, at the request of an absolute majority of its members, university meetings on specific issues of interest to students, with the participation of the Rector and the Director General, or their delegates, as well as of administrative officers competent in the field related to the issue to be addressed.
9. The Student Council is composed of:
 - a) student representatives on the Academic Senate;
 - b) student representatives on the Board of Directors;

- c) one student representative on the Board of Directors from the Student Right to Study Unit, designated by the student representatives on that Unit;
- d) student representatives on the University Sports Board;
- e) student representatives on the University Evaluation Unit;
- f) student representatives designated to participate in the meetings of the joint committee for equal opportunities, well-being at work and fight against discrimination;
- g) three students from each department selected from among the representatives serving on their respective councils. The selection of these students will be made as set forth in the general regulations of the University.

10. The mode of operation of the Student Council is established by the general regulations of the University.

Article 26
(University Sports Board)

1. The University Sports Board, the composition of which is provided for in Article 2 of Law No. 394 of June 28, 1977, oversees the management guidelines for sports facilities and programs for the development of relevant activities.
2. The management of the University sports facilities and their relevant operations shall be entrusted, through an agreement, to the University Sports Center.
3. Coverage of sports expenses shall come from the funds to be allocated as provided for in current legislation.

Article 27
(Joint Committee for Equal Opportunities, Well-being at Work and Fight against Discrimination)

1. The Joint Committee for Equal Opportunities, Well-being at Work and Fight against Discrimination is hereby established with a view to achieving, in particular, the following objectives:
 - a) to ensure, in the context of civil service work, gender equality and equal opportunities, strengthening the protection of female and male workers and ensuring the absence of any form of psychological violence and discrimination, direct and indirect, relating to gender, age, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, disability, religion and language;
 - b) to encourage the measures to optimize civil service work productivity, improving the efficiency of work performance, including through the creation of a work environment characterized by respect for the principles of equal opportunities and organizational well-being and by the fight against any form of discrimination and all forms of psychological violence against female and male workers;

- c) to streamline and make the organization of the public administration effective and efficient, including with regard equal opportunities, fight against discrimination, and well-being of women and men workers;
- d) to encourage the development of cultural activities on equal opportunities, of ways to counter discrimination and improve the well-being at work for both women and men.
2. The Committee has proactive, advisory and verification duties and operates in cooperation with the National Equality Advisor. It contributes to the optimization of the productivity of civil service work, through a better work performance resulting from a work environment characterized by respect for the principles of equal opportunities, organizational well-being, and the fight against any form of discrimination against and psychological violence on workers.
 3. The 50-50 gender split Committee is made up of one member designated by each of the most representative trade unions at the administration level, pursuant to Articles 40 and 43 of Legislative Decree No. 165 of March 30, 2001, and an equal number of representatives of the administration staff appointed, choosing from within the faculty, by the Rector, who undertakes its selection on the basis of public calls. The trade unions and the Rector, in the same terms, also designate an equal number of alternate members, who step in in case of absence or impediment of the permanent members. The appointments shall be made in such a way as to ensure, on the whole, an equal presence of both genders with appropriate skills and/or aptitudes. The Rector, upon proposal of the Student Council, shall also designate, a student who will be entitled to attend meetings of the Committee and cast his or her vote on matters not strictly related to respect for equal opportunities and well-being at the workplace.
 4. The Chair of this Committee shall be appointed by the Rector from among the representatives of the administrative staff designated by him/her.
 5. The appointment of the members of the Committee and of the Chair is officialized by Rector's Decree.
 6. The members of the Committee serve for a term of four years. Their appointment may be renewed only once, consecutively.
 7. The mode of operation of the Committee shall be governed by *ad hoc* regulations approved by the Academic Senate.

Article 28
(Disciplinary Committee)

1. The Disciplinary Committee is the body responsible for i) conducting the preliminary stage of disciplinary proceedings related to professors and researchers, and ii) expressing, in this regard, a final and binding opinion.

2. It is composed, as permanent members, of three tenured full professors, three tenured associate professors, and three tenured permanent researchers, all full-time, appointed by the Academic Senate.
3. The Committee operates by putting in place, for judgments concerning full professors, actions that fall within the competence of only members belonging to the category of full professors; for judgments concerning associate professors, actions that fall within the categories of full professors and associate professors; and for judgments concerning researchers, actions that fall within the competence of all members of the Committee. The Committee carries out its duties in compliance with the principle of cross-examination.
4. The Academic Senate also designates, for each of the categories indicated in Paragraph 3 of this Article, and in compliance with the requirements provided for therein, alternate members, who will take the place of the members in cases of impediment or incompatibility.
5. The full and alternate members of the Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed, by Rector's Decree.
6. The term of office of the full and alternate members of the Disciplinary Committee shall be four years and may not be renewed consecutively.
7. In performing its duties the Disciplinary Committee abides by the procedure provided for in Article 10 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, and any additional requirements provided for in the legislation in force.
8. The operating procedures of the Disciplinary Committee are established by *ad hoc* regulations approved by the Academic Senate.
9. Participation in the Disciplinary Committee does not give rise to any remunerations, fees, allowances or reimbursement of expenses.

Article 29
(Student Ombuds Office)

1. The Student Ombuds Office is established for the purpose of ensuring protection and enforcement of students' rights, with the following duties:
 - a) acting for the protection of any student who considers his or her rights or interests to have been infringed by abuses, dysfunctions, delays attributable to measures or even negligent conduct of University bodies and offices. The Student Council or individual students may appeal to the Student Ombuds Office, and obtain an opinion on the case in question and, if necessary, the Student Ombuds Office takes action through reports to the competent bodies;
 - b) examining and monitoring the performance of self-managed educational activities by students in the areas of culture, cultural exchange, information, sports and leisure and, if necessary, acting by reporting the cases in question to the competent bodies;
 - c) submitting an annual report on its activities to the Rector and the Student Council.
2. The acts of the Student Ombuds Office are non-binding.

3. For the purpose of appointing the Student Ombudsperson, the Student Council proposes a shortlist of three names chosen from candidates, including external ones, of recognized prestige and authority.
4. The Academic Senate shall select one name from the shortlist proposed by the Student Council or, if it deems it appropriate, they may ask the Student Council for a reformulation of the shortlist.
5. The Student Ombudsperson shall be appointed by a Rector's Decree.
6. The Student Ombudsperson shall hold office for a term of four years and his or her term may not be renewed consecutively.
7. The office of the Student Ombudsperson is free of charge.

TITLE III
ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH
ACTIVITIES

CHAPTER I
ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS

Article 30
(The Department)

1. The Department is the backbone on which the “University” relies for the fulfillment of its institutional objectives in all academic disciplines. The departments, which constitute the “venues” of the academic disciplines, are made up of all professors and researchers that belong to the community of the same academic discipline. Departments are tasked with fulfilling all the duties and functions aimed at carrying out scientific research, teaching and training activities, as well as activities which may have a direct or ancillary fallout outside the University, including, if there is no liaison and/or interdepartmental facility in place, health care services, to be carried out within the framework of the relevant provisions in force and in compliance with the terms and within the limits agreed upon with *Regione Puglia*, to ensure the indivisible nature of the core competencies needed for health care professionals who teach clinical sciences from the duties they have in terms of teaching and research work.
2. A minimum number of thirty-five tenured professors and researchers must be affiliated with each Department or, where the number of faculty becomes more than one thousand, not less than forty.
3. In the event of the establishment of interdepartmental facilities referred to in subparagraph c) of paragraph 2 of Article 2 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, a minimum of forty-five tenured professors and researchers must be affiliated to each one of the departments in question.
4. Only professors and researchers affiliated to "homogeneous" areas of scientific-academic disciplines with regard to aspects related to both research and teaching, in consideration of the scientific areas of the University and the specific undergraduate programs, graduate programs, and postgraduate programs offered by the same department, can be affiliated to each individual department.
5. A department becomes inactive when the number of tenured professors and researchers affiliated with it becomes less than the minimum number indicated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article and does not reach the required number by the end of the following academic year. Should this be the case, the Academic Senate shall provide regulations for the transitional phase.
6. The establishment of a new department, proposed by the faculty members “involved” in the “minimum number” case, provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article, shall be decided by the Board of Directors, upon proposal to do so by or subject to the favorable opinion of the Academic Senate. In the proposal, accompanied by the list of professors and researchers expected to be affiliated with the new department, the scientific and teaching objectives of

this latter shall be specified together with the available resources, and a development plan, if any.

7. Departments operate within courses of study/degree programs in line with what set forth in the teaching regulations of the University.
8. Departments, by a decision adopted by their Council, and in compliance with what is provided for in their own operating regulations, may organize themselves into scientific sections aimed at carrying out research projects, consisting of an adequate number of professors and researchers, in any case not less than ten. Each scientific section is coordinated by a tenured full professor or, in case of unavailability of this position, by a tenured associate professor or, in case of further unavailability, by a researcher. The scientific section makes use of the services and offices of the department.
9. Departments are hereby given management autonomy, including budget autonomy, and administrative autonomy within the limits of the provisions of current legislation, of the Statutes and of the University Regulations for Administration, Finance and Accounting.
10. Each professor or researcher can put forward a reasoned request to move to another department of the University to be submitted to the Rector. The Academic Senate shall decide on the matter, subject to the opinion of the department with which the applicant is affiliated and the department with which the applicant intends to be affiliated. The minimum period of tenure in the department of affiliation shall be at least one full academic year.
11. Departments are assigned teams/units of technical-administrative personnel to support their operation and tasks.
12. In collaboration with other universities, inter-university departments may be established by entering into specific agreements governing the procedures to be followed in the management and use of the available resources. The establishment and management of such inter-university departmental facilities must take place, in all cases, in compliance with the regulations provided for in these Statutes.

Article 31

(Department Bodies)

1. The Department Bodies are:
 - a) the Director;
 - b) the Council;
 - c) the Department Executive Committee

Article 32

(Head of the Department)

1. The Head of the Department represents the Department and is responsible for the management thereof in compliance with the policies and decisions of the Department Council, he/she is responsible for implementing.
2. In particular, the Head of the Department, including through the adoption of *ad hoc* decrees:

- a) has powers of initiative, promotion and coordination of the research, teaching and organizational activities that fall within the competence of the department;
 - b) is responsible for overseeing the completeness, adequacy, functionality and reliability of research efforts and teaching and organizational activity that fall within the competence of the department;
 - c) convenes and chairs the meetings of the Department Council;
 - (d) appoints, on the basis of the proposals of the faculty members in charge of the courses, the boards of examiners for tests and examinations;
 - e) appoints committees for the final exam and final degree grading and award;
 - f) is responsible for relations with other bodies of the University;
 - g) in urgent and special cases, adopts administrative measures within the competence of the Department Council, illustrating them, for ratification, at the first available meeting;
 - h) exercises all other powers attributed to him/her by the regulations in force.
3. The Head of the Department is elected through secret ballot, by members of the Department Council, by a majority of those entitled to vote in the first round of voting and by an absolute majority of voters in the second round of voting. In the event of non-election after the second round of voting, a ballot is held between the two candidates who received the highest number of votes in the last round of voting. In the event of a draw, the candidate with the highest number of years in service is elected, and in the event of a further draw, the younger in age is elected.
 4. The Head of the Department shall hold office for a term of four years and his or her term may be renewed consecutively for one term.
 5. The Head of the Department may designate, from among the tenured full professors who are members of the Department Council, a Vice Head of the Department to replace him/her in all his/her functions in case of absence or unavailability. If tenured full professors are unavailable, a tenured associate professor who is a member of the Department Council can be designated Vice Head of the Department for one year, renewable.
 6. The Head of the Department can assign the fulfillment out of some given duties to members of the Department Council.
 7. In relation to the duties and commitments of his or her office, the Head of the Department can ask, for the period of his/her term of office and without additional charge to the University budget, to reduce his/her teacher workload. However, this request can only be granted by ordinance of the Rector, upon resolution of the Academic Senate.
 8. In all cases of removal from office of Head of the Department, he/she shall be replaced, until a new election is held and limited to the activity of ordinary administration and the adoption of urgent and unpostponable measures, by the senior tenured professor of the Department.

Article 33
(Functions of the Department Council)

1. The Council decides on matters within the competence of the Department.
2. In particular, the Department Council:
 - a) decides on the possible activation of scientific sections, as provided for in Article 30, paragraph 8, of these Statutes;
 - b) makes proposals and passes resolutions regarding the activation, modification or cancellation of courses of study, doctoral schools, schools of specialization, master's degrees, advanced and updating courses, guidance courses and other educational and training initiatives under any denomination, after consulting, if established and to the extent of their competence, the Councils of the degree programs;
 - c) proposes to the Academic Senate any possible admission limits to degree programs, within the limits allowed by the legislation in force;
 - d) decides on the possible establishment of councils of degree programs;
 - e) decides on healthcare services issues, in case the relevant duties go in parallel with the teaching and research workloads, and in case the interdepartmental/liaison facilities referred to in subparagraph c) of paragraph 2 of Article 2 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010 have not been established;
 - f) approves the Department's annual budget, budget variations and final balance sheet;
 - g) decides on the use of the financial resources made available to the Department;
 - h) proposes to the Academic Senate the assignment of professor and researcher positions to the Department and/ or its areas of scientific-academic disciplines;
 - i) puts forward proposals regarding the *chiamata*, i.e. recruitment of professors and researchers to be submitted to the Board of Directors. The proposal for recruiting fixed-term researchers is approved with the absolute majority of tenured full professors and tenured associate professors voting in favor;
 - j) expresses opinions on the mobility, in and out of the Department, of faculty members;
 - k) decides annually, on the basis of the indications of the Councils of the degree programs concerned, if established, and in compliance with the legislation in force, the teaching program, defining the courses to be activated and how to activate them;
 - l) after hearing the interested parties, and based on the teaching needs emerging within the degree programs, and in compliance with the current legislation, establishes the teaching duties and organizational duties of the professors and researchers who are affiliated with the Department, granting them authorizations for periods of exclusive research work;
 - m) adopts any decisions relating to the management of the career of its affiliated professors and researchers provided that the decision in question does not fall within the competence of the central governing bodies of the University;

- n) promotes and coordinates the research activity of the Department, without prejudice to the autonomy of each individual professor and researcher and his or her Faculty to directly access research funds made available at the international, national and local levels;
 - o) makes decisions, to the extent of the Department competence, on projects and individual initiatives in the field of research;
 - p) decides on consulting services and research work to be carried out, under contracts or agreements, under the supervision of a faculty member in charge of these consulting services and research work;
 - q) proposes to the University's governing bodies the awarding of research funds/grants to the Department e\or to areas of scientific-academic disciplines thereof;
 - r) puts forward proposals and expresses opinions on contracts, agreements and participations of interest to the Department;
 - s) approves, by a two-thirds majority of the members, proposals for bestowing honorary degrees;
 - t) submits to the central bodies of the University, according to their respective responsibilities, any proposals for the purpose of adopting the University's strategic development plan;
 - u) makes, according to the teaching and research needs of the University, any reasoned requests for premises, technical-administrative staff and financial resources to the University's governing bodies, according to their respective competence;
 - v) submits for evaluation by the Academic Senate any teaching and research problems that may arise in the context of relations with other Departments;
 - w) proposes to the University's governing bodies the regulations governing the functioning of the Department;
 - x) proposes to the Academic Senate any amendments to the teaching regulations of the University;
 - y) adopts further resolutions on the laws and regulations of the University, as set forth by current legislation;
 - z) performs other functions assigned to it by legislative, statutory and regulatory provisions, as well as other functions not expressly assigned to other bodies of the Department.
3. If in a degree program, no degree program council has been established, the Department Council shall also carry out the functions related to the degree program. With reference to these functions, the other faculty members who are teaching in the degree program and who are not members of the Department Council shall also participate, with advisory vote, in the meetings of the Department Council.

Article 34
(Composition and Functioning of the Department Council)

1. The Department Council is composed of:

- a) the tenured professors and researchers affiliated with the Department;
 - b) by student representatives amounting to 15 percent of the Department affiliated members. Student representatives are elected through a proportional representation voting system, according to the procedures established by the general regulations of the University. The students with passive voting rights are those students enrolled, for the first time and no later than their first supplementary year to complete all the exams within the prescribed period (first year *off track*)-, in the University's bachelor's and master's degree programs. The electorate consists of all students enrolled in the department's bachelor's and master's degree programs. The term of office of such representatives is two years and they may be consecutively re-elected only once;
 - c) one representative of doctoral research students. This representative is elected under the terms established by the general regulations of the University. The students with passive voting rights and the electorate are both composed of doctoral research students who, upon enrollment in the first year, have opted for affiliation with that specific Department. The term of office of this kind of representatives lasts for two years and they are consecutively re-electable only once.
 - d) by three representatives of the technical-administrative staff. The representatives in question are elected, as established by the general regulations of the University, from among their number, by an electorate made up of all technical-administrative personnel, in permanent service, who work at the Department. The term of office of these representatives lasts four years and they are consecutively re-electable only once.
2. The full professors who are members of the Department Council attend the meetings of the Department Council and are entitled to vote to pass resolutions on all issues.
 3. The associate professors who are members of the Department Council attend the meetings of the Department Council and are entitled to vote to pass resolutions on all issues. except those relating to the allocation of full professor positions, the recruitment of full professors, and to the same full professors.
 4. Researchers who are members of the Department Council attend the meetings of the Department Council and are entitled to vote to pass resolutions on all issues. except those relating to the allocation of full and associate professor positions, the recruitment of full and associate professors and researchers on fixed-term contracts, and to the academic ranks of full and associate professors.
 5. The representatives of students, the representative of doctoral students, and the representatives of technical-administrative staff who are members of the Department Council attend the meetings of the Department Council and are entitled to vote to pass resolutions on all issues, except those relating to the allocation of positions of full, associate professors and researchers, the recruitment of full, associate professors and researcher positions, to the same full, associate professors and researchers, and to the allocation of teaching assignments to full, associate professors and researchers.

6. The Council is chaired by the Head of the Department.
7. The youngest tenured full professor who is a member of the Department Council serves as the secretary-in charge of the minutes of the meetings of the Council.
8. The Council is convened by the Head of the Department, as a rule, at least once a month and, exceptionally, whenever the Head of the Department deems it appropriate. It is also convened upon the reasoned request of one third of its members.
9. The modalities of operation of the Council shall be established by the General Regulations of the University.

Article 35

(Department Executive Committee)

1. The Department Executive Committee assists the Head of the Department in fulfilling his or her duties and performs the duties assigned by the Department Council in compliance with current legislation.
2. The Committee shall consist of:
 - a) the Head of the Department, who presides over and convenes it;
 - b) by the Vice Head of the Department, if any;
 - c) by the Coordinators of the Scientific Sections, if any;
 - d) by a tenured full professor, a tenured associate professor, a researcher, a student representative, and a representative of the technical-administrative staff selected from among its members by the Department Council through an election procedure governed by the University General Regulations.
3. The Committee shall expire concurrently with the end of the term of office of the Head of the Department.
4. The operating procedures of the Committee are established by the General Regulations of the University.

CHAPTER II
DEGREE PROGRAMS AND INTERDEPARTMENTAL FACILITIES

Article 36
(Degree Programs)

1. The University Teaching Regulations specify the degree programs/courses of study activated at the University. Each degree program/course of study corresponds to i) a curriculum aimed at obtaining a legally recognized degree or ii) several closely related curricula.
2. The degree programs/courses of study are the responsibility of Departments and enjoy organizational autonomy, within the limits of the provisions of the law, of the Statutes and of the University Teaching Regulations.
3. Within each degree program/course of study, degree program/course of study council can be established, by a resolution of the competent Department Council, which adopts all resolutions necessary for the proper functioning of the education activity of the corresponding curriculum or curricula. If the degree program/course of study council has not been set up, its functions are carried out by the competent Department Council as provided for in Article 33, paragraph 3, of these Statutes.
4. In particular degree program/course of study council, of any:
 - a) approves the organization and regulations of the degree program/course of study;
 - b) coordinates the teaching subjects and related programs in order to implement coherent educational paths;
 - c) makes an annual assessment of the needs in terms of teaching work, and makes relevant requests to the Department;
 - d) proposes to the relevant bodies the possible stipulation of contracts for the provision of teaching and supplementary teaching work;
 - (e) determines attendance requirements and related assessment procedures;
 - (f) organizes tutoring services;
 - g) organizes the schedule of tests for evaluating the preparation achieved by students and appoints the relevant boards of examiners;
 - h) decides on applications for abbreviation of studies submitted by students from other university degree programs/courses;
 - i) plans the annual schedule of lectures and other educational activities;
 - j) makes proposals and expresses opinions in the cases provided for by current legislation.
5. The degree program/course of study council is composed of:
 - a) the tenured professors and researchers who, within the course of study, are in charge of a teaching course;
 - b) the short-term lecturers who, within the course of study, are in charge of a teaching course;

- c) student representatives amounting to 15 percent of the members of the council of the degree program/course of study. Student representatives are elected through a proportional representation voting system, according to the procedures established by the General Regulations of the University. The students with passive voting rights are those students enrolled, for the first time and no later than their first supplementary year to complete all the exams within the prescribed period (first year *off track*)-, in the University's bachelor's and master's degree programs. The electorate consists of all students enrolled in the department's bachelor's and master's degree programs. The term of office of such representatives is two years and they may be consecutively re-elected only once;
6. If a tenured professor, a short-term lecturer or a researcher is in charge of or is responsible for several courses that are part of the curriculum pertaining to different degree programs/courses of study, he/she may be a member, entitled to vote for passing resolutions, on one only of the councils of the degree programs/courses of study in question, and is entitled to participate in the other councils with an advisory vote. To this end, the professor or researcher in question is required to send to the Head of the relevant Department Council a communication containing a priority list of options, of the degree programs/courses of study councils of which he or she could be a member entitled to vote for passing resolutions, This communication shall be submitted to the Department Council, which, taking into account the priority options indicated and the needs related to the proper functioning of the council, shall establish, by its own resolution, on which degree program/course of study council the professor or researcher is to serve.
7. The degree program/course of study council is chaired and convened by a tenured professor elected, in the terms established by the University General Regulations, by the council from among its members and appointed, by Rector's Decree. The professors with passive voting rights are all tenured professors who are members of the degree program/course of study council. The electorate is composed of all members of the course of study council. The chairperson of the degree program/course of study council shall hold office for a term of four years and may be consecutively re-elected only once. In case of removal from office of the chairperson, the dean (the senior member, in length of service) of the tenured professors who are members of the degree program/course of study council shall take over, until a new election is held and limited to the activities of ordinary administration and the adoption of urgent and unpostponable measures.
8. The degree program/course of study council, upon the proposal of its chairperson, may designate four of its members who, with the chairperson, shall make up the degree program/course of study committee. This committee shall assist the chairperson in fulfilling his or her duties and exercise the duties delegated to it by the degree program/course of study council in compliance with current legislation. The committee shall expire concurrently with the end of the term of office of the chairperson of the degree program/course of study council.

Article 37
(Interdepartmental Units)

1. In the case of the adoption of an organizational model consisting of the units referred to in subparagraphs a) and c) of paragraph 2 of Article 2 of Law No. 240 of December 30, 2010, the interdepartmental facilities in question shall have responsibility for coordinating and streamlining the teaching activities, including by putting forward proposals for the activation or cancellation of degree programs/courses of study, and for managing teaching facilities and common services. In addition, always in case of adoption of the above organizational model, when the teaching and research duties of departments go in parallel with those of providing healthcare services, the interdepartmental facilities shall have responsibility for fulfilling the resulting duties within the framework of the relevant provisions in force and in accordance with the procedures and within the limits agreed upon with *Regione Puglia*, thus ensuring the indivisibility of the healthcare functions of the clinical faculty members from their duties as teachers and researchers. In case of the establishment of interdepartmental facilities within the medical area, these same facilities shall have responsibility in terms of coordination and administrative management of the Schools of Specialization, while the organization and operation of the Schools themselves remain governed by the relevant specific regulations.
2. The total number of interdepartmental facilities must be proportional to the size of the University, also taking into account its “features” in terms of scientific disciplines. However, the total number of such facilities must not exceed twelve.
3. The interdepartmental facilities also include a council with decision-making powers when dealing with matters referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article, composed of:
 - a) the Heads the relevant Departments;
 - b) one tenured full professor and two other faculty members to be selected from among the tenured professors and researchers for each one of the departments involved, to be elected in the terms established by the University General Regulations. The term of office of these members lasts three years and is renewable consecutively only once;
 - c) by student representatives that account for 15 percent of the interdepartmental facility members. In any case, the presence on the interdepartmental facility council of at least one student representative from each of the departments affiliated with the interdepartmental facility must be ensured. Student representatives are elected through procedures to be carried out within each affiliated department, according to the procedures established by the University General Regulations. The students with passive voting rights are those students enrolled in the bachelor's, master's degree and doctoral programs who are members, respectively, of the individual Department Councils. The term of office of student representatives coincides with that of the Department Council they are members of.
- 3-bis. The Rector’s Delegate in charge of relations with the National Health Service participates in the meetings of the council of the interdepartmental facility with an advisory vote.
4. The council of the interdepartmental facility is chaired and convened by a tenured full professor elected, within the interdepartmental facility itself, as set forth in the General

Regulations of the University and appointed by Rector's Decree. The tenured full professors with passive voting rights are all full professors who serve as members of the councils of the individual departments. The electorate is composed of all members of the councils of the individual departments. In all cases of early termination of the chairperson term of office, the dean (the senior member, in length of service) of the group of tenured full professors serving on the council of the interdepartmental facility shall take over, until the new election takes place, and limited to the activity of ordinary administration and the adoption of urgent and unpostponable measures.

5. Participation in the council of the interdepartmental facility does not give rise to any remunerations, fees, allowances or expense reimbursement.

CHAPTER III
OTHER FACILITIES AND BODIES OPERATING IN THE FIELD OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH

Article 38

(Interdepartmental and Inter-University Research Centers)

1. Interdepartmental or inter-university research centers can be set up for specific research efforts, combining different kinds of expertise from several departments or several universities.
2. The establishment of an interdepartmental research center shall be approved by the Board of Directors, subject to proposal for approval or favorable opinion of the Academic Senate.
3. The establishment of an inter-university research center takes place by means of a specific agreement to be entered into by the universities concerned. For the University of Foggia, such an agreement is to be approved by the Board of Directors, subject to the favorable opinion of the Academic Senate.
4. The centers can have management autonomy as set forth in the Regulations for Administration, Finance and Accounting. The resources needed for the operation of the centers shall be secured primarily by the departments or universities that have promoted the establishment of the centers.

Article 39

(Doctoral Programs)

1. The purpose of doctoral programs is to provide advanced research training and, therefore, to equip doctoral students with the necessary skills for working for universities, public or private institutions, companies and service organizations, and, in any case, primarily within the European space of research and development, in highly qualified research and professional positions.
2. The individual doctoral courses can be organized as part of doctoral schools, university or inter-university programs. They can also be part of joint higher education projects in cooperation with other universities, including foreign universities, public research institutions and other public or private entities authorized to organize doctoral courses in compliance with the legislation in force.
3. The structure and functioning of doctoral schools are governed by *ad hoc* regulations passed by the Academic Senate, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors.

Article 40

(University Library System)

1. A coordinated system of facilities and services in support of research and teaching is established with the aim of guaranteeing the acquisition, preservation, as well as the availability of the library and documentary heritage of the University, and the dissemination of bibliographic information by means of technologically advanced systems for online reference and use.

2. The University Library System has several levels, each of which is provided with an office with guidance, planning and supervision duties and a management unit of the library system.
3. The organization and operation of the University Library System, of the offices for guidance, planning and supervision, and of the management units are governed by an *ad hoc* set of regulations approved by the Academic Senate, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors.

Article 41

(Joint Departmental Teaching Boards)

1. Within each department, a Joint Departmental Teaching Board, composed of faculty and students, is established as set forth by the University Teaching Regulations.
2. In particular, the Joint Departmental Teaching Boards are responsible for:
 - a) performing monitoring activities of the specific undergraduate programs, graduate programs and postgraduate programs offered to the students, of the quality of teaching thereof, as well as of the services provided to students by professors and researchers;
 - b) identifying indicators for the evaluation of the quality of teaching and student services offered by professors and researchers;
 - (c) giving opinions on the activation, modification or cancellation of courses of study.
3. Only students enrolled, for the first time and no later than the first year off-track, in the department's bachelor's and master's degree programs are eligible to be members of the Joint Departmental Teaching Board. The term of office for the students is two years and they can be re-elected consecutively only once.
4. Participation in the Joint Departmental Teaching Boards does not give rise to any remunerations, fees, allowances or expense reimbursement.

TITLE IV
GENERAL AND TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS

CHAPTER I
GENERAL REGULATIONS

Article 42

(University Governance Regulations)

1. Except as otherwise provided by law or herein, the following provisions shall apply to university bodies with respect to academic offices/appointments:
 - a) the faculty members with passive voting rights for academic offices are those who have a number of years in service at least equal to the duration of the term of office in question before the date of their retirement;
 - b) the procedure for the renewal of University governing bodies must be completed before the expiration of the current term of office. Upon expiration of the term of office without completion of the renewal procedure, the body already in office shall, as a provisional extension, for a period not exceeding forty-five days, be responsible for ordinary administrative activities and adopt urgent and unpostponable measures and actions. Once this period of extension has also expired unsuccessfully, the body shall lapse and its functions shall be carried out, limited to the activities of ordinary administration and the adoption of urgent and unpostponable measures, by the Rector, or, in the event of failure to elect a new Rector, by the dean (the senior professor, in length of service) of the full professors of the University;
 - c) in case of early termination of the office of Rector, Head of Department, Chairperson of the Council of Interdepartmental Unit, Chairperson of the Council of Degree Program/Course of Study, and Director of Interdepartmental or Inter-University Research Center, the election shall be held no later than the 90th day following the date of termination. In the meantime, the relevant duties shall be fulfilled, limited to the activities of ordinary administration and the adoption of urgent and unpostponable measures and acts, by the subjects appointed to do so under these Statutes, internal regulations or other provisions. The newly elected officer shall hold office, from the date of appointment, for the entire period provided for by the regulations in force with reference to the term of office in question;
 - d) in case of early termination of office of an elective member of a governing body, the first of the eligible non-elected members shall take over for the unexpired portion of the term. If this is not possible, new elections shall be held within ninety days, unless the term of office of the governing body in question expires in the following six months, and the term of office of the new member shall last, from the date of appointment, for the entire period provided for by the regulations in force with reference to the term of office in question. For computing purposes un terms of appointments and reappointments, the term of office served partially due to termination of office or taking over as the first of the non-elected members shall be considered on a par with a full term of office;

- e) in case of early termination of office of a member appointed to serve on a governing body, a new member appointed within sixty days shall take over for the unexpired portion of the term. For computing purposes un terms of appointments and reappointments, the term of office served in part due to termination of office or succession shall be considered on a par with a full term of office. The provisions of this subparagraph e) shall not apply to the members of the Board of Directors referred to in subparagraphs b) and c) of paragraph 1 of Article 18 of these Statutes, for whom, in the event of early termination of office, the procedures provided for in the aforementioned specific provisions shall be applied again, and the term of office of the replacement shall last, as of the date of appointment, for the entire period provided for in the legislation in force on the term of office in question;
- f) the non-election or non-appointment of members of imperfect governing bodies, i.e. those that can decide with the presence of only some of the members, does not prevent the functioning of the bodies in question, the composition of which, until a new election or appointment is made, amounts to the number of members, who have been actually elected or appointed at the time. This provision shall not apply if the number of members of the body is less than two-thirds of the members regularly provided for. In any case, as to bodies for which parity composition is provided for, their functioning shall be allowed only where this requirement is met;
- g) any member who, in the absence of a justified reason, fails to participate for three consecutive times in the meetings of the governing body of which he/she is an elected or appointed member loses his/her office. For the disqualification of members of the Academic Senate and Board of Directors, the provisions of Articles 16(4) and 19(4) of these Statutes shall apply, respectively.

Article 43

(Incompatibilities and prohibitions)

- 1 The offices of Rector, Pro-rector, Head of Department, Chairperson of the Departmental Council of Interdepartmental Facilities, Chairperson of the Council of Degree Programs/Courses of Study, and Director of Interdepartmental or Inter-University Research Center cannot be held cumulatively.
2. The Members of the Academic Senate and Board of Directors are prohibited:
- (a) to hold other academic offices, except for the Rector limited to the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors and for Heads of Departments limited to the same Senate, if they are elected or have the right to serve as members;
 - b) to be a member of other University governing bodies except, for professors and researchers, of councils of departments, interdepartmental facilities, degree programs/courses of study, interdepartmental and inter-university research centers and doctoral schools, and, for student representatives, of the student council;
 - (c) to hold the position of director or president of graduate schools or to serve on the Board of Directors of postgraduate schools;

d) to hold any office of a political nature for the duration of the term of office and to serve as Rector, Pro-Rector or be a member of the Board of Directors, the Academic Senate, the Evaluation Unit or the Board of Auditors of other Italian public, private or online universities;

(e) to fulfill functions related to planning, financing and evaluation of university operations at the Ministry for Universities and within ANVUR.

2-bis. The offices of Rector, Deputy Pro-Rector, Head of Department, member of the Academic Senate, member of the Department Council, and member of The University Evaluation Unit are incompatible with that of coordinator of doctoral schools or of any doctoral programs.

3. A faculty member who has opted for a *non*-full-time position is not allowed to serve as Rector, Department Director, and member of the Academic Senate and Board of Directors. A faculty member who has not a full-time position, in cases where this position is incompatible with the vacancy to be filled, can run for office, provided he or she produces a declaration that they are opting for a full-time position. In case of election, this declaration will be in force from the moment of appointment. For candidates who are not elected, the declaration of option for full-time employment will be ineffective.

4. Candidacies for an academic office that cannot be held with other offices or is incompatible with another office already held shall, in the event of election, result in forfeiture of the office previously held, concurrently with appointment to the new office.

5. Candidacies for elective political offices in both the National and European Parliament or in a regional, provincial or municipal council or as mayor of a municipality by individuals who hold the office of Rector, Deputy Pro-Rector, Head of Department, member of the Academic Senate, member of the Board of Directors and member of The University Evaluation Unit shall result in forfeiture of the academic office previously held, at the same time when the candidacies become official. Forfeiture of the previously held academic office also occurs when one of the persons referred to in this paragraph serves on a Town Council.

Except as stated in Article 24, Paragraph 3, of these Statutes

Article 44

(Obtaining opinions)

1. In cases where an opinion, even a favorable or binding one, must be compulsorily obtained, this opinion it must be issued within the time limit established by statutory and regulatory provisions. Failing this, reference is made to the peremptory term of thirty days from the receipt of the request.
2. If this time limit elapses without the body required to issue the opinion having communicated it and without the same having asked for any further inquiry, the requesting body may proceed regardless of the acquisition of the opinion.

Article 45

(Rule for rounding of percentages and fractions in the case of decimal places)

1. For regulations containing percentages or fractions, any rounding in the case of decimal places shall be done according to the following rule:

- a) if the decimal place is 50 or less, rounding down shall be done;
- b) if the decimal figure is greater than 50, rounding up shall be done.

CHAPTER II
TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS

Article 46

(Definition of the didactic-scientific-cultural fields and evaluation, admission, and selection of applications for the purpose of identifying the members of the Board of Directors referred to in subparagraphs b) and c) of paragraph 1 of Article 18 of these Statutes)

1. When these Statutes first come into force, the definition of the didactic-scientific-cultural fields referred to in Article 14(4)(d) shall be decided by the Academic Senate in office on the date of entry into force of the Statutes. The definition of didactic-scientific-cultural fields so decided shall remain unchanged until otherwise decided by the Academic Senate established under these Statutes.
2. When these Statutes first come into force, the verification, admission and selection of the candidacies to be submitted to the Rector for the purpose of nominations to the Board of Directors referred to in subparagraphs b) and c) of paragraph 1 of Article 18 shall be decided by the Academic Senate in office on the date of entry into force of these Statutes, in a meeting that does not provide for the presence of the Rector, who shall be replaced in the role of chairperson, without voting rights, by the Deputy Pro-Rector.

Article 47

(Organizational Structure)

1. Faculties and Departments operating under previous Regulations hereby cease to exist; the transfer of instrumental assets and pending relations shall be settled, subject to the favorable opinion of the Board of Directors, by the Academic Senate, and by the governing bodies in office as of the date of entry into force of these Statutes.
2. When these Statutes first come into force, and for a minimum period of at least two full academic years, the University will be organized into Departments, into which, as provided for below, the faculties and science departments of relevant academic areas that were in operation prior to the coming into force of these Statutes, in compliance with the requirements provided for herein, will be merged,
 - the Department of Agriculture, yet to be named, with which the Faculty of Agriculture or the faculty affiliated with the Department of Agri-Environmental Sciences, Chemistry and Plant Defense or the Department of Food Science or the Department of Production Sciences and Innovation in Mediterranean Agri-Food Systems, shall be affiliated;

- The Department of Economy, yet to be named, with which the Faculty of Economics or the faculty affiliated with the Department of Economics, Mathematical and Statistical Sciences or the Department of Business, Legal, Commodity and Geographical Sciences shall be affiliated;
 - the Department of Legal Studies, yet to be named, to which the Faculty of law or faculty affiliated with the department of private law or the department of public law, shall be affiliated;
 - the Department of Humanities, yet to be named, with which the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy or the Faculty of Education or faculty affiliated with the Department of Humanities, Territory, Cultural Heritage, Literature and Civilization, Education or the Department of Tradition and Fortune of Antiquity, shall be affiliated;
 - as to the medical/surgical area, in view of the complexity of the healthcare services, and of the relations with the National Health Service, two Departments, yet to be named, will be established with the relevant interdepartmental facility. The two departments will bring together faculty serving in the faculty of Medicine or affiliated with the Department of Biomedical Sciences or the Department of Surgical Sciences or the Department of Medical and Occupational Sciences. The project of these two Departments, which also includes the definition of specific undergraduate programs, graduate programs and postgraduate programs offered by the two Departments, shall be submitted to the Rector by the incumbent Council of the Faculty of Medicine within fifteen days of the coming into force of these Statutes.
3. Should the implementation of what is provided for in Paragraph 2 of this Article result in a potential affiliation of a faculty member with more than one new Department, the faculty member in question shall opt for affiliation with only one of these Departments by giving written notice of his/her decision to the Rector within fifteen days of the entry into force of these Statutes.
 4. The formal activation of the Departments referred to in Paragraph 2 of this Article shall be approved, subject to the favorable opinion of the Academic Senate, by the Board of Directors, and by the governing bodies in office as of the date of entry into force of these Statutes.
 5. This in no way precludes the possibility for any faculty member, prior to effective deactivation of the faculties and departments operating under the previous University Regulations, to apply for a transfer from one faculty to another faculty or from one department to another department of the University under the provisions in force prior to the coming into force of the Statutes.

Article 48

1. The Statutes issued through *d.r. no. 783/2009, prot. 16779-II/11* of June 17, 2009 published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana - serie generale - no. 289* of December 12, 2009 are hereby repealed.
2. These new Statutes shall enter into force fifteen days after their publication in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana*.

