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**Annex to the Senate Decision no. 107 of March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Senate President of "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati,**  
**Assoc. prof. Alexandru NECHIFOR, Ph.D.**

# **CHARTER**

## **OF "DUNAREA DE JOS" UNIVERSITY OF GALATI**

## HISTORY

“Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati (hereinafter referred to as the University) is a state higher education institution, established in 1974, operating under Decree no. 105/1974, with a University Charter whose provisions are consistent with national legislation and the principles of the European Higher Education Area, known to the members of the university community. In 1991, by the Order of the Minister, the current name of the institution was established: “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati.

The history of higher education in Galati includes the following stages:

- 1948: establishment of the Land Improvement Institute;
- 1951: establishment of the Naval-Mechanical Institute;
- 1953: merging the Naval-Mechanical Institute with the Agronomic Institute, and with the Fish Farming and Fishing Institute (transferred from other university centres), and the establishment of the Technical Institute in Galati;
- 1954: establishment of the Faculty of Mechanics by the Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 14/January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1954, previously the Technical Institute of Galati (Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 2727/1953), successor of the Mechanic-Naval Institute of Galati (Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 1050/October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1951);
- 1955: merging of the Technical Institute with the Food Industry Institute in Bucharest;
- 1957: transforming the Technical Institute into the Polytechnic Institute;
- 1959: establishment of the Pedagogic Institute and relocation of the Land Improvement Institute to Iasi;
- 1974: establishment of the University of Galati by merging the Polytechnic Institute with the Pedagogic Institute (State Council Decree of March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1974);
- 1991: the University of Galati becomes “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati (Government Decision of January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1991).

In the structure of the above mentioned institutes, there were a series of study programmes that were unique in the country: naval constructions, harbours and ship exploitation, food industry, fish farming technology, cooling devices, which meant that an important creation process on elaborating educational curricula and courses, laboratory equipment etc., presently being used in other university centres around the country, was entirely the work of the academics in Galati higher education.

## IDENTITY ELEMENTS

The identity of “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati is ensured by:

- a) Name: “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati, official initials being DJUG;
- b) Emblem, representing, in stylized form, the steps leading to the arches of science, with the inscription: “UNIVERSITAS GALATIENSIS” and ceremonial attire (robe and square academic cap), established by the Senate;
- c) University Day – March 20<sup>th</sup>;
- d) Administrative head office: Galati, str. Domneasca, no. 47, postal code 800008.

## **Chapter 1 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Art. 1.**

(1) "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati is a state institution, of public interest, that operates based on the Constitution of Romania and the legislation in force, and by complying with at least the following international acts:

- a) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) The Lima Declaration on Academic Freedom and Autonomy of Institutions of Higher Education, (1988);
- c) The Magna Charta of European Universities, Bologna, (1988);
- d) The Bologna Declaration of the European Higher Education Area (1999);
- e) The Lisbon Recognition Convention of Qualifications (1997).

(2) "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati will respect international agreements of which Romania is part and will be signed after the entry into force of the University Charter.

### **Art. 2**

- (1) The Charter is the document that establishes the University's mission, suggested by the Rector and approved by the University Senate, its academic principles, objectives, structure and organization.
- (2) The University Charter sets out the major options of the university community and applies throughout the University.

## **Chapter 2 MISSION AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Art. 3**

- (1) "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati takes on the mission to generate, certify, and transfer knowledge to society, by:
  - a) initial and permanent university and postgraduate training for the professional and personal development of students, doctoral students, and trainees, as well as for the labour market integration of graduates and to meet the skill needs of the socio-economic environment;
  - b) scientific research, development, innovation, and technology transfer, through individual and collective creation, relevant to the advancement of knowledge and the socio-economic environment;
  - c) involvement in the community through joint activities for the benefit of the higher education institution and the social, economic, and cultural environment.
- (2) The University offers to all the members of the community the necessary conditions to value personal skills through education, scientific research and socio-cultural activities within the limits of existing resources, the legislation in force, and the priorities set by the University's internal strategies.
- (3) The University takes on the role of a cultural and civic centre meant to contribute to the training and dissemination of cultural values, promoting pluralism of options and to the development of political and civic culture.
- (4) The University takes the role of socio-humanities, scientific, and technological creation pole to support all economic, educational and social units in the region.
- (5) The University has the mission to support national and international cultural values.

#### Art. 4

The Charter focuses on the following values:

- a) equity, by ensuring rightful education opportunities for young people regardless of their background or other risk factors;
- b) excellence, by supporting and motivating it in education;
- c) integrity, by providing value benchmarks and promoting ethics in education and research;
- d) well-being, by supporting students and all employees of the University through appropriate medical, including dental and psychological care, counselling and career guidance, as well as ensuring the conditions for personal development through appropriate support measures;
- e) professionalism, by maintaining high standards in the training of teaching staff and, implicitly, in the training offered to students, doctoral students, and trainees;
- f) respect, by showing respect for other people, institutions, the environment, and society as part of the training;
- g) flexibility, by providing a dynamic learning path, adapted to the needs of students, doctoral students, and trainees, to acquire competencies;
- h) diversity, by ensuring respect for variety and a tolerant environment in the training process;
- i) transparency, by using transparent evaluation mechanisms and maintaining open and honest communication;
- j) collaboration, by developing inter-university partnerships, partnerships with public or private research institutes, with public or private economic operators, including for the development of interdisciplinary study programmes, and any other type of project;
- k) consultation, by involving stakeholders in the design and implementation of legislation, strategies, and policies in the field of higher education;
- l) inclusion, by ensuring that the status and rights of all persons are respected in the education process so that they have the opportunity to benefit from equal treatment with others;
- m) sustainable development and green transition, by meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs;
- n) accountability, through the conscious assumption of responsibility for one's behaviour and actions by all educational actors: beneficiaries, management, academics, and auxiliary staff;
- o) institutional transparency, whereby all institutional decisions and regulations of the University are made with the highest degree of transparency in order to respect the principle of public accountability.

#### Art. 5

The University accomplishes its mission by achieving the following objectives:

- (1) Training specialists with higher education for education, science and culture, health, technical, economic, judicial, and social activities, according to the university study programmes that are in the structure of the University, educational standards and society's requirements.
- (2) Updating and improving the education of specialists through master's, doctoral and postdoctoral studies and post-university studies and continuous education.
- (3) Ensuring the quality of the educational activity at the level of national and international standards through:
  - a) perfecting the curricula, subject sheet, and educational methods of teaching and evaluation;
  - b) perfecting the education system based on transferable credits (European Credit Transfer System - ECTS) both through the professional results of the students from all forms of education, as well as through the transfer of professional results obtained by students as a

- result of attending and passing the tests of the subjects included in the curricula of other universities;
- c) development, diversity, and valuing the concerns regarding the digitization of the educational process;
  - d) identifying, stimulating, and valuing the students' skills, by paying specific attention to individual values.
- (4) Developing advanced, fundamental, and applied research through:
- a) increasing the human potential and the material resources of research units;
  - b) stimulating the research groups to participate in national and international competitions for financial support and ensuring the visibility of fundamental and applicative research;
  - c) developing, accrediting, and diversifying the research units;
  - d) developing international scientific cooperation by stimulating participation in international research, development, and innovation programmes;
  - e) developing the innovation and technology transfer process in the University;
  - f) strengthening and developing partnerships with the economic environment to implement and transfer technology;
  - g) provide counselling, logistical, and financial support for the protection of intellectual property of the research results;
  - h) digitization of some processes in the University for increased effectiveness and transparency.
- (5) Ensuring quality management for teaching, research, and administrative activities through the structures created for this purpose.
- (6) Knowledge of the realities and tendencies of Romanian, European, and worldwide higher education by having the members of the academic community participate in national and international development, research, innovation, and scientific events and programmes.
- (7) Developing and modernising the educational, scientific research, and micro-production material base.
- (8) Continuous development of the information system connected to national and international networks which will satisfy the integration requirements in the information society.
- (9) Continuous development, modernization and computerization of the library and the entire information base and connecting it to national and international information sources.
- (10) Comprehensive approach to the components of the academic ecosystem for the internationalization process, such as: curriculum through pedagogies and learning outcomes, academics, administration, students, doctoral students and trainees, dedicated infrastructure and support services, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- (11) Awarding all types of titles, orders, and medals provided in the national system of university and post-university diplomas. The University honours the contribution of personalities from home and abroad to the scientific and cultural life of the contemporary world by awarding the titles of *Doctor Honoris Causa*, *Honorary Professor*, and *Honorary Senator* and honours the outstanding activities of retired professors with the title of *Professor Emeritus*, based on a Methodology established and approved by the University Senate.

## Art. 6

- (1) The University is a state institution, of public interest, which carries out its activity under conditions of university autonomy and academic democracy and in which at least the following principles are respected:
- a) the principle of university autonomy;
  - b) the principle of academic freedom;
  - c) the principle of public accountability;
  - d) the principle of quality assurance;

- e) the principle of equity;
- f) the principle of managerial and financial efficiency, which aims to achieve appropriate educational outcomes through the management of existing resources;
- g) the principle of transparency;
- h) the principle of respecting the rights and freedoms of the university community members;
- i) the principle of freedom of national and international mobility of students, academics, and researchers;
- j) the principle of focusing education on the student;
- k) the principle of relevance, whereby education responds to personal and socio-economic development needs;
- l) the principle of guaranteeing the cultural identity of all members of the academic community and intercultural dialogue;
- m) the principle of assuming, supporting, and preserving the national identity and cultural values of the Romanian people;
- n) the principle of recognizing and guaranteeing the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, the right to preserve, develop, and express their ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious identity;
- o) the principle of equal opportunities and non-discrimination;
- p) the principle of freedom of thought and independence from political and religious ideologies and doctrines;
- q) the principle of the organization of denominational education in accordance with the specific requirements of each recognized religion;
- r) the principle of consultation of the social partners in decision-making;
- s) the principle of student participation in decision-making.

### **Chapter 3**

## **UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY**

### **Art. 7. AUTONOMY**

- (1) The university autonomy gives the right to the university community to set its own mission, institutional strategy, structure, activities, own organization and functioning, as well as managing financial, material, and human resources by complying to the legislation in force. The university autonomy is guaranteed by the Constitution of Romania, republished, and shall be exercised subject to public accountability and within the limits of the national legislation in force. The academic freedom is guaranteed by law.
- (2) The university community consists of students, doctoral students, trainees, academics, researchers, auxiliary staff, and administrative staff. The university community also includes persons who have been granted membership of the university community by decision of the University Senate.
- (3) Public accountability binds the University:
  - a) to comply with the legislation in force, its Charter, and national and European policies in the field of higher education;
  - b) to apply the regulations in force regarding quality assurance and evaluation in higher education;
  - c) to comply with the policies on ethics and university deontology contained in the Code of Ethics and University Deontology approved by the University Senate;
  - d) to ensure managerial efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources and the expenditure of funds from public resources, in accordance with the institutional contract;
  - e) to ensure the transparency of all its decisions and activities, in accordance with the legislation in force;

- f) to respect the academic freedom of academic, research, and auxiliary staff, and the rights and freedom of students.
- g) to use informed consent and protect the personal data of all subjects;
- h) to ensure the participation of each member of the academic community, through his or her own activity, in enhancing the prestige of the institution.

## Art. 8

(1) University autonomy implies:

- a) Organisational autonomy. The academic community sets its mission, institutional strategy, activities, organization and functioning.
- b) Financial and administrative autonomy. The academic community manages its material and human resources, in compliance with the legislation in force.
- c) Autonomy of didactic and scientific research. Members of the academic community enjoy the freedom of research, artistic activity, and transfer of knowledge, establishment and adoption of their research programmes, participation in national and international competitions for grants, publishing the results of their research efforts, and organizing scientific events with internal and international participation. Individual freedom must take into account the principles of academic ethics, as well as the university's internal development strategies regarding the use of its resources.
- d) Jurisdictional autonomy consists of the university's right to decide through its governing bodies on the manner of elaboration and application of the Charter, as well as in other matters within its competence, according to the law. The prerogatives of the jurisdictional competence of the university may not be delegated, entirely or partially, to other authorities outside the institution.

## Art. 9

The university's autonomy is realized through:

- a) programming, organizing, and improving the formative educational process;
- b) organizing scientific research, development, innovation, improvement, and technological transfer;
- c) establishing study programmes, curricula and subject sheets, following national and international standards;
- d) admission of candidates for studies based on the general criteria established by the relevant ministry and own criteria which may not be lower than those established at the national level;
- e) selecting and promoting the academics and other categories of staff and establishing the criteria for assessing the teaching and scientific activity;
- f) granting, under the law, didactic, scientific, and honorary titles, as well as university distinctions;
- g) establishing cooperation programmes with other institutions of higher education and research in the country and from abroad;
- h) ensuring order and discipline in university spaces;
- i) establishing and using proper symbols and signs;
- j) publishing, in its own publishing house, *Galati University Press*, as well as in other prestigious publishing houses, magazines, textbooks, courses, research papers, or any other materials that support the educational process of capitalizing on the results of the scientific research carried out in the University;
- k) establishing companies, foundations, associations, pre-university education units, consortia for dual education, university hospitals, university pharmacies, ambulatory units, including dental units and specialized clinics, including dental ones, with the approval of the University Senate, as required by law. The condition for their establishment is that they contribute to the performance of the institution and do not in any way negatively influence teaching and research activities. The object of activity of societies, associations and/or foundations must be related to the mission of the higher education institution;

- l) establishing consultative structures made up of representatives of the economic environment and personalities of the academic, cultural, and professional external environment;
- m) freedom in terms of establishing research, development, and innovation topics, choosing methods, procedures, and capitalizing on the results according to the law;
- n) prohibiting to endanger any form of the right to free expression of scientific and artistic opinions;
- o) freedom of the University Senate, acting on the proposal from the Administrative Council, to determine the conditions of changing the fee-paying student status;
- p) developing the structure, organization, and functioning of the university and faculties in compliance with the legislation in force;
- q) increasing the minimum weekly academic norm, in compliance with the quality assurance standards, without exceeding the maximum limit of conventional hours per week, established by the law, following the proposal of the Administration Council and with the approval of the University Senate;
- r) ensuring good conduct in scientific research and university activity through the University Ethics Committee;
- s) solving, according to the law, the disputes related to the violations of the organization and functioning regulations and other internal rules;
- t) compliance with the principles on the processing of personal data of the subjects, according to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 679/2016 on the protection of personal data and the relevant national legislation.

#### **Art. 10**

- (1) In the financial field, university autonomy means:
  - a) the right to manage, by the University, according to the law, the funds allocated from the national public budget or other sources;
  - b) determining development priorities and investment needs;
  - c) granting, from proper funds, at the proposal of the Rector and with the approval of the Administrative Council, scholarships and research grants, distinct from those awarded from the budget, as well as bearing the expenses related to other activities of students, within the limits of the legal provisions;
  - d) levying fees and penalties according to the proposal of the Administrative Council and approval of methodologies by the University Senate.

#### **Art. 11**

At the national level, the university autonomy is manifested through the direct relationship of the Rector with the relevant Minister and by the election of the institution's representatives in the professional bodies, according to the law.

#### **Art. 12. ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

- (1) Academic freedom is the freedom of academics and students to engage in research, teaching, learning, and communication in and with society without interference or fear of reprisal.
- (2) Academic freedom is guaranteed by law. The University shall organize and operate independently of any ideological, political, or religious interference.
- (3) Academic freedom implies the right of all members of the university community to express themselves freely, both within and outside the university environment, in relation to teaching, research, or intellectual creation activities, as well as any other activities concerning "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, according to the law.
- (4) Academic freedom means the freedom to learn, teach, and research, each of which implies the freedom to think, question, and share ideas, inside and outside the University.



- (5) Academic freedom implies:
  - a) the right of the academic community as a whole and each member to participate in the educational and research activities of the University, and in the organization and management of these activities, under the law, in accordance with the priorities and internal strategies of the University;
  - b) the right to research subjects in any field, priority being given to those areas which can contribute to the prestige of the university, in compliance with the rules of ethics and specific codes of conduct, and with the principles of use of the University's resources;
  - c) the right to select members of the academic community, under the conditions of the law and according to the methodologies proposed by the Administrative Council and approved by the University Senate.
- (6) In the University, the freedom of research, development, and innovation is ensured with regard to establishing topics, choosing the methods, procedures, and valuing the results, by respecting the law and the University's internal procedures and strategies regarding resource allocation.
- (7) In the University is forbidden to jeopardize in any form the right to free expression of scientific and artistic opinions, provided that ethical principles are respected.
- (8) Students shall be guaranteed the right to free choice of study programmes and subjects, in accordance with the legal regulations in force and the curricula.

#### **Art. 13 UNIVERSITY SPACE**

- (1) The university space consists of all buildings, grounds, experimental teaching stations, research institutes, farms, botanical gardens, university houses, university campuses, university hospitals and clinics, human and veterinary university pharmacies, specialised clinics, libraries, micro-production units, cultural-sports bases and complexes, student cultural houses, rest and treatment centres, radio and TV studios/radio stations, performance, concert and cinema halls, film and recording studios, photographic studios and creative houses, as well as other premises dedicated to education, training and scientific research processes and related facilities used by the University, regardless of the legal title under which it is entitled to use them.
- (2) The online environment, consisting of platforms or groups used for teaching and extracurricular activities and research organized within the University, is also considered a university space.
- (3) In the university space, members of the academic community may freely express academic opinions within the university bodies.
- (4) Access to the university is allowed only to persons from the academic community or who justify a purpose related to the University's object of activity.
- (5) Access to the press and representatives of public institutions may only be granted with the consent of the university management (rector, vice-rectors) or faculty (dean, vice-deans).
- (6) The academic community is protected within the university by the authorities responsible for public order.
- (7) The university space is inviolable and is protected according to the legislation in force.
- (8) The right of any organisational structure, with or without legal personality, to operate within the university premises is subject to the opinion of the Administrative Council and the approval of the University Senate.

### **Chapter 4 ORGANISATIONAL AND OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

#### **Art. 14**

- (1) The University promotes free thought and academic freedom, and is committed to the principles of universality of knowledge values.
- (2) Academic activity shall be based on professional and scientific competence and moral conduct as the fundamental criteria for judging the quality of the university community.
- (3) Ideological, ethnic, political, or religious propaganda is forbidden on university premises.

#### **Art. 15**

- (1) Educational - formative training is inseparable from research, development, innovation, and technology transfer activity, to enable education to keep pace with the changing needs and demands of society and scientific knowledge.
- (2) The educational - formative process shall be carried out at the level of modern educational principles and strategies, provided for by the legislation, national and international strategies in the field, promoting openness to continuous training, and innovation with priority to the fields of intelligent specialisation.

#### **Art. 16**

- (1) Students are partners in the educational – formative, scientific research, development, and innovation process. Their opinion expressed individually or through their representatives in the governing bodies, in accordance with the principle of representativeness, constitutes an element of evaluation and improvement of the activity.
- (2) By promoting permanent dialogue, the University is the preferred meeting place for academics, researchers, students, residents, and other members of the academic community, in the common interest of knowledge and free research, training and continuous improvement.

#### **Art. 17**

- (1) The university community is open to Romanian and foreign citizens, without discrimination, with respect to the legal conditions regarding the level of studies.
- (2) The rights and duties of the members of the university community are established by the legal regulations in force and by the regulations of the university.
- (3) The staff of higher education consists of academics and administrative staff of education. The academics consists of teaching/research staff and auxiliary teaching/research staff.
- (4) Teaching/research staff means staff that legally hold one of the university teaching or research positions provided for by law, who belong to a higher education institution and who carry out teaching and/or research activities.
- (5) In relation to the employment relationships established with the University, academics may be: tenured or associated. In relation to their participation in the teaching process and their degree of professional training, academics may be: teaching staff, research staff, and auxiliary staff.
- (6) Support staff to carry out the educational process through an integrated approach to the student's needs, professionals from other fundamental areas of the young person's development, such as health, counselling/assessment/psychological therapy and social work, is employed in the higher education system with the status of auxiliary staff.
- (7) Tenured academics are teaching staff holding a teaching position in the university, obtained through a contest, for an indefinite period, as well as teaching staff maintained in their teaching position, according to the legal provisions. Tenured academics are also teaching staff who benefit from a reserved post, according to the law.
- (8) The tenured status exists only in relation to a single higher education institution or a single research and development institution. An academic who carries out teaching or scientific research activities in

more than one higher education institution or research and development institution has the status of tenured in only one of them, the other having the status of associate professor or researcher.

- (9) Entry into the university community of academics and research staff, auxiliary staff, and non-academic staff is made according to the law.
- (10) Academic and research staff, auxiliary, and non-academic staff, as well as management, guidance, and control staff in higher education, shall be liable for breach of their duties under their employment contracts.
- (11) The teaching/research, auxiliary teaching/research, as well as management, guidance and control staff in higher education are responsible for violations of ethical rules or conduct that are detrimental to the interest of education and the prestige of the University.
- (12) Academic and research staff shall retire on reaching the age of 65. At the request of the academic staff, they may maintain their tenured status until the end of the academic year in which they reach retirement age.
- (13) The University Senate of state, private, and denominational higher education institutions based on professional performance criteria and financial situation, may decide to continue the activity of an academic or research staff member after retirement, based on a fixed-term contract of one year, with the possibility of annual extension according to the University Charter, without age limit.
- (14) As an exception to the provisions of paragraph 12, if higher education institutions are unable to fill the vacancies with tenured staff, they may decide to maintain the status of tenured academic and/or research staff, with all the rights and obligations deriving from this status, on the basis of an annual evaluation of academic performance, according to a methodology established by the University Senate.

#### **Art. 18**

- (1) Admission to university study programmes shall be carried out on the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, with access to learning opportunities without discrimination of any kind, and with the establishment of support measures to ensure access for groups at risk.
- (2) Admission for each cycle and programme of university studies is the responsibility of the University and is organised based on the methodology and specific regulations on the organisation and conduct of the admission process established by the University, in compliance with the legal provisions in force. The relevant Ministry shall draw up the framework methodology for organising the admission process to higher education.
- (3) The admission methodology and the selection criteria are approved in the Senate, on the proposal of the Administrative Council, and are made public each year by the University, at least 6 months before the admission exam.

#### **Art. 19.**

- (1) In order to achieve the objectives arising from its mission, the University may have the following organisational components: faculties, departments, department of teaching training staff, doctoral schools, institutes, research centres, laboratories, design units, consultancy centres, university clinics or hospitals and/or other medical structures/units, such as ambulatory units, including dental, and specialised clinics, including dental, dental technology laboratories, residency training institutes, university pharmacies, artistic and performing arts studios and workshops, museums, audio-visual studios and workshops, film and photography studios, botanical gardens, theatres, museums, radio and television, printing works, publishing houses, publications, centres for life-long learning for human resources, micro-production and service establishments, teaching stations/teaching bases for applications and performance in sport, experimental stations or other entities for production and transfer of knowledge and technology activities, competence centres, university sports clubs, and pre-

- university education establishments. Technical-administrative directorates and services operate within the structure of higher education institutions. The University may organise university branches.
- (2) The functional components referred to in paragraph 1 shall be organised by the University in such a way that it achieves its mission, ensures quality standards, effectively manages teaching, research, production or cognitive and technological transfer activities and provides adequate support to members of the university community so that it can achieve its strategic objectives.
  - (3) The activities and human resources of the organisational components referred to in paragraph 1 shall also be subject to the special provisions governing the areas to which those activities belong.
  - (4) Academic positions in the University are as follows:
    - a) assistant lecturer;
    - b) senior lecturer;
    - c) associate professor;
    - d) professor.
  - (5) Research positions in the University are as follows:
    - a) research assistant;
    - b) scientific researcher;
    - c) scientific researcher – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade;
    - d) scientific researcher – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade;
    - e) scientific researcher – 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
  - (6) The equivalence of research positions with academic positions operates both ways, only with the approval of the University Senate, and is as follows:
    - a) scientific researcher is equivalent to assistant lecturer for persons holding a doctoral degree;
    - b) scientific researcher – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is equivalent to senior lecturer;
    - c) scientific researcher – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is equivalent to associate professor;
    - d) scientific researcher – 1<sup>st</sup> grade is equivalent to professor.
  - (7) Associate academics may be employed in the University for teaching positions referred to in paragraph 4 and associate researchers for the research positions referred to in paragraph 5.
  - (8) Vacant academic and research positions in the University shall be filled by public contest, in accordance with the legal provisions, based on the methodology developed by the relevant Ministry and the University's contest methodology. The result of the contest shall be submitted to the University Senate for approval.
  - (9) Reserved, vacant, or temporarily vacant academic positions are filled with priority by the institution's academics or by associated academics, by hourly payment, according to the law.
  - (10) In relation to the needs of the beneficiaries and its own academic needs, the Administrative Council approves, for a fixed period, the invitation to the University of professors and other specialists of recognized value in the field, from the country or abroad, as visiting associate academics.
  - (11) The employment of specialists of recognized scientific and professional value in the field, from the country or from abroad, who do not hold a doctoral degree, as visiting associate academics, shall be approved by the Department Council and approved by the Administrative Council.
  - (12) The hiring and appointment of these specialists is carried out based on a methodology approved by the University Senate.
  - (13) The fixed-term employment contract concluded between the University and members of the academic and research staff, following a contest, may be renewed, depending on personal professional results, assessed based on criteria adopted by the University Senate, as well as on the employment needs and financial resources of the institution, in accordance with the legal provisions in force.
  - (14) In departments, doctoral schools, research institutes, research and micro-production centres or other units, on distinct positions, research staff, associated research staff, including students of the three cycles, as well as other categories of staff may work in separate conditions, according to the law.

- (15) The University Senate may equate the quality of a university professor for prestigious specialists holding this quality, as well as the quality of doctoral coordinator, acquired in one of the most prestigious higher education institutions in the world, according to the list approved by the Ministry of Education, by order of the Minister of Education.

#### **Art. 20**

- (1) Teaching, research, development, and innovation activities in the field of health are carried out in public and private health establishments, such as hospitals, ambulatory units, including dental units, and in specialised clinics, including dental clinics, in institutes, in diagnostic and treatment centres, in wards with beds, in laboratories, including in dental technology, in pharmacies and offices, including dental ones.
- (2) According to the special legislation in the field of education and health, public clinical hospitals with clinical wards/departments, including dental clinics and dental technology laboratories, university hospitals, institutes, private hospitals with clinical wards/departments, including dental clinics, dental technology laboratories, and university pharmacies may be established in which teaching and research activities of university departments are organized.

#### **Art. 21**

- (1) Residency is the specific form of postgraduate education for graduates of medical, dental, and pharmacy study programmes which provides the necessary training to obtain one of the medical, dental, and pharmaceutical specialties for the healthcare network.
- (2) Residency training programmes are conducted in accordance with the legislation in force.
- (3) A department of residency training shall be organized within the University and shall be subordinated to the faculty management.

#### **Art. 22**

- (1) The faculty is the functional unit that develops and manages the study programmes. The faculty corresponds to one or more fields of science, art, or sport, has no legal personality, and has no assets of its own.
- (2) In the faculty is carried out:
  - a) university education through undergraduate, master's, and doctoral study programmes;
  - b) postgraduate education through postdoctoral programmes of advanced research and continuous professional training and development;
  - c) scientific research, development, and innovation;
  - d) offers services, expertise, and consultancy.
- (3) A faculty may include one or more departments and university extensions which are responsible for organising study programmes by types and cycles of university study.
- (4) Faculties shall be established, divided, merged, or abolished on the proposal of the Administrative Council, with the approval of the University Senate, by Government Decision on the structure of higher education institutions, annually initiated by the Ministry of Education.

#### **Art. 23**

- (1) The department is the functional academic unit that ensures the production, transmission, and valorisation of knowledge in one or more specialised fields.
- (2) The department is managed by the department director and the department council. The operational management of the department is the responsibility of the department director.

- (3) Departments shall be set up, organised, divided, merged, or abolished by decision of the University Senate, on the proposal of the Council of the faculty/faculties in which they operate, with the approval of the Administrative Council.
- (4) Departments may organise research centres or laboratories which function as income and expenditure units within the University.

#### **Art. 24**

- (1) A university branch may be established within the University with the approval of the Senate, on the proposal of the Administrative Council. This is an organisational structure of the University which is established in a geographical location other than that in which the University has its office and which enjoys autonomy under the conditions established by the University Charter.
- (2) In the branch may operate: faculties, departments, doctoral schools, institutes, centres or laboratories, design units, consultancy centres, university clinics, pharmacies, artistic, radio and television studios and workshops, theatres, museums, printing houses, publishing houses, publications, centres for life-long learning of human resources, micro-production, and service units, accommodation and catering establishments, teaching stations/bases for sports applications and performance, experimental stations or other entities for production and knowledge and technology transfer activities, competence centres, and pre-university education establishments.
- (3) A university extension may be established within the University. This is the academic unit that ensures the production, transmission, and valorisation of knowledge in one or more specialised fields, in a geographical area other than that in which the University is located.
- (4) The extension shall be established and dissolved with the approval of the Senate, on the proposal of the Administrative Council, and shall not have legal personality.

#### **Art. 25**

- (1) The staff charts shall be established at the level of the departments or doctoral schools in consultation with their members. In departments with disciplines at several faculties, the staff charts are completed based on the order notes, approved by the University management.
- (2) The staff position of the university shall be approved by the Faculty Council or, as the case may be, by the Council of the Doctoral School, respectively by the Rector of the higher education institution and approved by the University Senate.
- (3) The staff positions of the academic and research staff shall be annually established, by setting university rules, before the beginning of each academic year and may not be changed during the academic year.
- (4) The staff position shall list, in hierarchical order, the occupied or vacant academic positions, specifying the corresponding academic and research functions and the conventional number of hours per week allocated to activities.
- (5) The number of posts for auxiliary staff and administrative staff shall be determined by the University Senate, at the proposal of the Rector, according to the University budget and the technical-administrative structure.

#### **Art. 26**

The following activities are carried out within the department:

- a) coordination of the study programmes assigned to it by the Administrative Council, on the proposal of the Faculty Council;
- b) proposing admission and graduation criteria for students in the specialisations it coordinates;

- c) establishing internal evaluation reports for provisional authorization, accreditation, or periodic evaluation;
- d) establishing, through the tenured staff, the course descriptions of the subjects they teach;
- e) the development and implementation of standards and procedures for quality assurance of teaching and research activities at the department level, according to the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education;
- f) proposing to post for contest academic and research positions;
- g) reviewing courses, textbooks, and other teaching materials and proposing their publication;
- h) proposing to purchase academic and scientific books;
- i) proposing to award honorary and scientific titles to personalities within and outside the University;
- j) proposing to organise scientific events with national and international participation;
- k) determining the duties of the auxiliary staff and to monitor their activities;
- l) preparing the annual activity report;
- m) guidance of students' practice;
- n) establishing the composition of the committees for the final examinations;
- o) proposing to employ associate academics and approving requests for the extension of their activity beyond the retirement age.

#### **Art. 27**

The results and performance of the academic and research staff of the University are periodically evaluated, at intervals of no more than 5 years. The evaluation is carried out according to a methodology approved and applied by the University Senate, which, first of all, takes into account teaching and research activities and participation in research projects in the field of education and training or institutional development won in national or international competitions, as well as other activities.

#### **Art. 28**

Scientific research, technological development, innovation, design, consultancy or expertise may be carried out within the departments, including through collaboration with educational and research institutions in the country or abroad.

#### **Art. 29**

- (1) "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati operates as an institution financed from funds allocated from the state budget, from its revenues and other sources, according to the law.
- (2) The revenues of the University consist of:
  - a) amounts allocated from the budget of the Ministry of Education, on a contractual basis;
  - b) revenues allocated from other ministries, authorities, or central and local public institutions, on a contractual basis;
  - c) own income, interest, donations, dividends, sponsorship, and fees collected under the law from natural and legal persons, Romanian or foreign, and from other sources, including loans and foreign aid;
  - d) other sources according to the law.
- (3) The University shall use its own revenues under the conditions of academic autonomy and with respect for the principle of public accountability, in order to achieve the objectives and activities set out in its strategy.
- (4) In determining the share allocated to overheads, both current needs and strategic investments in the interests of the University as a whole shall be taken into account.

- (5) The University may benefit, in accordance with the law, from donations and sponsorships. For sums of money or property received by the University on the basis of a bequest with charge or a donation with charge, the University Senate shall decide how to manage them, and may constitute placements of funds, make investments, conclude sale, exchange or lease contracts or carry out any other activity deemed appropriate, in compliance with the legal provisions in force, in order to fulfil the tasks imposed by the will or by the donation contract, used in accordance with the University's mission.

#### **Art. 30**

- (1) The provisions of this Charter are supplemented by internal rules and procedures.
- (2) Internal rules and system procedures are approved by the Senate.
- (3) The operational procedures are approved by the Administrative Council.

### **Chapter 5 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS**

#### **Art. 31**

- (1) The management structures of the University are:
  - a) the University Senate and the Administrative Council – at the University level;
  - b) the Faculty Council – at the faculty level;
  - c) the Department Council – at the department level;
  - d) the Council for Doctoral Studies – at the Institution Organising Doctoral Studies level;
  - e) the Council of the Doctoral School – at the doctoral school level.
- (2) The management functions in the University are as follows:
  - a) the rector, the vice-rectors, the general director of administration, the deputy general director of administration, at the University level;
  - b) the dean, vice-deans, at the faculty level;
  - c) the department director, at the department level;
  - d) the director of the Council of Doctoral Studies, position assimilated with that of the vice-rector;
  - e) the branch director at the university branch level (if any), position assimilated with that of the vice-rector;
  - f) the university extension director, at the university extension level (if any), position assimilated to that of the department director;
  - g) the director of the doctoral school, position assimilated to that of the department director.
- (3) The management positions referred to in paragraph 2 are academic positions and the fulfilment of which does not imply public authority.
- (4) Management positions referred to in paragraph 2 may not be filled by persons who have been convicted of an offence for which there has been no rehabilitation with intent.
- (5) The positions referred to in paragraph 2 are not public positions of authority and the activities in the specific field of teaching which are carried out through them are mainly the following:
  - a) fulfilling the University's mission to generate and transfer knowledge to society;
  - b) the organisation of the development of study programmes whose central element is to ensure the quality of education, with the aim of personal development, the professional insertion of the individual and the satisfaction of the need for competence in the socio-economic environment;
  - c) organisation of the process of obtaining qualifications linked to the needs identified in the labour market;
  - d) the efficient management of educational, research, production, or cognitive and technological transfer activities;



- e) the realization and implementation of projects financed from internal and external sources of the university;
- f) supporting, as appropriate, the members of the university community;
- g) to carry out actions concerning the international cooperation of the University;
- h) ensuring the academic freedom of the academic, auxiliary, and research staff and the rights and freedoms of students;
- i) respecting university autonomy, transparency of decisions and activities, fairness, ethics and university deontology;
- j) ensuring and managing material and human resources, in compliance with the legal regime of conflicts of interest and the legislations in force;
- k) ensuring, at the University level, the necessary conditions for scientific research, development, innovation, and technology transfer, through individual and collective creation, in the fields of science, engineering, arts, and literature, by ensuring physical and sports performance and development, as well as the valorisation and dissemination of their results, in order to produce, transmit and valorise knowledge.

(6) The hierarchical relationships at the University level are as follows:

- a) The Rector is the Chairman of the Administrative Council and has direct authority, subordination, and coordination over the following positions: vice-rector, general director of administration, deputy general director of administration, dean, vice-dean, and department director.
- b) The vice-rector has the following positions of authority, subordination, and direct coordination: dean, vice-dean, and department director. The vice-rector shall have a collaborative relationship with other management positions within the University.
- c) The general director of administration and the deputy general director of administration have authority, subordination, and direct coordination of the management and executive functions existing at the level of the functional entity they lead. They shall also have collaborative relationships with all management functions at the University and faculty levels.
- d) The dean has direct authority, subordination, and coordination over the vice-dean, the department director and the academic and research staff of the faculty. The dean shall have authority over and subordination to the administrative and auxiliary staff of the faculty. The dean has a collaborative relationship with the general director of administration, the deputy general director of administration, the other deans and the directors of the functional departments organized at the University level.
- e) The vice-dean has direct authority, subordination, and coordination over the department director and the academic and research staff of the faculty. The vice-dean has authority and subordination over the administrative and auxiliary staff of the faculty. The vice-dean has a collaborative relationship with the general director of administration and the deputy general director of administration, the other deans and the directors of the functional departments organized at the University level.
- f) The department director has direct authority, subordination, and coordination of all academic and research staff within the department. The department director shall have authority over and subordination to the administrative and auxiliary staff included in that structure. The department director shall have a collaborative relationship with the other department directors.
- g) At the University level there are situations of double subordination, as follows:
  - staff in the secretariats of the faculties are subordinate to both the dean and the head secretary of the University or to the corresponding function;

- non-academic staff in the faculties are subordinated both to the dean and to the directorate corresponding to the activity they carry out, in compliance with the legislation in force.

### **Art. 32**

- (1) The Rector of the University shall be appointed in the following ways:
  - a) based on a public competition, according to a methodology approved by the newly elected University Senate, as provided by law;
  - b) by universal, direct, and secret vote of all the tenured academics and tenured researchers of the University and the student representatives in the University Senate and in the faculty councils.
- (2) At least three months before each appointment of the Rector, the manner of appointment of the Rector shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1, by universal, direct, and secret vote of all tenured academics and researchers of the University and of the student representatives in the University Senate, who have a share of at least 25% of the total members of the University Senate, as well as of the student representatives in the faculty councils, who have a share of at least 25% of the total members of the council of each faculty.
- (3) Persons who have been convicted of a criminal offence for which they have not been rehabilitated or who are subject to disciplinary sanctions or sanctions for breaches of academic ethics and good conduct in scientific research and academic activity, which have become final or have not been disbarred in accordance with the Law, may not hold the position of Rector.
- (4) Persons with nationally and internationally recognized scientific prestige may apply for the position of Rector.
- (5) For the contest for the rector position, persons with professional prestige from the country and abroad according to LIS 134 (4) may participate.

### **Art. 33. INCOMPATIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT POSITIONS**

- (1) For the purposes of the law, the following situations constitute incompatibility:
  - a) the situation in which a person holds or concurrently carries out the management positions of rector, vice-rector, dean, vice-dean, department director, or director of a research-development, design or micro-production unit, director of a university branch/extension or the position of president of the University Senate and a management position referred to in article 31, paragraph 2;
  - b) when a person holds or exercises one of the management position of rector, vice-rector, dean, vice-dean, department director or director of a university branch/extension and is appointed or elected to the position of minister, secretary of state, mayor, deputy, deputy mayor, or chairman of the county council;
  - c) the situation in which the authorising representative of the University holds or exercises at the same time another function as authorising representative of a central or local public institution;
  - d) the situation in which a person concurrently holds the capacity of member of the University's Administrative Council and the capacity of partner or shareholder in a company established by the University, in accordance with the law.
- (2) Persons in the situation of incompatibility referred to in paragraph 1 have 15 days to eliminate the incompatibility situation, including by suspension from one of the positions.

### **Art. 34. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

- (1) For the purposes of the law, the following situations constitute a conflict of interest:

- a) the concurrent holding of positions by persons who are in a relationship of spouses, relatives, and kin up to and including the third degree, such that each is in a direct position of management, control, authority, or institutional evaluation at any level in the University with respect to the other;
  - b) participation as a member of a doctoral committee, evaluation committee or contest committee, where the decision affects spouses, relatives, and kin up to and including the third degree;
  - c) participation in the same committee, constituted in accordance with the law, of persons having the status of spouses, relative or kin up to and including the third degree;
  - d) participation of a person who is a member of a Ministry of Education commission in the analysis of a situation related to the institution to which he/she belongs as a member of the university community.
- (2) In the event of a conflict of interest, the academic or research staff shall be obliged to cease carrying out any activity referred to in paragraph 1, letters a) to c), and shall immediately inform the hierarchical superior to whom he/she is directly subordinate. The latter shall be obliged to take necessary measures to carry out the specific activities impartially within a maximum of three days from the date on which he/she becomes aware of them.
- (3) In the cases referred to in paragraph 2, at the proposal of the hierarchical superior to whom the academic or research staff in question is directly subordinated, another person is appointed, who has the same training and level of experience.
- (4) In case of the existence of a conflict of interests provided for in paragraph 1, letter d), the person in question is obliged to refrain from taking part in the commission's decision-making regarding the case covered by the conflict of interests.

#### **Art. 35**

The procedure for establishing and electing structures and management positions at the University, faculty, and department levels must respect the principle of representativeness by departments and faculties.

#### **Art. 36. REPRESENTATION RULES**

- (1) The number of academic and research staff in the faculty council is a maximum of 25% of the total number of tenured academic and research staff in the faculty.
- (2) The distribution of seats in the faculty council is done in compliance with the principle of representativeness of all departments.
- (3) The composition of seats in the faculty council is a maximum of 75% academic and research staff, respectively a minimum of 25% students. The academic and research staff representatives in the faculty council are elected by universal, direct, and secret vote of all tenured academic and research staff in the faculty, and the student representatives are elected by universal, direct, and secret vote by the students of the faculty.

#### **Art. 37**

- (1) At the department level, the department director and the members of the department council are elected by universal, direct, and secret vote of all tenured academic and research staff, according to the Election methodology.
- (2) The deans are selected through a public contest, organised by the Rector of the University, at the faculty level. People from the University or from abroad can participate in the contest, who, based on the plenary hearing of the faculty council, has received its approval to participate in the competition. The faculty council must approve at least 2 candidates.

- (3) The vice-deans are appointed by the dean, after his/her appointment by the Rector.
- (4) The number of vice-deans in a faculty shall be between 1 and 5 and shall be determined according to the financial resources, specific activities, organisational and management needs of the faculty, on the basis of a memorandum.
- (5) The Rector shall issue the decisions to appoint the vice-deans after their confirmation by the Senate.

#### **Art. 38**

- (1) At the Institution Organising Doctoral Studies level, doctoral training is coordinated by the Council of Doctoral Studies, headed by a director. The position of director of the Council of Doctoral Studies shall be filled through a competition organised by the Rector, in accordance with the Framework regulation on doctoral studies.
- (2) Doctoral students represent 25% of the members of the council and are elected by universal, direct, secret, and equal vote of the doctoral students of the Institution Organising Doctoral Studies.
- (3) The composition of the Council of the Doctoral School shall be determined by universal, direct, and secret vote of the doctoral coordinators and doctoral students of the doctoral school. Doctoral students shall have at least one representative on the council.

#### **Art. 39**

- (1) The University Senate is composed of a maximum of 75% tenured academic and research staff, representatives elected according to the quota shares for each faculty, and a minimum of 25% student representatives from the faculties.
- (2) The members of the University Senate, tenured academics and researchers, shall be elected, without exception, in electoral constituencies established by the Senate, by universal, direct, and secret vote of all academics and researchers in those constituencies.
- (3) The members of the University Senate, having the status of students, shall be elected, without exception, in electoral constituencies, by universal, direct, and secret vote of the students of those constituencies. Electoral constituencies shall be established at the level of each faculty of the legally constituted and recognised student organisations at the university level.
- (4) The number of academics and researchers in the University Senate shall represent 10% of the total number of tenured academics and researchers in the university.
- (5) Each faculty shall be represented in the University Senate by students in proportion to the number of students in that faculty, but not less than one student.
- (6) All members of the University Senate, academics and students, shall be elected by universal, direct, and secret vote of all academics and researchers, respectively of all students.
- (7) The University Senate shall set up special committees through which shall control the work of the executive management of the higher education institution and the Administrative Council. The monitoring and control reports shall be presented periodically and discussed in the University Senate and shall form the basis for the resolutions of the University Senate.
- (8) Students shall have at least one representative in committees whose work is related to student life.
- (9) Student organisations representing the interests of students at the level of each university community may have, under the conditions stipulated in the university charter, representatives by right in the

decision-making and executive structures of the higher education institution, except those in which mandates are granted exclusively through elections.

- (10) The president of the Senate appoints the vice-president as well as the presidents of the Senate committees.

#### **Art. 40**

The Administrative Council of state higher education institutions consists of the rector and vice-rectors of the higher education institution, the faculties' deans, the general director of administration, the deputy general director of administration, and a student representative, appointed by the Students' League of Galati. In higher education institutions where the employees are organised in a trade union, a representative of the trade union participates, as an observer, in the meeting of the administrative council.

#### **Art. 41**

- (1) The management positions referred to in article 31, paragraph 2 shall not be cumulative.
- (2) In the event of a vacancy in a management position, a by-election shall be held in the case of a department director or branch director, or a public contest shall be held within a maximum of three months from the date of the vacancy. Until this procedure has been completed, the position will be filled by the Rector appointing a person as interim head.
- (3) In the event of a vacancy, the position of Rector shall be filled by one of the vice-rectors, appointed by the University Senate, until new elections are held, but for no longer than 3 months.

#### **Art. 42**

- (1) The term of office is the period during which a person, appointed by vote or by contest to a management position in an educational establishment/institution within the national education system, implements the managerial programme based on which he/she was appointed. The term of office is 5 years.
- (2) The term of office of the rector shall be 5 years. A person may not hold the office of rector at the same higher education institution for more than two terms.
- (3) In calculating the maximum number of mandates provided for in paragraph 1, the following incomplete 5-year terms of office interrupted by resignation, dismissal, or suspension shall also be taken into account.
- (4) The office of Rector shall be incompatible with holding a management position in a political party during the term of office.
- (5) The term of office for members of the governing bodies referred to in article 31, paragraph 1, and all the management positions referred to in paragraph 2 shall be 5 years.
- (6) The term of office of a member of the University Senate may not exceed the term of office of the Senate to which he or she was elected, even if the election took place during that term and not at the beginning of it.
- (7) For student representatives in the faculty council and in the Senate, the term of office is 2 years, with the possibility of renewal but not exceeding a cumulative period of 5 years.
- (8) The term of office of management positions referred to in article 31, paragraph 2, shall be 5 years and may not exceed the term of office, even if held successively by more than one person.

#### **Art. 43**

- (1) Decisions of the University Senate, faculty councils and departmental councils shall be taken by a simple majority vote of the members present, provided that the number of those present represents at least 2/3 of the total number of members. The members of these governing bodies have equal deliberative voting rights. To ensure a decision, the vote must be at least equal to the first natural number, greater than half of the number of present voters.
- (2) The decisions of the University Senate and the Administrative Council shall be published on the website of the university, and those of the faculty councils on the website of the respective faculty.
- (3) In the event of reconvening due to failure to meet the quorum requirement, regardless of the number of members present, the decisions taken by a simple majority of present members shall be considered valid.
- (4) The activity of the governing structures shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the law, the Charter, and the functioning rules.
- (5) Except in cases strictly provided for by the laws in force or by the university's regulations, in all other cases the method of voting for the adoption of resolutions by the governing bodies shall be open vote.

#### **Art. 44**

- (1) The administrative structure of the university shall be headed by a general director of administration and, where appropriate, by one or more deputy general directors of administration and shall be organised by directorates.
- (2) The position of general director of administration and that of deputy general director of administration shall be filled by a contest organised by the University's administrative council. The chairman of the contest committee shall be the Rector. A representative of the relevant Ministry must be a member of the committee. The contest is validated by the University Senate and the appointment to the post is made by the rector.
- (3) The retention in office of the general director of administration and of the deputy general director of administration shall be based on their written agreement of executive support of the new rector's management plan.
- (4) The deputy general director of administration is subordinate to the general director of administration and manages the components of the administrative structure established by the Regulation of organization and functioning and by the organizational chart of the administrative structure approved by the University Senate.

#### **Art. 45**

- (1) The research and development units shall be headed by directors of those units.
- (2) The University may develop consultative structures consisting of representatives of the socio-economic environment and personalities from the external academic, cultural, and professional environment.

### **Chapter 6**

#### **THE DUTIES OF MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES AND POSITIONS**

#### **Art. 46**

- (1) The University Senate represents the university community and is the highest decision-making and deliberating body at the University.
- (2) The University Senate elects, by secret vote, a president who chairs its meetings and represents the University Senate and its relations with the Rector.
- (3) The Senate shall conduct its work in plenary sessions and committees and shall meet monthly or whenever necessary at the initiative of the President of the Senate, the Rector, the Administrative

Council or at least 1/3 of the members of the University Senate. By exception, for student matters, the University Senate may be convened at the request of the entire group of student representatives who are members of the University Senate.

- (4) Senate Committees are established by Senate Regulation, with deliberative powers specified by their regulations and approved by Senate resolutions.
- (5) Committees are composed of senators and may be supplemented, at the proposal of the President of the Senate, by academics that are not senators but have proven competence in the committee's field of action. The monitoring reports issued by the committees are presented periodically and discussed in the University Senate, forming the basis for the resolution of the University Senate.

#### **Art. 47**

- (1) The responsibilities of the University Senate are:
  - a) approves the mission of the higher education institution, on the proposal of the rector;
  - b) guarantees academic freedom and university autonomy;
  - c) develops and adopts, after discussing with the university community, the University Charter;
  - d) approves the multiannual strategic institutional development plan and operational plans, on the proposal of the rector;
  - e) approves, at the proposal of the rector and in compliance with the legislation in force, the structure, organisation, and functioning of the higher education institution, in accordance with the provisions of the University Charter;
  - f) approves the draft budget, on the proposal of the rector;
  - g) approves the implementation of the budget;
  - h) approves the framework Code of Ethics and University Deontology;
  - i) approves the internal quality assurance procedures;
  - j) adopts the university code of students' rights and obligations, in compliance with the provisions of the code of students' rights and obligations, approved by order of the relevant minister;
  - k) approves the methodologies and regulations concerning the organization and functioning of the university, on the rector's proposal;
  - l) approves the methodology of elections for the functions and structures of management and appoints, at the proposal of the faculties, the representatives in the electoral commissions and in the electoral office of the university;
  - m) validates, by Senate Decision, the result of the referendum and the result of the elections for management positions at the faculty and university level;
  - n) concludes the management contract with the rector;
  - o) controls the activity of the rector and the administrative council through specialised committees;
  - p) validates public contest for the positions on the administrative council;
  - q) approves the contest methodology and the results of contests for the employment of academic and research staff and periodically evaluates the human resource;
  - r) approves, at the proposal of the rector, the sanctioning of staff with poor professional performance, based on its methodology and the legislation in force;
- (2) The Senate shall also perform the following responsibilities:
  - a) approves the amount of tuition fees, proposed by the administrative council;
  - b) approves the establishment of companies, foundations, associations, pre-university educational establishments, consortia for dual education, university hospitals, university pharmacies, ambulatory units, including dental, and specialised clinics, including dental, in accordance with the legal provisions, provided that they contribute to increasing the performance of the university and do not in any way negatively influence teaching and research activities. The object of activity of companies, associations and/or foundations must be related to the mission of the university;

- c) approves, in accordance with the legal provisions on quality assurance in pre-university education, state pre-university education units, for pre-university education, for primary, secondary, and high school education, as well as for post-secondary education, non-university tertiary colleges, in accordance with the law;
- d) approves its organisational and operational regulations for the state pre-university educational establishments mentioned in letter c), in compliance with the legal provisions in force;
- e) discusses and approves the rector's annual report, submitted in accordance with the legal provisions. The rector's annual report is a component of public accountability;
- f) approves the establishment, dissolution, and organisation of faculties at the proposal of the administrative council. The decision of the senate shall be forwarded to the relevant Ministry for approval of the university structure by Government Decision;
- g) approves the establishment, organization, division, merger, or dissolution of departments, at the proposal of the council of the faculty/faculties in which they operate, with the opinion of the administrative council;
- h) approves the establishment of university branches, on the proposal of the administrative council;
- i) approves the establishment or dissolution of university extensions, on the proposal of the administrative council;
- j) approves the structure of the academic year, at least 3 months before the beginning of the academic year;
- k) approves the Regulation on students' professional activity, which may be amended at least 3 months before the beginning of the academic year;
- l) approves the curriculum of each undergraduate and postgraduate programme of study at the university;
- m) approves its organisational and operational regulations for each cycle of university studies organised, including integrated study programmes, if the university organises them;
- n) approves the obligations relating to the conduct of full-time and part-time doctoral study programmes, at the proposal of the Council for Doctoral Studies;
- o) approves, based on university autonomy and with the assumption of public responsibility, its methodology for the conduct of activities carried out in the university online system, in accordance with legal provisions;
- p) approves its regulation for completing the studies in higher education, based on the framework methodology developed by the relevant Ministry;
- q) approves the methodology for the evaluation of students, approved by the administrative council, which aims to ensure quality and compliance with the provisions of the code of ethics and university deontology;
- r) approves the content and format of the study documents issued upon completion of the integrated study programmes, i.e. joint diploma or double or multiple diploma, as well as the language in which they are written;
- s) approves its methodology of recognition and equivalence, as well as the recognition of studies or periods of study, carried out in the country or abroad, based on the provisions of the framework methodology, approved by order of the relevant minister;
- t) approves its methodology for the recognition and equivalence of studies or periods of university studies previously carried out based on a framework methodology approved by order of the relevant minister;
- u) approves the establishment and organisation of university study programmes with double specialisations without going through the accreditation procedures, within the maximum number of students that can be enrolled approved for the two accredited specialisations;



- v) approves the classification of a master's degree programme in an accredited field. The decision of the Senate shall be sent to the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and the relevant Ministry by February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year for centralised publication;
- w) approves, on the proposal for the Council for Doctoral Studies, its regulations on doctoral studies, issued based on the Framework regulation on doctoral studies;
- x) approves the extension of the duration of the doctoral studies programme by 1-2 years, at the proposal of the doctoral coordinator and within the limit of available funds or the reduction of the duration by one year, at the request of the doctoral candidate with the approval of the doctoral coordinator;
- y) validates the resolution of admission or rejection of the habilitation thesis pronounced by the habilitation committee, together with the candidate's file, transmitted by the Council of Doctoral Studies;
- z) approves, by exception of the legal provisions, that a doctoral coordinator may coordinate up to a maximum of 12 doctoral students. Approval is granted for a maximum of 20% of doctoral coordinators in a doctoral school;
- aa) approves its regulations for the organisation of postgraduate study programmes, under the terms of the law, as well as for postgraduate study programmes for adult vocational training, following the external evaluation of the quality of education;
- bb) proposes the establishment, in accordance with the Law no. 95/2006, republished, with subsequent amendments and additions, of pre-university education units for the organisation of schooling of hospitalised students undergoing treatment, monitoring or medical rehabilitation, called "Hospital School", in accordance with the provisions of the law on pre-university education;
- cc) approves the annual report on the activity of research, development, innovation, and artistic creation, on how the overheads for research grants and contracts have been carried out, as well as information on research funds and funds related to projects financed by national and international programmes, carried out by the university;
- dd) approves the rules of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee;
- ee) approves the anti-discrimination strategy and the gender equality plan at the University level;
- ff) discusses the report of the student associations on compliance with the provisions of the Code of Students' Rights and Obligations and adopts measures to remedy deficiencies. The report and the adopted measures are published on the university website;
- gg) approves the establishment of functional bodies to exercise their functions between meetings of the Faculty Council, the University Senate, or the Administrative Council. The students are represented in equal proportions in these bodies, on the proposal of the dean, the president of the senate, and the rector, but not less than one member;
- hh) approves the establishment of new study programmes or the liquidation of study programmes that are no longer in line with the mission of the University or that are academically and financially inefficient, upon the proposal of the Administrative Council;
- ii) approves the University's medium and long-term strategies, on the proposal of the Administrative Council;
- jj) validates the contest for the position of branch director, organized by the University's administrative council;
- kk) approves the amount of fees charged for: exceeding the duration of tuition provided by law, registration for admission, enrolment, re-enrolment, re-take exams, as well as other forms of verification that go beyond the provisions of the study regulations, as well as the amount of fees for other activities not included in the study regulations;
- ll) approves the management of money and goods received by the University on the basis of a chargeable bequest or donation;

- mm) approves the subordination of sports clubs, in which case they shall become tertiary authorizing officers;
  - nn) approves the establishment or takeover of national research and development institutes, research, and development institutes, teaching and research and development stations, hospitals, ambulatory units, including dental, university pharmacies, and other entities;
  - oo) approves the composition of the university ethics committee, on the proposal of the administration council. The composition of the committee is approved by the decision of the rector;
  - pp) approves the rules of organization and functioning of the ethics committee;
  - qq) approves the regulation for the organization of level 5 adult vocational training programmes in preparation for the baccalaureate examination for young high school graduates who do not have a baccalaureate diploma;
  - rr) approves the equivalence of research positions with academic positions, according to the law;
  - ss) approves the methodology for hiring specialists of recognized scientific and professional values in the field from the country or abroad, who do not hold a doctoral degree, as visiting associate professors;
  - tt) approves its methodology for filling academic and research positions, based on the prescribed framework methodology and the legislation in force;
  - uu) approves specific standards for filling the academic positions, without imposing seniority conditions, approved by the Administrative Council, proposed by the faculties;
  - vv) annually approves the staff chart of the university staff, as approved by the Administrative Council, faculty council, or, where appropriate, the Council of the Doctoral School;
  - ww) approves the number of positions for auxiliary staff and administrative staff, on the proposal of the rector, according to the budget and specifics of the institution, faculty, study programme, department, or doctoral school, and according to the technical-administrative structure;
  - xx) approves the regulations for issuing the staff charts regulation. It shall contain the manner of quantification in conventional hours of the activities included in the teaching norm, the actual academic norm, according to the field, specialisation, the weight of the disciplines in the specialised preparation of the students and the size of the study formations;
  - yy) approves the increase in the minimum weekly teaching norm, in compliance with quality assurance standards, without exceeding the maximum legal limit;
  - zz) approves the request of the tenured academic and research staff, exercising a managerial position within the University, to benefit from a reduction of the teaching norm of up to 50% under the conditions of the law;
  - aaa) approves the support, by a tenured academic staff member, of teaching and research activities in other higher education or research institutions, with the approval of the Administrative Council;
  - bbb) approves the methodology for evaluating the results and performance of the academic and research staff of the University;
  - ccc) approves the methodology for maintaining the academic and/or research tenured position with all the rights and obligations deriving from this status, based on the annual evaluation of academic performance;
  - ddd) approves, based on professional performance criteria and financial situation, the continuation of an academic or research staff member's activity after retirement, based on a fixed-term contract of one year, with the possibility of annual extension, without age limit;
  - eee) approves the sabbatical year, at the request of professors and associate professors or grant directors who, for 6 consecutive years, have carried out research grants and have worked in the same university.
- (3) The decisions of the University Senate are compulsory and final. Changes will be made only with the repeal of the initial form and the publication of the new form.

## Art. 48

- (1) The Administrative Council of the University shall provide the operational management of the University. It is chaired by the Rector. The Rector may invite to the meeting of the Administrative Council the representative of the trade union, the representatives of student organisations or any other person who may be consulted at the meeting.
- (2) The Administrative Council of the University shall implement the strategic decisions of the University Senate and exercise specific powers conferred by the regulations in force.
- (3) The Administrative Council of the University shall also:
  - a) approve and establish, in operational terms, the institutional budget;
  - b) approve the budget execution and the annual balance sheet;
  - c) propose, in the draft budget, the second level of protocol expenditure for current activities;
  - d) approve the proposals for organising the contest for academic and research positions;
  - e) approve proposals for new study programmes and formulate proposals to the University Senate for the liquidation of those study programmes that no longer fit within the mission of the higher education institution or that are academically and financially inefficient;
  - f) approve financial operations exceeding the limits set by the University Senate;
  - g) propose to the University Senate medium and long-term strategies of higher education and policies on areas of interest of the higher education institution;
  - h) approve operational procedures describing processes or activities that are carried out at the level of one or more compartments, without applicability to the entire University;
  - i) approve system procedures describing processes or activities that are carried out at the level of all compartments within the University;
  - j) annually approves the extension of activity and the conferring of honorary titles, the maintenance/reinstatement in activity of some academic or research staff after retirement, under the conditions of the law, according to this Charter, or the conferring of the honorary title of *Professor Emeritus*, for academic and research excellence, to academic staff who have reached retirement age.
- (4) The Administrative Council of the University shall meet at the Rector's initiative, whenever necessary.
- (5) The decisions of the Administrative Council shall comply with national legislation, the University Charter, and the decisions of the University Senate.

## Art. 49

- (1) The Rector shall legally represent the higher education institution in its relations with third parties and shall carry out its executive management.
- (2) The Rector shall be the authorizing officer of the University.
- (3) The Rector shall have the following responsibilities:
  - a) proposes for approval to the University Senate the mission of the University;
  - b) carries out the operational management and direction of the University;
  - c) negotiates and signs the institutional contract with the relevant Ministry;
  - d) concludes the management contract with the University Senate;
  - e) proposes for the University's Senate approval the structure and operating regulations of the University;
  - f) proposes for the University's Senate approval the draft budget and the budget execution report;
  - g) submits the annual report to the University Senate for validation, no later than the first working day of April of each year;
  - h) chairs the Administrative Council;

- i) approves the individual job description for the university staff (academic, auxiliary, and non-academic staff), after it has been approved by the dean, department director, or the head of the doctoral school, as appropriate;
  - j) approves the structure and composition of the University Ethics Committee, proposed by the Administrative Council and approved by the University Senate;
  - k) appoints disciplinary investigation committees, with the approval of the Administrative Council, to investigate facts related to the violation of duties, according to the individual employment contract, as well as for the violation of rules of conduct that harm the interest of education and the prestige of the University;
  - l) applies the disciplinary sanctions established by the faculty council, the Administrative Council, or the Senate, as the case may be, according to the law;
  - m) revokes, with the approval of the University Senate, study documents when it is proved that they have been obtained by fraudulent means or in violation of the provisions of the Code of University Ethics and Deontology;
  - n) publicly displays the University's educational offer by means of an affidavit, in compliance with the legal regulations;
  - o) appoints the vice-rectors, based on consultation with the University Senate;
  - p) organises public contests for the position of dean and appoints the faculty deans;
  - q) carries out other responsibilities established by the University Senate, in accordance with the management contract, the University Charter and the legislation in force.
- (4) When absent from the University, the Rector shall designate one of the vice-rectors as his/her replacement.
- (5) In exceptional circumstances, the Rector may make decisions without consulting the members of the Senate, but shall immediately convene it. The exceptional situation may arise only when it is impossible to convene the Senate.
- (6) If the Rector holds the office of a member of the Government or Secretary of State, he/she shall be obliged to suspend from office for the duration of the exercise of that office.

#### **Art. 50**

- (1) The Rector of the University is obliged to annually submit, at the latest by the first working day of April of each year, a report on the state of the University. The report shall be discussed in the Senate, made public on the University's website and sent to all interested parties.
- (2) The Rector's report shall contain:
  - a) the financial situation of the University, by sources of funding and types of expenditure;
  - b) the situation of each study programme;
  - c) the situation of the University staff;
  - d) the results of research activities;
  - e) the situation of quality assurance of the University's activities;
  - f) the situation of compliance with university ethics and deontology and the ethics of research activities;
  - g) the situation of vacant positions;
  - h) the situation of professional insertion of graduates from previous promotions;
  - i) analysis of the implementation of the annual operational plan for the previous calendar year.

#### **Art. 51**

- (1) The Rector may be dismissed by the University Senate under the conditions specified in the management contract and/or if he/she violates professional and administrative effects.

- (2) The University Senate shall dismiss the Rector only after consulting the academic community, by referendum, exclusively for the reasons listed in article 51, paragraph 1 of the Charter. The results of the referendum shall be mandatory.
- (3) In the event of the Rector's dismissal, the University Senate, within a maximum of 5 working days from the date of the Rector's dismissal, by order of the competent Minister, shall appoint a Vice-Rector to ensure the interim. The appointed vice-rector shall represent the University and shall become authorizing officer until the confirmation of a new Rector by the competent Minister. The University Senate is obliged to finalize the procedures for the appointment of the new Rector within 3 months at the latest, in compliance with the legal provisions in force.

#### **Art. 52**

- (1) The number of vice-rectors of the University shall be between 5 and 8, depending on the financial resources and the organizational and management needs of the University, based on a justification note.
- (2) The vice-rectors shall be appointed by the Rector, after consulting the University Senate.
- (3) The vice-rectors shall carry out their responsibilities and obligations delegated by the Rector by decision.
- (4) The vice-rectors shall be accountable to the Rector, the Administrative Council, and the Senate.
- (5) The responsibilities of the vice-rectors are:
  - a) to coordinate the activities for which they have been appointed by the Rector;
  - b) to coordinate the preparation of the documents necessary for the activity for which they have been appointed by the Rector;
  - c) to manage the subordinate executive structures;
  - d) to propose the appointment of the heads of subordinate bodies;
  - e) to liaise with the faculties and departments, through the activities in the area they coordinate;
  - f) to present an annual activity report to the Administrative Council and contribute to the Rector's management programme;
  - g) to chair the meetings of the Administrative Council, as nominated by the Rector;
  - h) to have the right of signature, with the Rector's approval and personal and public accountability;
  - i) to solve all matters of the University which are assumed by the Rector and which are in their competence.

#### **Art. 53**

- (1) The faculty council is the decision-making and deliberative body of the faculty.
- (2) The faculty council functions in plenary and committees and has the following responsibilities:
  - a) approves, at the proposal of the dean, the structure, organization, and functioning of the faculty;
  - b) approves the study programmes managed by the faculty;
  - c) supervises the dean's activity and approves the annual report of the dean on the general state of the faculty, quality assurance, and compliance with academic ethics at the faculty level;
  - d) elaborates the development strategy of the faculty.
- (3) Other responsibilities of the faculty council are:
  - a) adopts regulations for the functioning of the faculty;
  - b) approves the curricula and submits them to the Senate for approval;
  - c) specifies the academic and research tasks, in order to issue the staff regulations;
  - d) approves the election of the department director and heads of research units;
  - e) proposes the number of student places to the Administrative Council and the Senate for approval;
  - f) approves the staff charts of the departments, proposes to organise the contest for the vacant positions and approves the contest committees for academic positions;

- g) approves, by open vote, the decisions of the contest committees for the academic positions;
- h) sets the methodologies for the admission contest, exam sessions, undergraduate exams, as well as the organization of postgraduate courses;
- i) sets the specific criteria for the periodic evaluation of the academic and research staff of the faculty;
- j) carries out course analysis and correlation;
- k) adopts measures to improve student preparation in line with labour market requirements;
- l) proposes to the Senate the granting of honorary titles;
- m) sets the strategy for internal and international academic cooperation at the faculty level;
- n) sets the disciplinary sanctions that are within its competence, according to the law;
- o) annually discusses and approves the *Report on the state of the faculty* prepared by the dean and brings it to the attention of the faculty members;
- p) suggests hiring specialists of recognized scientific value in the field from the country or abroad, as professors or visiting associate academics, approved by the department council;
- q) hears candidates for the dean position contest and approves at least two candidates;
- r) sets the necessary measures to harmonize the ratio between the number of students and the number of academic staff in the faculty.

#### Art. 54

- (1) The faculty council shall implement its own decisions, those of the Administrative Council, and those of the Senate.
- (2) The council shall meet monthly or whenever necessary. Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of those present, if the number of those present represents at least 2/3 of the total number of members of the council, a simple majority being defined according to article 41, paragraph 1.
- (3) The representative of the trade union, the representatives of student organizations legally constituted at the level of the faculty or any other person who may be consulted at the meeting, may be invited to the meeting of the Administrative Council.

#### Art. 55

- (1) The dean represents the faculty and is responsible for the management and leadership of the faculty. The dean shall annually report to the faculty council on the state of the faculty. The dean chairs the meeting of the faculty council and implements the decisions of the Rector, the Administrative Council, and the University Senate.
- (2) The dean has the following responsibilities:
  - a) proposes the enrolment and expulsion of faculty students, signs study documents;
  - b) proposes the revocation of the results of an exam or an evaluation when it is proved that they have been obtained fraudulently or in violation of the provisions of the Code of University Ethics and Deontology and orders the reorganization of the exam;
  - c) appoints vice-deans after his/her appointment by the Rector;
  - d) presents an annual report to the faculty council on the state of the faculty, quality assurance, and compliance with academic ethics at the faculty level;
  - e) chairs the meetings of the faculty council and implements the decisions of the Rector, the Administration Council, and the University Senate;
  - f) proposes, for approval, to the faculty council, the structure, organization, and functioning of the faculty;
  - g) is responsible, together with the department directors, for the selection, hiring, periodic evaluation, training, motivation, and termination of contractual employment relationships of the faculty staff;

- h) approves the individual job description for the faculty staff (academic, research, auxiliary, and non-academic);
  - i) is accountable to the University Senate for the proper conduct of contests for occupying the positions, in compliance with quality standards, academic ethics, and the legislation in force;
  - j) signs agreements with other faculties, institutes, or departments.
- (3) During the period of absence from the University, the dean appoints the vice-dean to replace him/her.

#### **Art. 56**

- (1) The number of vice-deans in a faculty shall be between 1 and 5 and shall be determined according to the financial resources, specific activities, organizational and management needs of the faculty, based on a justification note.
- (2) The vice-deans are appointed by the dean.
- (3) The vice-deans shall exercise the powers and duties delegated by the dean and shall coordinate the specialised committees of the Faculty Council.

#### **Art. 57**

- (1) The vice-dean may substitute the dean, with the latter's approval, in relation to the University, other faculties, institutions, or bodies.
- (2) The vice-dean shall liaise with the departments and research units subordinated to the faculty.
- (3) The vice-deans are accountable to the Faculty Council and the dean.

#### **Art. 58**

- (1) The department director is responsible for the management and operational direction of the department.
- (2) In carrying out this function, he/she is assisted by the department council.
- (3) The department director has the following responsibilities:
  - a) is responsible for the development and implementation of the department's curricula, job descriptions, research management, and quality management;
  - b) is responsible for the selection, hiring, periodic evaluation, training, motivation, and termination of employment of the department's staff;
  - c) approves the responsibilities of all departmental staff;
  - d) proposes an increase in the academic norm for the academic staff who do not carry out scientific research or equivalent activities, without exceeding the maximum legal limit, in accordance with the methodology approved by the Senate;
  - e) proposes to supplement the academic norm with research activities, up to the level of the minimum norm, when the academic norm cannot be made up in accordance with the legal provisions;
  - f) is accountable to the University Senate for the proper conduct of contests for occupying positions, in compliance with quality standards, university ethics, and the legislation in force;
  - g) proposes the hiring of specialists of recognized scientific value in the field, from the country or from abroad, as professors or invited associate lecturers.
- (4) The department director is responsible for ensuring the department's internal and international competitiveness.

#### **Art. 59**

- (1) The branch director shall ensure the management and operational coordination of the branch, pursuing quality and efficiency in the activities carried out within it, as well as its development in line with the university's strategy, according to its own rules of organization and functioning.
- (2) The management position of branch director shall be filled through a contest organised by the Administrative Council. The chairman of the contest committee shall be the Rector of the institution or a person designated by him/her. The validation of the contest shall be made by the University Senate and the appointment to the position by the Rector.
- (3) The organization and functioning of the branch shall be determined by the University Charter.
- (4) The director of the university extension shall ensure the management and operational coordination of the extension, pursuing quality and efficiency in the activities carried out within it, as well as its development appropriate to the university and faculty strategy, according to its organization and functioning regulations.
- (5) The position of university extension director is filled through a contest organised by the Rector of the university.

## CHAPTER 7. UNIVERSITY ETHICS AND DEONTOLOGY

### Art. 60

- (1) DJUG has a University Ethics Committee that acts independently from any other structure or person within the institution. A subcommittee dedicated to research ethics will function within the Ethics Committee, in accordance with the provisions of Law no. 199/2023.
- (2) The University Ethics Committee has the following responsibilities:
  - a) contributes to the development of the Code of University Ethics and Deontology, which is proposed to the Senate for adoption and inclusion in the Charter;
  - b) contributes to the development of materials on the culture of academic integrity and measures against plagiarism;
  - c) analyses and solves reported dysfunctions related to academic integrity, breaches of academic ethics or good conduct in scientific research, based on complaints or through self-reporting, in accordance with the Code of University Ethics and Deontology and may propose sanctions;
  - d) issues an annual report on the state of academic integrity, compliance with academic ethics and the ethics of research activities, which shall be submitted to the Rector and the Senate and shall constitute a public document;
  - e) collaborates with the University and faculty management structures on matters referred to in letters (a) to (c);
  - f) other duties provided by the Law.
- (3) At the Rector's request, the Ethics Committee shall analyse cases concerning:
  - a) disputes between faculties;
  - b) serious misconduct by members of the university community;
  - c) proposals for the withdrawal of scientific titles or honorary titles;
  - d) exclusion of a member of academic and research staff from the university community.
- (4) The DJUG University Ethics Committee investigates the existence of breaches of the rules of university ethics and deontology and decides within 45 calendar days of receipt of the complaint, by a reasoned decision based on a report, which is communicated to the person under investigation and to the person who made the complaint. The decisions of the Ethics Committee shall be published on the website of the institution within which the Ethics Committee operates (article 172, paragraph 4).
- (5) The sanctions that may be proposed by the Ethics Committee in the case of academic and research staff, as well as students, are stipulated in its organization and functioning regulations. Sanctions shall be communicated to those sanctioned, in writing, by the University Human Resource Department.



- (6) The decisions of the Ethics Committee shall be approved by the Legal Department of the University. The legal responsibility for the decisions and activity of the Ethics Committee lies with the University.

#### **Art. 61**

- (1) Members of the Ethics Committee shall be persons of professional standing and moral authority.
- (2) Members of the Ethics Committee may not be persons holding one of the positions referred to in article 31(2).
- (3) The rules of organization and functioning of the University Ethics Committee shall be proposed by it and approved by the University Senate.

### **Chapter 8 MANAGEMENT OF UNIVERSITY RESOURCES**

#### **Art. 62**

The management of the University's resources, which refers to the management of financial, material, and human resources, is carried out in strict compliance with the legislation in force, based on its mission, institutional strategy, structure, activities, organization and functioning, in accordance with the university autonomy.

#### **Art. 63 UNIVERSITY FUNDING**

- (1) The University shall operate as an institution financed from funds allocated from the state budget, extra-budgetary revenues, and other sources, according to the law. All financing resources of the university shall be constituted as its own revenues.
- (2) The amounts from the budget of the competent Ministry shall be allocated on a contractual basis, for basic funding, complementary funding, and supplementary funding.
- (3) Their structure shall be determined by law and by institutional contract.
- (4) Core funding shall be provided by the relevant Ministry for the duration of a study cycle, through study grants calculated based on the average cost per equivalent student, per field, per study cycle, and per language of instruction.
- (5) The study grants are allocated as a priority to those areas that ensure the sustainable and competitive development of the university, and within the field, as a priority, to the best ranked programmes in the hierarchy of their quality.
- (6) Complementary funding is carried out by the relevant ministry through:
  - a) subsidies for accommodation and meals;
  - b) funds allocated based on specific priorities and rules for endowments;
  - c) other capital investment and repairs;
  - d) funds allocated on a competitive basis for university scientific research, as provided by law.
- (7) Additional funding shall be granted from public funds by the relevant ministry to stimulate the excellence of institutions and study programmes.
- (8) The funds remaining at the end of the year from the execution of the budget stipulated in the institutional and complementary contract, as well as the funds related to university scientific research shall remain at the disposal of the university and shall be included in the income and expenditure budget of the institution, without any payments to the state budget and without affecting the allocations from the state budget for the following year.

#### **Art. 64**

- (1) The financing of the University shall be carried out based on a contract concluded with the relevant ministry, as follows:

- a) institutional contract for basic financing, for the scholarship and student welfare fund, for the institutional development fund, as well as for the financing of investment objectives;
  - b) complementary contract for the financing of capital repairs, equipment, and other investment expenditures, as well as subsidies for accommodation and meals.
- (2) The funds for scholarships and social protection of students are allocated according to the number of Romanian students in full-time, tuition-free education.
  - (3) The University may supplement the scholarship fund from its extra-budgetary revenues.

#### **Art. 65**

The categories of eligible expenditure and the methodology for their distribution from the complementary and supplementary financing are established by Government Decision, at the initiative of the relevant ministry.

#### **Art. 66. THE ESTABLISHMENT AND USE OF OWN FUNDS**

- (1) Extra-budgetary income may come from tuition fees paid by fee-paying students, donations, sponsorships, consultancy, editorial services, research contracts, and other sources.
- (2) Fees may be levied on students studying tuition-free for exceeding the duration of tuition prescribed by law, admission, enrolment, re-enrolment, retaking of exams, and other forms of verification exceeding the provisions of the curriculum.
- (3) The University's revenues shall be used efficiently to achieve the mission, based on the needs and opportunities derived from the diagnoses and forecasts that underpin the educational and research process.
- (4) The destination of own revenues shall be determined by the Administrative Council and approved by the University Senate with the approval of the annual budget and shall be aimed at financing scientific research and institutional development, through investments in the infrastructure necessary for education and research, etc. The own revenues shall cover the payment of salary entitlements, the purchase of goods and services, the granting of scholarships to students and other expenses as provided by Law.
- (5) The University may set up special research and development funds from its revenues and may co-finance individual projects and European grants.

### **Chapter 9. RIGHTS FOR STAFF MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

#### **Art. 67**

The staff from the education field benefits from medical and dental care in medical/dental and psychological offices, as well as in specialised ambulatory units and public health units established by an agreement concluded between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health (**article 216, paragraph 16 of the Law on Higher Education no. 199/2023**).

#### **Art. 68**

- (1) The children of the staff working in the education system are exempted from the payment of registration fees for the entrance examinations to DJUG and benefit from free accommodation in dormitories and boarding houses, being supported by a subsidy for dormitories-canteens increased by the Ministry of Education.
- (2) The children of staff in the education system, children with one or both parents deceased, and children from single-parent families also benefit from the provisions of paragraph 1.
- (3) Children of those who have retired from the education system shall also benefit from the provisions of paragraph 1 (**article 128 of the Law on Higher Education no. 199/2023**).

## **Art. 69. ASSOCIATION WITH PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ECONOMIC OPERATORS**

- (1) The University may conclude contracts with public institutions and/or other private legal entities for carrying out fundamental and applied research programmes or for the increase of the qualification level of university-educated specialists.
- (2) Association contracts shall be concluded by the University to carry out its mission, strengthening the prestige of the institution by contributing to the sustainable development of the region.

## **Art. 70**

- (1) The University may form consortia with public or accredited public universities and/or research and development units, based on partnership contracts, in accordance with the legal provisions.
- (2) The University may absorb other state higher education institutions or may merge with other university structures, in accordance with the provisions of the law.
- (3) University consortium, partnerships or mergers shall be organised in such a way as to ensure the achievement of the University's mission, to ensure quality criteria and standards, to efficiently manage teaching, research, and technology transfer activities and to provide adequate financial and administrative support to the members of the University community.

## **Art. 71**

- (1) The University may establish, alone or by association, commercial companies, foundations, associations, pre-university education units, consortia for dual education, university hospitals, university pharmacies, ambulatory units, including dental units, and specialised clinics, including dental ones, with the approval of the University Senate, according to the legal provisions. The condition for their establishment is that they contribute to the institution's performance and do not negatively influence in any way the teaching and research activities. The object of activity of the societies, associations and/or foundations shall be related to the mission of the higher education institution;
- (2) In the establishment of companies, foundations or associations, the state higher education institution may contribute exclusively with money, patents, and other intellectual property rights. The higher education institution may grant by contract the right of administration and use of property to companies or associations in which it is a partner or shareholder, or to foundations of which it is a founder, with the approval of the University Senate. The right of use and administration of public property may not constitute a contribution by the higher education institution to the share capital of a company, foundation, or association.

## **Art. 72**

- (1) The University shall manage its assets in accordance with the law.
- (2) The University shall have the following rights over the assets of its patrimony:
  - a) right of ownership, right of use acquired by lease, concession, commodate and the like, or right of administration, under the conditions of law;
  - b) claims arising from contracts, agreements or court judgments;
  - c) subjective rights over goods in the public domain of the state, which may be rights of administration, use, concession or lease, under the conditions of the law.
- (3) The patrimony of the University is inalienable, non-assessable and imprescriptible, and cannot be remised.

## **Art. 73. INTERNATIONALIZATION**

- (1) Internationalization is the responsibility of the University as a tool to enhance the quality of education and research.
- (2) The University seeks to develop cooperation in the academic field and the field of scientific research, development, and innovation, with prestigious universities worldwide, with research and development institutes as well as with international academic and non-academic organizations/associations.
- (3) The internationalization process comprehensively addresses the following components of the academic ecosystem:
  - a) curriculum through pedagogies and learning outcomes;
  - b) human resources: teaching, administrative staff, students, doctoral students, and trainees;
  - c) dedicated infrastructure and support services;
  - d) research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- (4) International cooperation involves:
  - a) the development of international collaborative relations with other universities, research, and development institutes or international organizations of an academic nature, based on an agreement;
  - b) facilitating inter-university mobility for both academics and students;
  - c) attracting more foreign students to study programmes organized in the University;
  - d) affiliations to academic organizations and/or international scientific societies;
  - e) participation in international research and cultural programmes;
  - f) participation in international contests;
  - g) participation in international scientific events;
  - h) organisation of events with international participation;
  - i) inviting specialists from other countries to scientific events organised by the University and as *visiting professor*;
  - j) participation in international mobility programmes including Erasmus+;
  - k) any lawful activity that has as its objective and result in academic excellence and enhancement of the international image of the University.

#### **Art. 74**

- (1) Within the internationalization process, the University shall ensure:
  - a) the conditions and support for students and university staff to undertake international mobility, using the resources available from international, national or own funds, in accordance with the targets set by the strategic framework on the internationalization of the higher education system; mobilities may be short or long term, organized in physical, virtual or mixed format;
  - b) support services for international students, academics, and researchers, at least in an internationally circulated language, and access to available infrastructure;
  - c) information on research, innovation, and entrepreneurship programmes; existing research and technology infrastructure; opportunities for participation in nationally or internationally funded programmes and projects;
  - d) the inclusion on their websites of information of general interest on the educational offer, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship activities, at least in an internationally spoken language;
  - e) the permanent updating of information on the [studyinromania.gov.ro](http://studyinromania.gov.ro) portal.
- (2) The University shall report on the national platforms the physical, virtual, and mixed international mobilities, as well as collaborations in integrated or joint programmes, for monitoring and evaluation purposes, as well as to facilitate evidence-based policies.

#### **Art. 75. RELATIONSHIPS WITH TRADE UNIONS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

- (1) The management structures of the University shall promote social dialogue in relations with the unions of academic and research staff, auxiliary staff, and non-academic staff, based on transparency of decision-making, in order to achieve an institutional consensus.
- (2) The relationship of the University's management structures with institutionally recognized student organisations shall be based on the principle of student-centred education, the principle of transparent decision-making and respect for student rights and freedoms.
- (3) Institutionally recognized student organisations shall be represented in all governing bodies and actively participate in decision-making. Student organizations shall be consulted on the development of the University's policies and strategies related to the fulfilment of its educational and research mission.
- (4) Depending on the resources available, the University may financially and logistically support the activities of institutionally recognized student organisations in the activities they organise: scientific research, conferences, summer schools, etc. Institutionally recognized student organisations shall be partners in all actions undertaken by the University aimed at promoting its image or scientific research and national and international partnerships.
- (5) Institutionally recognized student organisations shall be partners of the University in the organisation and conduct of elections at the University level, having representatives in the committees set up for this purpose.
- (6) Student organisations have the right to receive free of charge premises to be used as social headquarters and for specific activities on University premises.

#### **Art. 76**

- (1) The principles governing student activity within the university community are:
  - a) the principle of non-discrimination, based on which all students receive equal treatment by the University and based on which the University adopts, through the University Senate, a strategy to combat discrimination; any direct or indirect discrimination against the student is prohibited;
  - b) the principle of the right to assistance and complementary services in state higher education, expressed through: counselling and information of the student by the academic staff, outside the hours of lectures and applied activities, career counselling, psychological counselling, medical assistance, access to the main specialised books and scientific publications, including access to the university libraries and central university libraries, access to data concerning personal academic situation, access to the Internet throughout the university; in the University, complementary services are provided free of charge;
  - c) the principle of participation in decision-making, on the basis of which decisions within the University are taken with the participation of student representatives;
  - d) the principle of freedom of expression, on the basis of which students have the right to freely express their academic opinions within the University;
  - e) the principle of transparency and access to information, based on which students have the right to free and open access to information concerning their own educational path and the services offered by the University, including information on the programme and academic staff, as well as on the life of the academic community of which they are part, in accordance with the provisions of the law;
  - f) the principle of protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data.

#### **Art. 77**

- (1) The rights, freedoms, and obligations of students are contained in the Code of Student Rights and Obligations, proposed by the national student federations and approved by order of the competent minister. It is made public on the University website.

- (2) The University may establish a system for enforcing and monitoring compliance with the provisions of the Code of Student Rights and Obligations. Student associations may submit an annual report on compliance with the code, which shall be made public on the University's website. The report shall be debated at the first meeting of the University Senate or Faculty Council after the beginning of the academic year, as the case may be, and the University or faculty shall be obliged to publish, on its website, the report made by the student associations, as well as the measures undertaken to remedy any deficiencies identified.
- (3) The University may set up structures with the capacity and competence to mediate conflicts in which one of the parties is a student or doctoral student.

#### **Art. 78**

- (1) Students shall have the right to establish workshops, clubs, circles, artistic and sports groups, organisations, as well as institutionally recognized publications, in compliance with the law.
- (2) Students shall democratically elect their representatives to the Faculty Council and the Senate by universal, direct, and secret vote. The organisation and logistics are done in collaboration with the faculties in which student elections are organised. The management of the higher education institution shall not be involved in the organisation of the election of student representatives.
- (3) Students may establish student associations by faculties in order to ensure a balanced representation of all specialisations in the collective governing bodies. These organisations shall apply for institutional recognition, which shall be endorsed by the Faculty Council, the Administrative Council and approved by the University Senate. The student representatives in the Senate are responsible for organising the elections of the student representatives or may choose by vote one or more organisations to be in charge of organising the elections.
- (4) Students have the right to elect and to be elected in legally constituted student organisations and/or as student representatives in decision-making structures at the faculty/university level.
- (5) Students are represented in all decision-making and advisory structures of the University.
- (6) Students may participate in voluntary actions, for which they may receive an additional number of transferable study credits, as well as financial incentives, under the conditions established by the Senate or specific regulations.
- (7) The student representative status may not be conditioned by the University management. A student enrolled in an undergraduate or master's study programme, who has concluded an individual employment contract with the University, is incompatible with the status of student representative in the management structures.
- (8) The right to benefit from free access to sports bases and swimming pools of the higher education institution to the extent that they exist, outside the timetable of the teaching activities scheduled in these facilities, in accordance with the university institutional regulations;
- (9) Student's rights and obligations are regulated by the University Code of Students' Rights and Obligations. The University Code of Students' Rights and Obligations describes the concrete mechanisms for implementing the provisions of this Code.
- (10) In order to ensure transparency, the state higher education institution shall annually publish the balance of income and expenditure for each student dormitory and shall involve student representatives in the process of managing places in student dormitories.
- (11) The fees charged by higher education institutions for students in dormitories and canteens are at most equal to the difference between the operating costs, which include staff, utilities, raw materials and consumables, plus current maintenance costs, on the one hand, and subsidies from the state budget, on the other hand.

#### **Art. 79**

- (1) Student scientific research, development and innovation, technical, cultural-artistic and sports activities are supported as a priority by the University, depending on financial resources.
- (2) The status of fee-paying student shall be changed under the conditions established by regulation approved by the University Senate.
- (3) The University may provide, within the limit of the financial resources allocated for the carrying out of the students' joint practice, for the period provided for in the curricula, the expenses for meals, accommodation, and transportation, in situations where the practice is carried out outside the respective university centre.
- (4) The University may ensure, through partnerships with public institutions and authorities, research and development institutes and state or private economic agents, the carrying out of the student internship.

## Chapter 10

### REGULATIONS ON HOW TO REVOKE MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

#### Art. 80

- (1) A person who has been elected to a management position may be revoked from the office by the reverse procedure used for the election, at the initiative of 1/3 of the total number of electors. The hearing of the person concerned shall be mandatory.
- (2) In the case of the dean and vice-dean, dismissal or removal from the position may be carried out as follows:
  - a) for the dean, the proposal for dismissal shall be made by the Rector, for failure to fulfil the requirements imposed by the University Charter, with the advice of the Senate;
  - b) for the vice-dean, the proposal for dismissal is made by the dean, after consulting the Faculty Council.

#### Art. 81

- (1) The Rector may be dismissed from the office by the competent Minister, in accordance with the law.
- (2) The Rector shall be removed from office in the following cases:
  - a) if during the term of office the legal conditions for holding office are violated;
  - b) if during the term of office, he/she falls under the set of incompatibilities and/or conflicts of interest, according to the Charter.
- (3) The procedure for the dismissal of the Rector from office by the competent minister shall be as provided for by the legislation in force.
- (4) If the Rector is removed from office, the Senate is obliged, within a maximum of 5 working days from the date of removal, to appoint a vice-rector to ensure the interim. The appointed vice-rector shall represent the University and becomes the authorizing officer.
- (5) In the event of the Rector's removal from office, the University Senate is obliged to finalise the procedures for the appointment of the new Rector, within a maximum of 3 months, in compliance with the legal provisions in force.
- (6) The provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 shall also apply if the elected Rector is not confirmed by the relevant ministry.
- (7) Vice-rectors may be removed from office by the Rector, after consulting the Senate.

### FINAL PROVISIONS

#### Art. 82

Through its content and its consequences, the *Charter of "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati* institutionalizes the principle of self-conduct at all levels of competence and in all segments of university life.

### **Art. 83**

- (1) The University Charter shall be drafted and adopted by the University Senate only after discussing it with the university community.
- (2) The University Charter shall be adopted only after the positive resolution of the competent Ministry on the legality opinion of the University Charter.
- (3) The procedure for amending the Charter shall be initiated in any of the following situations:
  - a) on the proposal of the councils of at least one-third of the number of faculties of the University;
  - b) on the initiative of one-third of the Senate members;
  - c) upon the Rector's referral, in the event of the appearance of a normative act that requires the amendment of the Charter.
- (4) A proposal to amend the Charter shall be brought to the attention of the members of the academic community at least 30 days before their submission for approval.

### **Art. 84**

This Charter was adopted by the Senate of "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024.