

UNIVERSITY NETWORK OF ARTS

STATUTES

The relatively recent incorporation of artistic formation institutions to university systems implied the acceptance of assessment and accreditation indicators previously elaborated for science and technology. Today, it is necessary to build developing paradigms that acknowledge and value the specificity of artistic creation, its articulation in the university professional formation in arts, and its fundamental role in knowledge production. To face this challenge, the **University Network of Arts**, from now on RUA –according to its acronyms in Spanish–, is created, which has its legal domicile in the seat of the presiding University.

By means of these statutes, the RUA regulates its objective, fields of development, structure, and functioning.

FIRST: The RUA has, as a general objective, to promote and strengthen cooperation among institutions that offer university formation in arts from any region of the world, with the purpose of improving the artistic quality and its academic specificity (formation, research, and extension), as well as its participation in the sustainable development of the respective institutions and societies.

SECOND: The RUA development fields are:

- a) Quality assessment and accreditation in superior education in arts.
- b) Academic, artistic, and cultural exchange.
- c) Knowledge management.
- d) Institutional, academic (curricular, investigative), artistic, and administrative and economic management.
- e) Academic, investigative, and artistic development.
- f) Development of technologies in academic programs.
- g) Internationalization.
- h) Communication and development.
- i) Fund raising.

THIRD: The members of the RUA have the right to:

- a) Have voice and vote in the sessions.
- b) Participate in the activities.
- c) Participate in the elaboration of programs, projects, and actions that are of common interest.
- d) Be benefited by the results and receive acknowledgements.
- e) Receive information derived from the general work and from the directing authorities.

FOURTH: The duties to be respected are to:

- a) Comply with the statutes.
- b) Cooperate with the purposes of the organization by participating in the implementation of scheduled projects and actions.
- c) Attend the summoned meetings.
- d) Comply with the agreed tasks.
- e) Extend, among the respective higher education institutions, the knowledge and good practices acquired in the Network.
- f) Favor the incorporation of other institutions to the Network.

FIFTH: The ruling organs and authorities of RUA are:

1. The Assembly, which will be integrated by the competent authorities of each university formation institution.

The competences of the Assembly are to:

- a) Approve the Network's statutes.
 - b) Establish the competences of the Coordinating Institution.
 - c) Choose, for a two-year period, the Directing Board and the Coordinating Institution.
 - d) Establish the reach of the agreements with public and private entities, as well as with intergovernmental organizations subscribed by the coordinating institution on behalf of the Network.
 - e) Revise and approve the biennial academic and economic memoir presented by the Directing Board at the end of its mandate.
2. The Directing Board, presided by the competent authority of the Coordinating Institution, will be composed of up to nine members, which shall comply with the agreements of the Assembly, as well as follow up the development of the tasks, propose modifications to the statutes, coordinate RUA's functioning between one session of the Assembly and the following, prepare the Assembly sessions and present, in them, the assessment of the work carried out in the period. The Directing Board will count, besides, with an Executive Secretary and up to two alternate secretaries.

The competences of the Directing Board are to:

- a) Elaborate the annual action plan in the development areas.
- b) Approve the incorporation of new associates to the Network.
- c) Make special invitations to participate in the sessions of the Board and the Assembly.
- d) Follow up the activities to be developed in the frame of the Draft-Agreement, in particular, to the coordinated formation, the research projects, and the spreading activities (congresses and conferences, publications, etc.).

- e) Establish the collaboration agreements with public or private entities, and with intergovernmental authorities proposed to the Network, and inform about it, as well as subscribe those that are on its reach.
 - f) Determine the seat of the meeting of the Assembly and the Directing Board, always under the principles of rotation and attuned to the circumstances of the context.
 - g) Summon the Assembly to extraordinary sessions.
3. The Coordinating Institution, named by the Assembly for a period of two years, presides over the Network and its collective organs through the natural person that constitutes its competent authority.

The competences of the Coordinating Institution are to:

- a) Name the Executive Secretary and the alternate secretaries.
- b) Represent the Network in all the necessary actions for securing its objectives. That includes the management and signature of agreements with public and private entities for activities that are proper of the Network, and on its behalf, after having previously informed the Directing Board.
- c) Inform and establish the contacts with institutions of university formation in arts that are willing to join the Network and cancel their applications to the Directing Board and the Assembly.
- d) Propose, to the Directing Board, the Network's annual activity plan.
- e) Elaborate and present, to the Directing Board, the annual memoir of its work.

SIXTH: The functioning regime of the Network is established as follows:

1. The Assembly will meet once a year on a regular basis, and it will have extraordinary sessions whenever the Directing Board considers so or when requested by a quarter of its members.
2. The Directing Board will hold a work session once a year, at least.
3. It is a duty of the Coordinating Institution to summon the Assembly and the Directing Board, the members of which should be notified with two months in advance, minimum, and in a written form (either printed or via e-mail). These notifications should be accompanied by the agenda of the meeting and all the documents needed.
4. The indispensable quorum to constitute the Assembly and the Directing Board is half plus one of its members, on the first notification, having each institution the right to unique vote. On the second notification, only the attendance of the third part of its members is required.
5. The agreements of the Assembly and the Directing Board will be adopted by simple majority.
6. The Executive Secretariat will prepare a report of the sessions and will inform the members about it. This report should contain the list of the attending members, the time

and place circumstances in which session is held, the main deliberation points, the way in which votes were carried out and their results, as well as the content of the agreements.

7. It will be possible to accredit, exceptionally and with very justified motives, the vote delegated to any member institution by an absent university formation institution, as long as it is related to concrete points and to the decision-taking process of the previously agreed agenda.
8. The members of the Assembly and of the Directing Board will be able to leave clear, in the report, their particular vote that is contrary to the agreement adopted and the motives that justify it, as well as any other circumstance they consider pertinent.
9. The domicile of the Network coincides with the domicile of the institution that assumes its coordination and presidency.

SEVENTH: It is regulated, for the admission of new members, that:

1. They have to be university formation institutions acknowledged by their government, even though their main functions are related to research in the field of art and culture.
2. The interested university institutions should issue a petition addressed to the Coordination Institution, in which they express their will for integration, as well as their conformity with the Draft-Agreement and Statutes stipulated by the Network. This application has to have attached an informative dossier, which should include the name of the institution and its opening year, its mission and vision, the programs it develops (undergraduate, postgraduate, research, and extension), its most important results and projects in the field of art and culture, as well as other networks to which it might belong.
3. In keeping with the statutes, the Coordinating Institution will establish the appropriate contacts, and will send all the information pertinent to the Directing Board, which should decide and inform the applying institution about its decision.
4. The incorporation to the Network will be made formal by signing the acceptance of the Statutes.

EIGHTH: The following protocol is established for the election of the Directing Board and the Coordinating Institution:

1. All the member institutions are eligible for the Directing Board or as Coordinating University.
2. The candidacy is accredited to the Directing Board a month before the General Assembly.
3. The vote will be public and direct by the members attending the Assembly.
4. The 9 institutions having the highest amount of votes are elected for the Directing Board.
5. The Coordinating University will be that that obtains the highest amount of votes.

So that this may be officially recorded, the present Statutes are approved in the Constitutive Assembly of the University Network of Arts, celebrated on the eleventh day of the month of February 2014, in Havana, Cuba.