

THE
CONSTITUTION OF UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
LAW SOCIETY, 2021

PRESENTED BY

THE ODIYE – KITIMBO CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

SECONDED BY

1. DR. MUTESASIRA PETER – DEAN, FACULTY OF LAW UCU

.....

2. AYESIGA JOB ERNEST – PRESIDENT UCU LAW SOCIETY

.....

**3. NASSALI SARAH KIRABO - CHAIRPERSON UCU LAW SOCIETY COUNCIL, MAIN
CAMPUS**

.....

**4. WALAKIRA RONALD - CHAIRPERSON UCU LAW SOCIETY COUNCIL, KAMPALA
CAMPUS**

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CONSTITUTION OF UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY, 2021

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THE CONSTITUTION OF UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY, 2021

Commencement March 27, 2021

THE PREAMBLE

WE THE MEMBERS OF UGANDA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY:

REALIZING the need for a more effective society;

RECOGNIZING our duty to engender a conducive study environment through promotion of mutual cooperation among members of the society, Uganda Christian University staff and members of the public generally;

COMMITTED to building a better future by establishing a socio-political order through a popular and durable Constitution based on the principles of unity, harmony, equality, democracy, justice and progress;

EXERCISING our sovereign and inalienable right to determine the form of governance we need and having fully participated in the Constitution – making process;

DO HEREBY, in and through the General Assembly solemnly, adopt, enact and give to ourselves and our posterity; this Constitution of the Uganda Christian University Law society, this 25th day of March, in the year 2021.

FREEDOM THROUGH THE LAW

CHAPTER ONE

THE CONSTITUTION

1. Sovereignty of Members

(1) All power belongs to the members of the society who shall exercise their sovereignty only in accordance with this Constitution.

(2) All power and authority of Government, its organs, and committees shall derive from this Constitution, which in turn derives its authority from the members of the society who consent to be governed in accordance with this Constitution.

(3) The members of the society shall express their will and consent on who shall govern them and how they should be governed, through regular, free and fair elections of their representatives or through referenda.

2. Supremacy of the Constitution

(1) Subject to relevant National laws and applicable University regulations and charter, this Constitution shall be the supreme law of Uganda Christian University Law society, and shall have binding force on all authorities and members of the society.

(2) If any other law or practice is inconsistent with any provisions of this Constitution, the Constitution shall prevail and that other law or practice shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void.

3. Defense of the Constitution

All members of the society shall have the right and duty at all times to defend this Constitution and, in particular, to resist or petition in the Law Council any person or group of persons seeking to undermine or amend this Constitution contrary to its provisions or acts in contravention of this Constitution.

4. Promotion of awareness of the Constitution

The executive cabinet of the society shall promote member awareness of this Constitution by-

- a) Disseminating copies of the Constitution through various media platforms,
- b) Exercising all power and authority in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.
- c) Donating Copies of the Constitution to the University Library,
- d) Issuing copies of the Constitution to new members of the society during induction sessions or as soon as they join the University.

CHAPTER TWO

THE SOCIETY

5. Uganda Christian University Law Society (UCULS)

(1) There is established a body known as the Uganda Christian University Law society, hereinafter referred to as “the Society”.

(2) The society shall be nonpartisan and non-discriminatory.

6. The Official Language

The official language of the society shall be English

7. The Society logo

The society logo, seal and/or stamp(s) in use immediately before the provision and coming into force of this Constitution, shall continue to be in use.

8. Aims and Objectives of the Society

The aims and objectives of the society shall be:

- i. To encourage the worthy traditions of the legal professionals and its academic life, and the cultivation of a genuine and responsible society.
- ii. To establish mutual relations between the learning members of the UCU Law society and the learned friends or other persons for the interest of the society.
- iii. To participate whenever possible and practicable in law enforcement and administration of justice in Uganda.
- iv. To establish avenues of financial support for needy law students
- v. To promote the understanding and observance of the rule of law, democracy and legal protection of human rights.
- vi. To establish means directed to producing sustainable academicians to the legal profession.

- vii. To publish or cause to be published any legal literature which shall promote the interests of the society.
- viii. To promote and foster members' academic and co-curricular welfare through *ad hoc* programs and activities.
- ix. To encourage unity and cooperation among law students in the various campuses or affiliate colleges of UCU and also other university campuses.
- x. To encourage innovation among members of the society.
- xi. To represent law students at the law faculty.
- xii. To carry out such other activities that may be conducive to the objectives herein above, there with or incidental hereto.

CHAPTER THREE

MEMBERSHIP

9. Acquisition of Membership

(1) The society's membership shall comprise of the categories of persons as determined by this Constitution.

(2) The membership of the society shall be categorized as follows:-

(a) Full members, who shall comprise all registered law students of Uganda Christian University.

(b) Associate members, who shall comprise former students. A record of associate members shall be kept with the Dean.

(c) Honorary members, being any distinguished person duly elected by full members at a general assembly meeting or by the Executive.

(d) *Ex-officio* members, who shall comprise the patron of the law society and the Dean of the Law Faculty.

(3) For avoidance of doubt, all full members under Article 9(2)(a) shall pay a full subscription fee which shall be fixed by the Finance secretary approved by 2/3rd majority of the Executive. The fee shall be reasonable in the circumstances.

(4) Upon payment of subscription fee, a member shall be entitled to the law society identity card. Such card shall be prima facie evidence that the holder named therein is a full member of the society.

10. Registration

Any member who satisfies the prerequisite to become a member of the law society shall upon presenting of the proof of payment be registered by the secretary into the register of members.

11. Rights and Duties of Members

(1) A full member shall have a right to:

- i. Fully and reasonably participate in all proceedings in which their attendance is permitted.
- ii. Nominate or be nominated to any office of the government.
- iii. Vote or be voted to any position of the society.
- iv. Be elected as representative to any of the functions or undertakings to which the society wishes to be represented.

(2) Associate and honorary members may reasonably participate in all proceedings where their attendance is permitted.

(3) For avoidance of doubt, neither an associate nor an honorary member shall vote in the society's proceeding or be elected to any office other than an advisory one.

(4) Where at any one time, during the procession of the General Assembly Meeting, full members feel that the outcome of the meeting may be prejudiced by the presence of associate and/or honorary members, they may by a simple majority vote, request the latter to leave the meeting for any given period of time and the latter shall be obliged to leave.

(5) It shall be the duty of every member of the law society to:

- a) Respect the law society officials and its activities.
- b) Uphold the law society reputation both within and off the university.
- c) Acquaint themselves with and abide by the provisions of this Constitution.
- d) Carry out any duty provided in this Constitution.

12. Termination of Membership

1) A member of the law society may be deprived of his/her membership as acquired through the ways as provided for by this Constitution on the following grounds:

- a) Where a member acts in a manner prejudicial to the law society or the university in general.
 - b) Where acquisition of membership was by fraud, deceit, bribery or misrepresentation.
 - c) Where any member who by notice informs the law society executive of his/her intention to be discharged as a member of the law society.
 - d) In case of termination of placement in law school by the University.
 - e) In case of death or permanent insanity.
- 2) For purposes of clause 1(c), such notice must be given by way of letter to the president by the member who intends to be discharged as a member.
 - 3) Notice of discharge shall take effect in a period of fourteen days after depositing the letter of discharge with the president of the law society.

CHAPTER FOUR

REPRESENTATION OF THE MEMBERS

13. Right to Vote

- (1) Every full member of the society shall have a right to vote.
- (2) For avoidance of doubt, non-full members shall not have any right to vote on any matter whatsoever.
- (3) It is the duty of every full member of the society to register and vote in the society's elections.
- (4) The Speaker of the Society shall cause an electoral roll for elections where members who qualify to vote are registered.
- (5) The speaker shall provide facilities for the members with disabilities to register and vote.

Electoral Commission

14. Establishment of the Electoral Commission

- (1) There shall be an Independent Electoral commission, which shall consist of a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and seven other commissioners, appointed by the president of the society in consultation with the executive and with the approval of the council.
- (2) Members of the commission shall be appointed, within the first fourteen days after the appointment of the Law Council Members, from among full members of the society, and shall be persons of demonstrated moral character and integrity.

15. Qualification of officers of the Commission

- (1) A member of the society shall be eligible to be appointed as a member of the Electoral Commission if he or she is:
 - (i) A full member of the society

(ii) A person of good repute

(iii) A registered student of UCU Law faculty

(iv) On normal progress

(2) Where inability to be on normal progress is a result of lost and or missing results, then upon sufficient inquiry and proof, the candidate may be deemed to be on normal progress.

(3) Members of the executive and the society council shall not be eligible for appointment to the commission.

16. Term of Office

(1) The members of the commission shall hold office for one term and their appointment may only be renewed after lapse of one year.

(2) For purposes of clause (1), the word 'term' covers the time of the immediate by-elections and includes the period for determination of election petitions.

(3) Where a member of the commission is absent and unable to carry out his or her duties on the commission, the president shall, with the approval of the cabinet, appoint a person qualified under this Constitution to act in his or her place until he or she is able to resume his or her duties or, as the case may be, until another person is appointed to fill the vacancy.

17. Grounds for dismissal or removal of the member of the Commission

(1) A member of the commission may be dismissed from office by the council only on grounds of:

(a) Inability to perform the functions of his or her office arising out of physical or mental incapability;

(b) Misbehavior or misconduct; or

(c) Incompetence.

(2) The power vested in the council in Article 50(2) shall be exercised by hearing and determining a petition by any member of the society relying on the grounds stated therein.

(3) Proceedings for removal of a member of the commission shall be initiated by a petition to the chairperson of the council, a copy of which shall be served on the speaker, setting out particulars of the grounds in support of it, signed by not less than fifty full members of the society, giving notice of dissatisfaction with the conduct or competence of the member.

(4) The chairperson of the Council shall, upon receipt of the petition, present it before the council within two days and also cause a copy of it to be served on the member in question within the same period.

(5) The petition shall be debated and determined by the council within five days from the date of presentation.

(6) Any member against whom the petition is lodged shall be entitled to a fair hearing.

(7) A commissioner who is aggrieved by the decision made under Clause 5 shall lodge an appeal to the Tribunal.

(8) The decision under Clause 7 shall be final.

(9) A member of the commission shall not be eligible to contest for any office of the Government during the life of the commission.

18. Functions of the Electoral Commission

(1) The Electoral Commission shall have the following functions:

(a) To receive, scrutinize and approve nominations for elective offices;

(b) To ensure that free and fair elections are held;

(c) To organize, conduct and supervise elections and referenda in accordance with this Constitution;

- (d) To ascertain, publish and declare in writing the results of the elections or referenda;
 - (e) To procure an updated electoral roll, consisting of all full members of the Society, from the speaker to act as the voters register;
 - (f) To hear and determine election complaints arising before and during polling; and
 - (g) To perform such other functions as may be incidental to the conduct of elections.
- (2) In the performance of the functions under clause (1), the Electoral Commission shall protect, promote, uphold the interests and objectives of the Society, and shall present the Society as an appropriate example of democratic, fair and transparent practices and processes.

19. Independence of the Electoral Commission

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the commission shall be independent and shall, in the performance of its functions, not be subject to the direction or control of any person or authority.

20. Appeals from Decisions of the Commission

(1) Any person aggrieved by a decision of the Electoral Commission in respect of any of the complaints referred to in Article 18(1)(f) of this Constitution may appeal to the council of the society and the council shall proceed to hear and determine the appeal as soon as possible and shall, for that purpose, suspend any other matter pending before it.

(2) A decision of the council of the society on an appeal under clause (1) of this article shall be final.

21. Expenses of the Commission

(1) The commission shall expend on its activities, money obtained from the administration, the treasury of the society and nomination fees provided for under this Constitution.

(2) The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall receive the money envisaged in clause (1) of this article with the approval of the president and the cabinet secretaries.

Elections

22. Organization of Elections

(1) The Electoral Commission shall ensure that elections are held at times fixed and notified in advance to the public.

(2) Every candidate shall be accorded time to talk to the students body in a method as prescribed by the electoral commission.

(3) The electoral commission may issue guidelines to be complied with by every candidate while conducting his or her campaign for the election and it may also provide guidelines as to conducting elections.

(4) A candidate aspiring for any office in the government shall not distribute money and/or non-academic materials commonly referred to as “logistics” in order to mobilize support of the electorate.

(5) Any candidate who violates the enactment in clause (4) above shall be disqualified from election by the presiding authority.

(6) Where any person who is proved to have indulged in any electoral malpractice in contravention of any provision of this Constitution, he or she shall not be allowed to contest for any office for at least two semesters.

23. Prerequisites for nomination of Candidates

(1) A person is qualified for nomination if he or she is:

(a) A full member of the society,

(b) A person of good repute,

(c) On normal progress, and

(d) In possession of a valid National ID.

(2) Where failure to be on normal progress is conditioned by lost and/or missing results, such member may be deemed to be on normal progress upon reasonable and diligent inquiry.

(3) There shall be a reasonable non- refundable nomination fee payable by all intending candidates to the commission and determined by the same, subject to the approval and veto of the executive.

(4) Nominations for the elective posts shall be supported by fully paid up members of the Society and shall be handed to the commission at least seven days before the date of the election, which shall be set by the electoral commission in charge of the elections.

(5) Notwithstanding a member's right to vote and be voted for as in Article 11(1)(iii), no candidate for presidency shall be in their first or final year of study at the time of his/her nomination.

24. Voting at Elections and Referenda

(1) At a public election or referendum, voting shall, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, be by secret ballot and each member of the Society on the electoral roll shall have one vote for each elective office.

(2) Immediately after the close of the poll, the commission shall proceed to count the ballot papers in a public place and record the votes cast in favour of each candidate or question.

(3) The commission shall ascertain and declare, on the polling day, the results of the election or referenda and publicize them on the notice boards within one day.

(4) A candidate is entitled to be present in person or through his or her representatives or agents at the place of polling throughout the period of voting, counting of the votes and ascertaining of the results of the poll.

(5) The commission, the candidates or their representatives and in the case of a referendum, the sides contesting or their agents, if any, shall sign and retain a copy of a declaration stating the number of votes cast in favour of each candidate or question, and the commission shall there and

then, announce the results of the voting at a public place before communicating them to the returning officer.

(6) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, an issue for determination by a referendum shall be taken to be determined by a majority of the votes cast at the referendum.

(7) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, a candidate who obtains the highest number of votes in an election shall be declared the elected.

(8) In the event that the candidate is unopposed, he or shall be required to obtain fifty percent of the total number of valid votes.

(9) Clause (1) of this article shall not apply to election of class senators.

(10) Nothing in Clause (1) of this article shall bar the use of any technological advancement or any form of voting best fit for the circumstance.

25. Reports by the Commission

(1) The commission shall, within three days after an election, produce a detailed report on the conduct of the election, to be submitted to the executive, showing accountability of the funds collected and used, copies of which shall be served on the Dean and speaker.

(2) For the purposes of clause (1), every candidate at an election and every official agent of any candidate has the right to send to the executive and council a statement in writing containing any complaint that he or she may wish to make with respect to conduct of the election or of any election officer and any suggestions with respect to such changes or improvements in the law or in the administrative arrangements as he or she may consider desirable.

(3) The council shall compile a report thereafter for presentation to the Dean, within five days, a copy of which shall be served on the speaker, stating its opinion and recommendations for action.

26. Election Petition

(1) Election petitions shall be filed in the council of the society within two days after the day on which the result of the election is published by the commission on the notice boards.

(2) An election petition may be filed by a candidate who loses an election.

(3) The election of a candidate shall only be set aside on any of the following grounds proved to the satisfaction of the council.

(a) Non – compliance with the provisions of this Constitution;

(b) That a person other than the selected won the election;

(c) That a malpractice under this Constitution was committed in connection with the election by the candidate personally or with his or her knowledge and consent or approval; or

(d) That the candidate was at the time of his or her election not qualified or was disqualified for election.

(4) The council shall hear and determine the matter expeditiously and deliver judgment in writing within five days from the date of presentation of the petition.

(5) After due inquiry the council may-

(a) Dismiss the petition; or

(b) Declare that a candidate other than the candidate declared elected was validly elected; or

(c) Set aside the election and order a fresh election.

(6) The council, before coming to a decision under clause (5) may order a recount of the votes cast.

(7) Where an election is set aside, a fresh election shall be held in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

(8) Any ground specified in clause (3) of this Article shall be proved on the basis of a balance of probabilities.

27. By-elections

(1) Whenever an office becomes vacant-

(a) Before the expiration of the commission's term, it shall organize fresh elections, or

(b) After the expiration of the commission's term, the speaker shall organize for fresh elections.

(2) For a by-election under clause (1) (b), the speaker shall declare the vacant posts within two days after the vacancy has occurred and invite interested candidates to apply within two days from the date of the speaker's declaration.

(3) The voting shall be within three days by secret ballot from the date of closure of applications, and the speaker shall be the returning officer.

(4) For purposes of a by- election, a student in their final year of study may be voted for presidency.

(5) A candidate who is dissatisfied with the conduct and/or results of the by – election may petition the council within two days.

(6) The council shall hear and determine the petition within three days from the date of receipt of the petition and may after due inquiry-

(a) Dismiss the petition; or

(b) Declare that a candidate other than the candidate declared elected was validly elected; or

(c) Set aside the election and order a fresh election.

(7) Where an election is set aside, a fresh election shall be held within two days from the date of judgment.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE GOVERNMENT

28. The UCU Law Society Government

(1) There shall be a Uganda Christian University Law Society government which shall comprise of three organs-

(a) The General Assembly,

(b) The Executive, and

(c) The Council.

(2) The Government shall be a voluntary, nonpartisan and nonprofit body with perpetual succession.

(3) For purposes of clause 2, nonpartisan means nonpartisan in the affairs of the law society.

(4) The Government shall promote the democratic governance of the society and serve as a bridge between the academic staff and the student body.

29. Removal from office

(1) Any Government official, other than a class senator and president, shall be dismissed from his or her office by a petition to the chairperson of the Council, a copy of which shall be served on the speaker, setting out particulars of the grounds in support of it, signed by not less than fifty full registered members of the society, giving notice of dissatisfaction with the conduct or competence of the member.

(2) The impeachment of the president of the society shall require a petition signed by not less than two hundred full registered members of the society and proved to satisfaction of the Council.

(3) For purposes of clause (1) above, at least ten signatories shall be drawn from each class while under clause (2), twenty signatories shall be drawn from each class.

(4) The chairperson of the Council shall ascertain the accuracy and consistency of the signatories to the petition.

(5) The chairperson shall, upon receipt of the petition, present it before the Council within two days and also cause a copy of it to be served on the official against whom it has been lodged within the same period.

(6) The petition shall be debated and determined by the Council within five days from the date of presentation.

(7) Any government official against whom a vote of censure is debated under clause (6) of this article shall be entitled to a fair hearing.

(8) Members of the executive shall not be party to the process of censure, except as may be expressly provided by this Constitution.

(9) Where the Council or any other committee established under this Constitution is proceeding in a quasi-judicial manner, it shall do so publicly and neither professional representation nor costs shall be permitted or awarded.

30. The General Assembly

(1) There shall be an organ of government known as the General Assembly, comprising of all full members of the society.

(2) The General Assembly shall be the supreme legislative and policy making organ of the Government.

(3) The Assembly shall -

a) Approve the rules of the society on matters that affect members and resolve on measures to be taken by the society in the furtherance of interests through the council.

b) Have the power to pass a vote of no confidence in the executive or part thereof for reason of malpractice, corruption, incompetence or conduct amounting to gross misconduct.

(4) All members shall abide by the letter and spirit of the society's constitution and shall promote whenever possible the best interest of the society.

31. Meetings of the General Assembly

(1) There shall be a General Assembly at least once in every tenure of office for the purpose of reviewing the performance of the society's elected executive, presentation of reports/or any other lawful activity related to the well-being of the society.

(2) The speaker shall call and preside over all meetings of the Assembly as and when need arises provided that at least a two days notice is given.

(3) Voting in the General Assembly shall be by show of hands except that nothing in this Constitution shall preclude the society from taking advantage of better technological methods easily available.

32. Quorum

(1) The General Assembly shall be considered to be duly constituted with at least a quarter of the full members in attendance.

(2) The speaker shall ascertain or cause to be ascertained, by counting, the number of members present and declare whether the quorum is attained or not.

(3) Without prejudice to clause (1) of this article, the decisions of the General Assembly shall be binding if carried by a simple majority; of those present, provided that where there has been a failure of the requisite quorum, such failure was not due to the negligence and/or omission by the Executive in informing the society about such General Assembly.

4) The decisions passed by such a simple majority of those present may bind the members absent without reasonable cause.

33. The Executive

- (1) There shall be an organ of government known as the Executive, consisting of the cabinet, senators and speaker.
- (2) The members of the executive may be paid such reasonable allowances deriving from the society's treasury as may be practicable in the circumstances.
- (3) Subject to any limitation, allowances shall be determined by the Council, in consultation with the finance secretary and the auditor.
- (4) An executive member shall have responsibility for such functions of government as may be determined by this Constitution.
- (5) A member of the Executive shall, before assuming the duties of office take and subscribe to the oath of allegiance and the oath of office specified in the first schedule to this Constitution.

34. The Cabinet

- (1) There shall be a cabinet consisting of the president, the vice president, eight secretaries and a clerk to cabinet.
- (2) Except the clerk to cabinet, who shall be appointed by the president, all members of the cabinet shall be elected.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the functions of the cabinet shall be to determine, formulate and implement the policy of the government and to perform such other functions as may be conferred by this Constitution.
- (4) A cabinet member shall have responsibility for such functions of government as the president may, from time to time, assign to him or her.

35. Meetings of the Cabinet

- (1) Cabinet meetings shall be summoned and presided over by the president and in his or her absence, by the vice president.
- (2) The cabinet shall regulate the procedure of its meetings.
- (3) The president shall be responsible for arranging or causing to be arranged the business for the cabinet and for conveying or causing to be conveyed the decisions of the cabinet to the appropriate person or authority.
- (4) The quorum of the cabinet meetings shall be five members.
- (5) Cabinet may make binding resolutions on the society and serve a copy thereof on the speaker.
- (6) Members of Guild Parliament for Law Faculty shall be *ex-officios* in the cabinet meetings without a right to vote on any matter.

36. Vacation of Office

The office of a cabinet member shall become vacant if the holder-

- (a) Resigns;
- (b) Is discontinued or suspended from studies;
- (c) Dies or
- (d) Is terminated in any other manner stipulated in this Constitution.

37. Responsibility of Cabinet Members

- (1) Cabinet members shall individually be accountable to the president for the administration of their offices and collectively be responsible for any decision made by the cabinet to the electorate and other relevant authorities.

(2) A cabinet member who does not wish to be collectively responsible for any cabinet decision shall ordinarily resign his or her office.

38. Vote of Censure

(1) The Council may, by resolution supported by at least four members of the Council, pass a vote of censure against a cabinet member on any of the following grounds-

(a) Abuse of office or willful violation of the oath of allegiance or oath of office;

(b) Misconduct or misbehavior;

(c) Physical or mental incapacity, namely, that he or she is incapable of performing the functions of his or her office by reason of physical or mental incapacity;

(d) Mismanagement; or

(e) Incompetence.

(2) Upon a vote of censure being passed against a cabinet member, the seat shall immediately become vacant.

(3) Proceedings for censure of a cabinet member shall be initiated by a petition to the chairperson of the Council, a copy of which shall be served on the speaker, setting out particulars of the grounds in support of it, signed by not less than fifty full registered members of the society, giving notice of dissatisfaction with the conduct or competence of the member.

(4) The chairperson shall, upon receipt of the petition, present it before the Council within two days and also cause a copy of it to be served on the member against whom it has been made within the same period.

(5) The petition shall be debated and determined by the Council within five days from the date of presentation.

(6) A member in respect of whom a vote of censure is debated under clause (5) of this article shall be entitled to a fair hearing.

(7) Members of the executive shall not be party to the process of censure, except as may be expressly provided by this Constitution.

39. Cabinet offices

(1) The cabinet shall be composed of the following offices-

(a) President

(b) Vice President;

(c) General Secretary;

(d) Academic affairs secretary;

(e) Finance secretary;

(f) Organizing secretary;

(g) Deputy academic affairs secretary;

h) Publicity secretary;

(i) Deputy publicity secretary;

(j) Deputy organizing secretary; and

(K) Clerk to Cabinet.

40. Functions of the Cabinet Officers

(1) President

The president shall : -

(a) Be the executive head of the society and cabinet and in that capacity, have power to call, preside over and conduct all cabinet meetings;

(b) Take precedence over all persons in UCU law society, and in descending order; the vice president, the speaker and the General Secretary shall take precedence over all other persons in the society.

(c) Represent students in all administration meetings where student representatives are permitted;

(d) Make emergency cabinet decisions in consultation with at least two members; provided that his or her decision shall be subject to any necessary rectification by the cabinet;

(e) Exclusively call and preside over emergency meetings of the general assembly at one day notice of the speaker, chairperson of the Council and all students; provided that only the subject matter of emergency shall be discussed; and

(f) Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, have the power to delegate the duties of any official, being absent, to any other member of the Executive.

(2) The president may designate student representatives from among members of the cabinet to attend meetings of any faculty boards or committees where student representation is permitted having regard to their respective functions.

(3) Where the society, by resolution of cabinet members resolves to petition or is otherwise required to respond to a matter before the UCU Guild Tribunal, the president shall instruct any law firms with a reputable legal disposition or counsel of established legal practice to represent the society.

(4) The remuneration of any such instructed firm or counsel, if agreed upon, shall derive from the treasury of the society.

(2) Vice President

The vice president shall :-

- (a) Deputize for the president as and when the need arises; and
- (b) Perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the president.

(3) The General Secretary

The General Secretary shall:

- a) Have power, in consultation on with the president, to call meetings of both organs, prepare and circulate the agenda and publicize minutes of the same to those concerned;
- (b) Keep the register of the paid up members;
- (c) Have the responsibility for all correspondence of the general assembly and the executive and any external correspondence that may arise;
- (d) Have the custody of the society's physical property except where circumstances warrant the appointment of another custodian;
- (e) Keep the minutes of the executive meetings as well as other records of the society; and
- (f) Perform such functions as the president may assign him/her.
- (g) All secretaries shall report their activities and be accountable to the General Secretary.

(4) Academic Affairs Secretary

The functions of the academic affairs secretary shall be-

- (a) To promote the academic welfare of the society *by-*
 - (i) Formulating *ad hoc* programmes and activities of academic nature;
 - (ii) Keeping custody of scholastic materials of the society;
 - (iii) Ensuring the smooth operation of the book bank and law library.

- (b) To organize all the society's functions of an academic nature;
- (c) To organize and prepare annual moots by establishing the moots organizing committee.
- (d) To register student's law firms and issue out practicing certificates to appear before the UCU Guild tribunal.
 - i) The academic affairs secretary shall determine and set up a reasonable fee approved by the executive for purposes of paragraph (d) above.
 - (ii) The academic affairs secretary shall issue out guidelines and requirements for registration of law firms and issuing of practicing certificates approved by the executive.
 - (iii) For avoidance of doubt, the provisions in clause (d) above shall only be enforceable in compliance with the rules of procedure of UCU Guild Tribunal; and
- (e) To perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the president.
- (f) For purposes of clause 4(c) of this article, there shall be established the UCU Moots Society.
- (g) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Constitution, the Academic affairs secretary shall make rule regulating the operation of the activities of the UCU Moots Society.

(5) Finance Secretary

The functions of the finance secretary shall be-

- (a) To cater for the financial interests of the society by-
 - (i) Devising sources of revenue;
 - (ii) Collecting and receiving all funds; and
 - (iii) Disseminating money as directed by cabinet.

(b) To account for all revenues received and expenditures incurred as may be provided by this Constitution; and

c) To advice on matters of society's income and expenditure.

(d) To perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the president.

(6) Organizing secretary

The functions of the organizing secretary shall be-

a) To prepare and organize society's functions approved by the Executive.

b) To promote the social welfare of the society by-

(i) Ensuring that the faculty is kept tidy,

(ii) Initiating and organizing co-curricular activities;

iii) Lobbying the administration or any other source to provide relevant materials and equipment;
and

b) To perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the president.

(7) Publicity secretary

The functions of the publicity secretary shall be;

(a) To officially speak for the government and harness the society's cordial relations with members of the general public;

(b) To publicize and advertise all the planned, programmed and already done activities./events of the society.

(c) To convey all important information as determined by the executive to members of the society.

(d) To perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the president.

(8) Deputy Secretaries

(1) The deputy secretaries shall deputize for their respective substantive secretaries as and when the need arises and perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to them by the president.

(2) Cabinet members shall also perform any other functions incidental to those specified in this Constitution.

(9) Clerk to cabinet

The Clerk to cabinet shall perform such duties as may, from time to time be assigned to him or her by the president.

(10) The cabinet may from time to time pass resolutions which shall be binding without the approval of the Council unless as when expressly provided by this Constitution

(11) In the event that any UCU Law campuses or affiliate colleges, other than the main campus in Mukono, exist, they shall, until they acquire an independent society status, elect a representative body comprising of Associate Vice President, Associate Deputy Speaker, Deputy General Secretary, Associate Deputy Academic affairs secretary, Associate Deputy Finance secretary, and Associate Deputy Organizing Secretary.

(12) For avoidance of doubt, the positions mentioned in Clause (11) above shall have the same qualifications as the corresponding positions in the Main Campus provided for under this Constitution.

41. Tenure of Office

(1) The term of office of the Executive upon elections shall ordinarily be one calendar year from the time of swearing in.

(2) No law society official shall be requested to leave office or be removed from office before the expiration of his or her term unless:

- a) He or she ceases to be a member of the society,
- b) He or she is declared incapable to hold office of the law society by reason of insanity,
- c) He or she has been absent for a period of up to three months, or
- d) He or she resigns.

(3) The president shall exclusively have power to suspend from duty any cabinet member for indiscipline and / or poor performance for a period not exceeding fourteen days and he or she shall notify the speaker and chairperson of the Council accordingly.

(4) Any cabinet member affected by the exercise of the above powers shall be entitled to challenge it before the Council within two days from the date of suspension and the Council shall hear and determine the matter within three days from the date it is presented.

(5) The interpretation of "days" in Article 74 of this Constitution shall not apply in respect of clause (4) of this article.

(6) Where a cabinet member is suspended more than two times, he or she shall be relieved of his or her duties subject to the approval of the Council.

42. Resignation of Cabinet Members

(1) A cabinet member or any member appointed to any office under this Constitution may resign from office by tendering his or her resignation to the president, copies of which shall be served on the speaker and chairperson of the Law Council.

(2) Such resignation shall be in writing showing sufficient cause of the same.

(3) The resignation shall not be effective until after the expiration of seven days after the notice is tendered to the President.

(4) The president may delegate that member's functions to any other member of the cabinet until a by-election is held in accordance with this Constitution.

(5) Subject to clause 4, in case no one applies, the president, subject to the rules of appointment of office, appoint from the full members of the society as long as they meet the criteria laid out in Article 23.

(6) Where four or more members resign consecutively in one month, the president shall tender in a collective resignation of the cabinet to the speaker within three days from the date of the latest resignation, a copy of which shall be served on the chairperson of the Council.

(7) The president may resign from office by tendering his resignation to the speaker and copies of which shall be served on the vice president and chairperson of the Council.

(8) Where the president resigns, the vice president resign, the speaker and deputy speaker shall perform their respective functions and take over the administration of the cabinet until by-elections are held in accordance with this Constitution.

(9) Where both the president and vice president resign, the speaker and deputy speaker shall perform their respective functions and take over the administration of the cabinet until by-elections are held in accordance with this Constitution.

(10) A member who intends to resign from office may rescind his or her resignation in writing any time before the lapse of the seven days, following the same procedure specified in relevant clauses of this article, except that this shall not apply to collective resignation under clause (6) of this Article.

43. Speaker and Deputy Speaker

There shall be a speaker and deputy speaker of the government.

44. Functions of the speaker

(1) The speaker shall:-

- (a) Interpret and protect this Constitution;
 - (b) Call and preside over General Assembly meetings after consulting with the cabinet and issuing an agenda 14 days prior;
 - (c) Preside at elections of class senators.
 - (d) Organize by-elections in the absence of the electoral commission.
 - (e) Execute any other functions as may be stipulated in this Constitution
- (2) The Deputy speaker shall deputize for the speaker as and when the need arises and perform such other functions as may be delegated or assigned to him or her by the speaker.
- (3) Where any question as to the interpretation of this Constitution arises, other than from proceedings before the Council, it shall be referred to the speaker who shall give his or her opinion; provided that the speaker shall be bound by any existing interpretation of the Council in its course of resolving disputes.
- (4) The speaker's opinion may be challenged before a panel of three members of the Council appointed by the chairperson, which shall hear and determine the matter expeditiously, provided that not more than one panelist may be selected from the same academic year.
- (5) An appeal against the decision of the panel may be made before another panel of five members appointed by the chairperson, whose decision shall be final.
- (7) The speaker or deputy speaker shall vacate his or her office-
- (a) if he or she resigns his or her office by writing signed by him or her addressed to the chairperson of the Council, a copy of which shall be served on the president;
 - (b) If he or she is discontinued or suspended from studies;
 - (c) If he or she is removed by a petition to the Council supported by at least fifty full members of the society and approved by a majority decision of the Council.

(d) If he or she dies.

(8) A speaker or deputy speaker in respect of whom the Council proceeds against under clause (c) of this article shall be entitled to a fair hearing.

45. Class Senators

(1) There shall be a class senator for each class.

(2) For avoidance of doubt, each stream, if any, for each year of study, is separate and distinct.

46. Functions of Class Senators

(1) The functions of class senators shall be:

(a) To bridge the gap between students, government and the academic staff;

(b) To cooperate with the academic affairs secretary in acquiring scholastic materials;

(c) To perform such functions as delegated or assigned to him or her;

(d) To execute any other functions as may be stipulated in this Constitution.

(2) Class senators shall individually be accountable to the executive for the administration of their offices and collectively be responsible for any decision made by the executive to the electorate and other relevant authorities.

(3) A class senator who does not wish to be collectively responsible for any decision made by the executive shall ordinarily resign his or her office.

47. Election of Class Senators

(1) Class senators shall be elected by students in the respective classes by show of hands.

(2) The speaker shall preside at the election of class senators within the first fourteen days of the first semester of each academic year and thereafter publish a list of the winners on the faculty notice boards within two days from the date of conclusion of elections.

(3) A class senator shall, before assuming the duties of office take and subscribe to the oath of allegiance and the oath of office specified in the first schedule to this constitution.

48. Election Petition

(1) A candidate dissatisfied by the conduct and results of the election, may petition the Council, within two days from the date of publication, which shall expeditiously determine the merits of the petition within three days, delivering judgment in writing.

(2) The election of a candidate shall only be set aside on any of the following grounds if proved to the satisfaction of the Council:-

(a) Non –compliance with the provisions of this Constitution;

(b) That a person other than the one elected won the election;

(c) That a malpractice under this constitution was committed in connection with the election by the candidate personally or with his or her knowledge and consent or approval; or

(d) That the candidate was at the time of his or her election not qualified or was disqualified for election.

(3) After due inquiry the Council may-

(a) Dismiss the petition; or

(b) Declare that a candidate other than the candidate declared elected was validly elected or

(c) set aside the election and order a new election.

(4) Any ground specified in clause (2) of this Article shall be proved on the basis of a balance of probabilities.

(5) In the event that a fresh election is ordered, the speaker shall conduct it within two days

49. Vacation of office

(1) A class senator shall vacate his or her office-

(i) if he or she resigns in writing, signed by him or her addressed to the speaker, copies of which shall be served on the chairperson of the Law Council and the president;

(b) If he or she is discontinued or suspended from studies;

(c) If he or she is removed by resolution of at least half of the students in his or her class; or

(d) If he or she dies.

50. The Council

(1) There shall be an organ of Government known as the Council, composed of substantive persons of integrity.

2) The functions of the Council shall be-

(a) To hear and determine disputes in the government;

(b) To advise the students, government and academic staff on welfare matters; and

(c) To perform such other functions as may be conferred by this Constitution.

51. Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, and Secretary of the Council

(1) There shall be a chairperson, deputy chairperson and secretary of the Council and other two members appointed by the president subject to approval by the vetting committee which shall

consist of two members of parliament for law faculty, and any other five law students who shall be class representatives to faculty.

(2) Such persons of the Council shall be appointed from among full members of the society, and being persons of demonstrated moral character and integrity.

(3) To qualify as a member of the Council, one must be;

(i) A full members of the society,

(ii) A persons of good repute, and

(iii) On normal progress.

(4) Where inability to be on normal progress is a result of lost and /or missing results, then upon sufficient inquiry and proof, the candidate may be deemed to be on normal progress.

(5) The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall be in their third year of study at the time of appointment.

(6) The secretary to the Council shall record and keep records, documents, minutes and proceedings of the Council and do any other duties as assigned by the chairperson.

(7) The chairperson, deputy chairperson and the secretary shall be appointed by the president, within five days, after subscribing to the oath of allegiance and the oath of office specified in the first schedule to this Constitution.

(8) There shall be an odd number of members to the Council.

a) Where the number of the members after approval is even or thereafter due to any occurrences, the president shall appoint any person or persons from the members of the society to make the number odd in Council subject to the approval of the Council.

(9) The chairperson or deputy chairperson shall vacate his or her office-

a) If he or she resigns his or her office by writing signed by him or her addressed to the speaker, a copy of which shall be copied to the president;

b) If he or she becomes a class senator; or

c) If he or she is removed by resolution of the Council supported by at least four members of the Council.

(10) The chairperson and deputy chairperson shall each, before assuming the duties of office, take and subscribe to the oath of allegiance and the oath of office specified in the first schedule to this Constitution.

52. Sessions of the Council

(1) Council session shall be summoned and presided over by the chairperson and in his or her absence, by the deputy chairperson.

(2) The Council shall regulate the procedure of its sessions.

(3) The chairperson shall be responsible for arranging or causing to be arranged the business for the Council and for conveying or causing to be conveyed the decisions of the Council to the appropriate person or authority.

(4) Except as otherwise prescribed by this Constitution, questions proposed for decision of the Council shall be determined by a majority of votes of the members present. Voting shall be by show of hands.

(5) No member in attendance may abstain from voting on a matter before the Council.

(6) The quorum of the Council shall be five members.

(7) The Council shall not have powers and authority to initiate, make policies and decisions on behalf of the government.

(8) For avoidance of doubt all contentious matters shall be referred to the Council and not originate from the Council.

(9) The Council may make regulations to guide its mode of operation consistence with the rules of natural justice.

53. The Representative to the Faculty

(1) There shall be a representative of the society to the Faculty elected by the executive to the acceptance of such elected person.

(2) The representative to the faculty shall:-

(a) Be a full lecturer of law at Uganda Christian University faculty of law.

(b) Be a direct link between the society and Faculty.

(c) Be a senior advisor to the society.

(d) Be an ambassador of the society within and outside UCU.

(d) Be an *ex-officio* in cabinet meetings where called upon to attend.

(e) Oversee the internal implementation of the society's program.

(f) Endeavor to attend session of the Assembly but upon failure thereof be briefed of the deliberations within a reasonable time.

(g) From time to time address the members of the society as the president may organize and notify.

(h) Do and perform any other functions as the executive may request him or her to do so.

(3) His or her term of office shall expire with the executive but he/she shall be eligible for reelection under Article 53(1) of this Constitution.

(4) His or her term of office may be terminated prematurely at his/ her request with prior notice to the executive at least within thirty working days before the termination.

CHAPTER SIX

PATRON OF THE SOCIETY

54. Office of the Patron

- 1) There shall be the office of the patron/patroness of the society.
- 2) The patron/patroness shall be a person of honorary legal reputation.
- 3) Without a doubt, the patron shall be elected by the executive subject to his/her acceptance.

55. Duties and functions

- 1) The functions of the patron shall include:
 - a. To foster cooperation from the legal minded societies and organization.
 - b. To render advice accordingly, protect and foster society's interest, vision and mission which will foster the realization of the society's aims and objectives.
 - c. To guide or give advice and address the society, where appropriate.
 - d. Where appropriate, endorse documents aimed at raising funds outside the university.
- 2) The patron's term of office shall be specified in his or her letter of acknowledgement.
- 3) He or she may terminate such responsibilities with notice prior.

CHAPTER SEVEN

FINANCE

56. UCU Law Society Account

(1) There shall be a UCU Law society Account into which shall be paid all monies raised or received for the purpose of, or on behalf of, or in trust for the society.

(2) No monies shall be withdrawn from the account except to meet expenditure charged on it by this constitution.

(3) No monies shall be withdrawn from the account unless the withdrawal has been approved by the council.

(4) The Finance secretary shall prepare and lay before the council after every function, but in any case not later than the sixth day after the function, accountability of monies received by and expenditure of government pertinent to the function, a copy of which shall be serviced on the speaker.

(5) The line secretary under whose office any function takes place shall submit to the speaker and finance secretary within five days, an accountability of monies received for and spent on the function.

(6) The accounts prepared under clause (5) of this article shall be laid before the council by the finance secretary under clause (4) of this article without revision but with any recommendations that he or she may have on them.

(7) The president and finance secretary shall be signatories to the UCU law society account.

(8) The president, upon consultation with the Council, shall cause to be opened an account or accounts in the banks offering banking services, provided that no more than one account may be opened in a single bank.

(9) The signatories shall be held jointly and severally liable for misuse and misappropriation of the funds on the UCU Law Society account.

(10) Upon election of the new executive, the outgoing president and treasurer shall expeditiously change signatories accordingly, failure of which shall occasion involvement of the Dean of Law for appropriate action.

(11) Any member who misappropriates the society's funds shall be held individually liable.

57. Financial Resources of the Society

(1) The funds and resources of the society shall consist of;

(a) All sums from time to time received by or falling due to the society in respect of contributions, subscription fees, fine and penalties.

(b) Funding that may be made available to it by law faculty.

(c) Funding that may be made available to it by the Guild government;

(d) Funding provided by donors or other financiers, which may include grants;

(e) Miscellaneous gainful activities that may be undertaken by the society to further its income.

(f) Any sums which may in any manner become payable to or vested in the society under this constitution or any other written law.

(2) Earnings through cost recovery shall be used exclusively to create and maintain an operating reserve and to improve the society services and facilities.

58. Estimates/Budget

(1) The president shall cause to be prepared, by the finance secretary, and laid before the law council, but in any case not later than thirty five days after taking office, estimates of the revenues and expenditure of its government for its tenure of office.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 1 of this Article, the financial secretary may prepare and submit to the council for approval any estimates supplementary to the estimates of the current fiscal year.

(3) The finance secretary shall present advance annual estimates of the sums, in both domestic and foreign currency, to be required for procurement and logistics purposes, and those estimates shall, after approval by the council, be submitted to the executive by the finance secretary.

59. Accounts and Audit

(1) There shall be an Auditor of the society who shall be appointed by the sitting president, on the approval of the council.

(2) Such auditor shall be appointed at least not later than one calendar month upon assumption of office by the sitting government.

(3) Such auditor shall not be eligible for re-appointment.

(4) The auditor shall submit a report of his or her findings to council, before the end of every semester.

(5) The society shall cause to be provided and kept proper books of account and records with respect to-

(a) The receipt and expenditure of monies by, and other financial transactions of, the fund;

(b) The assets and liabilities of the fund, and shall cause to be made out for every financial year a balance sheet and a statement showing details of the income and expenditure of the fund.

(6) Not later than fifty (50) days after the start of the Easter semester, the accounts including the balance sheet of the fund relating to that financial year, shall be audited by the university internal auditor who shall submit the audit report to the Faculty Representative.

(7) As soon as, the accounts of the society have been audited, and in any case not later than is, months after the audit, the finance secretary shall submit to the speaker and council a copy of the

audited statement of account together with a copy of the audited report on the statement of account made by the auditors.

60. Annual Report

(1) The society shall not later than one month after the end of the each financial year make and submit to the council and the Dean a report showing the performance of the society during that financial year.

(2) The Finance secretary shall, as soon as possible after submitting the report referred to in clause (1) and a copy of the audited accounts of the society, cause the annual statement of account and the annual report of the society to be published in such manner as the president may direct.

(3) When submitting the report, the finance secretary shall, during that period, deposit with the interim Government all books, cash receipt books, a bank statement covering the entire period of his or her office and documents, records involving monetary transactions for inspection.

61. Society Investment Fund

(1) There shall be a society investment fund the monies of which shall be 15% of the annual membership subscription fees.

(2) The executive shall only withdraw monies from the investment fund with the prospect to generate more monies by investment in various projects subject to the approval of the Faculty Representative and the Dean.

CHAPTER EIGHT

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

62. Amendment of the Constitution

(1) Subject to the provisions of this constitution, the General Assembly and Council may amend by way of addition, variation or repeal, any provision of this constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this chapter.

(2) This constitution shall not be amended except by a resolution of the council-

(a) The sole purpose of which is to amend this constitution and

(b) The resolution has been passed in accordance with this chapter.

63. Amendments by the General Assembly

(1) A resolution of the council seeking to amend any of the provisions specified in clause (2) of this article shall not be taken as passed unless-

(a) It is supported at the second and third readings in the council by not less than four members; and

(b) It has been referred to a decision of the general assembly and approved by it.

(2) The provisions referred to in clause (1) of this article are-

(a) This article;

(b) Chapter One – Articles 1 and 2

(c) Chapter Three – Article 11;

(d) Chapter Five - Article 30(3) and Article 46(1).

64. Amendments by the Council

(1) A resolution of the council to amend any provision of the Constitution, other than those referred to in Article 63 of this Constitution, shall not be taken as passed unless it is supported at the second and third readings by the votes of not less than four members of the council.

(2) The first reading shall be the presentation of a motion by a member of the council proposing to amend specified provisions of the constitution and at this stage no further business regarding the proposed amendment shall be conducted until the third day of sitting of the council.

(3) The second and third readings shall be conducted by the chairperson, on which occasions members of the council shall vote on the motion.

(4) The votes on the second and third readings referred to in this article shall be separated by at least seven days.

(5) The proceedings of the council under this article shall be open for everyone to witness.

(6) A resolution shall then be referred to the General assembly for approval.

65. Appointment of Constitutional Review Commission

(1) The President shall, subject to the approval of the Council, appoint a Constitutional Review Commission consisting of not more than seven competent persons whose duty shall be to find out the views of the members of the society and any other relevant authorities or persons about the provisions of this Constitution.

(2) The Commission shall prepare and present a report of recommendations from its finding to the Executive and Council.

CHAPTER NINE

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

66. Transitional Government

(1) Notwithstanding anything in this constitution, the government existing immediately before the coming into force of this constitution, in this chapter referred to as “the current government” shall-

(a) Continue in office until a new government is elected in accordance with this constitution;

(b) As far as possible, exercise its functions in such a manner and with such modifications as are necessary to bring them into conformity with the provisions of this constitution.

(2) The appropriate organs of the current government shall take such measures that are necessary or practical to give effect to the provisions of this constitution.

67. Existing Offices

(1) Subject to the provisions of this article, every person who immediately before the coming into force of this constitution held or was acting in any office established by or by virtue of the constitution then in force, so far as is consistent with the provisions of this constitution, shall be taken to have been appointed as from the coming into force of this constitution, to hold or to act in the equivalent office under this constitution.

(2) The provisions of this article shall not prejudice any powers conferred by or under this constitution or any other law on any person or authority to make provision for the abolition of office or for the removal from office of persons holding or acting in any office.

(3) For the avoidance of doubt, it is declared that any office established before the coming into force of this constitution which is inconsistent with any provision of this constitution is, on the coming into force of this constitution, abolished.

68. Existing Law and/or Practice

(1) Subject to the provisions of this article, the operation of the existing law and / or practice after the coming into force of this constitution shall not be affected by the coming into force of this constitution but the existing law and /or practice shall be construed with such modifications, adaptations, qualifications and exceptions as may be necessary to bring it into conformity with this constitution.

(2) For the purpose of this article, the expression “existing law and / or practice” means the written and unwritten law and /or practice of UCU law society or any part of it’s as existed immediately before the coming into force of this constitution.

(3) The first president elected under this constitution may, after assuming office as president, by declaration, make such provision as may appear necessary for repealing, modifying, adding to or adapting any law and / or practice for bringing it into conformity with this constitution or otherwise for giving effect to this constitution.

69. Existing Commissions and Committees of Inquiry

Notwithstanding anything in this constitution to the contrary, any commission or committee of inquiry in existence immediately before the coming into force of this constitution may continue in existence until the submission of its report unless otherwise dissolved in accordance with the law of the society.

70. Oaths deemed to have been taken

Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution, any person who immediately before the coming into force of this constitution held or was acting in any office established under or by virtue of the constitution then in force and who holds or is acting in an equivalent office under this constitution shall be deemed to have taken and subscribed to any necessary oath under this constitution, in accordance with this constitution.

71. Pending Matters

(1) Where any matter or thing has been commenced before the coming into force of this constitution by any person or authority having power to do so under the existing law and/ or practice, that matter or thing may be carried on and completed by the person or authority having power to do so or after the coming into force of this constitution and unless the president in any case otherwise directs, it shall not be necessary for that person or authority to commence that matter or thing.

(2) This article shall have effect subject to the provisions of this constitution.

72. Devolution of Rights and Liabilities

(1) Any right, prerogative, privilege or function which under the existing law and / or practice vested in the president shall vest in the president or other person or authority as is specified under this constitution.

(2) Any right, privilege, obligation, liability or function vested in or substituting against the government by or under an existing law and / or practice shall continue to so vest or subsist.

73. Repeal of 2017 Constitution

(1) Subject to article 66 of this Constitution, the constitution of the UCU Law Society, 2017 and all amendments thereto, shall, upon the coming into force of this constitution, stand repealed.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, the enactment repealed by clause (1) of this article, shall, notwithstanding the repeal, continue in force for the purposes only of the exercise by the current government of its functions under Article 66 of this Constitution.

CHAPTER TEN

INTERPRETATION

74. Interpretation

(1) This constitution shall be read as a whole. Where any article creates an exception to another then full meaning and effect shall be given to such qualification.

(2) The expressions used shall be presumed so far as is consistent with their context as may be given otherwise expressly provided to be used within the meaning to them in ordinary English shall be construed in accordance herewith.

(3) In this constitution, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall carry the following meanings:-

“President” means the president of UCU Law society

“Speaker” means the speaker of UCU law society

“Account” means the UCU law society account.

“Administration” means the faculty of law administration.

“Assembly” means the general assembly.

“Chairperson” means the chairperson of the council.

“Constitution” means the Constitution of UCU Law Society, 2021.

“Council” means the Law Council of UCU Law Society.

“Days” means official working days.

“Dean” means the dean of faculty of law.

“Government” means the UCU law society government.

“Non-full member” means any person who not a registered law student of UCU and/or has not paid subscription fee.

“Society” means the Uganda Christian University law Society.

“UCU” means Uganda Christian University.

“Year” means academic year.

“Senator” means any member representing a specific class in UCU law society government.

“General Assembly” means the general assembly of all members of UCU Law Society

“Faculty” Representative” means a lecturer appointed by the Dean to oversee the activities of the Law Society”

SCHEDULES

FIRST SCHEDULE

OATHS

Oaths of Allegiance

I,....., swear in the name of the Almighty God/solemnly affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the UCU Law Society and that I will preserve, protect and defend the constitution. (So help me God).

Oath or Solemn Affirmation of Office for the President /Acting President/ Vice President

I,....., swear/solemnly affirm that I will truly and diligently serve the students and UCU Law Society in the office of the president/acting president of UCU law society; that I will diligently discharge my duties and perform my functions in the office of the president/acting president of UCU law society; and I will do justice to all in accordance with this constitution, as by law established, and in accordance with the usage of the UCU law society without fear, affection or ill will. (So help me God).

Oath of Office

I,....., swear in the name of the Almighty God/solemnly affirm that I will well and truly exercise the functions entrusted to me asand will do right to all manner of people in accordance with the constitution of the UCU Law society as by law established and in accordance with the usage of the UCU law society without fear or favour, affection or ill will. (So help me God).

SECOND SCHEDULE

INSTRUMENTS OF POWER AND IDENTITY

(1) Logo; this is the new law society logo/emblem that we have adopted.

(i) The weighing scale – represents fairness and honesty

(ii) The cross – Emphasizes the fact that in all our endeavors we will always choose to honour and glorify God Almighty.

(iii) Colours – Traditional lawyer colours of black, blue and purple and white signifying purity in the profession.

(2) The society shall have its own seal/stamp.

(3) The society shall have its own headed paper reflecting its logo in the background.

(4) Jackets and colours

(a) Black: The executive members shall put on black jackets with a logo of the society.

(b) Grey: The honorary, outstanding and exceptional members of the society shall be accorded free grey jackets with a logo of the society.

(i) Members referred to as in above shall be selected and determined by any of these:

(a) The executive, or

(b) General assembly or

(c) The faculty recommended by the Dean.

(ii) For avoidance of doubt such members may include outstanding students in the activities of the society, academics, internal moots, outstanding people representing the society and Faculty within and outside UCU and members of parliament for faculty of Law (MP law).

(iii) Such members must have paid full subscription fee.

(5) The executive shall and reserves the right to determine the mode of issuing out these jackets and the number of the people to receive them but such a number not exceeding three jackets every year.

(6) The society reserves the patent rights of its logo and all jackets and logos shall be issued by the executive of the society.

THIRD SCHEDULE

MEMBERSHIP FEES

(1) The membership fee for purposes of **Article 9(3)(a)** shall be a fee shillings

Mode of payment

(2) The fee shall be paid, upon admission, to the UCU Law Society Finance Secretary.

3) Payment shall be once for all the four years.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

ELECTIONS

- 1) The chairperson electoral commission shall be the presiding officer at an election.
- 2) The chairperson electoral commission shall ensure that:
 - i. The names of the candidates are arranged in alphabetical order.
 - ii. The voters' registers are up to date
 - iii. The ballot papers are serialized
 - iv. The election is free and fair.

FIFTH SCHEDULE

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMISSIONS

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMISSION (2017)

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. MUMBYA JACOB | CHAIRPERSON |
| 2. AYEBAZIBWE EDGAR | VICE CHAIRPERSON |
| 3. ABULO NASANA M. RACHEAL | SECRETARY |
| 4. AINE KEITH | MEMBER |
| 5. TURAMUREEBA JONAN | MEMBER |
| 6. MUMBERE ABRAHAM | MEMBER |
| 7. OSINDE WILBROAD | MEMBER |

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMISSION (2021)

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1. SAMUEL ODIYE | CHAIRPERSON |
| 2. SHAMIRA KITIMBO | VICE CHAIRPERSON |
| 3. DOROTHY NATUKUNDA | SECRETARY |
| 4. PEARL CLARE MUSIMENTA | MEMBER |
| 5. IVAN PAUL MATSIKO | MEMBER |
| 6. ONESMUS KIRABO | MEMBER |
| 7. TITUS EPHRAIM MAKUMA | MEMBER |

