

Code of Conduct for the Governing Body

The Governing Body of SR University plays a crucial role in providing strategic oversight, governance, and direction to the university, ensuring its alignment with the institutional mission and statutory obligations. The following Code of Conduct is designed to guide the Governing Body in fulfilling its responsibilities ethically, effectively, and in accordance with the principles of good governance.

1. General Principles of Governance

1.1 Accountability

The Governing Body shall act in the best interest of the university, holding itself accountable to the Sponsoring Body, the university community, and relevant regulatory authorities.

All decisions shall be made in a transparent and responsible manner, with due regard for the long-term sustainability and reputation of the university.

1.2 Integrity

Members of the Governing Body must maintain the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct, avoiding any conflicts of interest and acting independently in the discharge of their duties. Decisions and actions shall be guided by fairness, justice, and honesty in all matters concerning the university.

1.3 Confidentiality

Members shall maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information discussed in meetings and related documents unless disclosure is mandated by law or approved by the Governing Body.

Any breaches of confidentiality will be treated seriously and may result in removal from the Governing Body.

2. Duties and Responsibilities

2.1 General Superintendence and Control

The Governing Body shall exercise its powers to provide general superintendence, direction, and control over the functioning of the university as outlined in the Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, or rules.

The body shall ensure that all university operations align with the strategic vision, mission, and statutory obligations of the university.

2.2 Review of Decisions

The Governing Body shall review and, if necessary, reverse or amend decisions of other university authorities if such decisions are inconsistent with the provisions of the Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, or rules.

Any review or intervention must be conducted with fairness, transparency, and respect for the autonomy of other authorities within the university.

2.3 Approval of Budget and Annual Report

The Governing Body is responsible for approving the annual budget and financial reports of the university, ensuring that they reflect sound financial planning and are in the best interests of the institution.

Members should ensure that the university's resources are used responsibly and that financial reports adhere to the principles of accountability and transparency.

2.4 Policy Formulation

The Governing Body shall lay down extensive policies that promote the long-term growth, academic excellence, and operational efficiency of the university.

Policies should align with the university's mission and be in line with regulatory and statutory requirements.

2.5 Delegation of Powers

The Governing Body may vest specific powers in the Board of Management or other university entities or officials, as it deems appropriate.

When delegating powers, the Governing Body shall ensure that appropriate governance mechanisms are in place to ensure accountability, effective decision-making, and compliance with university policies.

2.6 Decision-Making

Decisions of the Governing Body shall be made collectively, ensuring that all members have an opportunity to express their views.

Members must respect majority decisions and support the collective resolutions of the Governing Body, even if they hold differing opinions.

3. Conflict of Interest

3.1 Declaration of Interests

Members of the Governing Body shall disclose any personal, financial, or professional interests that may conflict with their responsibilities as members. In cases where a conflict of interest arises, the member must recuse themselves from discussions or decisions where the conflict is relevant.

3.2 Avoiding Favouritism

Members shall not use their position on the Governing Body to gain undue advantages for themselves, their families, or associated entities. Favouritism, nepotism, or bias of any kind is strictly prohibited and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

4. Ethical Behaviour and Conduct

4.1 Commitment to the University's Mission

Members shall act with dedication to the mission and vision of SR University, making decisions that promote the overall welfare and advancement of the university community. The Governing Body should promote an institutional culture of excellence, inclusion, innovation, and respect for academic freedom.

4.2 Collegiality

Members should foster a collegial atmosphere of respect, cooperation, and open communication during meetings and interactions with other university stakeholders. Dissenting views should be expressed respectfully, and members should work towards consensus-based decision-making where possible.

4.3 Responsibility to Stakeholders

The Governing Body shall ensure that the interests of all university stakeholders, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the broader community are considered in decision-making processes.

It is the duty of the members to ensure that the university remains responsive to the changing needs of higher education and society at large.