

Regulations governing alumni nodes

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Index

- General provisions
 - Purpose
 - Aims of alumni nodes
 - Types of nodes
- Members
 - Members of nodes
 - Commitments of node members
- Organization and structure
 - The delegate
 - The board
 - Internal structure and operations
- Creation and dissolution of nodes
 - Creating a new node
 - Grounds and procedure for dissolving
 - Removal of a member
- Miscellaneous
 - Support

Regulations governing *alumni* nodes

TITLE I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Purpose

The purpose of these regulations is to govern groupings of members of the UOC alumni community, known as "nodes". These nodes are intended to carry out activities in areas of shared interest, in accordance with Article 33 of the UOC's Organizational and Operational Regulations.

Article 2. Aims of alumni nodes

Alumni nodes must contribute to the aims of the alumni community, taking into account the specific interests of their members. These aims may include:

- a) Fostering personal connections, exchanging experiences and knowledge, encouraging collaboration, and building a network of contacts among node members and with other social and local stakeholders;
- b) Spotlighting the talent and professional expertise of UOC graduates, and supporting knowledge transfer between members of the UOC community and society at large by offering both in-person and online activities in which the alumni community can take part; and
- c) Promoting the role of alumni mentors within the nodes, supporting graduates' professional development, and identifying and showcasing transformative projects led by alumni that aim to improve society and respond to specific local needs.

Article 3. Types of nodes

Nodes may be classified into three types according to their field of activity:

- a) Nodes linked to faculties or research units: formed by members belonging to the same faculty or connected with a UOC research unit.
- b) Cross-cutting nodes: formed by members who share a common interest in a specific theme, regardless of their academic background or professional field.
- c) Regional nodes: based on geographic criteria, with the aim of strengthening the presence of the alumni community in specific areas.

TITLE II. MEMBERS

Article 4. Members of nodes

1. Nodes are open to the entire UOC community. They are always led by UOC graduates, although individuals whose contribution is deemed valuable may also sit on a node's board.
2. Any member of the UOC alumni community may apply to join a node via the designated channels. The node delegate will assess applications in accordance with the criteria established by the node's board, and accept or reject them as appropriate.
3. If an application is rejected, the applicant will have ten (10) calendar days to submit an appeal to the Alumni Council, which will issue a decision within five (5) calendar days. The Alumni Council's decision will conclude the application process.

Article 5. Commitments of node members

All members of a node undertake to:

1. Act in accordance with the aims of the node and the values of the UOC;
2. Implement the decisions adopted by the node's board; and members of the alumni community.
3. Comply with UOC regulations governing the rights and duties of students and members of the alumni community.

Failure to uphold any of these commitments may result in a member being removed from the node, under the terms set out in these regulations and, where appropriate, by application of the UOC's disciplinary system.

TITLE III. ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE

Article 6. The delegate

1. Each node will have a delegate who acts as the contact person between the node and UOC Alumni and coordinates its activities. In newly created nodes, the delegate will be nominated by those who initiated the node.
2. The term of office for a node delegate is three (3) years, renewable once for an additional year.
3. The appointment of a node delegate or the extension of their term must be ratified by the Alumni Council.

Article 7. The board

The board, as the node's internal management body, will comprise a minimum of two node members elected by their peers (i.e. other node members). Its main role is to support the delegate and ensure the node functions effectively.

In the case of nodes linked to faculties or research units, the UOC may appoint a faculty or unit representative to serve on the board.

Article 8. Internal structure and operations

1. Each node may set up internal committees for specific topics, areas or groups, as determined by its board.
2. Nodes will have a dedicated information section on the UOC Alumni web page within the Virtual Campus and, if necessary, a LinkedIn group for communication and engagement.
3. Nodes may operate in Catalan, Spanish, English or other local languages in their region.

TITLE IV. CREATION AND DISSOLUTION OF NODES

Article 9. Creating a new node

1. Any UOC graduate or UOC Alumni may initiate the creation of a new node.
2. Requests from graduates to create a node must be submitted to UOC Alumni through the designated channel. UOC Alumni will then forward the request to the Alumni Council, which will issue a decision within one (1) month, taking into account the criteria set out in these regulations.
3. The criteria that the Alumni Council must consider when assessing requests to create a node are as follows:
 - a. The name of the node must be unique. No two nodes may share the same name. The proposed name must clearly indicate the node's type and field of activity, as set out in Article 3 of these regulations:
 - i. For nodes linked to faculties or research units, the name must be that of the faculty or research unit.
 - ii. For cross-cutting nodes, the name must reflect the specific theme.
 - iii. For regional nodes, the name must correspond to the geographical area.
 - b. Each node must foster personal and professional relationships and networking among its members, and provide them with specific services of interest.

Each node must have a distinct purpose. Different nodes may not be created for the same faculty, research unit, theme or region.

Cross-cutting nodes must not pursue commercial or political purposes, nor may they distribute opinions or content that are unlawful, slanderous, offensive or contrary to human dignity and values.

4. Where more than one proposal is submitted for the same node, UOC Alumni will mediate to facilitate integration. If no satisfactory solution is reached, the matter will be referred to the Alumni Council, which will make a decision that serves the community's best interests.

Article 10. Grounds and procedure for dissolving a node

1. A node may be dissolved for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Changes to the conditions under which the node was created.
 - b. Failure to comply with the provisions set out in these regulations.
 - c. Lack of activity for a period of twelve (12) months.
2. If any grounds for dissolution are identified, the chair of the Alumni Council will require the node's delegate, within the granted time period, to restore the conditions under which the node was created, cease the relevant activity or conduct, or reactivate and revive its activity.

If the grounds for dissolution have not been remedied after this period, the Alumni Council will adopt a reasoned decision to dissolve the node, which will be notified to its delegate.

Article 11. Removal of a member

If a member of a node is found not to be fulfilling the commitments referred to in Article 5 of these regulations, the node's delegate or, where applicable, the chair of the Alumni Council will require the member to comply with their commitments within the granted period.

If non-compliance persists after this period, the node's delegate or, where applicable, the Alumni Council will adopt a reasoned decision to remove the individual from the node's membership, without prejudice to the application of the UOC's disciplinary system.

Members of a node will also cease to belong to it when the node itself is dissolved, in accordance with the preceding article.

TITLE V. MISCELLANEOUS

12. Support

A node's delegate may request support from UOC Alumni to organize activities of interest to their own node, other nodes or members of the alumni community. They may also request support to organize joint events.

UOC Alumni will support efforts to disseminate information of common interest and publicize events to the entire UOC alumni community, with the aim of attracting new members to a node.

Final provision

These regulations will come into force the day after they are published on the UOC's EServices Portal, following approval by the university's Governing Council.