



## AFE BABALOLA UNIVERSITY, ADO EKITI

### ABUAD POLICY ON ENGAGEMENT OF STUDENTS AND LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS

Effective Date: January 10, 2020

Last Date of Review: January 11, 2021

Due for Review: January 10, 2022

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#### 1. PURPOSE

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Afe Babalola University (ABUAD) is committed to providing active opportunities for students and local stakeholders to take part in, and influence, decision making processes at all levels of the University. The purpose of this policy document is to facilitate engagement of students and stakeholders through active participation regardless of ethnicity, religion, disability or gender.

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#### 2. SCOPE

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Stakeholders in this policy refer to:

**Internal stakeholders** are those who work within the University system on a daily basis and who largely control what goes on across campus. They include all faculty, staff, students, Governing Council members, Board of Trustee members, Senate, and other members of the academic community.

**External stakeholders** are those outside the day-to-day work of the University who have a strong interest in University outcomes but who do not directly determine what goes into producing those outcomes. They include parents, business community, suppliers, customers of ABUAD entities, local residents, accreditation bodies, regulatory bodies, trainers, local and foreign partners, mentors, and advisors.

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#### 3. ENGAGEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

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The University governance measures shall reflect elected representation on University governing bodies, as well as policy and processes to involve internal and external stakeholders in a balanced and equitable manner in the governance and management of the University.

Related policies and programmes include but not limited to the following:

- (i) **Recognizing student bodies including their clubs, societies, and forums:** The University recognizes and supports the functioning of the University's Student Council (SRC) and other societies and clubs at College levels.

The SRC shall be the students' highest body of representation, deliberation, consultation and advice. The SRC shall comprise of elected representatives from each of the Colleges of the

University who are chosen by vote from an entirely student led electoral process, without political influence of the university authorities.

- (ii) **Identifying and engaging with local stakeholders in University Governance:** In accordance with the procedures set out in the University Statute, the University shall ensure full and diverse representation of internal and external stakeholders in all decision making Boards, Councils and Committees of the University, including the Board of Trustees, Governing Council, Advisory Boards of different Colleges and departments; supervisory committees; curriculum development committees
- (iii) **Community Development Programmes:** The University shall prioritize and regularly implement conferences, workshops, empowerment schemes and corporate social responsibility initiatives to boost social, economic and environmental well-being of its internal and external stakeholders, including local residents, local government, local private, farmers' unions, cooperatives, and local civil society representatives.

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#### **4. PROCEDURE FOR GRIEVANCES**

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A stakeholder may file an appeal to the Vice Chancellor if he/she feels aggrieved by a decision in violation of the governance engagement and representation stipulated in this policy. Such appeal shall be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor

The jurisdictional directives of the review committee include:

- Determine whether proper university procedures have been followed;
- Review and make recommendations in relation to appeal and grievances;
- Communicate its decision to the complainant.

After hearing the case, the committee will submit its recommendations to the Vice Chancellor and to the appellant or grievant.

The decision of the Vice Chancellor is final.

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#### **5. COMMUNITY THAT MUST KNOW THIS POLICY**

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University Management, Provosts, Program Coordinators, Directors, Faculty, Students.