**WORLD INDIGENOUS NATIONS UNIVERSITY**

**(W I N U)**

**DRAFT CONSTITUTION 2014. (May update)**

**NAME: - The name of the university shall be the:**

**World Indigenous Nations University .**

1. **VISION.**

**The vision of WINU is as follows:**

**“We gather as Indigenous Peoples of our respective nations recognising and**

**reaffirming the educational rights of all Indigenous Peoples. We share the vision of**

**all indigenous Peoples of the world united in the synergy of self determination**

**through the control of higher education – committed to the building of**

**partnerships that restore and retain indigenous spirituality, cultures and**

**languages, homelands, social systems, economic systems and self determination.”**

1. **The Aim of Indigenous Education**

**The aim of all effective indigenous education systems should enable all**

**indigenous peoples :**

* **To live as Indigenous Peoples,**
* **To be successful in the global world no matter where they live;**
* **To enjoy a high standard of living and good health.**

**WINU is committed to the advancement of this aim.**

1. **Objects and Goals**
2. **WINU provides an international forum to support indigenous peoples to**

**pursue common goals through the means of education and at the same time**

**receive academic honours as proof of such academic endeavours.**

1. **WINU provides opportunities to study not only for personal gain but also to**

**provide the educational basis for further development of their own**

**indigenous peoples.**

1. **Study emphasis will be placed on enhancing employability, spiritual beliefs,**

**cultures and languages of each identifiable indigenous groups.**

1. **Studies will also be encouraged to advance the social, economic and political**

**status of indigenous peoples that contribute to the wellbeing of indigenous**

**communities.**

1. **Emphasis will be placed on maintaining a Accreditation System to ensure**

**high quality comparable levels of academic endeavour and output.**

1. **WINU places emphasis on creating a global network of sharing knowledge**

**through exchange forums and state of the art technology.**

1. **WINU intends to promote the maintenance, retention and advancement of**

**traditional indigenous bodies of knowledge.**

1. **WINU intends to protect, preserve and advocate indigenous intellectual**

**property rights - in particular the reaffirming and observance of the**

**Mataatua Declaration on Cultural and intellectual of Indigenous Peoples**

**(June 1993)**

1. **In order to accelerate the aims of Indigenous education WINU supports the**

**Coolangatta Statement (1993) which advocates greater control of indigenous**

**education by indigenous peoples.**

1. **WINU will promote the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of**

**indigenous Peoples as an important focus of Indigenous development.**

1. **WINU will work closely with the World Indigenous Nations Higher**

**Education Consortium (WINHEC). Both organisations support the World**

**Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education. (WIPCE)**

1. **Powers of WINU.**

**To further the above goals WINU has the following powers:**

1. **To arrange conferences for members of WINU and other interested**

**bodies and persons to enhance the objectives of indigenous education.**

1. **To facilitate the exchange of ideas, staff, structures and programmes**

**between members of WINU.**

1. **To support the voices of indigenous peoples on issues pertaining to higher**

**education.**

1. **To arrange meetings of an educational character (including research) for the**

**benefit of indigenous peoples.**

1. **To set up Education (Teaching) Regions –in Samiland, Alaska, Canada,**

**United States of America, Pacific, Australia and New Zealand, Taiwan**

**Note: Other countries may wish to join at a later date.**

1. **The WINHEC Executive Members of each Region will appoint an Education**

**Director to work with them and with voluntary tutors to begin enrolling**

**and teaching enrolled students in the academic programmes agreed to by WINU**

1. **To confer on the recommendation of the Education Regions and an**

**Accreditation Agency;**

1. **Masters and Doctorates that are earned through study;**
2. **Meritorious honorary doctorates through lifelong academic**

**endeavours for the benefit of their own indigenous peoples**

1. **Meritorious honorary Doctorates to indigenous Elders (knowledge**

**holders) of member countries.**

1. **To promote indigenous methodologies of research in particular ownership,**

**control, access and possession of such research.**

1. **To secure and accept funds from appropriate bodies to support the work of WINU.**
2. **To hold annual meetings of the WINU Board of Governors and others in**

**association with the annual meetings of WINHEC.**

1. **Board of Governors**

**The Membership of the WINU Board of Governors shall be:**

* **The Chancellor; (1) The Deputy Chancellor ( 1)**
* **The Chair or Co-Chairs of WINHEC (1 or 2)**
* **The WINHEC Executive Administrator (1)**
* **Accreditation Authority (1)**
* **One member of the WINHEC Executive Representatives of each member country-**

**Alaska, Canada, United States, Hawaii/Pacific), Taiwan, Saamiland Australia**

**New Zealand**

1. **Education (Teaching) Regions – The following are asked to set up Education**

**Teaching Regions Canada, Alaska, Saamiland, United States, The Pacific,**

**Australia and New Zealand, Taiwan..**

**Note: Each Region will seek to appoint a voluntary Education Director to**

**advertise and enrol students and to encourage voluntary qualified tutors to**

**enrol and teach indigenous students – in the main by telecommunications.**

**NB. Members including Education Directors may send substitutes to WINU**

**meetings if they are unable to attend. They have full voting powers.**

1. **Annual General Meetings.**

**Annual General Meetings will be called by the Chancellor or the Deputy Chancellor.**

**While the agenda will vary from year to year the basic core agenda items will include:**

1. **Welcome by the hosts of the host country including a spiritual blessing**
2. **Reply by the Chancellor/Deputy Chancellor and other country members;**
3. **Annual Reports – Chancellor/Deputy Chancellor and other member countries.**
4. **Financial Reports.**
5. **Consideration of Honours to be bestowed.**
6. **Other matters**
7. **Closing Prayers.**

**Note – The honouring ceremonies of both WINHEC and WINU may be held together.**

1. **Appointment of Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor. This matter will be kept under review. It is hoped that an agreement can be reached. In the meantime**

**It is possible to treat these positions on a three year or six year basis similar to the Chair system of WINHEC.**