

**UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
(UCT)**

**MANUAL IN TERMS OF
SECTION 14(1) OF THE
PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT
ACT 2 OF 2000**

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1. Introduction: Functions of UCT

UCT is a public higher education institution in terms of the Higher Education Act, 1997, and undertakes teaching, research and public service.

The internal governance of UCT is determined in terms of the Higher Education Act, 1997, and the Statute of the University of Cape Town as published under the Government Gazette of 20 September 2002 as subsequently amended and available for inspection at the UCT website: www.uct.ac.za.

2. Structure of UCT

The UCT Statute describes the governance and other structures of the university. The UCT Statute was published under Government Notice No 1199 of 20 September 2002 as amended by:-

- Government Notice 259 of 26 February 2004,
- Government Notice 476 of 20 May 2005,
- Government Notice 748 of 27 August 2010, and
- Government Notice 408 of 23 May 2012

3. Contact Details

Address: Bremner Building, Lovers' Walk, Rondebosch
Postal address: UCT, Private Bag X3, Rondebosch, 7701
Telephone: 021-650-2115/6
Fax: 021-650-2138
Website: www.uct.ac.za

Head of Institution: Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng, Vice-Chancellor
Fax: 021-650-5100
Email: vc@uct.ac.za

The Registrar acts as Deputy Information Officer in terms of the powers and duties delegated to him / her by the Vice Chancellor.

Requests in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act should be sent to the Registrar.

Deputy Information Officer: Royston Pillay, Registrar
Fax: 021-650-2138
Email: registrar@uct.ac.za

For information dealt with by faculties, requests may be sent to the following Deputy Information Officers:-

Faculty of Humanities: Sashni Chetty
sashni.chetty@uct.ac.za

Faculty of Science: Karen Wienand
karen.wienand@uct.ac.za

Faculty of Law: Tabile Loqo
tabile.loqo@uct.ac.za

Faculty of Commerce: Musa Gcilitshana
musa.gcilitshana@uct.ac.za

Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment: Gita Valodia
gita.valodia@uct.ac.za

Faculty of Health Sciences: Sandra Munesar
sandra.munesar@uct.ac.za

4. The Human Rights Commission guide

The Human Rights Commission has issued a guide to help a person wishing to exercise any right contemplated in the Act. The contact details for the Human Rights Commission guide are as follows:

SA Human Rights Commission
Postal address: Private Bag 2700, Houghton, 2041
Telephone: 011-484-8300
Fax: 011-484-0582
Website: www.sahrc.org.za

5. Records held by UCT

(a) Automatically available or voluntarily disclosed records:

All information or records published on the UCT website are automatically available voluntarily, without having to submit PAIA requests.

These include:-

1. Reports
2. Student handbooks, rules and syllabus information
3. Newsletters, media statements
4. Information about the University

Details of the above may be found at the website or on application to the information officer.

(b) Categories of records held by the University that may be requested in terms of PAIA:

1. Records of organs of internal governance (the Council, the Senate, the Institutional Forum, the SRC, the Convocation and of University committees)
2. Records of individual students
3. Records of individual personnel
4. Research, scientific and technical records
5. Financial records, reports, contracts and asset registers

(c) Categories of records available without a person having to request access thereto (section 15):

No notice has been published to date.

6. Services available from UCT to members of the public

A comprehensive list of services is contained in the University's annual handbooks which can be viewed by visiting the website at <http://www.uct.ac.za>.

7. Participation in policy or decision making (section 14(g))

Students and staff participate in policy and decision making processes of the University in accordance with the provisions of the Higher Education Act, Act 101 of 1997, as amended, as well as in terms of those internal procedures as agreed with student and staff representative bodies from time to time.

Other interested persons may submit their comments or proposals in writing to the Registrar at the address stated in paragraph 3 above.

8. Remedies and appeals in respect of an act or failure to act by the University

A member of the public may lodge a complaint in writing with the Registrar.

The University's internal grievance procedure may be utilised by staff members.

If the complaint is in respect of an act, or a failure to act in terms of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, Act 2 of 2000, the complainant may take such steps as provided for in sections 74 to 82 of this Act.

Procedures for student complaints and appeals are set out in full in the annual handbooks which may be seen at www.uct.ac.za.

9. Other Information

For any other information not contained in this manual, kindly contact the Information Officer, the contact details of which are given in paragraph 3 above.

Alternatively visit the University's website at <http://www.uct.ac.za>. This manual is also available in Afrikaans and in Xhosa.

This version of the manual is dated April 2017.

10. Requests

(a) Requester:

A requester must be given access to a record of UCT as a public body if the requester complies with the following:

- the requester complies with all the procedural requirements in the Act relating to the request for access to that record; and
- access to that record is not refused on any ground of refusal mentioned in the Act.

(b) Nature of the request:

A requester must use the prescribed form [Govt. Notice R187-15 February 2002 Form A]. This is available on the following websites: www.sahrc.org.za or www.doj.gov.za.

The requester must indicate if the request is for a copy of the record or if the requester wants to inspect the record. (If the record is not a document it can then be viewed in the requested form, where possible [s 29(2)].

A requester who asks for access in a particular form should get access in the manner that has been asked for, unless this would interfere unreasonably with the running of UCT, or damage the record, or infringe a copyright. If for practical reasons access cannot be given in the requested form but in another way the fee must be calculated according to the way that the requester asked for it [s29(3) and (4)].

If the requester wants a written reply or wants to be informed about the decision in any other way, e.g. telephone, this must be indicated by the requester [s 18(2) (e)].

If a requester is asking for the information on behalf of somebody else, the capacity in which the request is being made must be indicated [s 18(2)(f)].

If a requester is unable to read or write, or has a disability, the requester may make the request for the record orally. The information officer must then fill in the form on behalf of such a requester and give him or her a copy [s 18(3)].

11. Fees

There are two types of fees being the request fee and the access fee. These were gazetted on 9 March 2001, Government Notice R223.

A requester who seeks access to a record containing personal information about that requester is not required to pay the request fee. Every other requester, who is not a

personal requester, must pay the required request fee of R35.

The information officer must notify the requester (other than a personal requester) by notice, requiring the requester to pay the prescribed fee of R35 before further processing the request.

After the information officer has made a decision on the request the requester must be notified of the decision in the way the requester asked to be notified.

If the request is granted a further access fee must be paid for the search, preparation, reproduction and for any time that has exceeded the prescribed hours to search and prepare the record for disclosure.

The structure for access fees is available at www.sahrc.org.za or www.doj.gov.za.

Royston Pillay
Registrar
May 2019