



Greenland Parliament Act no. 19 of 19 November 2007 on Ilisimatusarfik (*University of Greenland*)

Part 1 General Provisions

1. Ilisimatusarfik is to conduct research and offer research-based education at the highest international level within its academic fields. Ilisimatusarfik must ensure equal interaction between research, development and education, perform ongoing development of its academic research and educational fields and disseminate and exchange knowledge of the methods and results of science.

(2) Ilisimatusarfik has academic freedom as well as freedom of methodology and must safeguard this freedom. The Government of Greenland may order Ilisimatusarfik to perform research, review and teaching tasks as far as the required resources so permit and upon discussion with Ilisimatusarfik about said tasks.

(3) Ilisimatusarfik must collaborate with the external environment and contribute to the development of international collaboration. The University's research and educational results must contribute to promoting the development of Greenland and the Arctic. As a central knowledge-based body and cultural repository, Ilisimatusarfik must exchange knowledge and competences with society and encourage its employees to take part in the public debate.

Part 2 Programmes

2. Ilisimatusarfik may offer the following research-based programmes, which are independent, complete study programmes:

1) Undergraduate programmes:

- a) Bachelor programmes for 180 ECTS points.
- b) Professional bachelor programmes for 180 or 240 ECTS points.
- c) Diploma degree for 60 ECTS points.

2) Postgraduate programmes:

- a) Master's (candidatus) programmes for 120 ECTS points.
- b) Master (master) programmes for 60 to 90 ECTS points.

3) Research programmes:

- a) PhD programmes for 180 ECTS points.

(2) If special circumstances apply, the Government of Greenland may in exceptional cases deviate from the ECTS points mentioned in subsection (1).



3. Bachelor, Professional bachelor, master's (candidatus) and PhD programmes are offered as research-based full-time programmes. Diploma and master (master) programmes are offered as research-based part-time programmes.

(2) Ilisimatusarfik may offer its full-time programmes as part-time programmes.

(3) Ilisimatusarfik may offer single courses and domain-specific courses programmes from the programmes mentioned in section 2 (1), nos. 1) and 2).

(4) The length, curricula, academic level and organisations must be framed to correspond to national and international educational programmes and in such a way as to make credit transfer, student exchange and international recognition possible.

4. The Government of Greenland approves programmes within new academic fields upon consultation with Ilisimatusarfik.

(2) The Government of Greenland may limit the number of programmes offered if a programme is estimated to be no longer necessary or if the programme no longer meets the quality requirements of research-based education.

(3) The Government of Greenland may limit admission to the programmes.

(4) The Government of Greenland may in exceptional cases evaluate one or more programmes.

5. Within its academic fields, Ilisimatusarfik may award the Diploma degree, the Bachelor degree, the Master's (candidatus) degree, the Master (master) and the PhD degree.

(2) Following recommendation from Ilisimatusarfik, the Government of Greenland may approve that the degrees mentioned in subsection (1) are awarded in collaboration with another university if part(s) of a programme is taken at the other university.

(3) Ilisimatusarfik may award the honorary doctoral degree as PhD degree.

6. Ilisimatusarfik may enter into agreements with universities and other educational institutions, offering similar programmes, regarding parts of programmes or research connected to a programme.

7. The Government of Greenland lays down rules governing programmes, including examinations, grading, appeals, quality development, and rules governing admission to programmes, upon consultation with Ilisimatusarfik.

(2) Ilisimatusarfik determines curricula which lay down the content and organisation of the programmes pursuant to subsection (1).

8. Ilisimatusarfik offers students guidance during their studies on the programme, opportunities for studying abroad, and employment opportunities.



Part 3 Governance

Board of Governors

9. The board is the university's supreme authority. The board safeguards Ilisimatusarfik's interests as educational and research institution and determines the guidelines for its development and organisation.

(2) The board answers to the Government of Greenland regarding the university's activities, including the administration of the university's financial resources. Following recommendation from the rector, the board approves the budget, including the distribution of the resources and the principles governing the use of resources. The board signs the financial statements.

(3) The board lays down the statutes and amendments thereto of Ilisimatusarfik. The statutes and any amendments must be approved by the Government of Greenland.

(4) The board appoints and dismisses the rector and appoints and dismisses the prorector and the university director upon recommendation from the rector.

(5) The board may enter into a development contract with the Government of Greenland.

(6) The board has no authority in individual cases regarding other employees of Ilisimatusarfik, cf. subsection (4), or students.

(7) The Government of Greenland may order the board to resign if the board fails to comply with orders from the Government to rectify any unlawful acts, with a view to appointing a new board.

10. The members of the board must jointly contribute to promoting the development of Ilisimatusarfik, based on their knowledge of Greenland and Arctic conditions, knowledge of and experience in management, research and education as well as knowledge dissemination and knowledge exchange.

(2) The greatest possible degree of openness is required in relation to the board's activities.

11. The board is composed of eleven members:

1) 6 external members.

2) 2 members representing the researchers and academic staff of Ilisimatusarfik, including PhD students with university contracts. 1 of these members must represent the professional bachelor programmes.

3) 1 member representing the technical and administrative staff.

4) 2 members representing the students. 1 of these members must represent the professional bachelor programmes.



(2) The Government of Greenland appoints the external members upon non-binding nomination by Iisimatusarfik. The members are appointed in their personal capacity and for a period of 4 years. When nominating members, special emphasis is placed on their professional and personal qualifications, experience in developing organisations and research and educational environments, preferably in an international perspective. A member may be reappointed.

(3) The members mentioned under subsection (1) nos. 2-4 are elected through direct election by 5 electoral groups:

- 1) Electoral group 1. Academic staff for bachelor, master's (candidatus), master (master) and PhD programmes.
- 2) Electoral group 2. Academic staff for professional bachelor and diploma programmes.
- 3) Electoral group 3. Students from bachelor, master's (candidatus) and PhD programmes.
- 4) Electoral group 4. Students from professional bachelor programmes.
- 5) Electoral group 5. Technical and administrative staff.

(4) Only staff employed on full-time contracts or contracts equalling at least 50% of full-time, and full-time students are eligible and entitled to vote.

(5) The representatives mentioned under subsection (1) nos. 2) and 3) are offered special protection in line with trade union representatives within a similar area.

(6) The board elects a chairman from among its external members. Every board member has one vote. In the event of a parity of votes, the chairman has the casting vote.

(7) Detailed provisions governing the appointment and activities of the board are laid down in the statutes.

Rector

12. The day-to-day management of Iisimatusarfik is handled by the rector within the framework established by the board. The rest of the management of Iisimatusarfik undertake their assignments by authorisation from the rector.

(2) The rector is assisted by the pro-rector who is the rector's deputy. The rector and the pro-rector form the university management.

(3) The rector and the pro-rector must be masters (candidatus) within one of the academic fields of Iisimatusarfik and must possess knowledge of Greenlandic conditions and the educational sector. The rector must have experience in the management and development of research and educational environments.



13. The rector represents Ilisimatusarfik and has authority in all cases where authority has not been transferred to the board, the academic board, the boards of studies or the heads of institutes, cf. sections 9 and 10, section 14 (1) nos. 4) and 5), section 18 and 19 (3).

(2) The rector makes recommendations to the Board of Governors regarding the appointment and dismissal of the other members of the senior management, cf. section 9 (4).

(3) The rector appoints and dismisses the heads of institutes and heads of departments.

(4) The rector presents the budget and the annual report for adoption by the board and signs the annual report.

(5) The rector lays down rules on disciplinary measures for students, including termination of registration as a student.

(6) The rector approves all external collaboration agreements binding Ilisimatusarfik.

(7) In special cases, the rector may dissolve the academic board and assume its tasks.

Academic Board

14. An academic board is set up. The academic board has the following tasks:

1) Issuing opinions to the rector on the internal distribution of appropriations.

2) Issuing opinions to the rector on central research and educational issues and plans for knowledge exchange.

3) Approval of curricula and pilot projects regarding programmes following recommendation by the institute boards.

4) Composition of expert committees to assess the scientific work of applicants for academic positions and awarding of PhD degrees.

5) Awarding PhD degrees.

(2) The academic board may issue opinions on all academic issues of material importance to the organisation and activities of Ilisimatusarfik and is obliged to discuss all academic issues presented to it by the rector.

(3) In the event of a parity of votes, the chairman has the casting vote.

15. The academic board is composed by the following members:

1) The rector is ex officio chairperson.

2) The pro-rector.

3) 2 members representing the management of the institutes cf. section 18 (3). 1 of these members must represent the professional bachelor programmes.

4) 2 members representing the academic staff of Ilisimatusarfik, including PhD students. 1 of these members must represent the professional bachelor programmes.



5) 2 members representing the students. 1 of these members must represent the professional bachelor programmes.

6) 1 member representing the technical and administrative staff with observer status.

(2) Members mentioned under subsection (1) nos. 4) – 6) are elected according to the rules stated in section 11 (3) and (4).

16. During discussions pertaining to the cases mentioned under section 14 (1) no. 4), regarding the awarding of the PhD degree, and in other matters regarding research, only members who are researchers are entitled to vote.

(2) Detailed provisions governing the academic board, including election and electoral period are laid down in the statutes.

Institutes

17. The research and research-based educational programmes are the responsibility of institutes.

(2) As far as possible, the institutes must include bachelor and master's (candidatus) programmes and professional bachelor programmes and include related academic fields within educational programmes and research.

(3) A programme may be placed outside an institute if the research on which the programme is based is not carried out by any of the institutes. In such cases, an agreement must be made with another university regarding research and organization and approval of the programme, cf. section 6.

18. An institute is headed by a head of institute. The head of institute may also be head of a department, cf. section 24.

(2) The head of institute appoints and dismisses the staff of the institute except for the heads of departments, cf. section 13 (3).

(3) The head of institute and the heads of departments compose the institute management. It handles the day-to-day management of the institute, including planning and division of tasks, according to guidelines approved by the rector and upon recommendation by the institute board.

(4) The institute management may instruct employees to carry out certain tasks while respecting their choice of scientific methods.

19. The head of institute must hold a relevant higher degree within his/her academic field and must have teaching experience within his/her academic field.



20. Under each institute an institute board is set up.

(2). The institute board debates general guidelines for research and research-based programmes under the institute before the institute management makes recommendations in this regard to the rector and the academic board.

(3). Following general guidelines and recommendations from the heads of departments, the institute board approves:

- 1) Admission of students.
- 2) Credit transfers.
- 3) Award of academic degrees except the PhD degree.
- 4) Establishment of innovation and quality enhancement board under the institute, cf. section 25.

(4). The institute board makes recommendations to the academic board regarding:

- 1) Curricula for the programmes under the institute.
- 2) Pilot projects regarding programmes.
- 3) Composition of expert committees to assess the scientific work of applicants for academic positions and awarding of PhD degrees.
- 4) The institute's budget proposal.
- 5) Organisation of departments and their responsibilities.

(5). The institute board may issue opinions on matters of material importance to the organisation and activities of the institute and is obliged to discuss all issues presented to it by the rector and the heads of institutes.

(6). Decisions in the institute board are made by simple majority vote. Concerning decisions about matters related to research only, the statutes or the procedures of the board may define that only researchers are entitled to vote.

21. An institute board is composed by the following members:

- 1) The head of institute, who is also the chairperson.
- 2) Heads of departments.
- 3) 2 - 3 members representing the academic staff including PhD students. 2 members must be researchers. If the institute offers professional bachelor programmes, 1 member must represent these programmes.
- 4) If the institutes employs technical and administrative staff, this groups is represented by a maximum of 2 members.
- 5) 1 student from each of the full-time programmes offered by the institute, however, at least 2 students must be members.

22. The members mentioned under section 21 (1) nos. 3) – 5), are elected by direct election among staff and students at the institute.

(2). Only staff employed on full-time contracts or contracts equalling at least 50% of full-time, and full-time students are eligible and entitled to vote.



(3). Rules regulating preparation and implementation of elections are laid down in the statutes.

Departments

23. An institute may have several departments.

(2). A department may comprise one or more research-based programmes and/or one or more research and dissemination entities without formalised educational activities.

24. A department is managed by a head of department who is responsible for the day-to-day management of the department.

(2). The responsibilities of the head of department include issuing opinions and recommendations to the institute management and the institute board, including:

- 1) Drafts for curricula.
- 2) Organisation of teaching and tests.
- 3) Research and dissemination plans.
- 4) Drafts for the organisation of the department, including appointment of head of studies and students counselors.
- 5) Propositions for membership of the institute's innovation and quality assurance board.

(3). The head of department may issue opinions to the institute management and the institute board on matters of material importance to the activities of the department and on appointments and dismissals and must be heard in all matters of importance to the department.

Innovation and Quality Enhancement Board

25. An institute board must establish an innovation and quality enhancement board as source of inspiration and adviser to the university board, the university management, the academic board, heads of institutes and institutes boards as well as heads of departments.

(2). The innovation and quality enhancement board must assess the possibilities for contributing to:

- 1) Strengthen the institute's research and research-based programmes.
- 2) Strengthen the position and participation of the institute in international research and education collaboration and make the institute an attractive partner in such collaborations.
- 3) Strengthen the position of the institute as a research and educational unit which contributes to the purpose of Ilisimatusarfik.



(3). The innovation and quality enhancement board may establish expert committees within a specific academic field or programme. Members of such committees need not be members of the innovation and quality assurance board.

26. The innovation and quality enhancement boards are composed by external experts. They are established for a four-year period in the following way:

- 1) From 1 to 3 members appointed by the rector.
- 2) From 1 to 3 members appointed by the institute board.
- 3) 1 member appointed upon recommendation by the students at the institute.

(2). The members of each innovation and quality enhancement board must hold such competences that the board as a whole is capable of undertaking the tasks mentioned under section 25 (2).

(3). Rules governing appointment and functioning of an innovation and quality enhancement board are laid down in the statutes.

Part 4 Economy and Administration

Economy

27. The annual Appropriation Act of the Parliament of Greenland lays down the annual subsidies for Ilisimatusarfik's activities prescribed by law or as per agreement.

(2). Ilisimatusarfik may receive other subsidies, inheritance and donations than those from the Appropriation Acts. Such funds must be registered separately from the subsidies provided by the Appropriation Act.

(3). Ilisimatusarfik may undertake income-generating and grant-financed activities.

(4). Ilisimatusarfik disposes freely of subsidies and other income. Ilisimatusarfik follows the rules in the budget guidelines and undertakes the assignments therein described.

28. Ilisimatusarfik follows the rules for the Greenlandic Home Rule Government governing budget, accounts and financial reporting.

(2). The financial statements include separate statements regarding the allocation of the subsidies provided through the Appropriation Act.

(3). The financial statements are audited by the auditor of the Government of Greenland.



(4). By the end of March each year, the university board submits an annual report including financial statements and auditing standards and guidelines to the Government of Greenland. Upon approval of the annual report, the Government of Greenland informs the Parliament of Greenland.

Administration

29. The administration of the Government of Greenland is headed by the university director, who reports to the rector.

(2). Ilimatusarfik undertakes the running and administration of Ilimmarfik (the University Centre) and may undertake administrative tasks for other institutions within Ilimmarfik according to agreement.

Part 5 Other Provisions

30. Legal issues relating to Ilimatusarfik's decision on student matters may be brought before the Government of Greenland.

(2). A complaint must be submitted within 4 weeks counting from the day the complainant is informed of the decision.

(3). The Government of Greenland lays down rules governing the right to complain and the hearing of complaints.

(4). Non-legal issues relating to Ilimatusarfik's decisions on student matters, cf. subsection (1), including complaints of grades, cannot be brought before a higher administrative authority.

Part 6 Commencement Provisions etc.

31. This Act enters into force on 1 January 2008.

(2). The following parliament acts, orders and consolidation acts are abolished:

- 1) Parliament Act no. 16 of 31 October 1996 on Ilimatusarfik (Ilimatusarfik).
- 2) Parliament Act no. 60af 30 October 1995 on the journalist educational programme.
- 3) Parliament Act no. 2 of 2 May 1996 on the teacher educational programme.
- 4) Parliament Act no. 10 of 31 October 1996 on the social worker's educational programme.
- 5) Parliament Act no. 7 of 29 October 1999 on the nursing educational programme.



6) Consolidation Act no. 7 of 2 January 1990 on rules governing the election of governing bodies, including the election of the rector and pro-rector at Ilisimatusarfik.

(3). Rules laid down under the provisions of acts referred to in subsection (1) remain in force until repealed or replaced by other rules.

32. The elected rector and pro-rector at the time of the entering into force of this Act uphold their employment until the rector and pro-rector appointed by the university board take up their posts.

(2). The elected heads of institute at the time of the entering into force of this Act remain in these posts until the heads of institute appointed by the rector take up their posts.

(3). Members of university boards and boards of studies uphold their posts until the university board has been appointed or until an institute board has been elected, respectively.

(4). Employees of the institutions merging with Ilisimatusarfik, uphold their existing employment status.

33. The university board and the academic board must be appointed by 1 March 2008.

(2). The university board undertakes the tasks of the university board until the board has been appointed. However, the university board only decides on matters necessary to the continued activities of Ilisimatusarfik. The heads of institutions merging with Ilisimatusarfik, become members of the university board.

(3). The boards of studies undertake the tasks of the institute board until the board has been appointed. However, the boards of studies only decide on matters necessary to the continued activities of the institute.

(4). Until a new institute structure enters into force, the professional colleges and Inerisaavik (the National Advisory Centre for Elementary Education) uphold their existing structure and refer to the rector.

Greenland Home Rule Government, 19 November 2007

Hans Enoksen

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