Student Union Policy

1. Purpose

This policy sets out how AASTMT recognizes and supports independent, democratically elected student unions.

2. Policy Statement

The Deanship of Student Affairs guarantees the integrity of the election process and provides administrative support. Once elected, the student union operates independently in setting its own agenda, activities and positions.

Student unions help students develop communication, problem-solving and leadership skills by organizing activities, events and community service projects.

The student union serves as the official, unified advocacy voice for the student body. In fulfilling this role, executive officers engage in structured, periodic consultative assemblies with the university's senior administration to formally communicate student perspectives, ideas, strategic interests, and welfare concerns. Furthermore, the President of AASTMT shall convene formal, scheduled convocations with student union representatives to actively evaluate, discuss, and implement their institutional recommendations.

3. Scope

This policy is universally applicable to all regularly enrolled undergraduate and postgraduate students across all campuses, faculties, and regional operational branches of the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT).

4. Procedural Description & Electoral Mechanisms

AASTMT mandates strict adherence to the General Rules and Candidacy Conditions for College Student Council Elections. These regulations are published transparently on the official university portal. The Deanship of Student Affairs actively welcomes expressions of candidacy from qualified students during designated enrollment intervals.

The election cycle strictly observes the following operational workflow:

- **Institutional Screening:** The Deanship checks applications only against the published eligibility criteria. Any candidate who is excluded is told the reason in writing within 5 working days.
- **Electronic Voting:** Validated candidates advance to a secure, institutional electronic election and voting framework accessible to the general student populace.
- **Results:** After counting and checking the votes, the candidate with the most valid votes becomes the Student Union President. The candidate with the second-highest number of votes becomes the Vice President, while the other successful candidates become active members of the council.
- Elected student unions plan and run their own activities, manage their approved activity budget, and may express student views freely, including views that differ from those of the administration.

5. Student Union Core Objectives

- **Holistic Development:** Contribute systematically to the development of well-rounded, ethically grounded student personalities, while fostering structured, positive interactions between students, faculty members, administrative staff, and executive leadership.
- **Pedagogical Synergy:** Actively support and advance the institutional academic mission by conceptualizing and conducting specialized workshops, lectures, training seminars, and peer-to-peer educational initiatives.
- **Inter-University Networking:** Establish and maintain strategic coordination frameworks with peer elected student unions across other Egyptian and international higher education institutions to facilitate collaborative knowledge transfer.
- **Welfare & Advocacy:** The Student Union focuses on addressing students' academic and administrative concerns by regularly following up on complaints, representing their interests, and advocating for timely solutions through dialogue with the AASTMT administration.
- **Extracurricular Enhancement:** Directly cultivate, manage, and expand cultural, scientific, social, athletic, and creative student activities, continually auditing their operational effectiveness and community impact.
- **Democratic Discourse:** Nurture an inclusive, objective, and democratic environment that champions constructive dialogue, civil engagement, mutual tolerance, and deep respect for diverse viewpoints.
- **Civic & Community Engagement:** Engage constructively and dynamically with the local community through structured participation in social initiatives, partnering effectively with both official governmental entities and non-governmental institutions.

Document control	
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Lead contact:	Dean of the Student Affairs
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