ACADEMIA CODE OF CONDUCT

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02 February 2017
1. DEFINITIONS AND TERMS

For the purposes of this Code of Conduct, the following words shall have the meaning ascribed to them hereunder

1.1. Academia: Academia Management Services (Pty) Limited, acting as the landlord in terms of the Lease Agreement, alternatively as representative of the landlord in the Lease Agreement, duly authorised;

1.2. Academia Development: The student housing development situated in Bosman Street, Stellenbosch, comprising buildings, parking areas and common areas enclosed by a security fence;

1.3. Assistant Resident Heads (Thought Leaders): The four persons appointed by the University to assist the Resident Head in his/her responsibilities, in conjunction with the Leadership Circle;

1.4. Block: A single three storey structure, containing separate Units, passages, verandas, a Quad Area, braai facilities, where applicable, and landscaped areas;

1.5. Communal Area: Enclosed, common gathering area situated on each floor in Blocks 3-7;

1.6. House: One of four houses, each comprising a number of Blocks of the Academia Development, being Mostertsdrift, Weltevreden, Saxenhof or Boschendal;

1.7. Leadership Circle: The student body elected/appointed to act as representatives of the University to undertake the administration and management of student affairs, as described in the University’s Residence Rules;

1.8. Lease Agreement: The lease agreement between any one the various landlords, represented by Academia where applicable, and any sub-lessee or lessee in respect of a Unit in the Academia Development in terms whereof the Resident is allowed to occupy a Unit;

1.9. Parents: For purposes of this Code of Conduct any reference to a parent or parents shall include a guardian/guardians;

1.10. Quad Area: The open air, common gathering area particular to each Block;

1.11. Resident(s): Any person(s) who has the right to occupy a Unit in terms of a Lease Agreement;

1.12. Resident Head: The person appointed by the University to oversee the proper functioning of the student body and student affairs of the Academia Development in conjunction with the Leadership Circle and the Assistant Resident Heads;

1.13. Unit: Any room or flat within the Academia Development allocated to one Resident, as described in a Lease Agreement;

2. **GENERAL**

2.1. This Code of Conduct is compiled in co-operation with the University of Stellenbosch to ensure a safe, orderly and pleasant living environment, which in turn is conducive to academic success.

2.2. It is confirmed that all students of the University of Stellenbosch are subject to the “Disciplinary Code for students of Stellenbosch University (rule 2.11)” of the University. Any student who makes either himself or herself guilty of any misconduct in terms of these rules will be subject to the disciplinary measures of the University.

2.3. Residents acknowledge that Academia is situated upon property owned by the University of Stellenbosch and the provisions of the “Disciplinary Code for students of Stellenbosch University (rule 2.11)” which refer to “on or in the vicinity of the University”, also applies to the Academia Development including non-University students.

2.4. Academia reserves the right to amend, delete or add to the provisions of these Conduct Rules from time to time.

2.5. This Code of Conduct does not influence or prejudice the provisions of the Lease Agreement and, in the case of any conflict between this Code of Conduct and the Lease Agreement, the provisions of the Lease Agreement will take precedence. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, it is confirmed that the remedies available in the case of breach of agreement as contained in the Lease Agreement will remain available to Academia, notwithstanding any disciplinary measures applied or enforced in terms of this Code of Conduct and/or the “Disciplinary Code for students of Stellenbosch University (rule 2.11).

2.6. This Code of Conduct also applies to Residents, whether temporary or otherwise, not registered as students of the University.

2.7. Residents are responsible to ensure compliance with this Code of Conduct by their guests, invitees or any other person gaining access to the Academia Development through them.

3. **OCCUPATION AND USAGE OF THE UNIT**

3.1. **GENERAL**

3.1.1. The number of occupants per Unit shall not exceed the number indicated in the Lease Agreement applicable to the Unit.

3.1.2. Residents are responsible for supplying their own bedding, towels and other household necessities.

3.1.3. Uniformity of curtains must be maintained (lining must be cream/white in the event of hanging your own curtains).

3.1.4. No screws or nails may be driven or hit into any walls, furniture or property
belonging to Academia.

3.1.5. All maintenance problems and defects must be reported to Academia in accordance with the procedure prescribed from time to time.

3.1.6. The sale or distribution of foodstuff or any other items, or the rendering of services at a fee is strictly prohibited, unless sanctioned by the Leadership Circle and/or authorised in writing by Academia.

3.1.7. Residents are not permitted to use the Unit or any other structure on the Development for any improper or unlawful purpose or in any other manner that is disruptive or disrespectful towards other Residents or creates a nuisance.

3.1.8. The sale, use or possession of illegal substances, drugs or controlled chemicals are strictly prohibited on the Academia Development and Residents who do not comply with this provision may face criminal and disciplinary action. Alcohol is at all times to be used in moderation and in a manner that does not cause offence to others or a nuisance. No student is allowed to carry open bottles, cans or other containers containing alcoholic beverages anywhere on the Academia Development.

3.1.9. Residents must at all times respect the privacy and property of other Residents.

3.1.10. Residents must attend Block and House meetings organised by the Leadership Circle. If a Resident is unable to do so, he/she must provide a formal apology to the relevant Leader, prior to the meeting, with valid reasons for not attending. In the absence of a formal apology accepted by the relevant Leader, disciplinary action may be follow (see 7.2.5).

3.2. **PREPARATION OF FOOD AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

3.2.1. Food may only be prepared in designated areas (i.e. kitchen areas).

3.2.2. The use of any appliances for the preparation of food (e.g. gas burners, toasters, any barbeque/braai equipment, microwave ovens, electrical frying pans, gas cylinders or hot plates) is strictly prohibited in bedrooms and in the passages/on the verandas in Blocks.

3.2.3. The tampering with, damaging of or overloading of switchboards, trip switches, wall sockets, permanent electrical cabling or electrical equipment is strictly prohibited.

3.2.4. Only SABS approved electrical power plugs or multi-plug extensions are allowed in a Unit.

3.3. **FURNITURE, APPLIANCES AND FIRE EQUIPMENT**

3.3.1. No double beds, washing machines, tumble dryers, air-conditioning units, free standing heaters, boom boxes and/or excessive sound systems will be allowed.

3.3.2. No furniture, appliances or equipment belonging to Academia may be removed from a Unit or any Communal Area, without the prior written consent of Academia.

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3.3.3. Changes or adjustments to furniture, appliances or property belonging to Academia, is strictly prohibited.

3.3.4. If any furniture, appliances or equipment belonging to Academia is removed from a Unit (e.g. it is left outside), same will be confiscated by Academia and the Resident will be held liable for any loss or damage.

3.3.5. The tampering with, damaging of or unlawful use of any fire-fighting equipment within the Unit or within a Block is strictly prohibited by law and punishable.

3.3.6. Fire-fighting equipment must at all times remain in their allocated positions in Blocks and may only be removed in case of emergency.

3.4. VANDALISM AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

3.4.1. Any form of vandalism, damage to or destruction of property on the Academia Development is forbidden. Offenders will be held liable and could face disciplinary action.

3.4.2. Residents are liable for any damage caused within the Academia Development by themselves or their guests/invitees or any person gaining access to the Academia Development through them. As such, Residents will be held responsible for the care of and condition of their Unit and the Communal Areas which they occupy, as well as the furniture, appliances and equipment therein and will be required to pay for the repair (or replacement, where applicable) of any Unit, furniture or equipment which were damaged. Residents shall ensure that Units, furniture and equipment are returned to Academia at the end of the lease period in respect of any Lease Agreement in the same condition as at the commencement of the lease period.

3.4.3. In the event that a Communal Area/Quad Area or any area around a Block and any furniture or equipment therein, is damaged or vandalised, and the guilty party is not found, all the Residents who have access to said areas will be held liable for damages.

3.5. GUESTS AND/OR VISITORS

3.5.1. For security reasons, no external cleaning services will be granted access to render services within the Academia Development. All cleaning services are to be rendered by a contractor accredited by Academia.

3.5.2. As set out in section 2.7 of this Code of Conduct, Residents are responsible to ensure compliance with this Code of Conduct by their guests/invitees or any other person gaining access to the Academia Development through them. Residents will therefore be held accountable for all the actions of the guests/invitees. Academia and/or the Assistant Resident Head(s) have the right to disallow any visitor from entering the Academia Development in its discretion.

3.5.3. No guests/visitors will be allowed access to the Academia Development after 00:00 without written permission from Academia or an Assistant Resident Head.
3.5.4. Guests/visitors are not permitted to access the Academia Development by vehicle or park their vehicles inside the Academia Development without the prior written consent of Academia.

3.5.5. All guests/visitors must sign the visitors’ record book at the security entrance, when gaining access to the Academia Development. Residents have to acknowledge their visitors to the security officials before they will be allowed access onto the Academia Development. No visitor will be allowed access without being acknowledged and cleared at security by the Resident. Residents are responsible to ensure these requirements are met by their visitors in order to prevent disciplinary steps be taken against them.

3.6. COMMON AREAS AND QUAD AREAS

3.6.1. Residents occupying units in Blocks where there are Communal Areas and (where applicable, communal bathrooms), are collectively responsible for maintaining a clean and hygienic state in these areas and for caring and cleaning of all furniture and equipment placed in such Communal Areas.

3.6.2. Members of the Leadership Circle responsible for Blocks with Communal Areas and Communal bathrooms may inspect these areas on a regular basis. In the event that conditions in these areas are not satisfactory, said member of the Leadership Circle will address the issue at a Block meeting with the respective Residents and report the matter to Academia.

3.6.3. All Residents are collectively responsible for the cleanliness and general condition of the Quad Areas (including the gardens) in the Blocks. The member(s) of the Leadership Circle responsible for a Block will inspect the Quad Area regularly and any concerns regarding the use of the Quad Area will be addressed in a Block meeting and reported to Academia.

3.6.4. The “braai “facilities and benches in Quad Areas must be used in a respectful and decent manner. Any vandalism of or damage to these items could lead to disciplinary action and liability for the damage. These areas must be cleared from all rubbish and empty bottles immediately after use. Failure to adhere to this will result in the cost of cleaning to be charged to the responsible Residents.

3.6.5. Residents must place all refuse in the refuse bins allocated to the Quad Area of each Block. Residents must refrain from leaving refuse in the passages and/or on the verandas of Blocks. All Residents are required to comply with the recycling rules of the Academia Development.

3.6.6. Laundry is not permitted on or over the balconies, railings, verandas of or in the Blocks or in passages or windows or on washing lines outside the Blocks. All unattended laundry will be confiscated.

3.6.7. Residents are not allowed to make use of the taps in the Blocks when they wash/clean vehicles or other outdoor equipment. Only buckets may be used. Fire hoses may under no circumstances be used for these purposes.
3.7. **PETS**

No pets are allowed on the Academia Development.

3.8. **MARKETING AND/OR ADVERTISING IN BLOCKS**

3.8.1. Only promotional/advertising material (e.g. flyers, posters) that has been approved and stamped by the Leadership Circle may be displayed/distributed in the Academia Development. Any materials which do not meet these requirements will be removed and the person(s) responsible could face legal or disciplinary action.

3.8.2. Promotional or advertising material that meets the necessary requirements and is displayed in the Academia Development, may not be destroyed, defaced or removed. Residents that contravene this provision could face legal and disciplinary action.

4. **FACILITIES**

4.1. **THE ACADEMIA DEVELOPMENT OFFERS THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES:**

4.1.1. The study centre, and the Academia hall,

4.1.2. The laundry,

4.1.3. “Deli” and the surrounding area and

4.1.4. Recycling of waste facilities.

4.2. **COMMON ROOMS (STUDY CENTRE AND ACADEMIA HALL)**

4.2.1. All furniture, appliances and equipment in the study centre, “deli” and the Academia Hall are, unless proven otherwise, the property of Academia. The “deli” is operated by an independent contractor and no person is allowed to bring any foodstuffs onto the “deli” premises.

4.2.2. The study centre, “deli” and the Academia Hall are there for the use and benefit of all Residents and must be used in a respectful and considerate manner.

4.2.3. The study centre, “deli” and the Academia Hall must at all times be neat and tidy.

4.2.4. The use of alcohol in the study centre and the Academia Hall is strictly prohibited, unless prior arrangements have been made with Academia and/or the Leadership Circle and/or the Assistant Resident Heads and the necessary liquor licences have been obtained, where applicable. Offenders will face disciplinary action. Controlled usage of liquor (but not the sale thereof) is allowed in the “deli” area subject to the discretion of and rules set for such usage from time to time by the Resident Head.
4.2.5. Noise and sound levels in the study centre and the Academia Hall must at all times be kept at a respectable and considerate level unless prior permission has been granted otherwise. The Academia Hall shall at all times be used in compliance with the rules set for such usage from time to time.

4.2.6. The use of alcohol at the entrance gates to the Academia Development or any other “public area”, except for the designated Quad Area of each Block and the “deli” as set out above, is strictly prohibited.

4.3. **THE LAUNDRY ROOM**

4.3.1. The washing machines, tumble dryers, furniture and any other equipment in the Laundry Area are owned by Academia.

4.3.2. These facilities are available for the use of Residents. Residents need coins in order to use the facilities. Enquiries as to the use of laundry facilities may be made at the Academia Office.

4.3.3. A laundry service is provided by Academia at an additional charge.

4.3.4. Residents must help to keep the Laundry Room neat and clean when using it.

4.3.5. Residents must follow the instructions in the Laundry Room with regards to the use of the washing machines and the tumble driers.

4.3.6. Residents must not leave their washing unattended in the Laundry Room for long periods (i.e. leave for class).

4.3.7. Academia does not accept responsibility for any damage caused to washing while using the machines or clothing that goes missing from the Laundry Room.

4.4. **“DELI” AND SURROUNDING AREA**

4.4.1. The area in and around the “deli” is for the use and enjoyment of all Residents. Residents must therefore respect the facility and keep the surrounding area clean.

4.4.2. The provisions in this Code of Conduct are also applicable in that area.

4.5. **RECYCLING FACILITIES**

4.5.1. All recycling equipment/facilities in the Academia Development are owned by Academia or the third party entity that supplied it to Academia and the use and management thereof fall under the control of the Leadership Circle.

4.5.2. All recycling equipment/facilities must be used in a respectful and considerate manner and may only be used for their intended purpose (i.e. only approved materials are to be placed in the relevant containers).

4.5.3. Any Resident or guest/visitor that contravenes these provisions or makes himself/herself guilty of tampering with or vandalising recycling equipment/facilities, will face disciplinary and/or legal action.
5. **SAFETY AND SECURITY**

5.1. **SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

5.1.1. The following equipment may not be tampered with, misused or used for unlawful purposes: fire extinguishers, fire hoses, early warning systems, alarm systems, intercom systems, electrical safety devices, safety equipment, “Code of Conduct and Emergency Plan” display boards (including the contents) and all access control doors.

5.1.2. Residents must take part in all emergency evacuations exercises (fire drills) organised by Academia or the Leadership Circle. Participation in these exercises is compulsory.

5.1.3. All passages in Units/Blocks and Common Areas must be kept clear of any obstructions (e.g. furniture, bicycles etc.) that could hamper evacuation in the event of an emergency.

5.1.4. In the event of an emergency or problem in a Unit or Block (after hours), the Leader responsible for that Block, the Assistant Resident Head for that House and the Resident Head must be contacted immediately. Where applicable, the security services shall also be alerted as well as the relevant authorities or emergency services.

5.1.5. The use of inflatable swimming pools is prohibited within the Academia Development.

5.2. **FIRE, FIREWORKS AND FIREARMS**

5.2.1. Fires may only be lit in designated areas and with commercially sold fire lighters/matches. No combustible liquids such as petroleum, any form of paraffin, or diesel may be used to start/maintain a fire on the Academia Development.

5.2.2. Fireworks, or anything resembling fireworks, are strictly prohibited on the Academia Development at all times.

5.2.3. Firearms, air or spring propelled, weapons, explosive devices or anything else resembling a firearm, is not allowed on the Academia Development under any circumstances.

5.3. **ACCESS CONTROL**

5.3.1. Vehicular and bicycle access and regress shall at all times be subject to the rules and procedures set by Academia from time to time and Residents shall adhere to those rules and procedures. Where required, student cards or identity documents shall be presented and the visitors’ book shall be completed.

5.3.2. Residents on foot are to use the turnstiled pedestrian gates situated at the entrance of the Academia Development.
5.3.3. Residents using the pedestrian gates during the day do so in their personal capacity. For security reasons, the lending and sharing of access cards are strictly prohibited.

5.3.4. Only one person at a time is allowed to enter or exit via the pedestrian gates.

5.4. STUDENT CARDS

5.4.1. All residents must be in the possession of a valid University student card or identity document at all times.

5.4.2. Residents who are registered with the University must obtain and activate their student cards during registration at Administration A, on campus. Thereafter, these student cards must be registered at Academia.

5.4.3. Residents who are not registered with the University must apply for a “Visitor’s” student card at Administration A on campus. Thereafter the card is to be activated at the Academia. This student card will be issued at a fee.

5.5. LOCKS AND KEYS

5.5.1. Changes to and the replacement of door locks are prohibited.

5.5.2. Suitable padlocks for the doors of their Units are to be acquired from Academia.

5.5.3. Residents are advised to not use combinations locks as these are bypassed very easily and can lead to a safety and security hazard.

5.5.4. All rooms are to be accessible by Academia. As such, Academia must at all times be placed in possession of duplicate keys to the security gate to a Unit, if any. No security gate may be removed/moved at any stage.

5.6. SECURITY PERSONNEL

5.6.1. The security contractor employed by Academia is responsible for general safety and security on the Academia Development.

5.6.2. Residents must treat Academia security personnel in a manner that is conducive to a relationship of mutual respect.

5.6.3. Academia security will report Residents or guests/visitors who resort to shouting, swearing, hooting or making rude remarks at them, to the Leadership Circle and offenders are liable to face disciplinary action.

5.6.4. Security matters will, when necessary, be resolved in conjunction with the Leadership Circle and Assistant Resident Heads.

6. VEHICLES, BICYCLES AND PARKING

6.1. VEHICLES, MOTORBIKES, MOPEDS AND BICYCLES
6.1.1. All Residents who wish to bring motor vehicles, mopeds or motorbikes on to the Academia Development must register these vehicles with Academia and display the required parking disk.

6.1.2. All vehicles are to be parked in allocated parking bays only. An annual fee is payable for the use of the parking bay. No parking by Residents on visitors’ bays is allowed. Vehicles that are parked unlawfully (i.e. parked other vehicles in, parked on pavements or parked in a parking bay reserved for another vehicle) will be clamped by Academia security and fined by the Leadership Circle. The clamp will not be removed until the fine is paid in full.

6.1.3. Motor vehicles, mopeds or motorbikes that do not display a valid parking disk will not be allowed to access the Academia Development.

6.1.4. Residents may under no circumstances obtain a parking disk for a vehicle that does not belong to them (i.e. for a guest or visitor). Residents who are contravening this provision will face disciplinary action.

6.1.5. Motor vehicles, mopeds or motorbikes on the Academia Development may not be driven or parked in any manner that obstructs the free flow of traffic, at any entrance/exit or on any traffic route.

6.1.6. Motorbikes, mopeds or bicycles may not be parked in the passages of the Blocks or parked against/tied to passage railings.

6.1.7. Disks for accessing the bicycle sheds can be obtained from Academia and are subject to the payment of a deposit.

6.1.8. All vehicles are obliged to adhere to the speed limit in the Academia Development. Speeding, reckless and inconsiderate driving (which includes the spinning of tyres, handbrake turns and unnecessarily loud music) are strictly prohibited and offenders could face disciplinary action.

7. THE DISCIPLINARY CODE FOR STUDENTS OF STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY (RULE 2.11) AND RESIDENCE RULES

7.1. “QUIET TIMES”

7.1.1. In terms of the Disciplinary Code for students of the University (rule 2.11) and the University’s Residence Rules, the following times will serve as “quiet times” in the Academia Development, during which no noise will be tolerated.

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7.1.2. In general, a tranquil atmosphere should be maintained during the week as well as on Sundays in the Academia Development.

7.1.3. In terms of the Disciplinary Code for students of the University (rule 2.11), the following weeks will be considered “Academic/Exam Weeks” during which special “quiet times” will apply.

7.1.3.1. One week before the March/April holidays and

7.1.3.2. One week before September holidays;

7.1.3.3. Two weeks before the May/June exams and two weeks before the October/November exams.

7.1.3.4. The exact dates of these “Academic/Exam Weeks” will be advertised by the Leadership Circle

7.1.3.5. During” Academic/Exam Weeks” the “quiet times” will be all day.

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7.1.4. The application of the abovementioned “quiet times” is not affected by/changed in the event of public holidays and/or long weekends.

7.1.5. Parties: A “party” constitutes any gathering of more than 10 people where music is played and alcohol consumed. Residents desiring to have a party at a Block, are to submit an application to the relevant Assistant Resident Head at least 7 days prior to the date of the proposed party. “Party Request forms” are available from the Academia Office. The Assistant Resident Head will discuss the matter with the Leadership Circle and thereafter inform the applicant in writing of the whether or not the party is approved and whether or not any conditions apply to the approval. If approved, the approval of the event will be subject to the conditions, if any, imposed and indicated, in each case, on the Request form containing the consent.

7.1.6. In the event that a member of the Leadership Circle, a security officer or an Assistant Resident Head receives a complaint about noise that is affecting a Resident or a group of Residents’ ability to study, regardless of the application of the Quiet Times, and the complaint is addressed with the Resident/Residents responsible for the noise, then the Resident/Residents concerned must accommodate/adhere to the request to cease the noise. This also will be the case when an approved party is considered causing unnecessary nuisance to
other Residents. Members of the Leadership circle, the Resident Head, Assistant Resident Heads or Academia have the authority to stop any party.

7.1.7. The use of speakers/boom boxes or any other portable musical equipment is not allowed in the Quad Area(s) or doorways of any Unit or Block unless permission is granted by the Leadership Circle. Music volume must be kept at a reasonable level so as not to disturb other Residents.

7.1.8. The use of funnels for the purpose of consuming alcohol is strictly prohibited.

7.2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

7.2.1. Residents and/or their guests/visitors who do not adhere to the “Disciplinary Code for students of Stellenbosch University” paragraph 2 and/or do not adhere to the provisions of the Code of Conduct, are liable to face disciplinary action. Students who have visitors or guests will be responsible for the conduct of their visitors or guests.

7.2.2. The “Academia Disciplinary Committee” is compiled in terms of the “Disciplinary Code for students of Stellenbosch University”. The Leadership Circle nominates a chairperson from time to time.

7.2.3. One of the Academia Disciplinary Committee members will act as prosecutor during Disciplinary hearings.

7.2.4. All other relevant provisions of the “Disciplinary Code for students of Stellenbosch University” as well as any disciplinary codification instituted by the University or Academia are applicable to disciplinary actions and Disciplinary hearings in Academia.

7.2.5. The Disciplinary process is as follows: A written summary of the improper behaviour in respect of the reported incident will be sent to the Resident and his/her parents. The individual can either admit guilt or elect to appear before the Academia Disciplinary Committee. All hearings comply with the “Disciplinary Code for Students of Stellenbosch University”, paragraph 4.5. The student and his/her parents will receive written notice of the outcome within a reasonable time. The Resident Head has the discretion to refer more serious contraventions to the University Central Disciplinary Structures or to expel a resident from Academia. The Disciplinary Committee retains the right to deviate from the procedures should the contravention, in their discretion, warrant such deviation. Minutes of all Disciplinary hearings will be copied to Academia. Cancellation of a Lease Agreement following a guilty verdict by the Disciplinary Committee and expulsion by the Disciplinary Committee will be dealt with by Academia in terms of the provisions of the applicable Lease Agreement.

7.3. HOUSE FEES

7.3.1. All Residents, including international students, and Residents that are not registered with the University are responsible for paying house fees.

7.3.2. The University will automatically debit the fee to the student account of a
Resident who is registered with the University. The amount that is debited is determined by the University annually.

7.3.3. Residents who are not registered with the University will receive an account from Academia for their house fees, for the same amount.

7.3.4. The house fees account is administrated by the Leadership Circle in accordance with the University regulations applicable to house fees.

8. WELCOMING PERIOD

8.1. RULES FOR THE WELCOMING PERIOD

Additional rules may apply during the annual welcoming period at the beginning of the University academic year. Residents must abide by the rules of the welcoming period which will be communicated to students at the start of every year as well as published on (www.academia.co.za) and such additional rules will serve as an addendum to this document and be regarded as part of this Code of Conduct.