UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC)

Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT)

By-Laws made by the University of Colombo under section 135 of the Universities Act No.16 of 1978 as amended subsequently and under section 13 of the University of Colombo School of Computing Ordinance No. 01 of 2002 as amended subsequently.

BY-LAWS

Whereas the University of Colombo has been conducting the programme leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology [BIT] since 2000 under its Bachelor of Information Technology By-Laws No. 02 of 2000;

Whereas the said By-Laws have been subsequently amended by the University in 2018 and the said Degree programme has been conducted in terms of the said By-laws as amended since 2018 and that students have been registered under the said amended By-Laws whose registration is still in operation;

Whereas the University Grants Commission has published Qualifications Framework norms, duration, credit values, etc. of different levels of academic qualification and has impressed upon the University to revise the existing programmes to bring them in line with the requirements in the published Qualifications Framework and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Curriculum Guidelines;

Whereas it has become necessary to revise and revamp the programme leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology to bring it on par with the requirements laid down in the Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework [SLQF] as updated and published by the University Grants Commission in 2015;

Whereas it is also important to take cognizance that the sphere of Information Technology is a fast developing and changing one which requires constant innovation, updating, and modernizing of the curriculum, including its syllabi and method of learning & teaching, if the would-be graduates are of relevance and of use to the profession and industry, and as such, the innovation and updating may have to take place on an annual basis facilitating the graduates to be up-to-date in skills & knowledge to respond to contemporary needs of the profession and industry;

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Whereas a new batch of students has been admitted to the University under the newly formulated curriculum which has already been approved by the Academic Syndicate and the Board of Management of the University of Colombo School of Computing and the Senate and the Council of the University of Colombo in terms of which approval the students have been following the said revamped and revised programme leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology; and,

Whereas it has become necessary to enact By-Laws to prescribe the revised and revamped curriculum and other provisions including those relating to procedural and substantive aspects of the Degree Programme,

The Council of the University of Colombo on the recommendation of the Senate and the Board of Management and Academic Syndicate of the University of Colombo School of Computing enacts the following By-Laws:

1. (1) These By-Laws may be cited as the Bachelor of Information Technology By-Laws No ..26... of 2023.

(2) These By-Laws shall come into operation on its receiving approval by the Council on or such other date as decided by the Council.

Part I — General

2. Subject to these By-Laws, a person may be awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "the Degree"), if he/she,

(a) has been a duly registered candidate for the Programme of Study leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "the Programme", or "the Degree Programme");

(b) has passed the Examinations of the Degree Programme as set out in Part III of these By-Laws and other relevant Rules and Regulations;

(c) has paid such fees as may have been prescribed by the University and any other dues payable by him/her to the University; and,

(d) has fulfilled all other conditions and requirements as may have been prescribed by these By-Laws and other Regulations and Rules of the University and the University of Colombo School of Computing (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "the UCSC").

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3. No person may be registered as a candidate for the Examinations leading to the Degree unless he/she satisfies (A) and (B) below:

(A) he/she

(i) has obtained three passes in the Local G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination (New Syllabus) in one sitting or four passes in the Local G.C.E. Advanced Level Examination (Old Syllabus) in one sitting;

OR,

(ii) has obtained a minimum of three passes in the Cambridge/Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level Examination in one sitting;

OR,

(iii) has passed all the theoretical components of the Foundation in Information Technology (FIT) Programme conducted by the UCSC;

OR,

(iv) has obtained the Higher National Diploma in Information Technology (HNDIT) where the certificate must be issued and verified by the Sri Lanka Institute of Advanced Technological Education (SLIATE);

OR,

(v) has obtained the NVQ-Level 5 or above qualification in IT where the certificate must be issued and verified by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC);

OR,

(vi) has obtained any other educational qualification deemed equivalent to the qualification referred to in paragraphs A (i) to (v) above by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate of the UCSC.

AND

(B) he/she

(i) has obtained at least six passes in G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examination with three Credits including for Mathematics and English;

OR,

(ii) has obtained at least six passes in Cambridge/Pearson Edexcel International O Level Examination with three Credits including for Mathematics and English;

OR,

(iii) has obtained any other educational qualification deemed equivalent to the qualification referred to in paragraphs (B) (i) and (ii) above by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate of the UCSC.

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4. (1) Subject to these By-Laws, the minimum period for which a person shall be a registered student for the Degree Programme shall be three academic years comprising a minimum of one academic year for each of the three Levels, viz., Level I, Level II and Level III.

(2) The maximum period within which a student has to complete successfully all the Examinations of Level I, Level II and Level III is twelve consecutive academic years and no student shall be eligible to take the Examination of any Level on more than four occasions which include any deemed occasions and one more grace chance.

(3) Each student shall take the Examinations of each Level of the Programme in consecutive academic years unless excused by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate on the basis of a valid reason.

(4) A student shall register for each Level of the Programme by paying the relevant fees. The registration for a Level shall be valid for an academic year and the registration shall lapse at the end of the period of validity.

(5) Where a student completes successfully the Examination of a Level he/she shall register for the next Level by paying the relevant fee for the ensuing academic year.

(6) Where a student who has completed successfully the Examination of a Level fails to register for the next Level in the ensuing academic year, he/she shall be deemed to have exhausted an attempt in the next Level for the purpose of computing the number of academic years a person can take to complete the Examinations of the next Level.

(7) Where a student is not successful at the Examination of a Level he/she shall renew the registration for the same Level by paying the relevant renewal fee for the next academic year if he/she is not otherwise ineligible to be registered.

(8) Where a student who is not successful at the Examination of a Level but who is eligible to renew his/her registration for the Level fails to renew his/her registration for the ensuing academic year, he/she shall be deemed to have exhausted an attempt in that academic year at that Level for the purpose of computing the number of academic years a person can take to complete the Examinations of that Level.

(9) Where a student fails to renew his/her registration within the period specified by the School from the date of expiry of the registration, he/she shall have to pay a surcharge in addition to the fee for the renewal of registration.

(10) Where a student fails to renew his/her registration for three consecutive academic years his/her studentship with the UCSC shall stand cancelled and discontinued.

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Part II - Of Programme

5. (1) The Degree Programme shall consist of three Levels, viz., Level I, Level II, and Level III. The first year programme shall be Level I, the second year programme shall be Level II and the third year programme shall be Level III.

(2) Each Level of the Degree Programme is divided into two Semesters and there shall be Semester-End-Examinations at the end of each Semester.

(3) The Degree Programme shall include Compulsory Courses, Optional Courses, and Enhancement Courses as set out in the Regulations.

(4) Each Course shall have a Credit Value (Credit) as set out in the Regulations.

(5) Each student shall register for all the Compulsory Courses and some Optional Courses and Enhancement Courses so as to ensure that the Courses so registered contribute to and make at least 30 Credits for each Level of the Programme.

6. (1) The list of Names and Codes of Courses, their Credit Values, the Syllabi of the Courses, and the type and nature of the examinations for each Course shall be those set out in the Regulations made by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate and the Board of Management of the UCSC.

(2) The Senate shall have power, on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate and the Board of Management of the UCSC to change, vary, amend or add to or delete from the list of Courses, their Credit Values, the syllabi, and the type and nature of the examinations for each course provided due notice is given of such change.

(3) The Senate may exercise the power referred to in Sub-Section (2) of Section 6 and bring any such change or variation to be applicable and operative to the existing students while the Programme of Study is in progress.

Part III - Of Examinations

7. (1) There shall be Examinations conducted for each Level of the Degree Programme at each Semester.

(2) The Examinations shall be conducted by a Board of Examiners appointed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate and the Board of Management of the UCSC. The Examinations shall be conducted in every academic year at the end of every Semester; however, the University reserves the right to conduct the Examinations at any time during a year.

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(3) Separate Boards of Examiners may be constituted for different Semester Examinations and/or different Level Examinations.

(4) The Board of Examiners may test any candidate by means of written/ electronic/oral/practical examination or any other form of evaluation as specified in the Regulations or approved by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate of the UCSC.

8. (1) The Examinations leading to the Degree shall be as follows:

i) Level I (Examination) carrying 30 Credits
Semester 1 Examination
Semester 2 Examination

ii) Level II (Examination) carrying 30 Credits
Semester 3 Examination
Semester 4 Examination

iii) Level III (Examination) carrying 30 Credits
Semester 5 Examination
Semester 6 Examination

(2) A Level I student shall take all the Level I Compulsory Courses including Enhancement Courses where the Credit Value of GPA Courses shall not be less than 30 Credits spread across Semester 1 and Semester 2.

(3) A Level II student shall take all the Level II Compulsory Courses including Enhancement Courses where the Credit Value of GPA Courses shall not be less than 30 Credits spread across Semester 3 and Semester 4.

(4) A Level III student shall take all the Level III Compulsory Courses and some Optional Courses and Enhancement Courses where the Credit Value of GPA Courses shall not be less than 30 Credits spread across Semester 5 and Semester 6.

(5) Each Course shall carry a maximum of 100 marks and the performance of the students shall be marked out of 100 marks allotted to each Course.

9. (1) Each student of a Level shall take the relevant examination of the Courses for which he/she is registered in that academic year at the very first occasion when the examination is conducted.

(2) Any student of a Level who does not take the examination of the Courses for which he/she is registered at the very first occasion when the examination is conducted shall be deemed, to have exhausted an attempt for the purpose of computing the number of attempts/occasions in which a student can take an examination.

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(3) Any student of a Level who does not complete successfully an examination shall take the examination at the very next time when it is conducted. If such a student fails to take the examination at the very next time he/she shall be deemed, to have exhausted an attempt for the purpose of computing the number of attempts/occasions in which a student can take an examination.

(4) A candidate who does not pass an examination of a Course at the very first occasion when he/she takes such examination, due to a score below the pass mark shall be deemed thereafter to be a repeat candidate in respect of such examination. Such a repeat candidate shall be eligible to take such examination, according to the Courses and Syllabi in force at the time of repeating the examination.

(5) A candidate shall not re-take an examination of a Course if he/she has obtained a "C" Grade or a "Pass" or above.

(6) The medium of examination of the Degree Programme and Examinations shall be English and the medium of correspondence shall also be the same language.

Part IV- Of Progression in the Degree Programme

10. (1) No candidate shall be eligible to proceed to or register for, the Level II of the Degree Programme unless he/she has obtained at the Level I Examination (Semester 1 and Semester 2) -

i) a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00;
ii) a Grade Point of 2.00 or above in Courses totaling not less than 20 GPA Credits;
iii) a Pass Grade for the Enhancement Courses; but,
iv) has not obtained a Grade Point of less than 1.00 in any of the Courses *(This includes any candidate who has obtained a Grade Point of 0.00 in any of the courses, Absent (AB) for a course examination, or has not applied/registered for a course examination).*

(2) No candidate shall be eligible to proceed to or register for, the Level III of the Degree Programme unless he/she has obtained at the Level II Examination (Semester 3 and Semester 4) -

i) a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.00;
ii) a Grade Point of 2.00 or above in Courses totaling not less than 20 GPA Credits;
iii) a Pass Grade for the Enhancement Courses; but,
iv) has not obtained a Grade Point of less than 1.00 in any of the Courses *(This includes any candidate who has obtained a Grade Point of 0.00 in any of the courses, Absent (AB) for a course examination, or has not applied/registered for a course examination).*

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11. (1) A candidate who possesses the UCSC DIT qualification and has not attained either the BIT or HDIT qualification shall be eligible to directly enroll as a new student in Level II of the BIT Degree Programme under lateral entry subject to meeting the entry qualifications prescribed in Section (3) above. However, the candidate's incomplete Level II and Level III results, if any, shall be automatically cancelled upon registration as a new student under the lateral entry.

(2) A candidate who possesses the UCSC HDIT qualification and has not attained the BIT qualification shall be eligible to directly enroll as a new student in Level III of the BIT Degree Programme under lateral entry subject to meeting the entry qualifications prescribed in Section (3) above. However, the candidate's incomplete Level III results, if any, shall be automatically cancelled upon registration as a new student under the lateral entry.

(3) A candidate shall be eligible for lateral entry consideration prescribed in paragraphs (11) (1) and (2) above solely within a period not exceeding ten years from the date of attainment of the UCSC DIT or UCSC HDIT qualification.

OR;

(4) A candidate who has obtained any other educational qualification deemed equivalent to the lateral entry qualifications referred to in paragraphs (1) and (2) above by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Syndicate of the UCSC shall be eligible to directly enroll as a new student in either Level II or Level III of the BIT Degree Programme under lateral entry subject to meeting the entry qualifications prescribed in Section (3) above, and solely within a period not exceeding ten years from the date of attainment of the said qualification.

12. (l) A candidate shall be deemed to have passed the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology Examinations if he/she has

(a) completed a minimum of 90 GPA Credits with at least 30 GPA Credits from each of Level I, Level II, and Level III. [1]
AND;

(b) has obtained a Cumulative Grade Point Average of not less than 2.00 in all Levels.
AND;

(c) has obtained a Grade Point of not less than 2.00 for Courses aggregating to at least 20 GPA Credits each in Level I, Level II, and Level III.
AND;

(d) has secured a Grade Point of not less than 2.00 for the Software Development Project in Level III.
AND;

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[1] *A candidate who has enrolled in the Level II of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC DIT qualification must completed a minimum of 60 GPA Credits, with at least 30 GPA Credits from each of Level II, and Level III.*
A candidate who has enrolled in the Level III of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC HDIT qualification must completed a minimum of 30 GPA Credits in Level III.

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(e) has not obtained a Grade Point of less than 1.00 for any of the Courses.
AND,

(f) has obtained a Pass Grade for each Enhancement Course identified in the Regulations.

13. (1) A candidate who passes all the Examinations leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology within six consecutive academic years from the first date of registration may be placed in the First Class, Second Class (Upper Division), or Second Class (Lower Division), as the case may be, on the results of the Examinations taken together.

(2) A candidate who enrolls in Level II of the Bachelor of Information Technology degree programme under the prescribed lateral entry provisions, as stated in Sub-Sections (1) and (3), or (4) of Section 11 above, and passes all the Examinations leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology within four consecutive academic years from the first date of registration in Level II may be placed in the First Class, Second Class (Upper Division), or Second Class (Lower Division), as the case may be, on the results of the Examinations taken together.

(3) A candidate who enrolls in Level III of the Bachelor of Information Technology degree program under the prescribed lateral entry provisions, as stated in Sub-Sections (2) and (3), or (4) of Section 11 above, and passes all the Examinations leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology within two consecutive academic years from the first date of registration in Level III may be placed in the First Class, Second Class (Upper Division), or Second Class (Lower Division), as the case may be, on the results of the Examinations taken together.

14. Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate is eligible to be placed in the First Class if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and

obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.70 [2]

15. Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Upper Division) if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and

obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.30[3]

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[2] *Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate who has enrolled in Level II of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC DIT qualification is eligible to be placed in the First Class if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.70 for both Level II and Level III.*

Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate who has enrolled in Level III of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC HDIT qualification is eligible to be placed in the First Class if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.70 for Level III.

[3] *Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate who has enrolled in Level II of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC DIT qualification is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Upper Division) if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.30 for both Level II and Level III.*
Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate who has enrolled in Level III of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC HDIT qualification is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Upper Division) if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.30 for Level III.

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16. Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Lower Division) if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and

obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.00[4]

Part V - Award of Diplomas

17. (1) A candidate may be awarded a Diploma or Higher Diploma, as the case may be, provided he/she satisfies the conditions prescribed in the succeeding sub-sections.

(2) A candidate may be awarded the Diploma in Information Technology if he/she has -

i) obtained a Grade Point of not less than 2.00 for each of the Courses in Level I;
AND,
ii) obtained a Pass Grade in all Enhancement Courses in Level I.

(3) A candidate may be awarded the Higher Diploma in Information Technology if he/she has -

i) obtained a Grade Point of not less than 2.00 for each of the Courses in Level II;
AND;
ii) obtained a Pass Grade in all Enhancement Courses in Level II;
AND,
iii) obtained the Diploma in Information Technology from the University of Colombo.

Part VI - Miscellaneous

18. The University shall publish the name of candidates who are qualified to be awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Information Technology. Each candidate who took the examinations, and has completed DIT/HDIT/BIT, shall be provided with a transcript giving details of the Grades, Grade Point Value, Grade Point Average, and Cumulative Grade Point Average he/she had obtained and the final result including Classes, if any, provided that, he/she makes an application for such transcript in the prescribed manner. However, a registered candidate who has not completed DIT/HDIT/BIT, shall be provided with a record of examinations, provided that, he/she makes an application in the prescribed manner.

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[4] Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate who has enrolled in Level II of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC DIT qualification is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Lower Division) if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.00 for both Level II and Level III.
Subject to Sections 12 (1) and 13 above, a candidate who has enrolled in Level III of the BIT Degree Programme with the UCSC HDIT qualification is eligible to be placed in the Second Class (Lower Division) if he/she passes the Examinations leading to the Degree and obtains a Cumulative GPA of not less than 3.00 for Level III.

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19. The fees for application, registration, renewal of registration, examination, repeat examination, certificates, transcripts, record of examinations, identity cards, project examination, repeat examination, convocation, award ceremony, etc., shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Management of the UCSC. The fees paid shall not be refunded by the School.

20. There shall be additional fees charged from repeat candidates as determined by the UCSC depending on the expenses to be incurred by the UCSC to service their repeat attempts in the examination process.

Part VII - Removal of Difficulties

21. The Vice Chancellor of the University shall have the authority, in consultation with the Director of the University of Colombo School of Computing, to take such actions or give such directions not inconsistent with the principles underlying the provisions of these By-Laws as appears to him/her to be necessary or expedient for the purpose of removing any difficulties that may arise in the interpretation of the provisions or for which there is no provision in these By-Laws.

Part VIII - Interpretation

22. In these By-Laws unless the context otherwise requires:

"Academic Syndicate" means the Academic Syndicate established under the provisions of the University of Colombo School of Computing Ordinance, No. 01 of 2002 as amended subsequently;

"Board of Management" means the Board of Management of the School;

"Council" means the Council of the University of Colombo constituted by the Universities Act No .16 of 1978 and its subsequent Amendments;

"Prescribed" means prescribed by a Regulation or Rule made by the University of Colombo or the School as the case may be;

"Registrar" means the Registrar, Acting Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Senior Assistant Registrar, Assistant Registrar, and any other officer authorized to sign for and on behalf of the Registrar of the University of Colombo;

"School" or "UCSC" means the University of Colombo School of Computing;

"Senate" means the Senate of the University of Colombo constituted by the Universities Act No 16 of 1978 and its subsequent Amendments.

23. Any question regarding the interpretation of these By-Laws shall be referred to the Council whose decision thereon shall be final.

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