**SUBMISSION IDENTIFIERS:**

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| **Title** | Proposal for an Institutional Forum representative on Council |
| **Author & Position** | Dr AP Matthews, Institutional Forum Academic Staff Representative for College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science |

**APPROVAL HISTORY**

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| **Structure consulted** | **Target date for discussion** | **Date approved** |
| Institutional Forum | 7 Sep 2015 |  |
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**SUBMISSION CONTENT**

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| **Motivation:** The Institutional Forum (IF) is a statutory body in the university, as required by law, along with Council, Senate and the Students’ representative Council (SRC).The UKZN statute provides for representation of each body on every other body, except for IF representation on Council (excluding representation of other bodies on the SRC, which is a purely student body as opposed to the other bodies, which have multiple stakeholders). Council has members representing Senate and the SRC (but not the IF), Senate has members representing Council, the SRC and the IF, and the IF has members representing Council, Senate and the SRC. The missing component in this otherwise symmetric system of cross-membership is IF representation on Council.  It will be beneficial to complete the symmetry and have at least one IF member on Council. It will allow for the same level of communication and participation enjoyed by the other bodies, and it will allow for more active participation of the IF in the governance of the university. It will allow the IF to formally monitor the communication of IF advice and reports to Council, and will provide a voice to speak to and discuss these items at Council meetings. It will also support the IF’s statutory role in advising Council on any matter affecting the institution, given that such matters of interest to Council are discussed at Council meetings.  It will be straightforward to avoid conflict of interest when certain agenda items are discussed, by withdrawing voting rights but retaining observer status for the IF member present, but otherwise having the IF member as a fully participating, voting member. Considering that Senate membership includes the Chair of the IF, it is reasonable that the same provision be applied for IF membership of Council.  **Proposal:** That the IF advise Council to consider a proposal for the Chair of the IF to be a member of Council. |
| **Financial implications:** Nil. |
| **Attachments:** Nil |