

The main competences of the General Council are reflected in Article 18th of the Statutes of UMa which is transcribed below:

"1 - The General Council can determine the strategic development and supervision of the University, and is responsible to:

- a) Elect its President among the members referred at item c) of Article 14th;
- b) Approve its regulation;
- c) Approve the amendments to the Statutes under Article 80th;
- d) Organize the election's procedure and elect the Rector as defined in Article 22nd;
- e) Consider the acts of the Rector and the Management Council;
- f) To propose initiatives that it considers necessary for the proper functioning of the institution;
- g) Decide on the reactivation of the Foundation of the University of Madeira and the proposed transition from university or organic unity in foundational scheme, in accordance with Article 29th Law No. 62/2007, and in compliance with the provisions of Article 68th of the same Act;
- h) Decide on partnerships and cooperation with other public or private, in the various methods provided by law, heard the Academic Committee of the Senate when it comes to international agreements and partnerships;
- i) Appoint and dismiss the Student Ombudsman, after consultation with the Senate;
- j) Appoint and dismiss the Presidents of the Institutes in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 49th;
- l) Perform such other functions prescribed by law or these Bylaws.

2 - Competes the General Council under the Rector's proposition to:

- a) Approve the strategic plans and medium term action plan for the four years of office of the Rector;
- b) Approve the general guidelines of the institution in scientific, educational, financial and asset management;
- c) Approve the annual plans of activities and assess the annual report of activities of the institution;
- d) Approve the proposed budget;
- e) To approve the consolidated annual accounts, together with the opinion of the Financial Auditor;
- f) Establish the fees payable by students;
- g) Propose or authorize, as provided by law, the acquisition or disposal of real estate assets of the institution, and credit operations;
- h) Create, change or terminate Competence Centres;
- i) Create, abolish, dispose of or associated with the University Institutes of Innovation;
- j) To appoint and dismiss the chairmen of the Colleges;
- l) Deciding on:
  - i) The creation of new projects of strategic nature and overall incidence;
  - ii) The termination of projects;

- iii) The integration of projects at community colleges or innovation;
- f) Approve the proposal for the organization of Services;
- n) Approve all management measures that may have significant impact and affect the normal functioning of the University, including the reorganization of the physical resources allocated to different structures;
- o) Adopt measures proposed by the Rector in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 27th;
- p) Give opinion on other matters submitted to it by the Rector;
- q) Exercise any other powers conferred by law or by Statute.