

U-TODAY - EDITORIAL STATUTE

Formulated by the Executive Board at its meeting of 18-02-2013

Article 1: U-Today

1. U-Today is an independent journalistic news medium of the University of Twente, which focuses on news, background and opinion within the UT and its environment. U-Today is part of the University of Twente and thus serves the interests of the university and of research, education and commercial knowledge transfer in the broadest sense.

Article 2: Objectives

1. U-Today offers a wide choice of news and background information about and for everyone who is part of the University of Twente's academic community.
2. U-Today is a source of information for everyone who has any kind of interest in the UT academic environment.
3. Due to the nature of the reporting, the U-Today editorial team offers the reader information, relevant background, and stimulates opinion forming and debate.
4. U-Today publications contribute to the insights of staff and students of the University of Twente, and to the university's functioning and mission.
5. U-Today publications strengthen ties with, and promote engagement within the University of Twente.

Article 3: Independence

1. U-Today is a medium that is independent of any interest group whatsoever.
2. U-Today strives to uphold the principles of objective reporting.
3. The editorial team is free to report on any matters that fall within the scope of the objectives of U-Today.
4. The editorial team publishes without seeking prior permission for publication from third parties, unless agreed otherwise.

5. Gathering, selection and presentation of news and background takes place independently of the opinions of university management bodies and other groups or persons. The editorial team does not act as a mouthpiece for third parties.
6. U-Today offers platforms for debate and opinion forming, but reserves the right to intervene in case of communications that are inappropriate and / or breach standards of decency.
7. U-Today does not publish anonymous responses on its website, unless the identity of the author is known to the editorial team.
8. The editorial team takes special care when reporting on extreme events, dealing with controversial subjects, and processing information that has implications for the privacy of UT staff and students.

Article 4: Formats

1. U-Today selects its own formats.
2. Publications are distributed among members of the university community and external subscribers. Reproduction of articles by anyone other than the editorial team is only allowed with the written permission of the editor-in-chief.

Article 5: Chief editorship

1. Chief editorship is represented by the editor-in-chief, who is responsible for day-to-day management of the editorial team.
2. The editor-in-chief is responsible for articles written by the editors of U-Today at all times.
3. The editor-in-chief is appointed, suspended and dismissed by the Executive Board. The editorial team, the editorial board and university community (preferably the University Council) are involved in recruiting the editor-in-chief.

Article 6: Editorial team

1. The editorial team consists of editors who produce journalistic work daily under the leadership of the editor-in-chief.
2. Editors are appointed by the editor-in-chief in accordance with applicable HR policy.
3. The editorial team meets at least once a month.

4. To strengthen ties with the university, the editorial team strives to work in collaboration with freelance employees from the university community.
5. Third parties may submit letters to the editor and/or opinion pieces for publication in U-Today. The editorial team reserves the right to abridge these contributions.

Article 7: **Editorial board**

1. The editorial board consists of a minimum of five and a maximum of seven members. The board is representative of the UT community. The delegation consists of at least two staff members from the academic staff, one from the administrative and support staff, and a student.
2. In case of a vacant position other than the position referred to in clause 3, the editorial board will inform the UT community. Candidates can put themselves forward on their own initiative, or they can be nominated by the UT community. If there is no response, candidates will be approached pro-actively, with due regard for balanced representation.
3. One member will be appointed on the recommendation of the University Council, and one member will be appointed on the recommendation of the Executive Board.
4. At least one member of the editorial board will not be a student or employee of the University of Twente.
5. Existing members appoint new members. The board elects a chair from amongst its members.
6. Members of the editorial board serve a term of four years. Members can be reappointed for a maximum of one term.
7. The editorial board meets at least four times a year. The editor-in-chief provides official support to the board.

Article 8: **Quality of U-Today**

1. The content of U-Today must be reliable. Journalistic principles such as *audi alteram partem* and verification of sources and facts are therefore a priority. Each editor is required to uphold these principles. The editorial board is the guardian of the quality of the overall product offered by U-Today.

2. The editorial team regularly seeks feedback from readers on their experiences and on the publications. The outcomes are considered by the editorial team with regard to policy development. The team consults with the editorial board to this end.

Article 9: **Complaints and appeals**

1. Complaints from readers about content are reviewed by the editor-in-chief. If readers feel the editor-in-chief has not dealt with their complaint satisfactorily, they can apply to the editorial board that will check the complaint, substantiated with arguments, against the editorial statute. The editorial board's decision is final.
2. Where necessary, the editor-in-chief is obliged to publish corrections and/or supplements.
3. Once content has been placed on the internet, it is not removed by the U-Today editorial team, unless it can be shown that reporting is inaccurate. In the event of disagreements, the editorial board will make a decision.
4. The editorial board may be asked to act in an advisory capacity, but without prejudice to standard HR policy and practice, in respect of disagreements that concern editing, but relate to matters other than content, independence, and/or quality of news.

Article 10: **Budget**

The Executive Board makes an annual budget available for U-Today. This budget serves as a framework. In the case of major changes to the budget, the Executive Board will engage in prior consultation with both the editorial board and the editor-in-chief.