Kurdistan Regional Government-Iraq
Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research
Presidency of Soran University
President Office

هەرێمی کوردستان -عیراق
سەرۆکایەتیی ئەنجوومەنی وەزیران
وەزارەتی خوێندنی باڵا و توێژینەوەی زانستی
سەرۆکایەتیی زانکۆی سۆران
نووسینگەی سەرۆکی زانکۆ

Reference No.: 165

Date: February 15, 2026 (2729/1/9 Kurdish)

Subject: Transmission of Minutes - 8th University Council Meeting

To: All Faculties / Secretariat of Deans / Assistants to the University President

/ Secretariat of Vice Presidents

Greetings,

Attached herewith, please find a copy of the Minutes of the 8th Ordinary Meeting of the Soran University Council, held on February 15, 2026, transmitted for your review and necessary execution of decision items.

With best regards,

Asst. Prof. Dr. Sherwan Sharif Qurtas
President of Soran University

MINUTES OF THE 8TH ORDINARY MEETING OF SORAN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Meeting Type: Ordinary Meeting

Meeting Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026

Location: Soran University Presidency Conference Hall

Chairperson: Asst. Prof. Dr. Sherwan Sharif Qurtas (President)

Minutes Coordinator: Hero Tawfiq Hassan

Document Reference: Session 8 / Academic Year 2025-2026

Council Attendance Register

The meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Asst. Prof. Dr. Sherwan Sharif Qurtas, President of Soran University, with the attendance of council members:

- Prof. Dr. Sirwan Jabar Amin - Vice President for Scientific Affairs
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Sherzad Saeed Sadiq - Vice President for Administrative and Financial Affairs
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Rizgar Saeed Hussein - Vice President for Student Affairs
- Prof. Dr. Samir Mustafa Hamad - Dean of the Scientific Research Center (SRC)
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Ayad Nuri Faqi - Dean of the Faculty of Science
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Jamal Ismail Kak Rasul - Dean of the Faculty of Engineering
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Ali Yousif Aziz - Dean of the Faculty of Education
- Dr. Karmanj Abdullah Hamad - Dean of the Faculty of Arts
- Dr. Hemdad Faisal Ahmed - Dean of the Faculty of Law, Political Science and Administration
- Prof. Dr. Omer Hassan Hussein - Representative of the Academic Staff

Opening Remarks & Humanitarian Recognition

At the outset of the session, the University President welcomed the members of the Council. On behalf of himself and the University Council, he expressed formal gratitude to Asst. Prof. Dr. Ayad Nuri Faqi for leading the fundraising committee organized to collect donations for the Kurds of Rojava (Western Kurdistan). He further commended all committee members for their dedication and diligence in ensuring the success of this humanitarian campaign, which raised a total sum of **7,841,500 IQD (Seven Million Eight Hundred Forty-One Thousand Five Hundred Iraqi Dinars).** The President emphasized that this initiative reflects the vibrant national and humanitarian conscience of our academic institutions toward vital cause matters. Following these remarks, the agenda topics were presented for formal discussion.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Council reviewed the decisions and administrative actions arising from the previous meeting to verify full execution. The minutes of the preceding session were formally approved and adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Directives of the University President

- **Student Identification Checks:** All students must present their official university ID cards to security personnel upon entry. This procedure is established as a security measure to maintain a safe campus environment and distinguish enrolled students from external visitors.

- **Official E-mail Communication:** To ensure accurate and timely dissemination of information and Council decisions, all announcements and administrative notices pertaining to academic staff and students shall be transmitted exclusively through official university email accounts.
- **Renewal of Expired University IDs:** The President emphasized the immediate necessity for all personnel and students whose university IDs have expired to complete the renewal process without delay.
- **Commendation for First Semester Examination Management:** The President expressed sincere appreciation to Faculty Deans and Examination Committees for successfully conducting the First Semester First-Attempt and Second-Attempt examinations. The exams were administered with exemplary organization in a calm, suitable academic atmosphere. Formal Letters of Appreciation shall be issued to all members of the aforementioned examination committees.

Agenda Item 3: Academic Affairs

3.1 Evaluation Measures for Non-Passing Staff in Quality Assurance

- **First-Time Failure (2024–2025):** Faculty members who fail the Quality Assurance process for the 2024–2025 academic year only shall receive a formal Notification Letter.
- **Two Consecutive Failures (2023–2024 and 2024–2025):** Faculty members who fail for two consecutive academic years shall be issued a formal Penalty Letter of Attention ('Notice').
- **Three Consecutive Failures (2022–2023, 2023–2024, 2024–2025) or More:** Faculty members who fail for three consecutive years or more shall be issued a formal Warning Letter.
- **Exemption Clause:** If an instructor failed in the initial three years but demonstrated improvement and passed in the final year, they shall be granted an exemption. However, if they fail again in the final year, prior failed years will be calculated against them per the above provisions. Future non-pass cases will follow Ministry of Higher Education QA regulations.

3.2 Learning Management System (LMS) Coursebook Upload Compliance

Despite prior deadlines instructing all academic staff to upload coursebooks to the LMS, certain faculty members failed to comply. The Council decided to issue a final notice to non-compliant staff: failure to upload coursebooks within one week will result in immediate legal and administrative actions.

3.3 Professional Ethics Framework for Teachers and Students

It was resolved that all faculties and scientific departments must organize specialized seminars and activities promoting the principles of Professional Ethics for both teaching staff and students at Soran University. The Office of the Vice President for Scientific Affairs shall be formally notified in writing regarding the execution and scheduling of these activities.

3.4 Bologna Process & Academic Time-Cap (Ceiling Limit) Regulations

Under Bologna Process directives, undergraduate students reaching the maximum study duration ceiling (6 years) shall be transitioned to Parallel Education status. An administrative order permitting continuation under Parallel Study rules will be issued, and students will be treated under Parallel tuition financial frameworks.

3.5 ECTS Progression & Progression Threshold Amendments

Pursuant to Council Decision No. 5 (dated Dec 4, 2025) requiring 90 ECTS credits to progress from Semester 4 to Semester 5, the Council unanimously voted to amend the decision for the current academic year as follows:
• Students currently in Semester 2 must complete 90 ECTS credits to progress from Semester 4 to Semester 5.
• Students currently in Semester 3 must complete 120 ECTS credits to progress from Semester 6 to Semester 7.
Note: For upcoming academic years, only the 90 ECTS requirement (Clause 1) shall remain applicable.

3.6 Postgraduate Studies (Master's) in Private Universities

In reference to Ministry Minutes No. 1 soliciting university feedback on authorizing Master's programs in private universities, the Council resolved to conduct further study, gather member proposals, draft a comprehensive technical report, and submit formal feedback to the Ministry of Higher Education.

3.7 Approval of Academic & Advisory Bylaws

Following member review, the Council unanimously approved and ratified two official regulations:
1. Bylaw on Curriculum Design and Program Development
2. Bylaw on Departmental Advisory Councils for Academic Programs

Agenda Item 4: Administrative & Financial Affairs

Mandatory Entry of Student Absence Records (SIS):
Instructors are required to enter student absence records into the Student Information System (SIS) within one week. Any instructor failing to log absences within the designated deadline shall be marked as 'Absent' for that week.

Agenda Item 5: Student Affairs

- **Annual Student Conference:** The Annual Student Conference will take place on April 28–29, 2026. A selected student delegation will also represent Soran University at the American University of Kurdistan (AUK) Student Conference in Erbil on May 2–3, 2026.
- **Workforce Development Forum:** Scheduled for April 15–16, 2026. The Career Development Center (CDC) team is instructed to present the event operational plan at the next University Council meeting for final approval.
- **Course Materials Provisioning for Semesters 1 & 2:** The Council discussed making all semester course materials available at the start of the Autumn semester for the 2026–2027 academic year. Council members were tasked with further studying this item for decision in upcoming meetings.
- **Establishment of Soran University Alumni Association:** To strengthen continuous engagement and monitor post-graduation career paths, the Council formally approved the establishment of the Soran University Alumni Association.