A. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Undoubtedly, students form an integral part and mostly, the largest component of every university worldwide. Students constitute the majority compared to faculty, administrative and support staff. Therefore, while the success of every university depends on the strength and quality of its administrative and teaching staff, yet management and administration of the student body is key to the survival of any higher education institution.

Historically, students have had limited role in the organizational structure or governance of colleges and universities in Africa. Over the years, university administrators have followed a practice of “in loco parentis”, an educational philosophy that has led university administrators and faculty members to oversee the academic advancement and personal conduct of their students very closely. Students have always been at the receiving end of major university decisions and directives. Decisions about students’ academic and personal development were mostly taken without the active participation of the students themselves. However, these trends are increasing changing where greater emphasis is placed on student involvement in decision making in the universities. The heightened social and intellectual autonomy available to students has encouraged them to seek greater involvement in university governance and administrative affairs.

Students’ interest in university organization and governance has increased significantly. A degree of student participation on university boards, search committees, and faculty senates has become commonplace. Many universities in Africa now include student representatives in either an advisory or on the boards of trustees, councils and committees. A lot of universities in Africa today have recognized the role students play in transforming their universities. As such, they have placed and positioned them strategically in governance.

Students often have their own network of parallel undergraduate and graduate governance structure such as Students Representative Council headed by a president and elected executives. These elected leaders represent and serve the best interest of students during decision making processes in the universities. In some universities in Africa, student leaders have collaborated with the
university authorities to provide infrastructural development, good and sound academic environment, assist in resource mobilization, to mention a few. For example, there are cases where student representative councils have built academic and residential facilities on their campuses from their dues to compliment the university managements’ efforts to maintain standards in teaching, learning and research.

Despite these success stories, there are also worry trends where student leaders have been chastised by their peers and university managers for mismanagement and embezzlement of funds. This challenge has always emanated from three angles; the quality of the leaders elected; the environment and conditions under which they operate; and the type of management systems. Universities with quality and competent student leaders who are given the space to operate in a harmonious and non-intimidating environment with excellent supervision and support from senior management always produce good results and vice versa.

The Association of African Universities (AAU) has 50 years’ experience in providing leadership and management training to both senior and middle staff of African universities such as vice chancellors, rectors, presidents, council members, deans, heads of department, bursars, directors of centres and institutes, faculty and some other key stakeholders. These trainings have yielded fruitful results in the management of universities and other higher education institutions in Africa and would want to extend this service to student leaders in Africa.

With 50 years’ experience in delivering leadership and management capacity development trainings, the AAU acknowledges the relevance and value of student leaders and the contributions they can bring to their universities if well-resourced. The AAU, therefore, encourages all vice-chancellors and heads of higher education institutions to sponsor their student leaders to participate in the African Students’ Leadership and Capacity Development Training Programme. The training will equip the student leaders with the soft skills they need to effectively and efficiently manage their constituencies and to relate well with the university leadership.

B. OBJECTIVES

The African Students’ Leadership and Capacity Development Training Programme seeks to equip student leaders with the soft skills they need to operate in a modern academic environment. The specific objectives of the training include:

- Equipping student leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to administer student bodies.

- Equipping student leaders with the knowledge and skills needed to provide support to university management and administration.
Empowering young leaders to be responsive, efficient, and innovative in order to achieve the “Africa we want” by 2063.

C. EXPECTED OUTCOMES
It is expected that at the end of the workshop participants would have been:

❖ Equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to administer student bodies.

❖ Equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to provide support to university management and administration.

❖ Empowered to be responsive, efficient, and innovative in order to achieve the “Africa we want” by 2063.

D. WORKSHOP MODULES
The workshop modules will include:

1. Strategic Leadership and University Governance: Students perspective
2. Strategic Leadership and Accountability
3. Strategic Thinking, Planning and Student Policy Implementation
4. Ethics and Antics of Student leadership
5. Student Leadership and University Management Partnerships
6. Personality Development, Branding and Team Building
7. Resource Mobilisation and Proposal Writing
8. Financial Management, Budgeting and Financial Integrity
9. Performance Appraisal and Reporting
10. Student support services and Financial Aids
11. Student Leadership and Corruption
12. University Students and Industry Partnerships
13. Hooliganism and crime prevention and on University campus.
14. Student Academic Mobility and Quality Assurance
15. Agenda 2063 and the role of student leaders
   Gender Mainstreaming in Higher Education

E. DATE AND VENUE
The training will be held from Tuesday, 17th July to Friday, 20th July, 2018 at the Association of African Universities Secretariat, East Legon-Accra, Ghana.

F. WORKING LANGUAGE
The working language of the workshop is English.

G. CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE
The AAU has set up a three-member Organising Committee whose membership
comprises the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>E-mail address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Kwesi Acquah Sam</td>
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<td>Association of African Universities</td>
<td><a href="mailto:idaddai@aau.org">idaddai@aau.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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H. REGISTRATION

- Registration fee per participant is **GHC600.00** and covers the workshop documents, lunch and tea/coffee breaks as well as a copy of conference proceedings.
- Institutions sponsoring **5 participants** will pay a discounted registration fee of **GHC500.00** per participant.
- Institutions sponsoring **10 participants** will pay a discounted registration fee of **GHC450.00** per participant.
- Institutions sponsoring **15 participants** will pay a discounted registration fee of **GHC400.00** per participant.

Workshop documents will be shared in soft copy prior to the event, with paid up participants only. It is therefore important that all participants endeavour to carry along their laptops for their own use as there will be no hard copies available.

I. COST OF TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

Participants are responsible for their travel to and from Ghana. Group lunches and tea/coffee breaks for the workshop will be covered by the registration fee.

J. ACCOMMODATION

Participants will be accommodated at the Elizabeth Sey Hall, University of Ghana.
K. WORKING VISITS/EXCURSION

Workshop participants will pay a working visit to the Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps, Accra-Ghana. A list of excursion sites would be availed to participants who would have to indicate which one(s) they would wish to visit so that the necessary arrangements can be finalised. These excursions come at a cost to be borne by participants.

Training Moderator
Kwesi Acquah Sam
Association of African Universities- 2018

Thank You