

Academic Board Constitution – 2023/24	
Reporting to	Board of Governors
Receives minutes from	Academic Planning and Collaborations Group; Academic, Quality and Standards Committee; Research and Enterprise Committee
Approval	Approved by the Board of Governors: 16/07/2021
Due for Review	+1 year from last date of review
Sensitivity	Open to the public
Log of reviews/edits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed by Academic Board: 08/11/2023 Approved by the Board of Governors: 16/07/2021

Terms of reference

Subject to the provisions of the Articles of Government; the overall responsibility of the Board of Governors; and the responsibilities of the Vice-Chancellor, the Academic Board is responsible:

- (a) subject to the requirements of validating and accrediting bodies, for: general issues relating to the research, scholarship, teaching and courses at the institution, including criteria for the admission of students; the appointment and removal of internal and external examiners; policies and procedures for assessment and examination of the academic performance of students; the content of the curriculum; academic standards and the validation and review of courses; the procedures for the awards of qualifications and honorary academic titles and the procedures for the expulsion of students for academic reasons;
- (b) for considering the development of the academic and related activities of the University and the resources needed to support them and for advising the Vice-Chancellor and the Board of Governors thereon;
- (c) for advising on such other matters as the Board of Governors or the Vice-Chancellor may refer to the Academic Board.

Statement of Primary Responsibilities

Subject at all times to the provisions of the Articles of Government, the Academic Board shall be the principal academic authority of the University and in exercising that role shall have the following primary responsibilities:

- (a) to formulate, in consultation with the Schools, and recommend for approval to the Board of Governors, the academic strategy of the University, and to oversee its implementation;
- (b) to maintain the University's academic standards and enhance the quality of its educational provision;
- (c) to foster and promote research and other scholarly activity;
- (d) to establish such criteria and regulations as may be required for the recruitment, selection, admission, education, and assessment of the students of the University, and the approval, modification, and review of its courses;
- (e) to approve and modify, and to monitor and review the performance of, academic partnerships and the collaborative provision of education;
- (f) to appoint and remove the internal and external examiners of the University;
- (g) to confer awards and degrees of the University;
- (h) to promote a rigorous spirit of inquiry, scholarship, and debate in all the University's academic activities, and to protect academic freedom.

Delegation

Pursuant to paragraph 6 of the Articles of Government, the Academic Board may establish such committees as it considers necessary to enable it to carry out its responsibilities provided that each establishment is first approved by the Vice-Chancellor and Board of Governors.

The Academic Board has established the following committees which shall exercise the functions and powers stipulated in their constitutions:

- (a) Academic Quality & Standards Committee;
- (b) Honorary Awards Committee;
- (c) Access and Participation Scrutiny Committee;
- (d) Research & Enterprise Committee;
- (e) Research Ethics Sub-Committee
- (f) Research Degrees Sub-Committee
- (g) Sports Committee
- (h) School Academic Committees

Membership profile [33]

Quorum [16]

- The Vice Chancellor (Chair) [1] – Ex-officio

Category A: Members drawn from Senior Management and Deans of School [17]

- The Deputy Vice Chancellors [2]
- The Pro Vice Chancellors [3]
- Deans of School [8]
- Director of Quality [1]
- Director of the Centre for Learning & Teaching [1]
- Director of Library & Student Services [1]
- Director of Research & Enterprise [1]

Category B: Members drawn from elected academic and officer staff; students and co-opted members [15]. Members of Senior Management are not eligible for appointment in Category B.

- Student representatives [4] (two members of the SU Student Officer team and two nominees of the Students' Union)
- Professors [2]
- Research Staff [1]
- Course Directors [3]
- Academic Staff [2]
- Professional Service Staff [3]

In attendance:

- University Registrar & Secretary

For non-ex-officio members, terms of office should normally be three years. Students' terms of office should normally be one year.

The Constitution of the Committee is made by resolution of the Board of Governors on 16 July 2021