

Statement of Primary Responsibilities

The role of the Board of Governors (the members of which are the charity trustees of the University):

1. To determine the mission, strategic vision, and values of the University with the Senior Leadership Team.
2. To agree the long-term academic, finance, and business plans and key performance indicators and ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders, including the staff, students and alumni.
3. To ensure that processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the University against the agreed strategy, plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be, where possible and appropriate, benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
4. To appoint the Vice-Chancellor as Chief Executive and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring his/her performance.
5. To delegate authority to the Vice-Chancellor (as Chief Executive) for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and human resource management of the University, and to establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits within such management functions as shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the Vice-Chancellor.
6. To ensure robust processes are in place to establish and monitor systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls, risk assessment, value for money arrangements and procedures for handling internal grievances and managing conflicts of interest.
7. To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the Board of Governors.
8. To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in higher education corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life, and any other requirements of the Regulator (OfS) and other regulators.
9. To safeguard the good name and values of the University.
10. To appoint a Clerk to the Board of Governors and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the University, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
11. To be the employing authority for all staff in the University and to be accountable for ensuring that an appropriate human resources strategy is established and that the University is a good employer committed to promoting equality and diversity.

12. To be the principal financial and business authority of the University, to ensure the financial sustainability and viability of the University including ensuring that proper books of account are kept, approving the annual budget and financial forecasts and annual statement of income and expenditure, and to have overall accountability for the safeguarding of the University's assets, property and estate.
13. To be the University's legal authority and, as such, to ensure systems are in place for meeting all the University's legal obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the University's name. This includes accountability for health, safety and security and for equality, diversity and inclusion.
14. To promote a culture which supports inclusivity and diversity across the University.
15. To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students.
16. To maintain and protect the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech legislation.
17. To ensure that all students and staff have opportunities to engage with the governance and management of the University.
18. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
19. To ensure that the University's constitution is always followed, and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.

Approved by the Board on 10.03.2021

Version Control			
Document Owner:	Governance, Compliance and Legal Office		
Version	Date	Author	Change Description
1.0	2006	Secretariat	N/A
2.0	13/07/2011	Secretariat	Addition of points 11-14
3.0	16/10/2015	Secretariat	Revision to introduction and points 1 and 2
	2015		Document reviewed and found to be fit for purpose
4.0	10/03/2021	University Clerk & Legal Counsel	Full revision to ensure consistency with the expectations of the CUC Code.