The Board of Governors: Statement of Primary Responsibilities

Referencing Statute VI of the University’s constitution, the Board of Governors is required to:

(a) in furtherance of the Objects of the University, and in consultation with the Senate, keep under regular review the strategic direction of the University and, as a consequence, determine short, medium and long-term strategic objectives;

(b) delegate authority to the President and Vice-Chancellor in the manner provided for in Statutes X, XI and XII for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and personnel management of the University, and establish and keep under regular review the procedures and limits within which such management functions will be carried out by and under the authority of the President and Vice-Chancellor;

(c) establish a process to monitor and evaluate the performance and managerial efficiency of the University, its Faculties and its Schools in achieving strategic objectives within the operational limits, and to review the effectiveness of internal management and financial control systems;

(d) conduct its own business in accordance with current best practice in public sector corporate governance and appoint and constitute such committees in furtherance thereof as it may from time to time deem to be appropriate;

(e) appoint, in consultation with the Senate, the President and Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar and Secretary and the Deans of the Faculties, and on the recommendation of the Senate, appoint the external examiners of the University;

(f) be the employing authority for all staff of the University;

(g) appoint persons to represent the University in pursuance of any powers conferred on the University otherwise than under the Charter and these Statutes;

(h) be the principal financial authority of the University and in pursuance of this function, cause proper books of account to be kept for all monies received and expended by the University and its subsidiary undertakings, and of the assets and liabilities of the University, both as beneficial owner and trustee, so that the financial statements based on such books give a true and fair view of the state of the University’s affairs and explain its transactions, as duly reported on by the auditor or auditors appointed by the Board as provided for in Statute XIV;

(i) present to the General Assembly the annual financial statements prepared in accordance with the said books and reflecting current best practice in public sector corporate governance, together with an Annual Report on the work of the University, and to receive and consider the opinion of the General Assembly thereon;

(j) make such provision as it may from time to time see fit for the residence of the students and, in consultation with the Senate, for their general welfare;

(k) as required, appoint appeal bodies for hearing appeals by students as provided for in Statute XXI.2;

(l) act as trustee of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for purposes of research, scholarship, learning or teaching, whether in the University or elsewhere, or otherwise in furtherance of the work and welfare of the University;
(m) at such times as it may see fit, to require the Senate to provide evidence that the principles of academic governance provided for in these Statutes are being properly upheld and exercised;

(n) consider and report on any opinion on any matter relating to the work of the University, including proposals of the Board for the amendment of the Charter and these Statutes, that may have been received from either the General Assembly or the Senate, on reference from the Board or otherwise;

(o) on the recommendation of the Senate, award degrees honoris causa pursuant to Statute XX.5, and revoke degrees or other academic distinctions pursuant to Statute XX.7;

(p) approve, after (where appropriate) report from the Senate, such arrangements as may be necessary to bring into effect any provision of the laws of the University and any subsequent changes thereto made under the provisions of the Charter or these Statutes.

Statement agreed by the Board of Governors on 10 October 2012