



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

STATUTES

Approved by the Privy Council 19th April 2024

University of London

STATUTES

1. PRELIMINARY

- 1.1 The University of London is an incorporated body with a legal identity separate from that of the Member Institutions.
- 1.2 In these Statutes it is called "the University" and is distinct from "the University Federation" which refers to the University and the Member Institutions collectively.
- 1.3 In these Statutes, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 1.3.1 "the Act" means the University of London Act 2018; and
 - 1.3.2 "Member Institution" means an educational, academic or research institution listed in the Ordinances which is a constituent member of the University (and which may also be referred to by the University as a "Federation Member" or such other term as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Trustees) which has, for the time being, the legal status either as a university or another form of educational, academic or research institution.
- 1.4 Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- 1.5 Words defined in these Statutes shall have the same meaning in Ordinances and Regulations of the University.

2. OBJECTS OF THE UNIVERSITY

- 2.1 The objects of the University are to promote education of a university standard and the advancement of knowledge and learning by teaching and research; and to encourage the achievement and maintenance of the highest academic standards for the public benefit.
- 2.2 In pursuit of these objects, the University will serve and support the interests of the Member Institutions.

3. POWERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

- 3.1 The University has the power to grant degrees and other awards and to do all things permitted by law which are necessary or desirable to promote its objects.
- 3.2 In pursuit of its objects and in carrying out its functions, the University may act alone or in co-operation with other bodies whether based in the United Kingdom or abroad.
- 3.3 In the exercise of its powers, the income and property of the University shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects as set out in these Statutes.
- 3.4 As a chartered corporation, the University has the general power to make any form of investment and enter into any form of borrowing, and it shall in addition have the authority to enter into any financial instrument which is ancillary to the exercise of such investment or borrowing powers.
- 3.5 The University shall have the power to pay remuneration to a member or members of the Board of Trustees in respect of his, her or their services pursuant to current charity law or other applicable legislation.

4. MEMBERS

- 4.1 The members of the University shall be the Chancellor, the members of the Board of Trustees, all staff employed by the University and the Member Institutions, and all students, graduates, Emeritus Professors and Readers of the University and the Member Institutions.

5. **VISITOR**

- 5.1 There shall be a Visitor of the University who shall be appointed by the Privy Council, on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

6. **CHANCELLOR**

- 6.1 There shall be a Chancellor of the University, appointed by the Board of Trustees who shall be the Head of the University.

7. **VICE-CHANCELLOR**

- 7.1 There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall assume the role of principal officer of the University.
- 7.2 The Vice-Chancellor shall be responsible to the Board of Trustees for the organisation and conduct of the business of the University.
- 7.3 The Vice-Chancellor's duties may be delegated, with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

8. **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- 8.1 There shall be a Board of Trustees of the University.
- 8.2 The Board of Trustees shall be the governing body of the University. It shall promote the objects of the University and shall have general control over the conduct of its affairs. It shall have no powers and duties in respect of the affairs of the Member Institutions save as specifically provided in these Statutes.
- 8.3 The membership of the Board of Trustees will be prescribed in the Ordinances of the University providing always that there shall be a majority of Independent members (meaning members who are neither employed by nor students of either the University or a Member Institution).
- 8.4 The members of the Board of Trustees shall have such terms of office as shall be prescribed in the Ordinances.
- 8.5 The protocols for decision making by the Board of Trustees will be prescribed in the Ordinances.
- 8.6 The quorum for conducting business of the Board of Trustees shall be 40% of the members (rounded up to the nearest whole number). The quorum shall be made up of those attending in person, by telephone or such other electronic or virtual means in which all participants may communicate simultaneously with all other participants.
- 8.7 Subject to any conditions prescribed in the Ordinances, resolutions of the Board of Trustees approved in writing or by email shall be as valid as a resolution actually passed at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.
- 8.8 The functions of the Board of Trustees shall be prescribed in the Ordinances. The functions which it may not delegate shall be:
- 8.8.1 to consider and approve the strategic direction of the University, and a plan for its implementation, having received the advice of the Collegiate Council;
 - 8.8.2 to exercise guardianship over and ensure the effective management, control, and use of the University's assets and resources;
 - 8.8.3 to appoint the Chancellor;
 - 8.8.4 to appoint the Vice-Chancellor;
 - 8.8.5 to appoint the Deputy Vice-Chancellor;

- 8.8.6 to ensure that financial accounts are kept and that an annual statement of the University's finances is prepared, audited and approved;
- 8.8.7 to appoint the University's auditors;
- 8.8.8 to consider and approve the admission of Member Institutions and their continuing status as Member Institutions; and
- 8.8.9 to make or amend Statutes and Ordinances.

9. THE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL

- 9.1 There shall be a Collegiate Council of the University.
- 9.2 The Collegiate Council shall be the body responsible for determining and advising the Board of Trustees of the collective view of the Member Institutions in respect of all matters concerning the University including its strategic direction.
- 9.3 The membership of the Collegiate Council shall be prescribed in the Ordinances.
- 9.4 The functions and responsibilities of the Collegiate Council shall be prescribed in the Ordinances.

10. COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OF THE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL

- 10.1 There shall be a committee of the Board of Trustees with responsibility for audit and risk.
- 10.2 There shall be a committee of the Board of Trustees with responsibility for academic affairs.
- 10.3 The Board of Trustees and the Collegiate Council may from time to time establish additional standing, special and advisory committees, sub-committees, or boards.

11. AUDITORS

- 11.1 The Board of Trustees shall appoint an auditor or auditors of the University. Every such auditor shall be a member of a recognised supervisory body and eligible for appointment under the rules of that body.

12. MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

- 12.1 Each Member Institution is a self-governing incorporated body with its own legal identity separate from that of the University and the other Member Institutions.
- 12.2 Subject to any protocols established by the Board of Trustees, each Member Institution shall be entitled to award degrees of the University.
- 12.3 Procedures relating to the admission or withdrawal of Member Institutions shall be prescribed in the Ordinances.

13. STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY

- 13.1 Protocols for determining the academic and operational structure of the University shall be prescribed in the Ordinances.

14. STUDENTS

- 14.1 The Board of Trustees shall ensure that there are in place procedures for dealing with disciplinary matters, academic appeals, and complaints in relation to students registered with the University itself.
- 14.2 Each Member Institution shall have responsibility for all matters in relation to students registered with it.

15. **STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY**

- 15.1 The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for prescribing the conditions of service for staff employed by the University.
- 15.2 In relation to staff of the University, the Board of Trustees shall ensure that there are in place procedures for the management of performance, for dealing with discipline and dismissal, and for hearing grievances.
- 15.3 The Board of Trustees shall have no role in relation to staff employed by the Member Institutions.

16. **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

- 16.1 Academic staff employed by the University shall have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges.
- 16.2 The University will have particular regard for and take reasonably practical steps to secure freedom of speech within the law for its staff, students, members, and visitors.

17. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- 17.1 The University shall have due regard to the need, to:
- 17.1.1 eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment;
 - 17.1.2 advance equality of opportunity; and
 - 17.1.3 foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

18. **AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS**

- 18.1 The Board of Trustees may make new Statutes in accordance with the Act.
- 18.2 The Board of Trustees may make and revise Ordinances and Regulations on such matters as it considers necessary or desirable.