



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

STATUTES

20 December 2018

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;
 - 1.3.2 "Central Academic Body" means an educational, academic or research institution established in accordance with Statute 17.1;
 - 1.3.3 "Central Activities" means those activities, operations and services which the University carries out and provides centrally for the benefit of the Member Institutions and of Students registered with the University itself;
 - 1.3.4 "Chief Executive of the University of London Worldwide" means the person who is the head of the University of London Worldwide;
 - 1.3.5 "Dean and Chief Executive of the School of Advanced Study" means the person who is the head of the School of Advanced Study;
 - 1.3.6 "Deputy Vice-Chancellor" means the person in the role and with the responsibilities defined in Ordinance 13;
 - 1.3.7 "Head of Member Institution" means the person who is under its instrument of government the chief academic and administrative officer or executive head of that Member Institution;
 - 1.3.8 "Member Institution" means an educational, academic or research institution which is a constituent member of the University as listed in Appendix 1 and which has for the time being:
 - (a) the status of a college (being any institution listed in Appendix 1 which is not a university); or
 - (b) the status of a university;
 - 1.3.9 words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- 1.4 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, carried out through the Member Institutions primarily, and also through the Central Academic Bodies and Central Activities, are, for the public benefit, 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.
- 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 Within the limits applicable to a charity, 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 sections 185 and 187 of the Charities Act 2011 (as amended from time to time).

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, from those who hold or who have held high judicial office.

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 concurrence of the Board of Trustees.

8. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND COLLEGIATE COUNCIL

- 8.1 There shall be a Board of Trustees and a Collegiate Council 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 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. MEMBERSHIP OF AND DECISION MAKING BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

9.1 The Board of Trustees shall consist of the following members:

9.1.1 eleven independent members appointed by the Board of Trustees (meaning members who are neither employed by nor students of either the University or a Member Institution, and who are considered by the Board to be independent and impartial);

9.1.2 the Vice-Chancellor (ex officio);

9.1.3 the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (ex officio); and

9.1.4 four Heads of Member Institutions, to be chosen by the Collegiate Council.

9.2 The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Chair who shall be an independent member of the Board of Trustees.

9.3 Period of office of members:

9.3.1 Members of the Board of Trustees, apart from the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, may hold office for a period of up to four years and may not normally be re-appointed for more than one further consecutive term of up to four years.

9.3.2 A member of the Board of Trustees who has served two consecutive four year terms may be eligible for a further term of up to four years after an interval of at least one year.

9.3.3 A member of the Board of Trustees who is appointed to serve as Chair of the Board shall automatically begin a new term of membership linked to the term of that office.

9.4 The quorum for conducting business of the Board of Trustees shall be seven members. Independent members must form a majority of those present. 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.

9.5 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.

10. FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

10.1 The functions of the Board of Trustees which it shall exercise itself and may not delegate shall be:

10.1.1 to consider and approve the strategic direction of the University, and a plan for its implementation, having received the advice of the Collegiate Council;

10.1.2 to exercise guardianship over and ensure the effective management, control and use of the University's assets and resources;

10.1.3 to appoint the Chancellor;

10.1.4 to appoint the Vice-Chancellor;

10.1.5 to appoint the Deputy Vice-Chancellor

10.1.6 to ensure that financial accounts are kept and that an annual statement of the University's finances is prepared, audited and approved;

10.1.7 to ensure the effective management of the University's Central Academic Bodies and Central Activities;

- 10.1.8 to consider and approve an annual budget for the University;
 - 10.1.9 jointly with the Collegiate Council, to publish an annual report for the University;
 - 10.1.10 to appoint the University's auditors;
 - 10.1.11 to consider and approve the admission of Member Institutions and their continuing status as Member Institutions;
 - 10.1.12 to consider and approve the establishment or disestablishment of Central Academic Bodies;
 - 10.1.13 to make or amend Statutes and Ordinances;
 - 10.1.14 to ensure the satisfactory discharge of the University's responsibilities under legislation.
- 10.2 The functions of the Board of Trustees which it shall normally delegate to the Collegiate Council shall be:
- 10.2.1 to ensure the proper discharge of the academic affairs of the University;
 - 10.2.2 to ensure the implementation of the strategic plan of the University.
- 10.3 Other functions of the Board of Trustees may be set out in Ordinances which shall indicate whether they are to be exercised by the Board itself or through delegation.
11. **MEMBERSHIP OF THE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL**
- 11.1 The Collegiate Council shall consist of the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, all the Heads of the Member Institutions, the Dean and Chief Executive of the School of Advanced Study and the Chief Executive of the University of London Worldwide.
- 11.2 The Vice-Chancellor shall chair the Collegiate Council.
12. **FUNCTIONS OF THE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL**
- 12.1 The functions of the Collegiate Council shall be those delegated to it by the Board of Trustees and the following additional functions:
- 12.1.1 to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on the strategic direction of the University and on a plan for its implementation;
 - 12.1.2 to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on the admission of Member Institutions and their continuing status as Member Institutions;
 - 12.1.3 to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on the establishment or disestablishment of Central Academic Bodies;
 - 12.1.4 to make proposals and recommendations to the Board of Trustees regarding resources and services either provided or to be provided by the University to the Member Institutions, and on the funding of those services;
 - 12.1.5 to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees on amendments to Statutes and Ordinances.
- 12.2 To undertake or advise on such other matters as the Board of Trustees may request and which may be set out in Ordinances.

13. **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL**

13.1 The Collegiate Council shall regularly submit to the Board of Trustees for its consideration reports on its proceedings and its decisions on matters for which it is responsible.

13.2 In making any decision on any matter the Board of Trustees shall give proper weight to the views and expertise of the Collegiate Council.

13.3 If the Board of Trustees rejects a recommendation of the Collegiate Council, or refers a matter back to the Council for further consideration, it shall give its reasons in writing for doing so, within a reasonable time.

14. **COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OF THE COLLEGIATE COUNCIL**

14.1 There shall be a committee of the Board of Trustees with responsibility for audit and risk.

14.2 The Board of Trustees and the Collegiate Council may from time to time establish additional standing, special and advisory committees, sub-committees or boards.

15. **AUDITORS**

15.1 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.

16. **MEMBER INSTITUTIONS**

16.1 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.

16.2 Each Member Institution shall be entitled to award degrees of the University, and (provided it has power to do so) may award its own degrees subject to any protocols that the Board of Trustees may establish.

16.3 The Board of Trustees, having regard to any recommendations received from the Collegiate Council:

16.3.1 may admit as a Member Institution any educational, academic or research institution; and

16.3.2 may withdraw from a Member Institution the status of Member Institution, having considered any representations by that Member Institution;

16.4 The Board of Trustees shall, at the request of a Member Institution, withdraw from it the status of Member Institution.

16.5 An institution from which the status of Member Institution has been withdrawn by the Board of Trustees without that institution's consent may appeal against that decision to the Visitor.

16.6 The Member Institutions are listed in Appendix 1. On the admission or withdrawal of a Member Institution to or from the University, the list shall automatically be amended to reflect the change.

17. **CENTRAL ACADEMIC BODIES**

17.1 The Board of Trustees, having received any recommendations from the Collegiate Council, may make Ordinances under which educational, academic or research institutions (known as the Central Academic Bodies) may be established or disestablished and given such titles as the Board of Trustees shall determine.

17.2 The Central Academic Bodies are listed in Appendix 2. On the establishment or disestablishment of a Central Academic Body, the list shall automatically be amended to reflect the change.

18. **STUDENTS**

18.1 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.

18.2 Each Member Institution shall have responsibility for all matters in relation to students registered with it.

19. **STAFF OF THE UNIVERSITY**

19.1 The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for prescribing the conditions of service of staff employed by the University.

19.2 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.

19.3 The Board of Trustees shall have no role in relation to staff employed by the Member Institutions.

20. **ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

20.1 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.

21. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

21.1 The University shall promote equal opportunities and shall ensure that no unlawful discriminatory test be imposed on any person to enable them to become a holder of office at, or member of staff, student or graduate of, the University, or to receive any advantage or privilege by reason of such position.

22. **AMENDMENT**

22.1 The Board of Trustees, having received any recommendations from the Collegiate Council, may make new Statutes in accordance with the Act; and may make and revise Ordinances and Regulations on such matters as it considers necessary or desirable.

22.2 Appendix 1 (the list of Member Institutions) and Appendix 2 (the list of Central Academic Bodies) shall not be treated as part of these Statutes for the purposes of amendment, but shall be amended automatically in accordance with Statutes 16.6 and 17.2 respectively on the admission or withdrawal of a Member Institution, or the establishment or disestablishment of a Central Academic Body.

Appendix 1 – Member Institutions

Birkbeck College
City, University of London
Courtauld Institute of Art
Goldsmiths' College
The Institute of Cancer Research: Royal Cancer Hospital
King's College London
London Business School
The London School of Economics and Political Science
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Queen Mary University of London
Royal Academy of Music
The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama
Royal Holloway and Bedford New College
The Royal Veterinary College
St George's Hospital Medical School
The School of Oriental and African Studies
University College London

Appendix 2 – Central Academic Bodies

University of London Worldwide (formerly 'The University of London International Academy')

The School of Advanced Study

The University of London Institute in Paris