

Academic Board

Terms of Reference

The Academic Board is the University's supreme academic deliberative and decision-making body. It is responsible for strategic oversight of all academic provisions, including the University's academic standards, direction, and regulations.

1. Remit

The Academic Board should ensure that its activity contributes to continuous improvement against the strategic goals of LSBU's Group Corporate Strategy, and compliance with the Office for Students (OfS) and its ongoing conditions of registration, Research England's terms and conditions of grant, and other relevant regulatory provisions.

1.1 The remit of the Academic Board is to:

- 1.1.1 support development of and approve university-level strategies relating to teaching and learning, quality enhancement, research, and student experience across all stages of the student journey. Ensure that they are consonant with the Group Corporate Strategy and monitor progress against academic key performance indicators;
- 1.1.2 approve the awards which the University may validate and confer, and monitor development of the University's academic portfolio;
- 1.1.3 maintain and enhance academic standards, assure the quality of academic provision and of students' learning opportunities, and ensure awards hold their value over time;
- 1.1.4 ensure that the University's academic provision anticipates and meets the diverse needs of its students;
- 1.1.5 have oversight of academic ethics;
- 1.1.6 approve the University's academic and student regulations, and ensure that the regulations are appropriate, comprehensive, fair, and compliant with external expectations and legal requirements, and oversee their enactment, including for:
 - admission of students;
 - granting and annulling of degrees, qualifications, and titles;
 - exclusion of students for academic reasons;
 - appointment and termination of internal and external examiners;

- assessment and examination of academic performance of students;
- character of curricula;
- have oversight of the Access and Participation Plan (APP);
- quality of courses including validation and accreditation by external bodies;
- have oversight of research degrees activities and their teaching; and
- granting distinctions including honorary degrees and academic titles.

1.1.7 provide scrutiny of the academic quality and suitability of the university's educational collaborations and partnerships, including scrutiny and support for apprenticeships, and their Ofsted related inspection needs;

1.1.8 provide advice on other matters as the Board of Governors or the Executive may refer to Academic Board;

1.1.9 ensure that action in response to identified academic concerns is taken at the relevant level (institution, school, course), taking proper account of the views of students, members of staff, external examiners, and external quality bodies;

1.1.10 support promotion of the University's reputation, including its research, teaching, and academic offer.

2. Committees

2.1 The Academic Board may carry out its remit through sub-committees, including the University Education and University Research and Innovation committees and working groups.

2.2 The Academic Board should monitor the activity of its sub-committees. The minutes (or a report) of its sub-committees shall be reported to the Academic Board.

2.3 The Academic Board shall approve the terms of reference of its sub-committees.

3. Membership

3.1 Membership consists of the following:

Holders of Senior Posts (2)	Provost (Chair) DVC (Academic Framework)
Senior Academic Staff and Professors (23)	3 x Executive Deans (x1 representative per School) 1 Representative per school PVC (Education and Student Experience) PVC (Research and Innovation) PVC (Academic Transformation) Associate PVC International Chair of the University Ethics and Integrity Committee
Non-teaching staff (5)	Director of Teaching Quality and Enhancement

	Director of Student Services Academic Registrar Group director of Apprenticeships Nominated member of research staff Nominated member of technical staff
Students (2)	SBSU President SBSU Deputy Chief Executive

- 3.2 A quorum consists of 17 members.
- 3.3 The term of office of nominated members is three years.
- 3.4 The Academic Board meets at least three times per year. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as deemed necessary to execute the business of the Board.
- 3.5 Board governors may attend any meeting of the Academic Board or sub-committees to observe their proceedings.
- 3.6 Nominated and elected Academic Board members are eligible to join the Board of Governors as Academic Staff Governors. Academic Staff Governors can serve up to two terms on the Board of Governors.

4. Reporting Procedures

- 4.1 The minutes (or a report) of Board meetings will be circulated to all members of the Board of Governors.

Approved by the Board of Governors on 21 November 2019
Changes to 3. approved by the Board of Governors on 25 March 2021
Changes to 3. And 1.1.10 approved by the Board of Governors on 25 November 2021
Changes to 1. and 3. approved by the Board of Governors on 24 November 2022
Changes to 1.1.7, 3.1, and 3.5 approved by the Board of Governors on 19 October 2023