

Academic Board – Terms of Reference

2024-2025

Parent body

Council

Purpose

Academic Board is the principal academic authority within the University committee system.

It is responsible for overseeing all academic and research business at the University and providing assurance to Council that the University is striving for and maintaining the highest provision.

Academic Board is made up of representatives from all stakeholders across the University and is chaired by the Vice Chancellor.

The Board has 11 sub-committees to which it delegates various areas of its responsibilities for focused scrutiny, support and action, and is also the parent body of all Departmental Boards and their sub-committees.

Terms of reference

The Academic Board has no single Terms of Reference document. Its Terms of Reference are derived from a collection of statements in the Charter, the Statutes and the Ordinances, the provisions of which are brought together below for convenience.

The role of Academic Board is defined in general terms by the [Charter](#) (Paragraph 7):

7. There shall be an Academic Board of the College (hereinafter referred to as "the Academic Board") which, subject to the powers of the Council as provided in this Our Charter and the Statutes and to the Statutes and Regulations of the University, shall be responsible for the academic work of the College in teaching, examining and research.

The powers of Council as defined in the Charter and Statutes ([Statute 4](#)) make other more detailed references relevant to the position of Academic Board. In particular, "before determining any question or taking any decision on the allocation of resources which the Council considers to affect the academic policy of the College, the Council shall seek the advice of the Academic Board."

Composition

The Composition (Constitution) of Academic Board is defined in the Statutes ([Statute 6](#)) and may therefore only be changed with the permission of the Privy Council, acting on a recommendation from Goldsmiths' Council. Some details of the Statutory provisions follow the list of members below.

In the membership list, expiries of terms of office are 31 August in the year mentioned, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Statute 6 provides for the following:

Class 1 and **Class 2** members of the Academic Board shall remain members for so long as they hold the relevant office.

Class 3 members shall hold office according to the Standing Orders of the College, subject to any specific arrangements prescribed for Academic Board by Ordinance.

Class 4 members shall remain members for a period of one year but shall be eligible for re-election for a further period.

Class 5 Members shall be the holders of up to four specified posts, to be designated by the Council for this purpose from time to time.

The Academic Board shall have the power to co-opt up to two appropriately qualified persons for such period as it shall determine, except that such members shall not remain co-opted members for a seventh consecutive year.

Elected members of the Academic Board including student members shall cease to be members of the Board if they cease to be eligible in the categories in which they were elected. A student member shall vacate office immediately upon ceasing to be a student.

Casual vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Standing Orders of the College, subject to any specific arrangements prescribed for Academic Board by Ordinance.

Powers

From [Statute 7](#):

1. The Academic Board shall be the body responsible for the academic work of the College in teaching, in examining and in research, excluding matters relating to the allocation of resources.
2. The powers of the Academic Board shall be prescribed by the Ordinances.

As indicated by the quotation from Statute 7 above, the main statement of the Powers of Academic Board is found in Ordinances. The relevant [Ordinances are 4-5](#).

Meetings

From [Statute 7](#):

1. The Academic Board shall meet not less than once in each term.
2. The quorum for a meeting of Academic Board shall be twenty, or such larger number as the Council may from time to time prescribe.

Members

Class 1: ex officio members

Composition	Membership
Chair: Vice Chancellor	Professor Frances Corner
Provost and Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Exchange	Professor David Oswell
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Education and Student Experience	Professor Paul Rowlett (Interim)
Students' Union President	Luca Di-Mambro Moor

Class 2: Heads of Department

Composition	Membership
Anthropology	Dr Justin Woodman
Art	Professor Richard Noble
Computing	Professor Jamie Ward
Design	Duncan Fairfax
Educational Studies	Dr Francis Gilbert / Dr Sarah Pearce
English and Creative Writing	Professor Jane Desmarais

Composition	Membership
History	Dr Alex Rhys-Taylor
Sociology	Dr Alex Rhys-Taylor
Institute for Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship	Siân Prime
Institute of Management Studies	Professor Ivano Cardinale
Law	Dr Alex Dymock
Media, Communications and Cultural Studies	Damian Owen-Board / Dr Diasy Asquith
Music	Dr Tom Perchard
Politics and International Relations	Professor Will Davies
Psychology	Dr Rebecca Charlton / Dr James Moore
Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies	Dr Pearson Nkhoma
Theatre and Performance	Dr Pamela Karantonis
Visual Cultures	Dr Lynn Turner / Astrid Schmetterling

Class 3: Elected members other than students

One member of the Academic Staff, elected by the Academic Staff from each Academic Department.

Composition	Membership
Anthropology	Vacancy
Art	Professor Stephen Johnstone (to 2025)
Computing	Dr Alan Zucconi (to 2025)
Design	Matthew Ward (to 2025)
Educational Studies	Dr Vally Lytra (to 2025)
English and Creative Writing	Vacancy

Composition	Membership
History	Hannah Elias (to 2027)
Institute for Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship	Professor Victoria Alexander (to 2025)
Institute of Management Studies	Dr Ariane Agunsoye (to 2027)
Law	Vacancy
Media, Communications and Cultural Studies	Miranda Mclachlan (to 2025)
Music	Dr Holly Rogers (to 2025)
Politics and International Relations	Dr Simon Griffiths (to 2027)
Psychology	Vacancy
Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies	Dr Caroline Frizell (to 2027)
Sociology	Dr Michael Guggenheim (to 2025)
Theatre and Performance	Dr Mischa Twitchin (to 2025)
Visual Cultures	Vacancy

Class 4: Student Members

By Statute, no more than three students may be elected to Academic Board, provided that the student membership at no time exceeds one-tenth of the total membership of Academic Board. By agreement with the Students' Union, the student places are currently filled as follows:

Composition	Membership
One member of the Student Assembly, elected by the assembly	Elisha Lualua
One sabbatical officer of the Students' Union elected by the Student Assembly	Vacancy
One officer of the Students' Union with a portfolio including postgraduate student matters, elected by the Student Assembly	Sofian Kourkzi

Class 5: Specified Postholders

The holders of up to four specified posts to be designated by the Council for this purpose from time to time.

- Dean of the Graduate School - Professor Mark Johnson
- Director of the Teaching and Learning Innovation Centre – Dr Fiona Handley
- Director of Centre for Academic Language and Literacies - Conrad Heyns
- Director Confucius Institute for Dance and Performance - Annie Guo
- Executive Dean (Creative Arts and Media) - Professor Stephen Graham
- Executive Dean (Society and Innovation) - Professor Adam Dinham

Secretary: Andrew Winter

In Attendance

Composition	
Chief Finance and Infrastructure Officer	Imran Chughtai
Director of Student Experience and Academic Registrar	Andrew Winter (Interim)
Director of Quality and Curriculum	Craig Ruddock
University Secretary to Council / Registrar and Secretary /Director of Governance and Legal Services	Philip Henry (Interim)
Director of Communications, Marketing and Recruitment	Dr Stephen Lake
Director, People and Organisational Development	Margaret Bird (Interim)
Academic Director of International Development and Academic Partnerships	Dr Paul Yuille
School Operating Officer Faculty of Creative Arts and Media	Amanda Cater
School Operating Officer Faculty of Social Innovation	Hugh Macnicol

eot – end of term

VERSION CONTROL

Full revision of ToR	September 2023	Governance Secretariat
Approval	20 September 2023	Nominations and Governance Committee
Approved	4 October 2023	Council
Updated membership	14 November 2023	Governance Secretariat
Updated membership	11 December 2023	Governance Secretariat
Updated membership	25 March 2024	Governance Secretariat
Updated membership	August 2024	Governance Secretariat
Updated membership	December 2024	Governance Secretariat
Updated membership	March 2025	Secretariat