

**Imperial College Union**  
**INTERIM TRUSTEE BOARD**

*Appendix B*

**Ram Gidoomal CBE, LLD (Hon), CCMI, FRSA**

An experienced businessman and entrepreneur. Has worked for over 20 years at board and senior management level in the private, public and voluntary sectors. Possessing excellent communications skills, both written and verbal, and a strong background in external relations, entrepreneurship, innovation and management of change including race and diversity. I have participated by invitation in several international colloquia on subjects including migration, integration, diversity, multiculturalism including – the Anglo Israeli Colloquium 2005, Pontignano 2004, Apeldoorn 2003, Canada/UK 2002, and Ferrara 2001 (many with British Council/FCO involvement).

Freeman of the City of London and Court Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, a Companion of the Chartered Management Institute, and Visiting Professor (Entrepreneurship & Inner City Regeneration) Middlesex University. Appointed CBE in 1998 for services to Race Relations. Awarded Honorary Doctor of Laws by Bristol University, 2002

**Education**

**Imperial College, University of London BSc (Hons), ARCS**

Discretionary ILEA Undergraduate Award to read Physics

**1968-1971**

Registered for research degree (MPhil) researching in Programme Planning Budgeting Systems for the Training Opportunities Scheme (Manpower Services Commission). I was awarded a Postgraduate Scholarship from the University of London which I did not take up as I was offered a Research Fellowship funded by the U K Treasury/Civil Service Department.

**1971-1975**

**Christopher Wren Comprehensive School, Shepherds Bush, London W12 - 3 A levels**

**1967-1968**

**Aga Khan School, Mombasa, Kenya - First Non-Muslim Head Boy - 7 O Levels.**

**1955-1966**

**HONOURS:** CBE, 1998; Honorary Doctor of Laws, Bristol University 2002; Honorary Doctor of the University, Middlesex University, 2003; Honorary Doctor of Letters, Southampton Institute, 2003

**LANGUAGES:** French, Hindi (spoken), Swahili (basic), Gujarati (basic)

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married, 3 children (27, 25 & 22)

**Private Sector Experience**

**Non-Executive Director, Amsphere Ltd, Chair, Audit & Remuneration Committee**

**2006-**

**Chair, Citylife Industrial & Provident Society Ltd**

**2005-**

**Member, Henderson Socially Responsible Investment Advisory Committee (Chair – 2005)**

**2004-**

**Director (Non-Executive), Far Pavilions Ltd**

**1998-**

(a West End musical of *The Far Pavilions*, by M M Kaye currently running at the Shaftesbury Theatre)

**Chairman, Winning Communications Partnership Ltd**

**1992-**

Management Consultancy specialising in Public Relations, leadership training, diversity, research and organisational transformation

**Advisory Board Member, Syntel Europe Ltd**

**1998- 2006**

A NASDAQ quoted software outsourcing company.

**Advisory Board Member, Postmasternetwork Ltd**

**2003- 2006**

**Inlaks Group**

**1978-1991**

**Deputy Group Chief Executive, Inlaks Group Head Office, Geneva, Switzerland**

**1978-1985**

7,000 employees worldwide operating in 15 countries with a turnover of over \$200 million (trading, agriculture, manufacturing and marketing)

**UK Group Chief Executive and Group Vice Chairman**

**1985-1991**

My responsibilities in the UK included overseeing the acquisition of 7 speciality seafood units in Scotland and Northern Ireland employing over 600 people with a turnover of over £20 million. Relocated with my family to Scotland between 1987-8 in order to oversee this acquisition and its integration into the rest of the Group's business.

**Operations Research Analyst, Lloyds Bank International, London**

**1975-1978**

**Public Sector Experience – Current**

<b>Member, Immigration Nationality Directorate Complaints Audit Committee (Home Office)</b>	<b>2005-</b>
<b>Member, Leadership &amp; Management Advisory Panel (DFES)</b>	<b>2005-</b>
<b>Member, Royal Mail Stamp Advisory Committee (DTI)</b>	<b>2002-</b>
<b>Board Member &amp; Council Member, Institute for Employment Studies</b>	<b>2001-</b>
<b>Board Member, Think London</b>	<b>2000-</b>
<b>Non Executive Director, Epsom &amp; St Helier NHS Trust</b>	<b>1999-</b>
Chair of Diversity & Equal Ops Steering Committee	
<b>Member (national steering group), Black &amp; Minority Ethnic (BME) Forum, NHS Confederation</b>	<b>2005-</b>
<b>Lay Member, Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards, Dept of Health</b>	<b>2004-</b>
<b>Lay Council Member, St Georges, University of London</b>	<b>2002-</b>
Chair, Audit Committee & Chair, Estates Project Board	
<b>Crown Appointee on the Court &amp; Council, Imperial College</b>	<b>2002</b>
Chair, Research Ethics Committee (2005-)	

### Public Sector Experience - Previous

<b>Independent Member, Interview Panel, Chief Planning Inspector for England</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Independent Assessor, Interview Panel, Chair, Commission for Racial Equality</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Resource Team Member, City Growth Strategies Initiative (SBS/DTI)</b>	<b>2002-2004</b>
<b>Member of the Board and a member of the Audit Committee, English Partnerships</b>	<b>2000-2003</b>
<b>Board Member and Member of the Audit Committee, Covent Garden Market Authority (MAFF)</b>	<b>1998-2004</b>
<b>Member, Better Regulation Task Force (Cabinet Office)</b>	<b>1997-2002</b>
Chaired subgroups reporting on Anti Discrimination & Small Shopkeepers. Participated in subgroups reporting on Licensing, Funding of the Voluntary Sector, E-Commerce, and Higher Education	
<b>Member, Governance &amp; Investment Group, Pension Reform Group, Universal Protected Pensions, chaired by Frank Field MP</b>	<b>2002</b>
<b>Independent Member, Apples and Pears Research Council (MAFF)</b>	<b>1996-1998</b>
Contributed to Strategic Review as a Member of Review sub-committee with Chairman and Vice-Chairman and providing an independent business perspective on decisions taken by council.	

### Business Links

<b>2000</b>	<b>1995-</b>
<b>Member, Business Links National Accreditation Advisory Board (DTI)</b>	<b>1995-2000</b>
Helped with introduction of key equal opportunity requirements as part of enhanced criteria for accreditation. Visited various Business Links across the country for pre-accreditation assessment and post accreditation monitoring.	
<b>Founder Chairman, Business Links London South</b>	<b>1995-1998</b>
Oversaw the establishment of Business Links in the 6 boroughs of South London. Chaired Second National Conference 1997 and doubled attendance to record 600 delegates	
<b>Director, Business Links London</b>	<b>1996-1998</b>
Chaired the London Network Chief Executive Officers' Group with the responsibility to ensure harmonisation across the Business Link network in London and the accreditation of the London Network. Initiated and chaired the Ethnic Minority Task Force bringing together key London partners to harness the ethnic communities' business potential and their take up of Business Link services.	
<b>Founder Director and Vice Chairman, South London Training Enterprise Council</b>	<b>1991-1997</b>
Co-founded the TECs and Ethnic Minorities Working Group. Responsible for chairing the panel that successfully negotiated the Business Link Licence for South London from the Department of Trade and Industry.	

<b>Founder Chairman, Technology Means Business Council, a joint DTI/Private sector initiative</b>	<b>1998-2002</b>
Facilitated the bringing together of an overlapping agenda of two strategic National Groups. One, the <b>Information Age Competitiveness Working Party</b> , chaired by the then Minister for Small Firms, Barbara Roche MP and the other, the <b>Microsoft Small Business Task Force</b> consisting of key industry players including BT, Intel, & Compaq and various Trade Associations including the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Institute of Business Advisers, Federation of Small Businesses, Forum for Private Business, and Business Links. I was also invited by Treasury and DTI Ministers to contribute to other Competitiveness Working Party Groups and consultations, culminating in an invitation to a final meeting to launch the White Paper at No.10, Downing Street in December 1998.	

### Voluntary / Charity Activities - Current

<b>Chairman (2003-), The Employability Forum Helping refugees into employment</b>	<b>2000-</b>
<b>Chair, National Refugee Integration Forum (Employer's subgroup)</b>	<b>2000-2005</b>
<b>Chairman, London Sustainability Exchange</b>	<b>2001-</b>
<b>Trustee, Forum for the Future</b>	<b>2001-</b>
<b>Founder Chairman, South Asian Development Partnership Charitable Trust</b>	<b>1991-</b>
<b>Founder Chairman, South Asian Concern Charitable Trust</b>	<b>1989-</b>
Encouraging investment in India & the UK and awareness of health & social issues affecting South Asians in the UK and South Asia. Launched campaign to raise the awareness amongst ethnic communities of the urgent need	

for organ donations. Coordinated the sending of two medical teams from EHA in India to help with relief work in Kosovo and later in Orissa. Helping communities to improve cross-cultural understanding and race relations.

**Kings College School, Wimbledon** 1998-

Governor (University of London representative 2005-), I have specific responsibility for community links

**Voluntary / Charity Activities - Previous**

**Chairman, City and East London Employment Bond (BOOST)** 2000-2002

Initiating the launch of a Zero Coupon Bond of £50 million to help with regeneration in East London through creating jobs and low cost managed workspace.

**African Caribbean Westminster Initiative Ltd** 1997-2002

Founder Director - An initiative to raise business issues as they affect the African Caribbean Community. Have been responsible for communications subgroup

**New Deal Task Force - Member, Minority Ethnic Advisory Group** 1998-2001

I visited various Employment Service Offices including Bradford and Salford and reported findings to the full Task Force chaired by Sir Peter Davies.

**Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) Chairman's Committee** 2000

Member of an informal consulting group set up by the CRE Chair to act as a sounding board.

**Race for Opportunity - a Business in the Community initiative** 1994-1999

Member, National Leadership Team and Founder Chairman, London Executive

**Bank of England consultation on Ethnic SME's** 1998

I was invited by the Governor of the Bank of England to contribute to their research into the discrimination faced by ethnic SME's in accessing finance. I was a speaker at and participated in several high level discussions. I am on the list of contacts of their agent for London, Roger Beale providing input for the Bulletin as and when necessary.

**Founder Chairman, Christmas Cracker Trust Charitable Trust** 1989-1997

I set this charity up from scratch. We used innovative ideas to mobilise over 50,000 young people in the UK to raise over £5 million for relief and development projects mainly in the developing world. Young people gained awareness of developing world issues and basic business skills. Innovative ideas have included running nearly 100 special event radio stations with licences purchased from the Radio Authority (many of the young people involved have gone on to pursue careers in broadcasting); running *Eat Less Pay More* crackerterias and *Really Useful Stores* and *The Cracker Newspapers*. We were the first charity that used the franchising concept to run a "virtual" charity outsourcing almost all operations and keeping overheads to a minimum. In addition, we encouraged the young people in their fundraising efforts by raising sponsorship separately and disbursing everything raised during the project itself.

**The Princes Trust** 1995

Business Advisor for Ethnic Minority Start-ups

**Other interests – Current**

Council Member, Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts Manufactures & Commerce; Vice President, The Shaftesbury Society; President, National Information Forum; Centenary Advisory Counsellor, Friends of the Elderly; Member, Board of Companions of the Chartered Management Institute; Advisory Board, Ethics in the Workplace, Institute of Business Ethics; Patron, Campaign for Learning; Vice President, The Leprosy Mission in England & Wales; Member of the Court of Governors, Luton University; Cambridge University Faculty of Divinity; Patron, Small Business Bureau

**Other interests – Previous**

Trustee, Institute for Citizenship; Governor, The Health Foundation (Member of Nominations Committee and Chair of the Leadership Advisory Panel); Trustee, Timebank Charitable Trust; Trustee, Training for Life; Chairman, London Community Foundation; Board Member, Community Foundation Network; Founding Director, The Genesis Initiative Ltd (The business senate for enterprise); Governor, James Allen Girls School, Dulwich (helped set up whole school forum to improve communications between teaching and non-teaching staff with Marion Gibbs, Headmistress); Association of Charitable Foundations; Member,

**Publishing & Media:**

Paper included in *The Right Use of Money*, published by Friends Provident, 2004 *The British and how to deal with them - Doing business with Britain's ethnic minority communities*, Middlesex University Press, October 2001; *The U K Maharajahs*, Nicholas Brealey Publishing 1997; *Introducing Hinduism: A Way of Life*, Hodders 1997; *Lions, Princesses & Gurus*, Highland Books 1997; *Chapaties for Tea*, Highland Books 1995; *Karma 'n' Chips*, Wimbledon Publishing 1995; *Sari 'n' Chips*, Monarch 1993; *The South Asian Population Report for Great Britain - The £5 billion Asian Corridor - Opportunities for TECS* published with SOLOTEC 1992

I have served as a judge for various public awards such as the European Union Women of Achievement Awards, the Sony Awards, BBC Mega Mela, Impact on Diversity, Small Business Bureau, Corporation of London Livable City awards, Beacon fellowship awards for philanthropy, Institute of Business Family Business Honours.

I am a regular media contributor and have taken part in various National Radio and Television programmes, generally commenting or discussing items of current interest, including Women's Hour (commenting on Philanthropy), Any Questions, BBC World Service (commenting on being British following publication of the Runnymede Report) and BBC World TV, BBC Asia Network, Local Radio Stations, Spectrum's Dawn Trader and many other Ethnic Radio & television networks in the UK and internationally. Regular contributor - Radio 5 Live, Almanac; Radio 4 Daily Service.

### **Key Public Lectures**

Keynote Speaker – Closing Address, National Volunteering Conference	2003
Wyndham Place Charlemagne Trust - 26th Corbishley Lecture <i>Sustaining Dialogue: Multicultural Societies under pressure</i>	2002
Keynote Speaker with Nigel Griffiths MP, Small Firms Minister, <i>Engaging Ethnic Enterprise</i>	2002
Keynote Speaker with Home Secretary & the Canadian High Commissioner, <i>Managing Migration Conference, Canada House</i> Sponsored by Foreign Policy Centre, Industrial Society & Employability Forum	2002
Keynote Speaker with Sir Bill Morris and the Chair of the CRE, Institute of Directors Policy Seminar, <i>Race Equality &amp; Business</i> <i>The British and how to deal with them: doing business with Britain's Ethnic Minorities -</i>	2002
RSA Lecture in Bristol and Birmingham. The lecture was published in the Birmingham Post	2001
Keynote Address, Institute of Public Relations Annual Conference <i>Asian Enterprise in Britain - Tomorrow's Client</i>	2000
Hansen Wessner Lecture, Said Business School University of Oxford - <i>What is the role of the Government in supporting or limiting the promotion of a moral standard by a business corporation?</i> Sponsored by The ServiceMaster Foundation, USA	1999
Keynote Address, Association of Chief Police Officers National Conference <i>Macpherson Words Into Action</i> . Conference chaired by Tony Burdon, Chief Constable Wales	1999
Keynote Address, Federation of Small Businesses annual Conference, Kenilworth <i>Asian Business in the UK Economy</i> - Other speakers included William Hague MP and Barbara Roche MP	1998
National Prayer Breakfast chaired by Viscount Brentford. Keynote Address to Parliamentarians	1997
<i>Building on Success - the South Asian Contribution to UK Competitiveness</i> , RSA Lecture, London published with Business Link London. The lecture and the issues it raised received wide media coverage: e.g. Radio 4 Business slot on the Today programme; The Times; Evening Standard. It also formed the basis of discussion on many Radio chat shows.	1997