

# Updates on Board of Trustees Membership and Roles

Author: Dr Lloyd T James (President)

*To Note*

## **Deputy Chair Role**

1. The Board of Trustees is the Union's most senior governing committee, with a focus on strategic, financial, and staffing matters.
2. The membership of the Board contains seats for up to five External Trustees, who are appointed to bring the requisite knowledge and expertise to the Board.
3. One of these External Trustees is the Chair of the Board, currently Jill Finney, whose chairship is due to expire at the end of the 2021/22 academic year.
4. The Bye Laws also provide optionally for an additional role of Deputy Chair, which has not been filled in recent years. The purpose of this role is to support the Chair.
5. To help provide some continuity after Jill Finney steps down, the Board has decided to appoint one of our External Trustees, Stephen Richardson, to be the Deputy Chair, with the understanding that Stephen will then be the likely candidate to succeed Jill in the role of Chair.

## **External Trustee Vacancy**

1. We currently have one vacant External Trustee seat on the Board, following the end of Kate Owen's tenure in August.
2. The Union will soon begin a recruitment process, wherein the role will be advertised widely and applicants will be shortlisted and then interviewed. If the recruitment panel decides to make an appointment following this, that appointment will need to be ratified by Council.