

## **STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

### **CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY**

#### **ROLE**

1. The Chancellor's role is honorary, and its duties are representative, ceremonial and ambassadorial. The position has no formal powers or responsibilities in regard to the Governance or management of the University but is a key leadership role within the institution.
2. The Chancellor's main responsibilities are:
  - i) to present Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic awards, over approximately 5 days of convocation in the summer and approximately 3 days of convocation in the Autumn.
  - ii) to preside over appropriate meetings, receptions, functions and events either at and/or involving the University;
  - iii) to act as an advocate of Staffordshire University with regard to its mission and future ambitions;
  - iv) to leverage networks and contacts to help raise the University's profile and to promote its achievements, aims and values, both internally and externally;
  - v) to advocate for and help strengthen the engagement of students, staff, and the community;
  - vi) to provide counsel to the Chair of the Board of Governors and Vice Chancellor when asked to do so.
  - vii) To visit the University on at least X occasions each year to familiarise him- or herself with aspects of the institution's work and meet with students, staff and governors.
3. The Chancellor is not an employee of the University and does not usually attend meetings of the Board of Governors unless specifically invited to do so. The Chancellor should have no actual or perceived conflict relating to the University's business.

#### **PROCEDURES FOR THE APPOINTMENT**

4. The Nominations and Governance Committee of the Board of Governors shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Board regarding the appointment of a Chancellor when a vacancy arises.
5. All members of the Board of Governors and the Academic Board of the University shall be invited to put forward names to the Vice Chancellor who will report to the Committee for its consideration.
6. The Committee shall take advice from or seek suggestions from other organisations, bodies or individuals, as it considers appropriate.
7. The following points, inter alia, shall be considered in regard to potential candidates:
  - i) An inspirational and recognisable public figure with national and ideally international standing and reputation, with access to a range of national contacts and networks to support the University in realising its vision and strategic aims;

- ii) Demonstrates empathy with the University's values, including in particular valuing and respecting people, equality, diversity and inclusion, widening participation and social mobility;
  - iii) Represents the University's commitment to learning, teaching and inquiry, and its contribution to the local, national and international community which it serves;
  - iv) Embodies a positive role model to inspire the student population and the wider University community;
  - v) Adheres to the highest principles and standards in public life;
8. The Chancellor shall be appointed for a period of five years and may be re-appointed for a further five-year period. The title of "Chancellor Emeritus" may be awarded to outgoing Chancellors.
  9. The role carries no remuneration or formal accountability for governance, leadership or management of the institution.
  10. The Chancellor must not disclose confidential information without the consent of the Chair of the Board or unless they are required by law to do so. The Chancellor will not normally attend meetings of the Board unless specially invited to do so by the Chair of the Board.
  11. The Chancellor must have no actual or perceived conflict of interest relating to the work of the University. Any such conflicts, actual or perceived, must be declared.
  12. The Chancellor should be aware that any public statement made by the Chancellor is likely to be construed by others as the position of the University. If in any doubt on the University's position on an issue, the Chancellor should seek guidance from the Vice Chancellor.
  13. The Chancellor may be invited to events to help promote the engagement of students and staff and is expected to be positive about the University as an employer and place of learning. Any concerns about staff or students or issues raised by them should be passed on to the Vice Chancellor to address.
  14. The Chancellor is expected to liaise with the Chair of the Board of Governors and Vice Chancellor on a regular basis, to ensure coordination, particularly in relation to events, such as graduation ceremonies.
  15. The Chancellor is expected to be supportive of the University and behave in a way that will not bring the University into disrepute. While the Board of Governors is happy to engage in constructive dialogue in private, conducted through its Chair, it expects the Chancellor to be supportive in public.