Dear Members of Academic Staff,

The Board of Trustees is seeking to appoint one academic staff member (the Academic Trustees) to join the Board from 1 January 2024. The Board values diversity of thought and is particularly keen to receive applications from staff who can bring different perspectives based on a range of experiential, demographic and personal attributes. Please find below a list of specific skills and experience that we have identified as areas where the Academic Trustees would be able provide particular benefit to the Board and therefore strengthen its decision making.

- Governance experience and/or budget management experience of an institute or academic school at the University of Bristol or another Higher Education Institution.
- A strong record in research, including a good understanding of the national and international research environment and its funding.
- A strong understanding of, and alignment with, the University’s key strategic aims relating to Education/Student Experience both at Faculty level within the University and at a national/sectoral level externally.
- A strong understanding of, and alignment with, the University’s key strategic aims relating to Research and Enterprise both at Faculty level within the University and at a national/sectoral level externally.
- A strong understanding of, and alignment with, the University’s key strategic aims relating to civic engagement, and to equality, diversity and inclusion.
- A strong record in teaching, education and student support including a good understanding of the national and international higher education environment, and quality and standards frameworks.

You are not expected to meet all these requirements in order for your application to be considered.

Membership of the Board offers many benefits for Academic Trustees including:

- Opportunity to make a difference and play a key role in the success of the University.
- Further development of leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Development of a better understanding of both University and wider Board processes and operations, including the difference between strategic and operational matters.
- Increase corporate governance skills and experience including understanding and appreciating what corporate governance is and how to implement best practice methodologies into the University.

You are asked to note that staff members of the Board are not ‘representatives’ of any particular group and they are not bound by any mandate (i.e. they should not seek to lobby the Board in respect of staff matters). Rather, staff members of the Board must exercise their responsibilities in the interests of the University as a whole and use their knowledge and experience to help inform the Board’s decision-making.

I hope you will consider this opportunity and I look forward to receiving your application. To apply, please send a short form CV (2 – 3 pages) and a personal statement outlining your suitability and interest to Helen.Cole@bristol.ac.uk. The closing date is COP on Monday 2 October 2023 and shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend interview on 31 October 2023.

If you would like to discuss the opportunity further with myself or a member of the Governance Team before making your application, please contact Helen.Cole@bristol.ac.uk.

Yours Sincerely
Jack Boyer

J. Boyer OBE
Chair of the Board of Trustees