



ACADEMIC TRUSTEE MEMBER OF THE BOARD

FURTHER DETAILS

We welcome applications from all members of our community and are particularly encouraging those from diverse groups.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is the University's supreme governing body and board of charity trustees, with ultimate responsibility for all of the University's activities and for ensuring that the University meets its legal and regulatory obligations as a charitable higher education provider. The primary responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are set out in [Ordinance 1](#). All Board members are expected to comply with the role description and code of conduct as set out in Ordinance 1 of the [University Constitution](#).

Desirable qualities

- Governance experience and/or budget management experience of an institute or academic school at the University of Bristol or another Higher Education Institution.
- Leadership in your discipline including engagement with external organisations
- 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 and free speech.
- 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.

Essential qualities

- Understanding that Board members take collective responsibility for decisions made by the Board.
- A strong understanding of the higher education system, nationally and internationally and a clear understanding of UoB strategy and goals.
- A willingness to participate actively in Board and Board Committee deliberations.
- A collegiate approach to participating in Board discussions.
- The capacity to question information and explanations supplied by officers of the University.
- Honesty integrity and respect for confidentiality.
- An understanding of the importance of, and a commitment to, equality, diversity and inclusion.

Core responsibilities:

- To attend meetings regularly.
- To participate fully in Board of Trustees' debate and discussion, and to make your knowledge and experience available to the Board as the opportunity arises.
- Along with the other Trustees, to ensure that the University has a clear strategic direction and help to monitor/evaluate the University's delivery of that strategy.
- To attend training as required to carry out your role.
- Along with the other Trustees, to ensure that the University complies with its legal, regulatory and financial obligations.
- To act as an ambassador for the University, promoting its activities in the wider community.

Term of Office:

The appointment term will run from 1 January 2027 to 31 July 2029.

Time Commitment:

Members are expected to attend the meetings of the Board of Trustees, and to do preparatory work for each meeting by reading the paperwork supplied (this is sent at least 7 days in advance of the meeting).

The forthcoming meetings of the Board of Trustees for 2027 are set out below:

- 29 January 2027 (1 day)
- 1 April 2027 (1 day)
- 2 April 2027 (1 day)
- 28 May 2027 (1 day)
- 16 July 2027 (1 day)
- 1 October 2027 (1 day)
- 19 November 2027 (1 day)

You may also be asked to join one or more of the Committees of the Board of Trustees and this will involve a further 2-3 meetings and related preparation.

Application Deadline: Midnight on Sunday 4 October 2026, via short form CV (2 – 3 pages) and a personal statement outlining your suitability and interest to Helen.Cole@bristol.ac.uk

Interview Date: Shortlisted candidates will attend a 25-minute interview with a panel comprising of members of the University's Nominations Committee on Wednesday 28 October 2026 3pm-5pm. The successful candidate will be invited to attend the Board meeting on Friday 20 November 2026 as an observer.