

Introduction

The Board of Regents supports the University's Strategic Development agenda. Regents act as advocates for the University (*'seeking support for and supporting the University'*), helping to connect the University to people, networks and organisations who recognise and wish to contribute to the mission and values of Hope.

The Board was first set up in 2011 aiming to have a membership of 12, Chaired by Mgr Devine in his role as Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council. With the arrival of a new Vice-Chancellor & Rector the University has developed a new strategy, moved to an academic structure comprised of Faculties and undertaken a governance review. It is timely therefore to review the purpose, composition and terms of reference of the Board of Regents. This paper provides a proposed way forward for discussion.

Purpose

The purpose of the Board of Regents is:

- to bring together members of the University community and its key stakeholders to inform them of the work, development and future plans of the University;
- to exchange ideas on matters of shared interest or concern;
- to encourage University stakeholders to contribute to development discussions
- to assist the University in fund-raising and seeking donations;
- to enable the Regents to promote the interests of the University.

Membership

Ex officio

- Chair of Council
- Vice-Chair of Council
- Any members of Council with a particular remit for external engagement
- The Vice-Chancellor & Rector
- The Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Provost
- The Chancellor

Representatives

- holders of national or regional office, (eg members of parliament, local councillors, local government officers)
- major business and commercial organisations
- regional trusts (eg NHS), charities and foundations
- employers, placement providers and professional bodies
- University strategic partners
- University educational partners
- Faith organisations
- international stakeholders
- major regional media

In attendance

- The Vice Chancellor, the Chair of the Board or the Chancellor may invite guests as appropriate to attend the meeting of the Board of Regents.

Terms of office

With the exception of ex officio members - 3 years; renewable for a maximum of nine years.

Terms of Reference

1. To actively support the University in its Purpose, Endeavours and Mission;
2. To have an understanding of and to engage with the life and work of the University;
3. To be the University's supporters, contributing as a critical friends to its work and providing comment as requested on strategy and future direction;
4. To provide a forum for and engagement with networks of University stakeholders; to connect with and enhance the work of Faculty or Department advisory boards where relevant;
5. To advocate and be ambassadorial for the University; speaking on its behalf and promoting the mission, ethos and key messages
6. To assist the University with fundraising
7. To receive an annual report from the Vice-Chancellor on the working of the University.

Frequency of meetings

At least three meetings during the academic year, one of which shall be a reflective meeting.

Prof Claire Ozanne

Vice-Chancellor & Rector

April 2024