

Governing Board Members (Specification)

A small university with a big reputation: Leeds Trinity University is renowned for teaching excellence, producing highly employable graduates and is committed to widening access to higher education.

We were one of the first universities to embed professional work placements into every degree, and work with thousands of businesses annually to offer degree-relevant industry experience.

Leeds Trinity University is one of four Catholic universities in the UK, with a commitment to ensuring that everyone in our community, whatever their faith, feels supported and valued.

The University, together with the Catholic Education Service and the Sisters of the Cross and Passion, are presently seeking candidates for up to five vacancies on the University's Board of Governors.

The Board is responsible for the strategic direction of the institution and the oversight of its performance and activities, including its financial health. Collectively, Board Members bring their extensive experience, insight and ideas to influence organisational decisions.

We are keen to involve people from a range of cultural backgrounds who have appropriate senior-level experience in the private, public, or voluntary sectors. At the present time we are particularly interested in hearing from candidates with experience of one or more of the following five areas:

- The delivery of Higher Education
- IT / Digital
- Business and commercial
- Marketing
- Estate management

The positions we are seeking to fill are being advertised jointly with the Catholic Education Service and the Sisters of the Cross and Passion, as these founding bodies have indicated a wish to nominate candidates to the vacancies in accordance with the University's constitution. Accordingly, applications to fill these particular vacancies are being sought specifically from practising members of the Catholic faith.

The Board meets six times a year. Meetings take place in both daytimes and evenings. Board members are unpaid, but can be reimbursed for out of pocket expenses. Members can expect to make a time commitment equivalent to approximately 10 days per year to account for the six Board meetings, and three or four meetings attending one of the Board's four Committees.

The Role of Members of the Board of Governors:

1. Have a strong personal commitment to the work of Catholic higher education and the values, aims and objects of Leeds Trinity University.
2. Help the Board operate efficiently and effectively by attending meetings, contributing positively, making knowledge and expertise available and ensuring that the Board operates within its governance arrangements.

3. Help ensure that the Board acts in accordance with accepted standards of behaviour in public life, embracing selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
4. Exercise independent judgement in working to promote the attainment of Leeds Trinity University's objects.
5. Use personal influence and networking skills on behalf of Leeds Trinity University.
6. Establish supportive but challenging working relationships with the Vice-Chancellor and other senior staff, whilst avoiding involvement in the day-to-day executive management of the institution.
7. Ensure the efficient and effective use of the resources, long-term financial viability, overall sustainability and safeguarding of the assets of Leeds Trinity University.
8. Declare any personal/private interests, withdraw from any discussion on any such items and keep up-to-date the annual register of interests.
9. Make reasonable efforts to keep informed about developments in higher education and take advantage of any personal development opportunities.
10. Expect to attend all meetings of the Board and to participate in at least one Committee of the Board and a range of other events.
11. Be prepared to commit, in overall terms at least 10 days per year.

Applications are to be made by letter and CV by the closing date of 5pm on Tuesday 30th June 2020, including a clear statement of what you can bring to the role, and specifically:

- a) which of any one or more of the above five areas of experience you hold, and**
- b) confirmation of your involvement in and commitment to the Catholic faith.**

Please include details of two referees, one for each of the two specific requirements.

Craig Williams, Clerk to the Board Governors, Leeds Trinity University, Brownberrie Lane, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5HD or by email at c.williams@leedstrinity.ac.uk

Further information can be obtained via the same source.

Governor applications are invited from practising Catholics drawn from all parts of the community, and particularly from black and minority ethnic candidates as members of these groups are currently under-represented on the Board. All appointments will be based on merit in line with the skills requirements outlined in the specification.

