

**ARTICLES OF GOVERNMENT**  
**FOR**  
**DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY**  
**HIGHER EDUCATION CORPORATION**

**1. STATUS OF THESE ARTICLES**

- 1.1 The University shall be conducted in accordance with the Instrument, these Articles and any bye laws made by the Board of Governors pursuant to these Articles.
- 1.2 In these Articles, words and expressions shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Instrument.

**2. THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

- 2.1 The affairs of the University shall be conducted by the Board of Governors, who may exercise all of the powers of the University. The Board of Governors may create bye laws which, subject to the Instrument and these Articles, regulate the government and conduct of the University, including the Board of Governors.
- 2.2 Subject to the following provisions of this Article, the Board of Governors may delegate its functions to any person or committee. The Board of Governors shall not, however, delegate the following:
- 2.2.1 the determination of the educational character and mission of the University;
  - 2.2.2 the approval of the annual estimates of income and expenditure;
  - 2.2.3 the effective and efficient use of resources, ensuring the solvency of the University and the Corporation and the safeguarding of their assets, which shall include the appointment of auditors;
  - 2.2.4 the appointment and dismissal of the Principal and the appointment of the Clerk to the Board; or
  - 2.2.5 the varying or revoking of these Articles.
- 2.3 The quorum for meetings of the Board of Governors shall be 10 members, provided that at least half of the members present are Independent Members.

### 3. **THE ACADEMIC BOARD**

- 3.1 The Academic Board shall, subject to the provision of these Articles, to the overall responsibility of the Board of Governors and to the responsibilities of the Principal, be responsible for the academic activities of the University.
- 3.2 Subject to the controls set out in clause 3.1, the Academic Board shall be responsible for its own organisation, including its composition, the terms of office of its members and the manner in which it conducts business.
- 3.3 Subject to the other terms of these Articles, the Academic Board shall be responsible for creating and publicising regulations of the University relating to the admission, discipline, academic progression, freedom of speech, expulsion, suspension and exclusion of students and for dealing with student complaints and academic appeals.
- 3.4 The Academic Board shall comprise no more than 36 members, including the Principal (who shall chair its meetings) and such other numbers of staff and students as may from time to time be approved by the Board of Governors. The Principal may nominate a deputy chair from among the members of the Academic Board to take chair in his or her place. The period of appointment of members and the selection or election arrangements shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.
- 3.5 The Academic Board shall consist of:
- 3.5.1 Class A - The Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Chief Operating Officer, the corporate Pro Vice-Chancellors and the Academic Registrar ( or equivalent roles).
  - 3.5.2 Class B – Such Pro Vice-Chancellor Deans and Directors and/or those in posts of such equivalence as may at any time be established as agreed by the Board of Governors.
  - 3.5.3 Class C – one Head from each Faculty, elected from among their number by the Heads of Department, School or Study.
  - 3.5.4 Class D – up to 2 persons and at least one from each Faculty other than Pro Vice-Chancellor Deans and Directors and Class C Heads elected from among their number by the academic staff.
  - 3.5.5 Class E - 3 students nominated by the Students' Union.
  - 3.5.6 Class F – Any person not covered by Classes A-E above invited to attend for specific items.

3.6 The Academic Board shall determine the period of appointment of members in Classes C, D, and E and the arrangements for their election or selection and the procedure for dealing with casual vacancies subject to the approval of the Board of Governors. Taken together, Classes A and B shall comprise no less than 50% of the Academic Board.

#### 4. **THE PRINCIPAL**

4.1 Subject to the responsibilities of the Board of Governors, the Principal shall be responsible for the following functions, each of which may be delegated:

4.1.1 making proposals to the Board of Governors about the educational character and mission of the University, and for implementing the decisions of the Board of Governors;

4.1.2 the organisation, direction and management of the University and leadership of the staff (and for the purposes of these Articles "staff" of the University shall be staff who have a contract of employment with the University);

4.1.3 the appointment, assignment, grading, appraisal, promotion, suspension, dismissal and determination - within the framework set by the Board of Governors - of the pay and conditions of service of staff other than the holders of senior posts (which means the Principal and the holders of such senior posts as the Board of Governors may determine for the purposes of these Articles);

4.1.4 the determination, after consultation with the Academic Board, of the University academic activities, and for the determination of its other activities;

4.1.5 preparing annual estimates of income and expenditure, for consideration by the Board of Governors, and for the management of budgets and resources, within the estimates approved by the Board of Governors;

4.1.6 the maintenance of student discipline and, within the rules and procedures provided for within these Articles, for the exclusion, suspension and/or expulsion of students on disciplinary grounds, including on grounds of academic misconduct, and for implementing decisions to expel students for academic reasons.

#### 5. **STAFF PROCEDURES AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

5.1 The Board of Governors shall ensure that there are in place (as may be amended from time to time) procedures that deal with the conduct, discipline, performance, suspension and grievances of staff including the Principal

5.2 In making rules under Article 5.1, the Board of Governors shall have regard to the need to ensure that academic staff have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom, and put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or any privileges they may have at the University.

6. **PROCEDURES FOR MEETINGS**

6.1 The Board of Governors shall ensure that there are in place (as may be amended from time to time) rules that deal with the procedures of the meetings of the Board of Governors, of the Academic Board and of the committees of the Corporation.

7. **THE STUDENTS' UNION**

7.1 A students' union shall conduct and manage its own affairs and funds in accordance with a constitution approved by the Board of Governors and shall present audited accounts annually to the Board of Governors. No amendment to or rescission of that constitution, in part or in whole, shall be valid unless and until approved by the Board of Governors.

8. **AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES**

8.1 These Articles may be amended or replaced by a resolution of the Corporation either with the approval of the Privy Council or as required by the Privy Council, after consultation with the Corporation.

