

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Council Ordinance 1

The University

1. Powers and functions of the Council

- 1.1 In accordance with Article 5 of the Supplemental Charter, the Council of the University shall exercise all of the University's powers as set out in Article 4 of the Supplemental Charter.
- 1.2 The Council shall, in exercise of the powers vested in it by the Supplemental Charter and without limitation, have the following duties and functions:-
 - 1.2.1 To make provision for schemes of insurance, superannuation, pensions or retirement benefits as the Council may think fit;
 - 1.2.2 On behalf of the University to enter into, vary, perform and cancel contracts, instruments and arrangements with any person to effect such transactions of whatever kind as the Council consider to be in the interests of the University;
 - 1.2.3 To determine all University fees and charges of any nature, provided that tuition fees shall be set following a recommendation from the body responsible for dealing with executive functions within the University;
 - 1.2.4 After consideration of a recommendation from the body responsible for dealing with executive functions within the University to institute or discontinue Colleges, Faculties, Schools, Departments, Institutes, Delegacies, Boards or other Academic Sections of the University;
 - 1.2.5 After consideration of a recommendation from the Senate, to institute or abolish Professorships, Readerships and to institute or abolish after consideration of a recommendation from the Senate, Senior Lectureships, Lectureships, and other academic offices;
 - 1.2.6 To appoint the Rector, Pro-Rectors, Vice-Chancellor and President, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Chief Finance Officer and the Secretary to Council and such other senior posts as the Council shall determine from time to time and to establish the provisions by which they may be dismissed;
 - 1.2.7 To determine the conditions of appointment, service and remuneration of all the staff of the University, academic and other;
 - 1.2.8 To refer to the Senate or the body responsible for dealing with executive functions within the University any matter coming before the Council which the Council considers to have academic implications which have not been previously considered by the Senate;
 - 1.2.9 To call for reports from the Senate and upon receiving such reports to review the work of the University;

- 1.2.10 To confer Honorary Degrees and Honorary Fellowships;
- 1.2.11 To confer, on the recommendation of the Senate, the title of Emeritus Professor, or Honorary Professor, Reader or Lecturer;
- 1.2.12 To revoke Honorary Degrees or Titles conferred by the Council;
- 1.2.13 To make provision for research, enterprise, teaching, scholarship and learning within the University;
- 1.2.14 When a recommendation or proposal from the Senate is not acceptable to the Council, to inform the Senate of the Council's reasons for non-acceptance and to provide an opportunity for further comment by the Senate to the Council;
- 1.2.15 On the recommendation of the Senate to institute, subject to any conditions made by the Founders or external funders, Fellowships, Scholarships, Studentships, Exhibitions and Prizes, Bursaries and other Awards;
- 1.2.16 To provide for the recreation and welfare of the students and staff of the University;
- 1.2.17 To appoint and determine the remuneration of the Auditor or Auditors;
- 1.2.18 To take such steps as it may think fit for the purpose of advancing the interests of the University, maintaining its efficiency, and making provision for and encouraging teaching, the pursuit of learning and the prosecution of research therein and to consider and if thought fit, approve or modify the University's Strategic Plan and to keep under review the extent to which the requirements of the plan have been met; and
- 1.2.19 To select a Seal for the University, to have the sole custody and use of the Seal and to approve arrangements for the use of the Seal on behalf of the Council and to receive reports on the use thereof.

2. Delegation

- 2.1 The Council may delegate its powers and functions in accordance with Ordinance 7.
- 2.2 The Council shall not delegate any of the following:
 - 2.2.1. the appointment, dismissal and terms and conditions of employment of the Vice-Chancellor and President;
 - 2.2.2. the appointment of auditors;
 - 2.2.3. the approval of the University's strategic plan;
 - 2.2.4. the approval of the University's financial forecasts and annual budget;
 - 2.2.5. the approval of the University's annual audited accounts; or
 - 2.2.6. the variation, amendment or revocation of the Charter, Statutes or Ordinances of the University.

3. Statement of Primary Responsibilities

3.1 The Primary Responsibilities of Council are:

- 3.1.1 To make a contribution to and approve the mission, vision and strategic direction of the University. Subject to consultation with Senate on matters with implications for academic policy, to approve the long term academic and business plans and key performance indicators and to ensure that these meet the interests of the stakeholders and are compliant with the charitable objectives of the University.
- 3.1.2 To delegate authority to the Vice-Chancellor and President, as chief executive, for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and personnel management of the institution.
- 3.1.3 To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls and risk assessment.
- 3.1.4 To ensure the establishment and monitoring of procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interest.
- 3.1.5 To ensure processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the University against the plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be appropriately benchmarked against other comparable institutions.
- 3.1.6 To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the Council itself.
- 3.1.7 To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in HE corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.
- 3.1.8 To safeguard and promote the good name and values of Brunel University of London embracing the principles of corporate social responsibility.
- 3.1.9 To appoint the Vice-Chancellor and President as chief executive, to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring their performance and, where deemed necessary, having responsibility to commence any disciplinary measures it considers appropriate including dismissal.
- 3.1.10 To appoint a secretary to the governing body and to ensure that, if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the institution, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.
- 3.1.11 To be the employing authority for all staff in the University, to have regard for their wellbeing and for establishing a human resources strategy.
- 3.1.12 To be the principal financial and business authority of the University, to ensure that proper books of account are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements, to have overall responsibility for the University's assets, property and estate and to comply with the requirements of the sector regulators as defined periodically.
- 3.1.13 To be the University's legal authority and, as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting the University's legal obligations, including those arising

from contracts and other legal commitments made in the name of Brunel University of London.

- 3.1.14 To receive assurance that adequate provision has been made for the general welfare of students, in consultation with the Senate.
- 3.1.15 To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.
- 3.1.16 To ensure that the University's constitution (as laid down in the Supplemental Charter and Statutes) is followed at all times and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.
- 3.1.17 To ensure the Vice-Chancellor and President has established a body within the University to assume responsibility for executive functions.
- 3.1.18 To promote a culture which supports inclusivity and diversity across Brunel University of London.
- 3.1.19 To maintain and protect the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech legislation.
- 3.1.20 To ensure that all students and staff have opportunities to engage with the governance and management of Brunel University of London.