

Vice-Chair of the LSE Court and Council

The School is seeking a Vice -Chair of its Court and Council. Kate Jenkins has served in this role with distinction since 2009 and will be stepping down as Vice-Chair in **July 2014**.

Role description

The Chair of the LSE Council and Court of Governors is supported in his role by two Vice Chairs. The current Chair is Peter Sutherland KCMG, and Vice Chair (designate) from August 2014 is Alan Elias. The exact allocation of duties between the Chair and two Vice Chairs is subject to agreement between the parties, taking in to consideration their particular areas of expertise, interest and availability; but the common duties are set out in paragraph 1 (below):

1. Main duties and responsibilities

- The Vice-Chair must be able to deputise for the Chair in his absence, presiding over meetings and representing the School to internal and external audiences at all levels. In so doing, they must command confidence and safeguard the reputation and values of the School.
- The Vice-Chair will provide support and assistance to the Chair in carrying out his responsibilities and will act as a sounding board and 'critical friend' to both the Chair and the senior management of the School.
- The Vice-Chair will act as a conduit between the Court and the Council, assisting the Council in understanding and evaluating the views of the wider School community when determining strategy and developing policy.

2. General duties

The Vice-Chair will be a member of the LSE Court and Council and will thus share with fellow Council members the responsibilities held collectively by all company directors and charity trustees. These include: collectively determining overall policy, defining goals, setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed performance indicators; ensuring long-term sustainability (financial and environmental); ensuring efficient and effective use of School resources and ensuring that their use is compatible with the LSE's charitable objects; safeguarding the School's assets; and otherwise ensuring an appropriate controls framework.

3. Specific duties

- The two Vice-Chairs share a portfolio of responsibilities, in addition to supporting and deputising for the Chair:
- The Vice Chairs will monitor the effectiveness of the Council, chairing reviews as necessary.
- Vice Chairs will serve as members of the Court and Council, and as Chairs or members of standing and ad hoc committees of the Court and Council, sharing duties as agreed between the office holders.
- Vice Chairs will assist the Chair and the Nominations Committee in reviewing the performance of members of the Council.

4. Essential Attributes/ Experience

- Ability to think and act strategically, to further the interests of the School and its development.
- Experience of working in large, complex organisations at board level; ideally within a range of sectors (private, public, voluntary).
- Accessible to the School; able to attend meetings in Central London and to commit time and energy to the governance activities of the School.
- Adherence to the principles of good governance, including collective responsibility, discharge of fiduciary duties and the seven principles of public life (the Nolan principles).
- Commitment to equality of opportunity.

Desirable Attributes/ Experience

- Expertise in a field which is of relevance to the oversight of the business of the School – particularly pertinent would be Human Resources, Equality and Diversity, Ethics, Media, Widening Participation
- IT literacy and online availability if advice is required urgently out-of-hours.

Time commitment and remuneration

The workload will vary. On average it is about 20 days a year, but circumstances may arise which will require additional input or short notice attendance on campus.

The members of the School's Chair and Vice Chair Selection Committee are:

- Mr James Goudie QC (Chairman of the Committee)
- Professor Craig Calhoun
- Professor Jason Alexander
- Professor Chris Brown

- Dr Kent Deng
- Ms Tina Fahm
- Mr Johannes Huth
- Ms Jagdip Jagpal
- Mr Peter Jones
- The General Secretary of the Students' Union

Any member of the Committee would be happy to discuss the role informally.

Suggestions of those who might be suitable, and expressions of interest should be sent in confidence to

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