

Southampton Solent University

Board of Governors

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 29 October 2025 at 14:30hrs
In Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building, East Park Terrace, Southampton

Present

Mohammad Galib, Student Governor
Mike Gaston, Co-opted Governor (FE)
Adam Golton, Independent Governor
Dr Francesca Gwynne, Staff Governor (Academic)
Don Iro, Independent Governor and Vice Chair (via Teams)
Professor James Knowles, Vice-Chancellor and Governor ex officio
Professor Dame Julie Lydon DBE
Fay Quayle, Independent Governor (To Min 25/109)
Sharath Ranjan, Independent Governor
Lisa-Jane Risk, Independent Governor
Sanidhya Shetty, Student Governor
Richard Smith, Independent Governor & Chair of Board
Beth Topazio, Staff Governor (Professional Services)
Dr Alan Whitehead CBE, Independent Governor
Professor Allan Youp OBE, Independent Governor

In attendance

Andrew Bird, Chief Marketing Officer
Professor Cathy Barnes, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research, Academic Strategy and Planning
Jim Irving, Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance
Eran Kochlany, Chief Financial and Operating Officer (via Teams)
Helen Jones, Chief People and Culture Officer
Professor Sarah Jones, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education
Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors

Agenda Part 1

25/88 Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the board meeting.
2. There were apologies from Philip de Klerk.
3. The meeting was quorate throughout.

25/89 Conflicts of Interest

Confidential Unreserved

25/90 Minutes of 19 August 2025

Decision

1. The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

25/91 Matters Arising & Chair's Actions

**Paper 25/BG/48
Confidential Unreserved**

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| 25/92 Chair's report | Oral Report Confidential Unreserved |
| 25/93 Other urgent business | Confidential Unreserved |
| Strategic Discussion Matters | |
| 25/94 Vice-Chancellor's report | Paper 25/BG/49 Confidential Unreserved |
| 25/95 3-Year Strategic Plan 1 progress report | Presentation & oral report Confidential Unreserved |
| Performance Matters | |
| 25/96 Enrolment update | Paper 25/BG/50 Confidential Unreserved |
| 25/97 Debt and covenants update | Oral Report Confidential Unreserved |
| 25/98 Pensions update | Oral Report Confidential Unreserved |
| 25/99 Reportable Events update | Paper 25/BG/51 Confidential Unreserved |
| Student and Academic | |
| 25/100 Internationalisation plan 2025-2028 | Paper 25/BG/52 Confidential Unreserved |
| 25/101 Student Governors' report | Paper 25/BG/53 Restricted |
| 25/102 Academic Board Chair's report | Oral Report Confidential Unreserved |
| People and Culture | |
| 25/103 Staff Governors' report | Paper 25/BG/54 Restricted |
| 25/104 Remuneration Committees Chair's report | Oral Report Confidential Unreserved |
| Governance Matters | |
| 25/105 Board Recruitment for 2025/26 | Paper 25/BG/55 Confidential Unreserved |

25/106 Governance Effectiveness Review 2025

**Paper 25/BG/56
Confidential Unreserved**

End of Agenda Part 1

Agenda Part 2

25/107 Membership of the Board and its Committees

**Paper 25/BG/57
Confidential Unreserved**

25/108 Standing orders of the Board and its Committees

**Paper 25/BG/58
Confidential Unreserved**

Any other urgent business

25/109 Solent Staff Pensions Action Group submission

**Paper 25/BG/59
Restricted**

(Fay Quayle left the meeting.)

Items for Update

25/110 Affixing of the seal

Confidential Unreserved

25/111 Reportable events

Confidential Unreserved

25/112 Next meeting

Tuesday 9 December 2025 at 1700hrs - TS215, Silver Birch Suite, preceded by a pre-meeting of members at 16:30hrs.

The meeting closed at 16:45 hrs.