

BATH SPA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

TO: **BOARD OF GOVERNORS – 30 JANUARY 2002**

FROM: CLERK TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

DATE: 7 JANUARY 2002

SUBJECT: **ACADEMIC BOARD : COMPOSITION AND
COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

PURPOSE: To seek approval to a revised composition of the Academic Board, election arrangements and emendation of its committee structure.

BACKGROUND: At its meeting held in June 2001, the Director reported progress upon his proposals to focus and to re-invigorate the University College's academic work through a reorganisation of its academic structure into seven Schools. Each of these has now been established with the transfer of appropriate teaching and support staff under the academic leadership of a Head of School.

The Academic Board is responsible for academic affairs, including academic standards, research, scholarship, teaching and courses at the Institution, and for considering the development of the academic activities of the University College, subject to the overall responsibilities of the Board and Governors and the Director. It is important therefore that the composition of the Academic Board reflects the academic structure. The size and composition of the Academic Board is prescribed by Article 4 of the Articles of Government as follows:

4. *ACADEMIC BOARD*

(1) *There shall be an Academic Board of no more than 19 members, comprising the Principal (who shall be the Chair) and such other numbers of staff and students as may from time to time be approved by the Board of Governors, in accordance with the following principles:*

(a) *At least 10 members of the Academic Board shall be comprised of the Principal, the Deputy Chief Executive and the Corporation Secretary ex officio and such other persons drawn from the Deans of Faculty or equivalent posts, the heads of academic and other departments, and senior members of staff as determined from time to time by the Board of Governors.*

(b) *The remaining members of the Academic Board shall include other members of staff and students attending the University College as determined from time to time by the Board of Governors.*

(2) *The Principal may nominate a Deputy Chair from among the members of the Academic Board to take the chair in his/her place.*

(3) *The periods of appointment of members and the selection or election arrangements shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.*

In accordance with these principles, the Director proposes the following composition for the Academic Board:

Director (Chair)	1
Assistant Directors	3
Dean of Academic Development	1
Heads of Schools	7
Head of Library & Information Services	1
Registrar	1
President of the Students' Union	1
Elected academic staff	4
Total	<u>19</u>

It is proposed that the four academic staff members be elected by and from the full time and associate teaching staff of the University College under arrangements implemented by the Clerk to ensure that no more than one member is drawn from any one School. Elected members would hold office until 31 August 2003 in the first instance and for periods of two academic sessions commencing 1 September 2003 thereafter.

The Academic Board may establish such committees as it considers necessary to enable it to carry out its responsibilities provided that each establishment is first approved by the Director and the Board of Governors. The Director proposes the establishment of the following Standing Committees:

Information to be supplied by Dr Timms

The number of members of such committees and the terms on which they hold and vacate office is a matter for determination by the Academic Board.

The results of the Director's consultation with the Academic Board on all these matters, will be reported to Governors at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: The Board of Governors is recommended to approve the revised composition of the Academic Board, the establishment of a new committee structure and arrangements for the election and periods of office of academic staff members as set out in this paper.