

Influences on and dimensions of English university governing body roles, 28 April 2022



00:48:55 Simon Marginson: it's time now to think about your questions and statements for the Q&A. Type them here in the Chat

00:51:52 Glen Jones: Could you talk a bit more about "academic governance" - that is, decisions/policies related to academic planning (programs, quality, research) in terms of the role of internal academic processes in relation to board governance?

00:58:21 Daniel Tinkler - Advance HE: Could you expand a bit more on perspectives on the importance of diversity and whether any boards had set themselves diversity targets and KPIS? I believe there was a quote from a lay member who wanted to look at diversity of thought and not protected characteristics. Was this a more prominent attitude.

00:58:31 Rob Cuthbert: Could you say more about the role of the Secretary or Clerk to the governing body? There was a time when the Secretary was a separate and usually powerful figure, involved with but separate from the executive. It seems to me that now it is much more common for Secretaries to be a Deputy or Pro VC fully part of the executive and therefore (in some cases) less able to support governors in their independent oversight role.

01:02:15 Fiona Ross: I am interested in understanding your thinking classifying students as stakeholders rather than partners or beneficiaries of the purpose of the educational mission in universities

01:02:52 David Law: Over 40+ years in HE (in several universities), including being an elected staff member of a GB and being in attendance at GBs, my sense is that whilst there are consistent themes in how GBs operate (dependent on common expectations, consistent context etc) there is great variation in how experienced are members of GBs prior to appointment. Some bring significant experiential learning to the role but others are novices. Does your research suggest that role effectiveness relates to previous experience?

01:07:09 Rob Cuthbert: The long running dispute (now 4 years or so) in the UK about pensions and pay between university employers, the Superannuation Scheme USS and the staff union UCU has been notable for the apparent solidarity and entrenched positions on all sides. Is this the kind of very serious issue where the University Chairs (CUC) should have been more prominent in trying to resolve the dispute? As far as I know they have done no more than offer relatively low-profile support for the employers' position.

01:12:40 David James: Alison - and others if this seems interesting - one of several recent publications on the FE Governing project (focused mainly on strategy and accountability) is available as open access: <https://doi.org/10.1177/17411432211053691>

01:14:05 CGHE Webinars: Thank you for joining us today. A recording of this session will be on the CGHE site tomorrow: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/influences-on-and-dimensions-of-english-university-governing-body-roles/>

01:14:59 CGHE Webinars: Our next webinar, 'The public (good) of higher education: A lexical-based comparison of the Chinese and Anglo-American approaches', will be on Tuesday. You can register here: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/the-public-good-of-higher-education-a-lexical-based-comparison-of-the-chinese-and-anglo-american-approaches/>

01:15:36 CGHE Webinars: You can also register for the CGHE Annual Conference on 24-25 May 2022 here: <https://www.cgheconference2022.com/>

01:17:59 CGHE Webinars: We also have a new Outlook calendar for CGHE events you can subscribe to. This replaces our previous public calendar. More details here: <https://www.researchcghe.org/news/2022-04-28-subscribe-to-the-new-cghe-events-calendar/>

01:18:49 Trif Victorița: Thank you!

01:22:42 Lori Lee Wallace: Thank you for the interesting presentation, Alison! Thank you for hosting, Simon!

01:24:14 Fiona Ross: Thank you Alison - great insights and lots of resonances for me as a independent governor with HE experience...look forward to hearing more. Fiona

01:24:19 David James: Many thanks indeed!

01:24:44 Maria Jackson: Thank you very much. Really interesting

01:24:45 David Law: Excellent session. Thanks.

01:24:49 Nikko Clar: Thank you so much, Alison and Simon!