



CHEAD

**2025  
CHEAD Trustee  
Election Pack**

Thank you for your interest in this opportunity to play a significant role in the direction of an engaged, dynamic and active organisation, passionate about art and design higher education.

CHEAD provides leadership and an inclusive, cohesive body for and on behalf of higher education Art & Design in the UK, advancing knowledge and understanding in the sector and promoting the sector's interests to others.

The role of the CHEAD Board of Trustees is to carry out CHEAD's charitable purposes for the public benefit and represent and respond to the demands of the membership.

This pack aims to help you decide whether this role and its responsibilities are right for you and provide information on the elections process.

## Contents

1. What is CHEAD?
2. Board of Trustees
3. Role of the Board of Trustees
4. Who we are looking for
5. Eligibility, election process and timeline
6. Expected Commitment
7. Benefits for you
8. Benefits for your institution

We are  
looking for  
people who  
can help us  
continue to  
grow our  
reach,  
influence and  
impact

# What is CHEAD?

The Council for Higher Education in Art and Design (CHEAD) is the representative body for art, design, creative media, and related disciplines in higher education.

CHEAD is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the Registered Charity Number 1174589.

Our purpose is to advance education for the public benefit by promoting knowledge and understanding of art and design within higher education institutions, its standing and stature as well as its engagement with the outside world.

We provide leadership and an inclusive, cohesive voice for and on behalf of our members, advancing knowledge and understanding in the sector and promoting the sector's interests to others.

CHEAD is recognised as the leading representative, influential and authoritative body for art and design in the higher education sector

# 70+

Member institutions  
from small-specialist,  
Russell Group, post-92  
university, public as well as  
privately funded

# 12

Trustees

# 2

Directors

**Sandra Booth** - Director of  
Policy & External Relations  
**Joanie Magill** - Director of  
Membership & Operations

# 5

Specialist alliances

# 1000+

Registered on our  
mailing list

# Board of Trustees

The Charities Act 2011 defines charity trustees as the people who have general control of the administration of the charity.

Our Board of Trustees is made up of twelve people drawn from our member institutions alongside two Directors working across a diverse range of programmes and projects.

The Board comprises:

- Three 'Honorary Officers' comprising the Chair, Vice-Chair and Honorary Treasurer
- up to six elected Trustees
- up to four co-opted Trustees
- up to two expert Trustees

## Chair

### **Professor David McGravie**

University of Chester

David is Pro Vice Chancellor / Executive Dean, Faculty of Arts Humanities & Social Sciences. With a background in product design and related fields, he was an early adopter of 3D modelling and RP and is a keen advocate of technology within the design process. David has spent a large part of his HE experience working collaboratively with UK, EU and partners overseas. A key supporter of TNE in its broadest sense, he has worked extensively in China and Malaysia amongst other countries, and is well versed in leading and supporting curriculum developments in the UK, EU and OS markets.

## Treasurer

### **Dr Theresa Saxon**

University of Central Lancashire

Theresa is Deputy Head in the School of Arts and Media. She is an experienced academic leader and a Senior Fellow of Advance HE with responsibility for student experience and teaching and learning. Theresa is an experienced Treasurer and Trustee and has a thorough understanding of the responsibilities and regulatory governance that accompanies Charities Commission recognition.

## Trustees

### **Professor Paul Springer**

University of the Arts London

Paul is Dean of Academic Strategy at the University of the Arts London. He is a Professor of Communication and is a writer, speaker and consultant on digital marketing.

### **Dr Roderick Adams**

Northumbria University

Rod is Associate Professor, Deputy Head of Design and senior academic at the School of Design, University of Northumbria, UK. His work develops new interdisciplinary research that connects education and the professional practices of design. Central to his academic practice is a continual enrichment of a designed society powered by original creative knowledge.

**Dr Jacqueline Butler**

University of the West of England

Dr Jacqueline Butler is a Scottish artist and educator, Dean and Head of the School of Arts and a member of the College of Arts, Technology and Environment Executive team. Jacqueline has experience as a trustee on executive, advisory and gallery boards.

**Professor Catherine Dormor**

Westminster School of Arts

Catherine is currently the Head of Westminster School of Arts, University of Westminster, having previously been Head of Research Programmes at the Royal College of Art and Senior Lecture in Fashion at Middlesex University.

**Roger Bateman**

Sheffield Hallam University

Roger is an educational leader and senior manager, with an employment history in Higher Education and the Creative & Cultural Industries in UK, Spain and New Zealand. Recognised as a focused professional, skilled and experienced in cultural leadership, design scholarship, design practice, teaching, applied research and strategic leadership.



**Louise O'Boyle**

Ulster University

Louise is Associate Dean (Academic Quality & Student Experience) in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences. She was formerly Head of Belfast School of Art, is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (2014); Chair of the Group for Learning in Art and Design in Higher Education (GLADHE); and a full member of Centre for Higher Education and Research Practice, Ulster University.

**Dr Kai Syng Tan**

Winchester School of Art, University of Southampton

Dr Kai Syng Tan is an Associate Professor in Arts and Cultural Leadership and artist-academic-author-agitator. Hyper-active and tentacular, Kai (she/they) activates artistic and artful processes and strategies to interrogate 'the norm' and to catalyse novel insights, dialogues and actions for a more equitable and creative future. Kai is founder of the global [Neurodiversity In/And Creative Research Network](#) which has 450 neurodivergent innovators and allies, and as many affiliated local groups from Kolkata to Kansas, Waterloo to Whitstable.

**Dr Sian Vaughan**

Birmingham City University

Sian is Director of Research for Art, Architecture and Design (UoA32) and Reader in Research Practice at Birmingham City University (BCU). Originally an art historian, during a higher education career spanning more than two decades, she has worked in a variety of roles: research assistant, undergraduate teaching,

**Abid Quayum**

University of Westminster

Abid is Head of Technical at the College of Design, Creative and Digital Industries. He is extensively involved in supporting the technical community across the sector. He is a specialist advisor representing Creative Education in the National Technical Development Centre. He founded ETHO, a European network supporting technical staff in Creative Higher Education across Europe. ETHO is now a platform of ELIA, with Abid serving as the chair and coordinator of activities of ETHO.

Trustees should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions.



# The role of the Board of Trustees

The role of the Board of Trustees is to carry out CHEAD's charitable purposes for the public benefit and represent and respond to the demands of the membership.

The Board of Trustees should react positively to such changes in the sector (and their consequences) as arise from time to time and be proactive at all times on behalf of the interests of the membership.

The Trustee Board act together as a group, not as individuals.



The duties of a trustee board member are to:

- Ensure that CHEAD is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit
- Ensure that CHEAD complies with its governing document (its Constitution), charity law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Ensure CHEAD manages its resources responsibly and exclusively in pursuance of its objects
- Contribute actively to the board of trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to CHEAD, setting overall policy and defining goals
- Act with reasonable care and skill, making use of skills and experience and taking appropriate advice when necessary.

In addition to the above statutory duties, each Trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions.

# Who are we looking for

At CHEAD we believe art is essential and this anchors all our EDI commitments to be a truly intersectional organisation of distinction, trust, and activism. We believe that challenging patriarchal narratives through a people and planet centred approach to art & design is key to solving our national and global challenges.

By compassionately challenging ourselves and art & design HE to learn new intersectional narratives and ways of working that embrace and empower diverse communities, we hope to pave the way for more equitable futures across the art & design industry.

We are committed to ensure that at all levels within the organisation, we are working towards equity, diversity, and inclusion. This means that we particularly want to ensure the organisation's Board is reflective of our mission to dismantle institutional models and hierarchies that have systemically embedded inequality and discrimination within art and design.



## Values and Experience

We are looking for a Trustee who is passionate about art and design higher education and can bring a diverse perspective to our thinking, who can help us continue to grow our reach, influence and impact for example through skills and experience in EDI or business development. We are looking for a Trustee who can demonstrate the following:

## Personal Qualities

- Demonstrate a strong and visible passion and commitment to the charity, its vision and mission
- Ability to listen and engage effectively
- Strong networking capabilities that can be utilised for the benefit of the charity

## Experience

- A demonstrable breadth and depth of experience in art and design higher education
- A demonstrable commitment to championing diverse and inclusive practice and to uphold the organisation's commitment to diversity
- Experience of external representation, delivering presentations and managing stakeholders

## Knowledge and skills

- Broad knowledge and understanding of the HE sector and current issues affecting it
- Strong leadership skills



# Eligibility and election process

To be eligible to stand for election, you must be the main representative for a CHEAD member institution.

If you are **not** the main representative for your institution, you should discuss and seek support from your main member representative listed on the [CHEAD member directory](#).

Each institutional member can put forward **one** nomination. No single institutional member may be represented by more than one Trustee on the Board.

Individuals wishing to submit a nomination should complete a nomination form including an election statement which can be submitted in written, video or audio format via the CHEAD website.

Nomination statements are circulated to the main member with voting rights at each member institution. Trustees are elected by those members through election at the Annual General Meeting held during the Annual Conference in March.

Election will be by simple majority.

Successful applicants are announced during the AGM.

A comprehensive induction process is in place to support new Trustees including a full briefing meeting with both CHEAD Directors and a one to one meeting with the Chair. Additional training can also be organised should this be required.

## Timeline

### Wednesday 5 February 2025

**Call for nominations** is circulated to the CHEAD membership.

### Friday 21 February 2025

**Deadline for nominations.**

### Wednesday 26 February 2025

**Nomination submissions are circulated** to the CHEAD main member representative as part of the AGM Notice.

### Wednesday 26 March 2025

**Annual General Meeting** including Vice-Chair and Trustee elections takes place.

# Expected commitment

The term of appointment as member of the Board of Trustees is 3 years.

Retiring Trustees are eligible for re-election but will not normally serve for more than two terms of appointment consecutively.

There are currently 5 meetings per year, which are held in October, December, March, May, and a residential away day in June.

Meetings are held in person.

Trustees are expected to:

- Participate in CHEAD events, especially the Annual Conference which is normally hosted and/or organised by a member organisation and to support the event by chairing sessions, welcoming new members, guests and speakers and hosting tables at the official dinner.
- Actively participate in and support the ongoing work of CHEAD including representation, research, general HE policy discussions, preparation of position papers and reports.
- Give their time to CHEAD pro bono. It is expected that their home institutions will normally underwrite travel costs incurred, however, reasonable expenses can be claimed where the home institution is unable.



Trustees are normally appointed for a minimum of 3 years, and may be reappointed to serve up to a maximum of 6 years.

# Benefits for you

Some of the benefits former Trustees have reported include:

- Satisfaction of being closely involved in the strategic planning and decision-making of a national body.
- Representing their own institutions at the highest level.
- Having the latest information and news of the sector.
- Being aware of latest government and funding council policies and decision making.
- Invaluable networking opportunities inside and outside of HE.
- Opportunities to speak to national and international peers.
- Other professional development opportunities, e.g. presenting and speaking at events, acting as a specialist advisor, involvement in case studies, meaningful consultation as an advocate and making useful new contacts through public engagement.

Benefits also include opportunities to align your interests with one of CHEAD's strategic themes:

- Advocacy
- Research
- Learning and Teaching
- EDI
- Leadership

There are opportunities to join working groups such as:

- EDI
- Leadership Programme
- Subject Associations
- Learning and Teaching

Past Trustees have almost all said how much they have enjoyed their periods of office, that as well as making a contribution to our sector, they benefited in many ways themselves.

# Benefits for your institution

There is a compelling argument for institutions to support employees to take on Trustee roles. There are many benefits to both individuals and the institution in doing this including:

- Employee fulfilment
- Develop networks in the sector
- Cost effective personal development
- Gaining knowledge of art and design higher education sector issues

Institutions benefit as their employees gain board and networking skills and are contributing something back to the sector.

Many Trustees say that serving on a board is the best education they have received in dealing with real and often complex strategic, organisational and policy issues.

Institutions recognise that supporting staff to take up Trustee roles is a good way for their staff to share their knowledge and experience, while also offering them an exciting, alternative professional development opportunity, providing them with skills they couldn't gain from traditional management training.

Institutions benefit by individuals having access to invaluable networking opportunities inside and outside of higher education and professional development opportunities, including speaking at a range of internal and external events and to national and international peers.

Institutions benefit as their employees gain board and networking skills and a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment they are contributing something back to the sector.



[www.thead.ac.uk](http://www.thead.ac.uk)  
[info@thead.ac.uk](mailto:info@thead.ac.uk)