

## **Board of Governors Roles and Responsibilities**

The Board of Governors bears the ultimate responsibility for the operation and future of Dalhousie University. The Board carries out this responsibility through a stewardship role. The Board delegates day-to-day management of the University to the President and management team. The Board respects the responsibility of the University Senate to adopt policies on academic matters, but such policies may be subject to Board approval.

The powers and duties of the Board are outlined in the Statutes relating to Dalhousie University as follows: 1863, C.24; 1875, c.27; 1935, c.104 & 1967, c.133; 1958, c.121; 1988, c.74; 1969, c.127; 1935, c.104, s.3; 1935, c.104, s.5 & 1967, c.133; 1935, c.104, s.6; 1863, c.24, 2.8. Excerpts are attached for information.

To fulfill its stewardship role, the fundamental responsibilities of the Board of Governors are to:

- Provide trusteeship for the achievement of the University's core mission, its assets and its public reputation. This involves sharing information about the University's activities, requiring accountability for results, and ensuring appropriate responses to organizational and operational shortcomings from appropriate staff. Trusteeship also involves advocacy of the University's interests to governments and the community.
- Review the University management's strategic direction to achieve our goals and hold management accountable for the outcomes of the implementation of its operational plans. This is an ongoing and iterative process.
- Provide statutory approval of University operations as required.

The major ongoing issues of concern within the University and for the Board include:

- the appointment of the President;
- the strength of Dalhousie's reputation and external support for University activities;
- the range and quality of the academic program;
- the quality of the student experience;
- the recruitment, retention and quality of Dalhousie's students;
- the recruitment, retention and quality of University faculty and staff;
- the quality of the University's management;
- the strength of the University's research program;
- appropriate ethical behaviour in all University activities;
- the health of the University's financial position and financial plans;
- the maintenance and improvement of Dalhousie's campus infrastructure;
- the identification, management and monitoring of the principal risks faced by the University;
- the identification of future directions and challenges in higher education that will impact on the ways Dalhousie achieves its institutional mission and services our broadly-defined community.