



# The UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO

## *The Board of Governors*

### **Responsibilities of a Board Member**

1. To support the mission of the University
2. To help enhance the public image of the University and the Board of Governors
3. To strengthen and sustain the President while being an active, energetic, and probing Board member exercising critical judgment on policy matters
4. To understand that the Board's role is policy making and not involvement in administration or the management process
5. To communicate promptly to the Board Chair or the President, as appropriate, any significant concern or complaint and then let the Chair or President deal with it
6. To defend the autonomy and the independence of the University
7. To maintain an overriding loyalty to the entire University rather than to any part of it or constituency within it
8. To seek to be fully informed about the University and its role in the province and in higher education and to be responsive to the changing environments which affect it
9. To foster openness and trust among the members of the Board, the administration, the faculty, the staff, the students, the provincial government and the public
10. To maintain a decent respect for the opinions of one's colleagues and a proper restraint in criticism of colleagues and officers
11. To speak one's mind at Board meetings but to support policies and programs once established
12. To recognize that authority resides only with the Board as a whole and not in its individual members
13. To recognize that the President is the primary spokesperson for the University and the Chair of the Board is the only other person authorized to speak for the Board
14. To recognize that no Board member shall make any request or demand for actions that violate the written policies, rules, and regulations of the Board of the University
15. To maintain the highest ethical standards and never allow any personal conflict of interest to exist

Enacted by the Board, 27MAR97

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