

STRANMILLIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

GOVERNING BODY

April 2023

EDGAR JARDINE, CB MSc BSc

Chair of the Governing Body

Following an open competition and appointment by the Department for the Economy, Mr Edgar Jardine, who served as Vice-Chair of the SUC Governing Body from 1 August 2014, took up the position as Chair with effect from 1 January 2022.

Mr Jardine is a former Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency. He has also served at senior level in the Office of the First Minister and Deputy first Minister, and in the former Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and as Interim Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Policing Board. He was awarded the CB in 2012 for public service.

Since his retirement from the Northern Ireland Civil Service Mr Jardine has served in a number of non-executive roles. He was a member of the Probation Board for Northern Ireland from 2012 to 2018 and of the Education Authority from 2015 - 2020. He joined the NI Policing Board as an Independent Member on 1 April 2020 and is currently the Vice-Chair. He is also Chair of the Department of Finance's Statistics Advisory Committee and serves as an Education Authority representative on the Board of Governors of Dundonald High School.

HEATHER MILLER, MBA, BA, PGDE, PG Dip Law, SFHEA

Vice-Chair of the Governing Body

Heather Miller is a graduate of both Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University. She has over 25 years' experience in further education initially as a Lecturer in Business and Management and then as a Principal Lecturer in Business and Creative Studies.

Following the reorganisation of the further education sector in 2007, she was appointed to the College Management Team of South Eastern Regional College and until 2021 was the Head of Quality, Excellence and Development with a specific responsibility for the quality improvement of higher education within further education. Heather is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA).

She was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023. She is also a member of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and the HR and Remuneration Committee.

DR ANDREW BROWN BEd (Hons), MSSc, PhD, FCIEA, FColIT, FRSA, FCCT

Teaching Staff Representative

Dr Brown was a former Head of Drama at Ballymena Academy and is currently a Principal Lecturer in Teacher Education, Academic Head of Arts & Humanities, Head of the BEd Primary degree and a member of the Academic Leadership Team in Stranmillis University College. He has wide experience of strategic leadership and policy work and has been a representative on various bodies locally and nationally, including the Council of the NFER, the Executive Committee of the North of England Education Conference, the Council of the National Literacy Association, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, the TUC, and the Executive Committee of Unions 21.

As Student President, he was previously a Governor of Stranmillis University College and has sat on the Court of the University of Ulster, was Vice-Chair of the N. Ireland Teachers' Council and a member of the Department of Education's Strategic Advisory Group on post-primary schooling. As a member of the Teachers' Negotiating Committee and several high profile working groups, Dr Brown has co-authored various schemes for teachers. In 2007, he became the youngest N. Ireland President, and in 2010 the youngest National President in the 127-year history of the Association of Teachers & Lecturers. In 2019 he was awarded the organisation's highest honour, the ATL Order of Merit.

Dr Brown is active in the church and local community: he has sat on the Board of Antrim Borough Council's Local Strategy Partnership, on the Board of Directors of the Ulster Association of Youth Drama, and is Chair of the Board of Governors of Broughshane Primary School.

A committed Christian, he was thrilled in 2006 to have been ordained as a Ruling Elder in 2nd Broughshane Presbyterian Church and to have been a long-serving member of the Youth Board of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. He now sits on the PCI's Council for Public Affairs, holds the Chair of its State Education Committee and represents the denomination on the Executive of the Transferor Representatives' Council, being appointed in 2019 as its Vice-Chair and 2022 as its Chair.

In March 2017, Dr Brown was appointed as a Director of the newly-formed Controlled Schools' Support Council and, in May, as the Council's Vice-Chairperson. In June 2018 he was elected a Founding Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching.

Dr Brown was appointed to the Governing Body as Teaching Staff Representative from 4 November 2014 until 3 November 2018. He was re-appointed from 4 November 2018 to 3 November 2022 and from 4 November 2022 until 3 November 2026 following further re-election.

MATTHEW CUPPLES

Matthew is currently a 4th Year student in Stranmillis, studying Primary Education between 2019-2023. Recently, he was elected to serve as the next Students' Union President for the academic year of 2023 - 24. Matthew is passionate about bringing forward student issues to the Governing Body and voicing their opinions. He will be appointed as Student Representative on the Governing Body from 1 June 2023 to 31 May 2024.

PROFESSOR JONATHAN HEGGARTY MBE, BSc, PhD, PGCFHE, MCGI

Principal, Stranmillis University College

Professor Jonathan Heggarty MBE was appointed as Principal & Chief Executive Officer of Stranmillis University College in September 2021.

A graduate of Queen's University Belfast, Professor Heggarty began his career within the IT sector as a software engineer developing a range of products for multinational technology companies. In 2003, he became a Further Education (FE) lecturer and has held several curriculum positions within the sector. His last role within FE was as Director of Curriculum at Belfast Metropolitan College, where he managed and led the delivery of a wide range of full-time, part-time and work-based-learning further and higher education programmes to over 14,000 learners annually.

Since his appointment as Principal & Chief Executive Officer of Stranmillis University College, Professor Heggarty has led the University College to continue to deliver its mission of transforming the lives of children, young people and communities, through excellence in teaching, research and scholarship.

Professor Heggarty is passionate about promoting the importance of education, in both formal and informal settings, to positively change the lives of individuals and communities.

NIALL MCCARTER BEd (Hons)

Student Representative

Mr Niall McCarter is a recent graduate from Stranmillis, having studied primary education from 2018-2022. At the end of last year, he was elected to serve as the next Students' Union President for the academic year of 2022/23. Mr McCarter is passionate about bringing forward student issues to the Governing Body, and give voice to their opinions. He was appointed as Student Representative on the Governing Body from 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023.

DARREN FEELY

Support Staff Representative

Mr Feely has been in the post of Academic Registry Manager in Stranmillis University College since September 2018. Previous to this he worked as Admissions and Systems Officer for Queen's University Belfast for almost 10 years, during which time he was seconded to the International Office as Senior International Officer. Mr Feely also worked as Project Manager for Craigavon Borough Council on a cross-border EU funded ICT project aimed at encouraging businesses and community groups embrace the uptake of technology.

Outside of work Mr Feely remains active on the family farm.

CLAIRE MOORE BA (Hons) Mathematics, FCA

Mrs Moore is currently Bursar and Secretary to the Governing Body of the Royal Belfast Academical Institution (RBAI).

Mrs Moore was formerly the Director of Finance and Corporate Development for the Northern Regional College. She has worked in the Education and Training sectors for 20 years. Previously she worked in the Audit and Economic & Social Policy Departments of Deloitte from 1991 to 1999.

Mrs Moore is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland. She was appointed to the Stranmillis University College Governing Body on 1 August 2014 and was reappointed from 1 April 2020 to 31 July 2022. The latter has been extended to 30 June 2023. She is currently Chair of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

PETER WEIL MA

Peter has extensive experience of broadcasting, marketing and education at a senior level. His roles have included head of BBC Radio Ulster, head of network television, BBC North; senior vice-president, Discovery Networks International and chief executive, CTVC (part of the Rank Foundation).

His broadcasting career has spanned more than four decades. He has produced programmes with Sir David Frost, Paul Clark, Jeremy Paxman, Dame Esther Rantzen, Emma Barnett and Gloria Hunniford.

Peter was head of youth programmes at BBC Northern Ireland in the mid-eighties and was subsequently appointed the editor of BBC 1's "Wogan". He launched "First Edition with Jon Snow", a schools' current affairs programme for 9-13 year olds, in 1994. It ran for eight years.

He also pioneered TrueTube, an online channel which specialises in religious education and citizenship. The channel won the BAFTA award for Children's Channel of the Year in 2017. During his period as CEO of CTVC, the company won an RTS award for best edited documentary ("Welcome to Mayfair") as well as three nominations for a Grierson documentary award.

In 2000 he was invited to become a fellow of the Royal Television Society and in 2002, while working in the USA, he was appointed an alternate director for the Emmys committee. In 2017 he set up and was appointed the chief executive of Politics in Action, a shared education initiative which involves 23 schools across Northern Ireland working with students from different backgrounds as they try to find solutions to the issues which matter to them. He is also a Board member of Northern Ireland Screen, where he chairs both the Investment Committee and the Archive Committee.

He was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023. He is also a member of the HR & Remuneration Committee and Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

MAJELLA CORRIGAN

Majella Corrigan is Director of Planning and Schools Provision in the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS).

She has over 20 years' experience working in education starting her career as a post-primary teacher before moving to the Northern Ireland Assembly to establish the Assembly Education Service. She then undertook the role of English Subject Officer in the Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), subsequently moving to work with the Northern Ireland Qualifications Regulator which included the role of Programme Manager on the Ministerial Review of GCSEs and A levels, before returning to the CCEA Awarding Body as Service Improvement and STEM Programme Manager. She has a BA in English, MBA, PGCE and PGDip in Educational Multimedia.

As of 1 April 2021, Majella has been appointed as a Member of the Board of Governors of the South Eastern Regional College.

She was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 September 2019 for a period of four years to 31 August 2023. She is also a member of the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee.

DR LAVINIA BOYCE BEM

Dr Boyce is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and the Open University (OU). Her degrees are: BA, BSc (2.1 Hons), MSSC, PhD and Diploma in Personnel Management. She was a Civil Servant for 20 years before transferring to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI). She served 17 years in Human Resources Management and did contract work as an Associate Assessor for the National Police College, Harrogate. After retiring, she was employed as a Teaching Assistant in the QUB School of Management.

Dr Boyce is a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CMCIPD) and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Management (MCMI). She was a Member of the British Academy of Management (MBAM) and served on the BAM Council as the UK part-time Doctoral Representative. She chaired tracks at the BAM International Conferences and was a Special Interest Group, Treasurer.

She was appointed as a Governor at Andrews Memorial Primary School in 2009 and continues to serve in this role. In 2014 she was appointed by the Department of Education as a Governor at Bloomfield Collegiate School where she served as vice-Chair and Chair of the Board. She resigned in October 2019.

She has been involved in voluntary work for several years, comprising the QUB Graduates' Associations and Convocation.

She served on the Committees and was President of the Queen's Women Graduates in 2007. Other voluntary work she has done includes The Royal British Legion, casework; the RUC GC Foundation, Guide; Treasurer of the Police Historical Society and fund raising for the Belfast City Hospital.

She was awarded the BEM in the 2017 New Year's Honours List for services to the community in Northern Ireland. She set up a postgraduate research scholarship in the QUB School of Medicine, in memory of her late parents. The scholarship is open to postgraduate students in the Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine.

Dr Boyce was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 July 2020 for a period of 4 years to 30 June 2024. She is also a member Finance & General Purposes Committee and Chair of the HR & Remuneration Committee and the.

She does not hold any other public appointments.

DR MAUREEN BENNETT

Dr Bennett has almost 13 years teaching experience in the post -primary sector, seven of which were as Head of English and Drama. She has also 25 years' experience within the Education and Training Inspectorate, working across all sections of education from pre-school to tertiary level education and holding the position of Assistant Chief Inspector (ACI) for six of those years. As ACI she sat on the Board of the then Department for Employment and Learning and subsequently, the Board of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure.

Following retirement, she held a short term consultancy post on *Improvement in Pre-school Education in Serbia* as a *Senior Self-evaluation Expert* and was also a part-time *Support Officer for Research, Evaluation and Curriculum on the Special Needs Literacy Project* at Stranmillis University College.

She holds a BA in English, a PGCE, DASE, a Masters Degree in Education and a PhD also in Education.

She served on the Board of Belfast Bible College between 2011 and 2022; her term of office included acting Principal for five months, Vice-chair of the Board, and Chairperson of its Education Committee. Between 2013 and 2020, she was convenor of the Tertiary Level Education Chaplains Committee within the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Her current responsibilities include membership of the Board of the C.S. Lewis Institute (Belfast) and deputy Clerk of Session in West Church, Bangor – both of which are voluntary and unremunerated positions with charitable organisations.

Dr Bennett was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 July 2020 for a period of 4 years to 30 June 2024. She chairs the Education Committee.

AARON DIVER

Aaron Diver is a talent acquisition professional with a proven track record of success in the finance industry. With over 10 years of experience, Aaron has established himself as a respected leader in the field of talent performance management and operations.

Throughout his career, Aaron has developed a deep understanding of the intricacies of talent acquisition and wider HR operations. His extensive knowledge of risk management, process optimization, and project management has enabled him to consistently deliver superior results for his clients and stakeholders.

With a strong focus on collaboration and team building, Aaron has effectively managed cross-functional teams and fostered an environment of innovation and creativity on a multi-region basis.

Aaron has a bachelor's degree in law (LLB) from the University of Aberdeen with additional certifications in Project Management, Digital Marketing, Application Development and Data Science.

Aaron was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023 for a period of four years. He is currently a Member of the HR & Remuneration Committee and the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

WILMA FEE

Wilma has served Education in a number of roles over a 40-year trajectory. Initially, at the University of Ulster, and from 2006 at Queen's University in senior administrative positions. In her roles as Faculty Administrator for Arts and the Humanities, Head of the Postgraduate Office and, from 2016 as Director of Academic and Student Affairs, she has held a range of senior responsibilities for the academic planning and governance of the institution, international collaborations, as well as managing a staff of over 200 members in the delivery of services to students and the academic community. She has also held lead responsibility for collaboration with the FE/HE sector and the University Colleges. Wilma has also been Chair of the Governing Body of Wellington College Belfast for over 10 years and remains a member of the Board. There is no stipend for the Board membership of Wellington College. Her interests naturally lie in the welfare and success of students, the importance of sound academic planning and governance, and the relationship with employers and other stakeholders.

Wilma has recently been appointed to the Governing Body of South Eastern Regional College (SERC) for which there is a stipend of £250 per Board meeting and £125 per sub-committee.

Wilma was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023 for a period of four years. She is currently a Member of the Education Committee.

PAULA LEITCH BA (HONS) P.G.C.E., D.A.S.E., M.Ed, PQH (NI)

Paula is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast and been involved in the education sector for over forty years.

She has experience working as a Teacher and Assistant Principal in a large urban secondary school. Paula also had a period of secondment with the Education Training Inspectorate and participated in the scheme tutoring P.G.C.E. students preparing for secondary teaching.

Paula has been a Teacher Governor of a large Secondary school for ten years and a member of the former Belfast Education and Library Board now known as the Education Authority (EA).

She has served on a range of committees such as Audit and Risk, Finance and Education. She is currently a member of the CCEA Council and a Director of the Controlled Schools Council (not remunerated).

She was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023 for a period of four years. She is currently a Member of the Education Committee.

SAM SNODDEN FCA

Sam is a Chartered Accountant and lives in Carrickfergus. He trained in a major Belfast firm of Chartered Accountants before running his own professional accountancy practice. Sam then spent 23 years working in the Health Service in a range of senior finance posts, including Director of Finance for the Southern Health and Social Services Board. Sam was also foremost in the development of corporate governance in the Health Service for a number of years.

Having taken early retirement in 2010, Sam worked as Finance Officer for the Girls' Brigade Northern Ireland and was Financial Controller for a local council.

Sam was also a Non-Executive Director with the Consumer Council Northern Ireland, and chaired their Audit and Risk Assurance Committee. Sam was also an independent member of the NI Chest Heart and Stroke Association's Audit and Risk Committee.

As a Governor for Belfast Metropolitan College from December 2015, Sam is Chair of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and a member of the Human Resources Committee as well as being a Director for Springvale Educational Village Limited. Sam receives remuneration of £250 for a Governing Body meeting and £150 for a Committee meeting or event sanctioned by the Chair.

Outside of work Sam was involved as a member of a number of committees for the Chartered Accountants Ireland Ulster Society and was Chair of their public sector group. Sam is a keen amateur photographer and plays guitar mainly in church praise bands.

Sam was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023 for a period of four years. He is also a member of the Audit & Risk Assurance Committee (Chair from 1 July 2023).

ROBERT DRENNAN

Robert studied Latin, Greek and Hebrew as an undergraduate at Queen's University, Belfast, graduating with a BA (Honours). He was a successful applicant for the Home Office Graduate Entry Scheme and worked in the public sector for 35 years, spending 20 years in senior management roles. He completed professional courses in England, Scotland, the Netherlands, USA and Canada. He was a part-time student at Fitzwilliam

College, University of Cambridge, obtaining a Master of Studies degree. Latterly he obtained a Master of Science degree in Leadership and Management from QUB, writing his dissertation on ethics and decision making.

Robert was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023 for a period of four years. He is also a member of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

KIM SCOTT MSc BEd (Hons)

Kim is currently an Assistant Director of Education within the Education Authority. She is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University, and has over thirty years' experience working in Education, beginning her career as a teacher in a post primary school.

Kim has held several senior positions within the South Eastern Education and Library Board and the Education Authority, including as Interim Director of Education. She has extensive experience in School Improvement, Strategic Area Planning, Community Planning, School Governance, Teacher Professional Learning and Development, and Special Education.

Kim is a member of the Ards and North Down Strategic Community Planning Partnership and served as Chair for three years. She has also previously been a member of the Governing Body of the South Eastern Regional College, and a Governor on the Board of Bloomfield Collegiate School.

Kim is passionate about education and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this role.

Kim was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023 for a period of four years. She is also a member of the Education Committee.

UNA NIC EOIN

Una has been Executive Producer at Prime Cut Productions since 2009. Since then she has produced 26 shows for the company including the multi-award winning Red, Removed, and Scorch all of whom also toured internationally.

In addition, she has produced Oona Doherty's critically acclaimed internationally touring dance work Hard To Be Soft: A Belfast Prayer across Ireland, the UK and Europe. It remains the only show to simultaneously feature in both the Culture Ireland and British Council International Showcases at Edinburgh International Festival. She has also produced its follow-up Lady Magma in 2019-20.

Prior to this, Una who has worked in the arts sector since 1992 has been Artist in Residence for Wheelworks, Drama Tutor at the Centre for Performing Arts at Belfast Metropolitan College for four years before becoming Head of Education and Outreach at the Lyric Theatre, Belfast. In 2006 she became Creative Director at Creative Media Partnerships and subsequently Arts Development Officer at Belfast City Council.

Una has delivered presentations at a variety of conferences and events in Belfast, Galway, London, Sarajevo and Edinburgh for organisations that include Creative Europe, Queens

University Belfast, National University of Ireland, Theatre NI/Theatre Forum and IPAY Philadelphia. She is a member of IETM. Una was Chair of Ponydance Dance Company from 2014-21 and an Artistic Associate of Streetwise Community Circus from 2008-20.

Una does not hold any other public appointments.

She was appointed to the Governing Body of Stranmillis University College from 1 April 2023. She is also a Member of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee.

Secretary to the Governing Body
MS KAREN ROBINSON MSc Dip IoD