LONDON metropolitan university

Statement of Educational Character and Mission

The Board of Governors would like to present London Metropolitan University's mission statement and strategic intentions

Mission Statement:

London Metropolitan University is committed to providing excellent educational and knowledge transfer services, engaging with real-world issues, transforming individuals and society, and enabling students to achieve their potential and London to succeed as a world city.

Strap Line:

Shaping London, a world city

1. The University mission encompasses:

- A commitment to presenting as an outward-looking community engaging with others on the basis of explicitness in its commitments, its relationships and its activities, and ensuring the accessibility of its intellectual and physical facilities
- A commitment to engaging primarily with the diverse economic, social and educational challenges presented by London, and, as a unitary distributed institution, serving a transformational function for individuals, business and society wherever it operates
- A commitment to providing and sustaining high standards of educational provision and knowledge transfer, serving and influencing a wide variety of internal and external stakeholders
- A commitment to the achievement and maintenance of externally-benchmarked excellence across the range of its various activities
- A commitment to investing in staff and students so that the University's commitments can be delivered sustainably

2. Its educational character will be based on and delivered through:

- A commitment to ensuring that the academic strategy of the University should be seen as *primus inter pares* of the various strategies required to give the University life. It must be constrained by considerations of deliverability and sustainability contained typically within the finance, HR and estate strategies
- A commitment to ensuring that, whatever disposition of academic subjects prevails from time to time, strong subjects can be maintained and strong interdisciplinarity fostered. In this context, there will be a commitment to identifying ways of capturing supra-departmental academic interests and identifying and fostering (with seedcorn funding and enabling mechanisms) the development of a number of cross-cutting academic themes and subject communities, and of creating an 'intellectual incubator' capacity
- A commitment to identifying, understanding and imaginatively exploiting the knowledge map of the intellectual capacity of the organisation, and to ensuring a close and active interdependency, both strategic and operational, of the teaching and research agendas

- A commitment to devising robust ways of identifying and enhancing the University's 'value-added' contribution in terms of economic, social and educational impact on individuals and on its wider communities, in particular in the context of its commitment to equality of opportunity and to combating social injustice
- A commitment to offering educational opportunities to all who can benefit, to fair access, and to ensuring the best possible educational and social experience for students and the best attainable outcomes for their efforts
- A commitment to rigorous analysis of the quality and standards of its academic and service provision, and of its general academic performance, benchmarked against available national and international performance indicators; and a commitment to developing modern corporate systems and arrangements for quality and standards management which will engender confidence in external stakeholders and deliver a rising curve in academic and infrastructural quality and standards
- A commitment to continuous growth, refreshment and innovation in the academic portfolio, within known resource constraints, and on a prune-to-grow basis
- A commitment to sustaining its leading contribution to the Europeanisation and internationalisation of UK higher education
- A commitment to the professional development of its staff, in the pursuit of the above academic agendas, and to implementing appropriate reward and recognition schemes

Approved by the Board of Governors
22 June 2005

Strategic Priorities 2003 - 2008

(as revised March 2005)

Priority 1

The University aims to achieve long-term financial and academic sustainability through:

- Improving recruitment of students of all types and at all levels
- More generally, widening participation in the University's activities
- Improving student retention and achievement.
- Improving employability
- Enhancing levels and quality of scholarship and research amongst the staff
- Increasing and improving services to industry, commerce and local communities, and collaboration with these sectors
- Increasing and supporting activities that make a net contribution to full costs, including indirect costs and overheads

Priority 2

The University also aims to:

- Offer and support high quality integrated systems and procedures
- Improve the effectiveness and quality of its teaching and learning, scholarship, research, third stream activities and infrastructure
- Continue to improve in efficiency

Priority 3

Within the context of the previous two priorities, the University aims to build on the achievements of merger by developing as a unitary, distributed pan London and international institution

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