



BOARD OF GOVERNORS: GOVERNOR BIOGRAPHIES

Chair of the Board of Governors

Ms Ann Priest MBA, FRSA, CText, FTI
(June 2022 – June 2026)

Governance and Nominations Committee (Convenor), Finance and Resources Committee, Remuneration Committee

Ms Ann Priest was appointed as Chair of the Board of Governors in June 2022. She has an abiding and lifelong interest in Art and Design, in Fashion and in creative education and its transformative potential.

Ann is an experienced leader and non-executive, now focused on governance, advisory and consultancy roles in higher education and arts-related organisations. She started her career in the fashion industry then worked for over 30 years in higher education as a Course Director, later as Dean at London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London (UAL), and Pro-Vice Chancellor and Head of College of Art, Design and the Built Environment at Nottingham Trent University (NTU).

Ann has worked internationally supporting the establishment of art, design, and fashion-related institutions in India, Turkey, then China. During her time in HE, Ann led on several EU fashion and enterprise projects and was the Senior Expert and Lead for a project establishing a Fashion Technology Institute in Istanbul. (Now Istanbul Moda Academy). More recently, Ann spent three months each year in Beijing as International Dean for Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology. Ann is also a member of the International Arts and Experts Committee of the Academy for Tsinghua University, Beijing.

Ann is currently a Board member and Trustee of Broadway Media and was previously a Court Governor for Glasgow Caledonian University, and a Trustee of Glasgow Caledonian New York College for six years. Ann was also previously a Board member and Trustee of Nottingham Contemporary, a Board member for Young Creative Awards Nottingham, and Nottingham Creative Quarter Company.

Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors

Mr James Sanderson BA Hons, Dip Arch, RIBA, RIAS
(February 2018 – February 2027)

Finance and Resources Committee, Governance and Nominations Committee, Remuneration Committee

Mr James Sanderson has been a practicing architect for 25 years, working with buildings of historical significance, both in terms of building and fabric conservation as well as contemporary intervention. James has his own architectural practice, Sanderson Borland, and property development company, Harrison Hunt. Throughout his career as an architect and appointed Cathedral Architect, he has a wealth of experience working with private and public-sector clients, often securing funding and leading large project teams to deliver a range of architectural, interior and property development projects.

James has been involved with master planning in the historic environment throughout his career, largely through his work as Cathedral Architect at Blackburn, where he led the regeneration masterplan to

create a new Cathedral Quarter, which was completed in 2016. In addition, he has worked with Walsall City Council on a museum strategy, and with Lancaster Grammar School Estate, planning for the growth in their teaching and residential sectors.

James has an interest in land and property development which resulted in the creation of a design-led development company that strives to design and deliver high-quality sustainable living in the context of sensitive sites and redundant protected buildings. In addition to architectural and development work, Sanderson Borland are committed to Seamas and Global Action Nepal by volunteering time and skills to develop new teaching and learning facilities for both educational charities. Sanderson Borland is currently exploring how they can use their skills in design and development to improve the prospects of the homeless across the UK.

**Professor Anne Trefethen FEng, FRSA
(July 2021 – July 2027)**

Audit and Risk Committee, Governance and Nominations Committee, Remuneration Committee

Professor Anne Trefethen is Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Scientific Computing at the University of Oxford where she is also a trustee. Anne's responsibilities as a Pro-Vice Chancellor include the People strategy and policy for the University and oversight of a digital transformation programme.

Professor Trefethen joined the University in 2005 to lead the development of the Oxford e-Research Centre where she served as the Director for over 6 years. Her research has focused on high-performance numerical algorithms, software design and engineering, and large-scale computational applications. Professor Trefethen serves on several boards in a non-executive capacity.

Independent Governors

**Ms Kristen Bennie BA (Independent Governor)
(October 2019 – October 2028)**

Ms Kristen Bennie joined the Board in October 2019. Kristen is the Group Director of Partnerships and Innovation at Barclays. Kristen is a creative leader who helps organisations reimagine, transform and bring the future into focus. She has over 20 years of experience, leading teams to partner, create and deliver digital products and services driving transformation and sustainable growth.

Kristen's career has involved co-leading the creation of the Generative AI Centre for Excellence at Barclays, the award-winning OX studios in London and Edinburgh and the development and delivery of new brands, new ventures and transformational technology. Kristen is a global thought leader in technology and innovation, and strategic design advocate working at the intersection of technology, design and strategy. She is a graduate of Northwestern University (Chicago) where she studied Art Theory and Practice and History and has completed Executive Education programs at INSEAD (Paris) and the University of Cambridge.

**Professor Graham Caie CBE, PhD, FRSE, FEA, FRSA
(July 2021 – July 2027)**

People and Culture (Convenor), Governance and Nominations Committee

Professor Graham Caie joined the Board in July 2021. Graham is Emeritus Professor and Honorary Professorial Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow, where he previously served until 2012 as Vice Principal and Clerk of Senate. He currently holds the post of Dean of Faculties, a ceremonial and

honorary position. Professor Caie has had wide experience of leadership, management and governance at a senior level on the boards of several public organisations and two other Scottish HEIs.

Professor Caie was a member of the British Council's Scottish Advisory Board (2014-2020); Deputy (and Acting Chair) of the National Library of Scotland (until 2014); Vice-President (Arts and Social Science) of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (2012-2015); and Vice-President of the European Federation of Academies of Science and Humanities (2014-2020). He has served on the UK's RAE/REF English panels twice and was recently the external adviser to three UK universities on their 2021 REF submissions.

Professor Caie has also been a QAA Institutional Reviewer in England and Scotland (ELIR) and has significant experience in reviewing the learning and teaching quality of HEIs. He was awarded the CBE in 2016 for services to research in the UK and Europe.

**Professor Stephen Hodder BA (Hons), BArch (Dist), DArts, PPRIBA, HonAIA, FRSA
(November 2023 – November 2026)**

Finance and Resources Committee

Professor Stephen Hodder was educated at the School of Architecture, University of Manchester, where he gained a Distinction in the Bachelor of Architecture degree. He became a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1982.

He has been in practice since 1983 and 1992 formed Hodder Associates which won the Royal Fine Art Commission/Sunday Times Building of the Year Award for Colne Swimming Pool in Lancashire later that year. In 1996 Hodder Associates, now Hodder+Partners, received the most important award in British Architecture for a single building, the inaugural RIBA Stirling Prize for Architecture for the Centenary Building, University of Salford. The Practice has now won over sixty major awards, including seventeen awards for the Welcome Building at RHS Garden Bridgewater.

Stephen was awarded an MBE for services to architecture in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, 1998.

He received an honorary doctorate in 2006 from the Manchester Metropolitan University for his regional, national and international contribution to architecture and an honorary fellowship from the University of Central Lancashire in 2013. He is currently Professor of Architecture at the Manchester School of Architecture.

He was RIBA President 2013-15, having previously been Vice President Membership, Nations and Regions and Chair of the Construction Industry Council 2019-2021.

In 2023, Stephen received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Manchester Society of Architects.

**Ms Sarah Lavers, BA (Hons) PG Dip Fine Art, CPFA
(February 2025 – February 2028)**

Audit and Risk Committee

Ms Sarah Lavers studied Fine Art at Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen for five years before transitioning to finance, where she quickly discovered a natural aptitude for applying creativity, strategy, and vision in a different context. After qualifying as a professional accountant, she continued to nurture her artistic interests, including being awarded a short period as artist-in-residence at Highland Printmakers in Inverness.

With a diverse career spanning a range of roles in the Accounts Commission, housing, social work, and the University of Strathclyde, Sarah brings extensive financial management and governance capacity and expertise to her current role. As Chief Financial Officer for Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership and the Integration Joint Board (IJB), Sarah plays a key role in shaping financial strategy, direction and vision while upholding the highest standards of probity, governance, and best value, contributing to the broader goal of improving health and social care services in Scotland against a challenging backdrop of increased demand, changing demographics and wider public sector resource constraints.

In addition to financial leadership, Sarah is responsible for several corporate functions, including contracts and commissioning, data assurance, asset management, business support, and estate and property management. Collaboration is central to this approach, with Sarah playing a pivotal role in fostering cross-organisational partnerships to drive the delivery of integrated, community-based services as well as providing support on national programmes in key areas of health and social care.

As a respected system leader with a strong commitment to staff development, Sarah has spearheaded successful mentorship and professional development programs, helping colleagues advance their skills, abilities and careers while strengthening organisational capacity and resilience as a direct consequence.

Outside work, Sarah is an avid cyclist and horse rider with a particular passion for dressage – a pursuit she enjoys despite what she modestly describes as limited abilities!

**Dr Simon Learoyd BA (Hons), PG Cert, MSc, PhD
(July 2021 – July 2027)**

Finance and Resources Committee (Convenor), Governance and Nominations Committee

Dr Simon Learoyd has significant financial expertise following a 35-year career in financial services, most recently at CYBG, and has wide-ranging experience of all aspects of business strategy and financial management.

He completed a PhD at the University of Edinburgh in 2020. Dr Learoyd is a member of the Board of Trustees of the National Library of Scotland and acted as Interim Chair until September 2021; Trustee of the National Library of Scotland Foundation; Trustee and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee of Community Integrated Care (since 2017); and Trustee of the Royal Burgh of Pittenweem Arts Festival (also since 2017).

**Mr Harry Rich LLB (Hons), FRSA, CCMI
(May 2018 – May 2027)**

Finance and Resources committee

Mr Harry Rich is Chair of the Intellectual Property Office, an executive coach and business advisor. He is a non-practising solicitor, Companion of the Chartered Management Institute and Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Harry was Registrar of Consultant Lobbyists, Chief Executive of the Royal Institute of British Architects and of Enterprise UK, Deputy Chief Executive of the Design Council and developed and sold two businesses. He was Chair of the Valuation Tribunal Service and has been a board member of the Advertising Standards Authority, the UK government's Creative Industries Council and the US-based Design Management Institute.

**Professor Adrienne Scullion
(November 2023 – November 2026)**

Audit and Risk Committee (Convenor), Governance and Nominations Committee

Professor Adrienne Scullion is part of the senior management team at the Open University, where she is head of arts and social sciences, having previously been the Pro Vice Chancellor for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Queen's University Belfast, and Dean of Research for the Arts and James Arnott Chair in Drama at the University of Glasgow.

She began her academic career as a lecturer at Trinity College Dublin and as British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellow at Glasgow. Adrienne is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and is a member of the Council, and chair of the Advisory Board, of the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

For Advance HE she is a member (and chair) of the Aurora Advisory Group, member of the Governance Strategic Advisory Group and an Athena Swan Panel Chair. She has been a director of several education and arts-sector boards, including serving as a member, and vice chair, of the governing body of Edinburgh Napier University, as chair of the Citizens Theatre Glasgow, and as trustee of the National Library of Scotland.

**Dr Graham Sharp BSc, LLB, MSc, DPhil, CA
(July 2021 – July 2027)**

Finance and Resources Committee

Dr Graham Sharp has wide-ranging executive and non-executive experience at board level in the private and public sectors. He has particular strengths in the areas of finance, strategy, governance and regulation.

In the private sector, Graham had a comprehensive City of London career, including as a main board director of a leading merchant bank, and has wide experience at board level in executive and non-executive positions including chairing various board committees. He was a founder and executive director of a successful UK private property investment company and started up an advisory business for Indian-European corporate transactions.

In recent years, Graham has been Chair of the Accounts Commission of Scotland, a non-executive director of Audit Scotland, a Reporting Panel Member of the Competition and Markets Authority, Commissioner and Non-Executive Director of the Gambling Commission and Chair of the National Lottery Committee. He has also served as a Trustee of a national charity for several years.

Graham is a Chartered Accountant and holds degrees in Physics and in Law from the University of Glasgow, a Master's degree and Sloan Fellowship from London Business School, and a doctorate from the University of Oxford for research in market economics and corporate strategy.

**Professor Andrea Siodmok, OBE, FRSA
(November 2023 – November 2026)**

Finance and Resources Committee

Professor Andrea Siodmok, OBE, FRSA, is a British industrial designer and multi-award-winning social innovator. Formerly Chief Design Officer at the UK Design Council and Chief Impact Officer at the Royal Society of Arts, she is currently Professor and Dean of the School of Design at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

Prior to this, Andrea was the founder and head of the Cabinet Office's Policy Innovation Unit in the UK Government and Design Director at the Connected Places Catapult. She has been a board member of The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) as well as a member of the European Commission's Design Leadership Board.

With a PhD in Virtual Reality from Northumbria University, and a Master's in Public Policy from the London School of Economics, Andrea is a regular speaker and writer on new technologies, innovation and design. She has held a science and policy fellowship at the University of Cambridge and supported the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Finance, Management and Reform in New York to develop a design-led approach to corporate capability.

Andrea has overseen research funding for the AHRC & EPSRC and been an advisor and board member for various regional growth programmes. She is currently a member of the 1851 Royal Commission Committee, States of Change Faculty and visiting Professor for Impact at Northumbria University.

**Ms Marion Venman, LLB (Hons), DipLP, NP, D.Univ
(March 2025 – March 2028)**

Governance and Nominations Committee, Remuneration Committee

Ms Marion Venman was appointed Secretary to the Board and General Counsel at Scottish Power in October 2007. Prior to this, Marion was the Legal and Commercial Director for SP Energy Networks. Marion is responsible for the provision of all legal advice and support to the Scottish Power Board and Scottish Power's businesses in the UK. These responsibilities include the supervision and implementation of Scottish Power's corporate governance system and management of its corporate structure.

Prior to joining Scottish Power, Marion held various legal roles in Clyde Blowers, Seagram Distillers plc, John Wood Group plc and completed her legal traineeship with Scottish Enterprise. She was a member of the Board of the Scottish Business Resilience Centre from 2014 to 2016 and was appointed to the Court of the University of Strathclyde in 2012.

Marion holds a LLB (Hons) Degree in Law and a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the University of Strathclyde. She has completed the Global Leadership Programme in conjunction with IMD Business School.

In 2021, Marion was conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of the University of Strathclyde for her outstanding contribution to the University Court.

**Tsz Wu, BA (Hons), MDes
(May 2026 – April 2029)**

People and Culture Committee

Tsz Wu is the Co-Founder and Technical Director of the branding agency Pink Squid based in London UK and Texas USA. An alumnus of GSA, a 3D designer maker at heart – Tsz’s career journey specialised in the world of digital and web. With 10 years of progressing through the ranks of a few large London advertising agencies, it was inevitable building his own business was the ultimate dream. 12 years on, Pink Squid is a 70 staff strong agency, developing award-winning creative brand and Ad solutions for complex global organisations. Tsz has built strong partnerships with some prestigious clients across a diverse range of sectors, including mobile communications, fintech, gaming, legal services, management consultancy, retail, private healthcare, hospitality, air & automotive. For relaxation, some days you’ll also find him at his jewellery bench, keeping those silver soldering skills alive.

Ex Officio Governor

**Professor Penny Macbeth BA (Hons), MA, FHEA
Director and Principal of The Glasgow School of Art
(Since May 2020)**

Audit and Risk Committee, Finance and Resources Committee, Governance and Nominations Committee, People and Culture Committee, Remuneration Committee

Professor Penny Macbeth is Director & CEO of The Glasgow School of Art. She has comprehensive knowledge and experience of leading strategic activities and developing organisations, with an ability to advocate for creative industries at the highest levels. As project sponsor for the Mackintosh building rebuild, Penny has been instrumental in leading this complex project.

A strong creative and cultural advocate and innovation leader, Penny is regularly invited to join international and UK wide conversations and initiatives in support of creative industries and their importance within all areas of the economy. Most recently as advisory board member for the CreaTech report jointly commissioned by the Royal Anniversary Trust & DCMS. Having been an art and design academic for many years, Penny is committed to developing transformational and professionally relevant learning environments for students. As Principal of a top 20 Global Art School she represents the sector as Chair of the Specialist Institution Forum for Universities UK, Penny is also convener of UCEA Scotland.

During her time at Manchester Metropolitan University, Penny was Dean of Manchester School of Art and Deputy Faculty Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Arts and Humanities external engagement and partnerships. Penny was also academic lead and project sponsor for the ground-breaking School of Digital Arts: SODA.

Penny is a researcher and maker; her work explores cloth’s potential as a carrier of narrative and catalyst

for community empathy and cohesion. Her research is drawn from artists, practitioners and archival sources.

Student Governors

Mr Rufus Horton President GSA Students' Association (July 2025 – July 2026)

Finance and Resources Committee, Governance and Nominations Committee, Remuneration Committee

Mr Rufus Horton is the Current President of the Glasgow School of Art Students' Association. He has recently completed his fourth year of an integrated masters in Product Design Engineering and is aiming to complete his degree following his presidency.

Rufus has been an integral part of the student community during his time at GSA. His involvement with Hill52, the Student Radio Station, has helped bring life to the student community, spanning club nights and sound art projects - one of which was part of Glasgow International Festival 2024. As President, Rufus aims to focus on facilitating more student run events, as well as working closely with societies to further enhance the student community at GSA.

Ms Charli Runcie Vice President GSA Students' Association (July 2025 – July 2026)

People and Culture Committee

Ms Charli Runcie graduated from the Glasgow School of Art in 2025 with a BA (Hons) in Fine Art Sculpture and Environmental Art. Charli has an interest in creative education and is the current Vice President of the Glasgow School of Art Students' Association.

Elected Staff Governors

Ms Jacquie Coyle Dow (Support Staff Governor) (September 2023 – September 2026)

Audit and Risk Committee, People and Culture Committee

Ms Jacquie Coyle Dow is the Recruitment Manager for the Glasgow School of Art with over 25 years' experience of working in Higher Education within Visual Arts. With previous roles in international exchange, study abroad and student admissions, she currently leads on the operational planning and delivery of a school wide programme of Recruitment activity, UK and EU/EEA Recruitment.

With experience of mentoring and recent involvement in Children's Hearing Scotland, she is committed to raising the aspirations and attainment of young people coming into Higher Education, particularly those from challenging backgrounds and beginnings.

Mr Digger Nutter BA (Hons), PG Cert (Academic Staff Governor) (November 2021 – November 2027)

Finance and Resources Committee, Remuneration Committee

Mr Digger Nutter is a Lecturer in Interior Design at Glasgow School of Art. His teaching and research are rooted in the art school studio, understood as a space for dialogue, critique, and community. He is a Lecturer in Academic Development at the Glasgow School of Art and an elected member of GSA

Board of Governors.

A Senior Fellow of Advance HE, he holds a PGCert in Learning and Teaching in the Creative Disciplines and is completing an MEd in Learning and Teaching in the Arts, focusing on critique as a signature pedagogy in art and design education.

Through Digger's learning and teaching practice, he explores alternative review formats to promote the Before moving into academic development, Digger taught in Interior Design, leading studio and live projects. He now drives work on studio pedagogy, feedback literacies, creative learning spaces, and learning methods across the institution. He leads initiatives in technology-enhanced learning and champions student-staff partnerships in assessment and feedback, shaping practice and policy at GSA. His research advances new approaches to critique and review, drawing on space, sound, and walking as tools for learning.

As a designer, he ran a successful practice for ten years alongside part-time design lecturing, focusing on immersive and interactive public art installations and events for various private and public institutions. Funders included Scottish Natural Heritage, NHS Highland & Islands, NHS Grampian, Scottish Arts Council, and Canary Wharf. Digger has published research in the areas of virtual studio practices (iJade, 2021) and walking as a de-centring pedagogy (JPAAP, 2025), reflecting his interest in how space, memory, and movement shape studio learning.

Trade Union Governors

Mr Thomas Greenough BA (Hons) (Trade Union Governor - Academic Staff)
(November 2020 – November 2026)

People and Culture Committee

Mr Thomas Greenough is a graduate of The Glasgow School of Art (1993 – Fine Art), Thomas returned as a member of staff in 2013. As the Head of International Academic Development at GSA, Thomas provides academic leadership in internationalisation and international development, providing expertise and guidance in internationalisation initiatives and issues across GSA.

His work consists of leading, facilitating and supporting the development of international academic partnerships including collaborative educational provision, joint programmes, in-country delivery of GSA programmes, research and knowledge exchange partnerships. It also includes the development and delivery of "soft" international recruitment activity which focus and build on academic relationships with feeder institutions in line with the GSA's overall international recruitment strategies and working with schools and departments to develop local international strategies.

Thomas is a founder member of the Internationalisation Platform (PIE) within the European League of the Institutes of the Arts (ELIA). Thomas is also the President of the University and College Union GSA Branch.

Mr Craig Laurie (Trade Union Governor – Support Staff)
(November 2023 – November 2026)

Governance and Nominations Committee

Mr Craig Laurie is a Technical Manager at Glasgow School of Art. He has worked at GSA for over 35 years, developing facilities, managing and progressing teams, and is currently responsible for the overall studio support provision in the school. As a semi-professional musician he has toured and performed extensively worldwide. He is a Fellow of Advance HE.

Craig has been a member of Unite for over 25 years and has experience in representing staff at both local and national level. He is currently treasurer of the West of Scotland Education Branch.