Standing Committees and Strategic Task Forces of the Board of Trustees 2020-2021

Standing Committees

External Engagement. The committee serves as a strategic forum to review, assess and advance issues related to Duke University’s external relations. These include the university’s practices and policies with regard to marketing and brand management, and engagement with alumni, donors, federal, state, and local governments, the community, partners (corporations, foundations, NGOs, etc.), policymakers, media, and the public at large.

Student Members: 1 Undergraduate, 1 Graduate or Professional

Graduate and Professional Education and Research. The committee has fiduciary oversight for graduate and professional education and research at the university, including the articulation of the mission of the university as it relates to graduate and professional education and research; enhancing the quality of the relevant programs; considering new graduate and professional schools and degree programs and significant modifications to existing graduate and professional schools and degree programs, including those located outside of Durham; fostering recruitment of the highest quality faculty, faculty development and other faculty priorities; all matters relating to the graduate and professional student experience (including academic, extra-curricular, and co-curricular affairs) and libraries and library systems; and promoting scholarly research.

Student Members: 2 Graduate or Professional (one of which is from a non-Duke Health entity)

(The GPSC President is automatically appointed to one of the two student seats on the Graduate and Professional Education and Research Committee. The GPSC President is from a Duke Health entity.)

Resources. The committee oversees the financial, physical, technological, and human resources of the university.

Student Members: 1 Undergraduate, 1 Graduate or Professional

Undergraduate Education. The committee oversees the academic, social, ethical, and personal development of undergraduate students. It oversees and recommends policies—as formulated by the senior administration—related to the undergraduate experience, including academic studies; curriculum; residence life; student governance and activities; and the general physical, psychological, and spiritual well-being of undergraduate students.

Student Members: 2 Undergraduate (The DSG President is automatically appointed to one of the two student seats on the Undergraduate Education Committee.)
Strategic Task Forces

*Climate Change and Sustainability.* The strategic task force on Climate Change and Sustainability is charged with providing insight to the administration on current and future environmental initiatives. The task force should consider the viability of the university’s plans to reach carbon neutrality by 2024 and seek to set priorities for future efforts to tackle the climate crisis. The task force should also assess opportunities for Duke to expand and enhance its leadership around environmental stewardship to advance the vision and mission of “Sustainable Duke.”

*Student Members:* 2 Undergraduate, 2 Graduate or Professional

*Duke’s Centennial Celebration.* The strategic task force on Duke’s Centennial Celebration is charged with advising the administration on efforts to commemorate the hundredth anniversary in 2024 of Duke University’s founding. The centennial will serve as a major catalyst for the university, particularly with regards to education, communications and branding, and philanthropy. The task force will provide strategic insight for the initial planning phases of the commemoration.

*Student Members:* 2 Undergraduate, 2 Graduate or Professional

*Duke and Durham Today and Tomorrow.* The strategic task force on Duke and Durham Today and Tomorrow is charged with providing strategic insight to Duke’s efforts to broaden collaboration and partnership with the Durham community. Members will be called upon to review the history of Duke’s relationship with the city, take stock of current engagement initiatives, and advise on strategic priorities moving forward.

*Student Members:* 2 Undergraduate, 2 Graduate or Professional