

Independent Member of Council Recruitment

LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



www.lshtm.ac.uk

About Us

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) is one of the world's leading public health universities.

Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice. We are committed to helping create a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone, because we believe our shared future depends on our shared health.

Past and present

Founded in 1899 at the London Docks, LSHTM has two UK sites in the Bloomsbury area of London at Keppel Street and Tavistock Place, and Units in The Gambia and Uganda. Originally set up to serve a colonial mission, today we are a global network of specialist centres and partners, working together to improve health worldwide. Our dedicated and influential community of staff, students and alumni work in government, academia, international agencies and health services across the world.

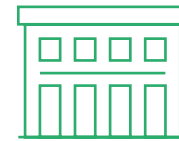
Impact

With our international presence and collaborative ethos, we are uniquely placed to help shape health policy and translate research findings into tangible impact to meet today's challenges. The results of the latest government's Research Excellence Framework (REF 2021) acknowledged the strength and depth of LSHTM's world-leading research. We ranked 1st for the key measure of impact and joint 10th overall of all universities in the UK, in tables published by the Times Higher Education. We were also one of only three institutions found by the REF to be providing a world-leading environment for public health research in the UK.

We were at the forefront of informing the UK and global response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and before that during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. Today, we live in a time of accelerating change and uncertainty, where humanity's growing global footprint is disrupting the climate and the ecosystems we rely on. We see news every day about floods and heat surges, famines and epidemics. At LSHTM, we're working on new approaches to help people and communities see further and act faster to get ahead of the major challenges affecting health.



3,500+
staff based all
around the world



125 years
of health innovation
(1899-2024)



1st
key measure of impact



Research in more than
100
countries



£190m+
research income



Joint 10th
overall of all universities
in the UK

Research

Research income has grown to more than £190 million per year from national and international funding sources including; the UK government and research councils, the European Union, the Wellcome Trust, Gates Foundation, and other philanthropic sources. Our staff are conducting research in more than 100 countries.

Our diverse research talents, skills and experience underpin our position as a leader in public and global health. These range from the molecular to the global, the theoretical to the applied, the analytical to the political. Our experts go beyond pathogens and pathology to understand how the structures of societies affect health and wellbeing, and how people in different situations and circumstances respond.

Education

We are committed to training future health leaders, managers and researchers across the world to take on the challenges of our time. Our research-led educational programmes in public and global health offer a stimulating and truly global outlook. We have around 1,200 face-to-face Master's and Doctoral students, 2,500 studying by distance learning, and 900 each year on short courses and continuous professional development.

Our free online courses are studied by more than 300,000 participants globally. Full of passion and curiosity, our students are a key part of our global network and mission to improve health worldwide.

Staff community

We have around 3,500 staff based all around the world with core hubs in London and at the Medical Research Council (MRC) Units in The Gambia and Uganda, which joined LSHTM in February 2018. Our outstanding, diverse and committed staff make an impact where it is most needed – deploying research in real time in response to crises, developing innovative programmes for major health threats, or training the next generation of public and global health leaders and researchers.

Partnerships

Working in partnership is central to achieving our mission. Our strategic collaborations in the UK and across high-, middle- and low-income countries aim to address health inequalities across the world. Being open to different perspectives helps us see the bigger picture and sparks new ideas. To meet the challenges of today, we need to see further ahead. To help us achieve this, we are building better networks of collaboration and coordination, drawing together different expertise and lived experience from all parts of the world, so we can move quickly to effect change and turn insights and ideas into action on the ground.

LSHTM is also a member of the M8 Alliance of Academic Health Centers, Universities and National Academies, the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region, and the Consortium of Universities for Global Health.



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus with LSHTM students on his first trip to the UK as WHO Director-General. He looked back upon his time studying at LSHTM and discussed his vision to address the world's complex and changing health challenges.

“ We have more than 1,200 face-to-face Master's and Doctoral students, 2,500 studying by distance learning, and 900 each year on short courses and continuous professional development. ”

Excellence in research and education

We perform strongly in various global university league tables. In the Shanghai Ranking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2023, we placed 3rd in public health (1st in the UK).

In the 2024 CWTS Leiden Ranking, LSHTM was ranked 1st in the UK for publishing open access research and 1st in the UK for the proportion of academic research with women listed as authors. Our global partnerships were also recognised, with LSHTM placed in first position in the UK and 18th in the world for the proportion of our research which includes international collaboration.

In the US News Best Global Universities Ranking 2022, we ranked 2nd in the world for public, environmental and occupational health, 4th in the world for infectious diseases, 14th in the world for social sciences' public health, and 13th best University in the UK overall. We ranked 18th for medicine in the 2023 QS World University Rankings.

In 2017, the inaugural Centre for World University Rankings by Subject placed LSHTM 1st in the world for tropical medicine research, 2nd for parasitology and 7th for infectious diseases, public, environment and occupational health, and social sciences and biomedical.

LSHTM was named University of the Year 2016 by Times Higher Education and awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education in 2017, in recognition of our response to the 2014 Ebola epidemic in West Africa. In 2022, we received a Queen's Anniversary Prize for our response to Covid-19. LSHTM does not appear in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings as universities are excluded if they do not teach undergraduates.

We seek to foster and sustain a creative and supportive working environment based on respect and rigorous scientific enquiry. As an organisation with connections and partnerships across the world, it's our responsibility to do everything we can to break down barriers and challenge inequitable power structures and attitudes. We embrace and value the diversity of our staff and student population and seek to promote equality as an essential element in improving health worldwide.

Institution specific funding

LSHTM is one of around 20 specialist institutions that receive institution specific funding from the Office for Students (OfS). This funding recognises the additional costs that LSHTM incurs because of its unique range of teaching, specialist facilities, and the scale of its contributions to national and international agencies.



Mustapha Bah, Nurse Field Assistant, explains the next steps in a patient's treatment, Fajara, MRC Unit The Gambia at LSHTM. Credit: Louis Leeson/LSHTM.

Corporate Governance



LSHTM's Keppel Street building in Bloomsbury, London.

LSHTM was established in 1899 and is incorporated under a Royal Charter granted in 1924. Following approval by the Privy Council, a Supplemental Charter came into effect in March 2009. It is currently being updated further. The Charter establishes the Council as the “supreme governing body” of LSHTM.

The Council, comprising of 16 members, is responsible for the strategic direction of LSHTM and approves major developments and receives regular reports from Executive Officers on the operations of its business, in accordance with the Financial Memorandum between LSHTM and the Office for Students (OfS).

The Council is made up principally of independent members and includes staff and student members. The Council is also responsible for governance, control and supervision in accordance with the LSHTM's Charter and relevant external regulations. The Council comprises a majority of lay members, as well as staff members and a student member. The roles of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Council are separated from the role of LSHTM's Chief Executive, the Director.

The Council meets four times a year and has several committees, including the:

- Finance & Development Committee
- Audit & Risk Committee
- People, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Committee
- Remuneration Committee
- Nominations & Governance Committee
- Senate

The Council delegates a number of functions to these committees which are formally constituted with terms of reference and include members of the Council. Each of these committees is chaired by an independent of the Council. Council members also serve on a number of other School bodies, including specialist sub-committees for investments, estates and commercialisation.

Responsibilities and Terms of Reference:

1. To approve the mission and strategic vision of the School, long-term academic and business plans and key performance indicators, and to ensure that these meet the interests of stakeholders;
2. To ensure that processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the School against the plans and approved key performance indicators, which should be – where possible and appropriate – benchmarked against other comparable institutions;
3. To appoint the Director of the School as chief executive, and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring his/her performance;
4. To delegate authority to the Director for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and human resource management of the School. To establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits of such delegated management functions;
5. To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial, human resources and other operational controls and risk assessment, and procedures for handling internal grievances and for managing conflicts of interest;
6. To have the ultimate financial and business responsibility for the School, to ensure that proper books of account are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements, and to have overall responsibility for the School's assets, property and estates. This ultimate financial and business responsibility recognises that the Director has delegated powers from the Council under 4 above;
7. To be assured that the students' experience (including welfare) is maintained at a high level;
8. To safeguard the reputation and values of the School;
9. To be the School's ultimate legal authority and as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the School's legal obligations and that the School's constitution is always followed;
10. To ensure that good governance operates including academic governance, conducting the Council's business in accordance with the best practice in Higher Education corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life – i.e. Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership;
11. To act as trustee for any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the School; and
12. To appoint a School Secretary to act as clerk to the Council ensuring that they are solely accountable to the Chair of the Council for this governance role and that they have access to all information they require to ensure good governance operates.



A training session for staff on how to correctly put on Personal Protective Equipment when treating patients suspected of or confirmed to have viral infections, Keffi, Nasarawa state, Nigeria.

Credit: Louis Leeson/LSHTM

The person

The Council and its Committees has an immediate vacancy for an independent member of Council it wishes to fill and potentially additional vacancies on a longer time track.

LSHTM has identified a number of areas, skills, and expertise that would be valuable additions in any new council members. Particular areas include:

- strategic experience, expertise and understanding of the Higher Education Sector;
- senior management/director level organisational and people leadership, including culture, equality, diversity and inclusion;
- executive level experience of working in Africa.

Amongst the desirable attributes sought from members of the Council and its committees are:

- proven leadership skills gained either through professional roles or volunteer roles, whether executive or non –executive;

- strong personal commitment to the mission and objectives of LSHTM;
- collaborative skills and the ability to work as a member of a team, including with other council and committee members, students and LSHTM’s academic and professional support staff;
- an understanding of the complexity of university governance and of the strategic, political and economic context LSHTM operates in;
- tact and diplomacy, with the ability to listen and engage effectively;
- strong networking capabilities that can be utilised for the benefit of LSHTM;
- a demonstrable commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

Equality Diversity and Inclusion

LSHTM is inclusive and diverse and would welcome applications from all communities. LSHTM would particularly like to encourage people from LGBTQ+ and disabled community and those from a minoritised ethnic background to join us.

Office of Students requirements

The Office for Students sets out governance principles to safeguard public interest that apply to all registered providers which includes the requirements for members of the governing body to be “fit and proper persons”. The definition of fit and proper persons, and what might indicate otherwise are set out on the Office for Students website.

Term of Office and Time Commitment

The nature of the role requires a commitment of time to prepare, attend and actively participate in council and committee meetings. The Council meets four times a year, and most of its committees meet four times a year. The typical pattern for the Council is a full day strategy meeting in the early autumn, with regular business meetings of 2.5 hours, usually in November, March, and June.

Appointments will be made for a three-year term, with the possibility of re-appointment for a further three years and exceptionally, a final third term of office.

Remuneration

This is a non-remunerated role that does not attract a salary or honorarium. Independent members of the Council and Committees will be able to reclaim all travelling and similar expenses incurred in the course of LSHTM business.

How to apply

Interested candidates should send an expression of interest in the form of a CV, along with a covering letter setting out your interest in the role to nominations@lshtm.ac.uk by Friday 30th August 2024.

Please include the names and addresses two referees. Referees will not be approached until the final stages and not without prior permission. Successful candidates will be invited to preliminary meetings and interviews in London or by Zoom, in September 2024.

Further information

Potential candidates are welcome to contact Jocelyn Prudence, Interim Secretary to the Council for an informal discussion via jocelyn.prudence@lshtm.ac.uk

