

# Times Higher Education Arab University Rankings Advisory Board

## Terms of Reference

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## Role and Purpose

To advise on the general strategy for the Times Higher Education Arab University Rankings in order for it to achieve its objectives.

The Board will meet to hear reports on current plans and activity and to give their views on this and on future priorities, and key issues in ranking design.

In particular we aim to gain:

- advice on strategic direction – the development and delivery of the strategic direction of the rankings and the activity that supports this
- advice on priority areas and topics for the methodology – the development of new priority areas, the recommended actions or interventions to be taken to address priorities, including when to cease or reduce existing parts of the methodology

## Members

- The Advisory Board will normally consist of not more than 15 members
- Membership will be at the discretion of Times Higher Education, but will include senior university representatives
- It is expected that attention is paid to the gender balance, geographical distribution, and user representation when determining the membership of the Board
- The Managing Director of Data Science Times Higher Education will be expected to attend
- Other interested parties may be invited to attend meetings
- Times Higher Education will be responsible for arranging administrative support
- The role of member is unpaid
- Times Higher Education will publish details of its Advisory Board on its website including membership and terms of reference

## Membership

The advisory currently has 10 external members. They are from 10 different countries, and the board has an even gender split. There are also two members from Times Higher Education.

Name	Position	Institution name	Country
Yusra Mouzugh	Provost	Birmingham University Dubai	UAE
Victoria Lindsay	Founding President and Vice-Chancellor	The British University of Iraq	Iraq
Maryam Riaz Wattoo	Advisor	Higher Education Affairs at Ministry of Education UAE	UAE
Hanene Boussi	Head of Rankings and Analysis	University of Tunis El Manar	Tunisia
Georges Yahchouchi	President	American University of the Middle East	Kuwait
Anas Ratib ALSoud	Vice President	AL-Ahliyya Amman University	Jordan
Ahmed Al Kuwaiti	Associate Professor, Consultant and Supervisor General – Deanship of Quality & Academic Accreditation	Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University	Saudi Arabia
David Watkins	Managing Director of Data Science	Times Higher Education	UK
Loubaba El Wazir	AUR product owner	Times Higher Education	Lebanon

## Timing

- The Board will meet up to four times a year, and at least once a year in person
- Meetings will be held during office hours GMT+3, Mondays to Thursdays
- Meetings are expected to last up to 2 hours.

## Duties of the Advisory Board

- To advise on general strategy for the THE Arab University Rankings in order for it to achieve its overall objectives, acting as a critical friend in relation to the overall shape, direction and methodology of the Rankings.
- To ensure the THE Arab University Rankings fit the needs of universities in the Arab region. **This includes constructive criticism of metrics relevance to the Arab region.**
- To support the project in its impact generating activities.
- **The board will not be responsible for the final ranking methodology, nor signing off the ranking.**

## Confidentiality and conflicts of interest

By its nature the board will have access to some information that is confidential. As a result, we expect board members to exercise judgement about the board's discussions.

Board members are expected to use their judgement in identifying and declaring any potential conflicts of interest. In particular we ask that all members identify relationships with higher education institutions, organisations, or commercial competitors of Times Higher Education.

### New members

Additional members will be proposed by Times Higher Education.

The board will be asked vote to approve on new members, with a 2/3rd's majority (of those who cast a vote) needed to approve a new member. At least 50% of the board would need to cast vote.