SAIT Students' Association

Board and Director Role & Responsibilities

Role of the Board

 The board is the highest level of decision making and legal authority of SAITSA. They set the strategic direction of the organization and are accountable to the members.

Role of Directors

 Directors are the stewards of the organization and are elected by and accountable to the membership.
Directors have a fiduciary duty to safeguard the organization and help it achieve its mission and vision.

SAITSA Directors' Guiding Principles

In order to fulfill the role, a SAITSA Directors must follow three basic principles:

- 1. Loyalty to safeguard the organization and help it achieve its purpose.
- 2. Diligence to place the interest of the organization first.
- 3. Compliance to act within the scope of the law, acts, rules and regulations that apply.

Responsibilities of the Board:

The Board is required to:

- Approve, monitor and uphold the strategic plan and other strategies of the organization
- Enforce, adhere to and uphold the governing policies, documents and bylaws of the organization
 - Remove/dismiss members who are deemed to have seriously damaged the integrity of the board or association
- Review and update governing policies, documents, bylaws of the organization
- Approve the minutes and agendas of the Board
- Approve the annual operating budget
- Approve the annual governance calendar
- Establish the organizations purpose and direction
- Safeguard and ensure efficient use of the organizations resources
- Ensure organization is in compliance with all legal requirements

- Perform oversight of risk management as it pertains to the Board
- Monitor and evaluate their orientation and stewardship practices
 - o recruitment, orientation, education, evaluation and embedded succession
- Monitor and evaluate the Executive Council of the organization

Responsibilities of Directors:

SAITSA's Directors are required to:

- Carry out the Association's Mission and Vision
- Consult and represent SAIT students in the decision-making of the Board
- Understand their role and responsibilities
- Understand their fiduciary duty and duty of care
- Make reasonably informed judgements
- Declare a conflict of interest when one exists
- Sit on at least one committee of the Board
- Actively participate in meetings, committee sessions and mandatory training sessions
- Actively promote activities of the Association
- Delegate to management where appropriate
- Not rely on Executive when it is not reasonable
- Not be unquestioning recipients of financial or other information from management
- Make reasonable inquiry to satisfy themselves that their reliance on management is reasonable
- Notify the Chair of the Board of anticipated meeting absences
 - Notify the Committee Chair for anticipated committee meeting absences

Expectations of Directors:

SAITSA's Directors are expected to:

- Make reasonably informed judgements
 - Review agenda packages and key documents
 - Consult with stakeholders to ensure opinions and concerns are represented at the Board
- Consider relevant information
 - o Think strategically and consider all aspects to a decision
- Take an active role in key matters
 - o Participate in meetings, committees, orientation, evaluations, etc.
- Actively promote activities of the organization
 - Participate in SAITSA events and programming
 - Speak to classes, clubs, teams, etc. about the work of the board and updates on the strategic plan, etc.
- Participate in ongoing and annual evaluation of Board practices and processes
 - Provide ongoing feedback at meetings and to the Chair
 - Complete surveys/feedback forms