

The last Board meeting of 2007 took place on December 17th.

At its last meeting the Board had asked for a presentation on democratic trends within the Union. This presentation prompted a wide ranging discussion on steps that need to be taken to ensure that the Union further improves in this area. The Board agreed to look at this issue in more detail at a future meeting.

The major area of discussion was on risk. Over the past few months there has been a significant amount of work done in this area both to work out the risks faced by the Union and then to rate them in terms of their likelihood and potential impact. The Board reviewed the risk action plan which highlights steps that the Union will take to minimise the risks it faces. The Board questioned some of the assumptions made and the register was amended accordingly. The Board also agreed that managers should identify the top ten risks faced by the Union, enabling Board members to better review progress against the agreed actions.

The other key area of discussion was on governance. LUU took part in a governance benchmarking survey and the Board was presented with a report on the findings. Although there had been changes in governance practices since the survey took place, the view was that there was still work to do to ensure that the Union's governance followed best practice. The Board decided that this issue should be looked at in more detail by the Appointments Committee and resolved that the committee should meet early in 2008.

The final area of discussion was around the Annual General Meeting; the meeting at which students get the opportunity to question the Board on its work. It was agreed that all trustees should be present at the meeting which will be held on 14 February.