



Faculty representative on the KI Board: a description of duties and responsibilities

About the Karolinska Institutet Board

The Karolinska Institutet Board (Konsistoriet) is Karolinska Institutet's (KI) supreme decision-making body and as such is accountable to the government for the university's activities. The primary remit of the University Board is to ensure that KI discharges the duties that fall to the management in accordance with Section 3 of the Government Agency Ordinance and Section 2, Chapter 2 of the Higher Education Ordinance (HF). All members of the KI Board have the same responsibilities/duties regardless of the manner in which they were appointed.

The University Board comprises a government-appointed chairperson and 14 other members (HF, Section 1, Chapter 2). The faculty representatives are appointed by means of an election process decided by the Board. The students appoint their own representatives in accordance with the Ordinance on Students' Unions (2009:769).

Staff representatives, who are entitled by the Higher Education Act to attend and express views at the KI Board meetings, are appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Staff Representatives Ordinance (1987:1101).

Power of influence

As a faculty member of the KI Board, you share responsibility for issues of a strategic and general nature of relevance to the university's activities and development, and help to realise its objectives as laid out in Strategy 2023 and the overall operational plan.

The role of faculty representative is an important and responsible one in which an understanding of KI and its organisation and activities is imperative. Members must be able to both see the big picture – KI's best interests – and delve into individual substantive issues. Members acquire greater knowledge and a better overview of KI's overall business and access to a wider contact network inside and outside KI.

Meetings and conferences

The Karolinska Institutet Board meets at least five (5) times a year, usually between 10 am and 4 pm. There are normally one or two additional off-campus conferences. The summons, agenda and underlying material for these meetings and conferences are distributed by email no later than a week beforehand to give the members time to read up on the issues to be discussed. The presentations are relatively short, as members are expected to have read the briefings. The matters to be addressed by the Board are prepared and processed by the university director, after consultation with the president and the Board chairperson, in compliance with the prevailing labour law provisions and collective agreements.