

Bio: Teresa Jordan (LLB, FCCA).

External trustee and Chair of Finance and Risk Committee



With the potential impacts and challenges of the current upheaval in the political environment and changes in demographics for both Universities and Unions it is an exciting time to be joining your Students Union Trustee board. I am really pleased to have the time and opportunity to get involved. Other than as a law student (Nottingham) and seeing my two children go through university recently (maths at Warwick, biology at Sheffield and law (GDL/LLM) BPP Cambridge) this is my only experience in the higher education arena. My financial professional skills are eminently transferable (I can recommend accountancy as a career) and hopefully a fresh pair of eyes/ears and new ideas will be useful.

I have been lucky to have had a varied career and to have had time living and working in both Montreal, Canada and Atlanta, USA as well as here in the UK. Mainly I have worked in very large multi-nationals (revenues from \$5 - 42 billion) with businesses spanning the globe and therefore working with people of very different nationalities and cultures which I thoroughly enjoy.

For about two thirds of my career I worked in the aluminium business, which was very male-oriented in the early days at least, mainly in financial consolidations and controllership functions. The business involved everything from mining the ore, logistics, power and smelting through rolling and fabrication and on into end consumer products such as cars, cans, foil and even greenhouses. I had a great time working on major projects such as building a shared service centre in the mid-1990's, developing and implementing finance IT systems and worldwide finance training programs and accounting manuals. I gained a vast experience of an integrated business and international transactions (acquisitions and disposals) where problems and solutions were generally multi-faceted and crossed national borders.

I moved to a FTSE 50 listed company working with other metals and ores (including ferrochrome, copper, cobalt and coal) both mining (mainly Kazakhstan, Russia and China) and exploration (mainly sub-Saharan Africa and Brazil). Government, legal and fiscal requirements as well as different stock exchange filing and listing and financial accounting standards requirements all added to the demands made on the finance organization.

My next role was in oil and gas field services (drilling rigs operating around the world, pipe laying vessels as well as newbuilds projects at shipyards and connected services) and finally I had a couple of years in Cambridge working as deputy CFO in life sciences (antibodies for researchers) which was both fascinating and fun with internet-based sales.

As a qualified accountant I am experienced in accounting, financial reporting, controllership, compliance, governance and risk, and leadership. I have a passion for problem solving, making life easier for staff by developing systems, processes and organization structure, and for coaching and developing people. I am also a trustee of a small charity (the Astro Brain Tumour Fund) focused on research for low grade brain tumours. I am hopeful that my varied experiences will be useful to your trustee board and executive officers and thus help assist in making your Union stronger and better able to focus on student needs.