FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BOSTON UNIVERSITY JOINS AAU

Boston University has joined the Association of American Universities (AAU), the association announced today.

The AAU membership approved a recommendation to issue an invitation to Boston University following the association's semiannual membership meeting in Washington, D.C. AAU President Hunter R. Rawlings III extended the invitation to university President Robert A. Brown by, and Brown accepted on behalf of the institution.

Rawlings said that the association extended the invitation to Boston University following an in-depth review by its Membership Committee of the university’s research and academic programs. "Boston University is an outstanding institution that belongs in AAU by virtue of the strength of its research and academic programs,” he said. “AAU universities play an essential role in America’s research enterprise and in educating the nation’s young scientists, engineers, and scholars. Boston University is a welcome addition to the ranks of these leading research universities.”

AAU, which is based in Washington, D.C., was founded in 1900 by 14 universities that offered the Ph.D. The association develops and promotes national and institutional policies that support strong programs of research and scholarship, graduate and undergraduate education, and public service in research universities.

The addition of a new member brings the association's membership to 62 institutions, 60 in the U.S. and two in Canada. Thirty-six of the members, including the two Canadian institutions, are public universities, and 26 are private.

AAU members are distinguished by especially strong research and graduate education programs. They are on the leading edge of scholarship and discoveries that contribute to the nation's intellectual and cultural assets, and its innovative capacity, economic competitiveness, and security. The 60 AAU universities in the United States award more than one-half of all U.S. doctoral degrees.

An invitation to join AAU requires approval by three-fourths of the current members. The association considers universities for membership periodically, using an extensive set of quantitative indicators and qualitative judgments to evaluate the breadth and quality of a university’s research and graduate education programs, as well as to assess the institution’s commitment to undergraduate education.

A list of the other AAU members can be found here.

AAU’s membership policies can be found here.

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