

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

UNIVERSITY COURT

A meeting of the University Court was held at 12 noon on 10 March 2025 in the Ustinov Room, Bonar Hall and *via* Microsoft Teams.

Present: Tricia Bey (Acting Chair);
Alan Bainbridge (online);
Manaswi Budhathoki;
Carolina Castro (online);
Greg Colgan;
Regius Professor Sir Mike Ferguson;
Marcus Flucker;
Andrew Lothian (online);
Dr Ian Mair;
Claire Martin;
Professor Linda Martindale;
Ron Mobed (online);
Professor Shane O’Neill (Interim Vice-Chancellor);
Carla Rossini (online);
Amina Shah (online);
Karthik Subramanya (online);
Jay Surti (online);
Sharon Sweeney (online); and
Professor Garry Taylor

In Attendance: Elise Gallagher (Director of People)
Roddy Isles (Head of Corporate Communication);
Dr Neale Laker (Acting University Secretary);
Dr Alison Ramsay (Senior Policy Officer (Corporate Governance)); and
Helen Simpson (Interim Director of Finance)

Apologies: Glenn Allison and Dr Anna Notaro

67. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION FROM THE ACTING CHAIR OF COURT**

The Acting Chair welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Ms Bey reminded the Court that, at its previous meeting, it had not been possible to discuss all of the items included on the Agenda. Members confirmed their agreement to approve Committee reports as seen and were advised that reports on student numbers and Blueprints issues would be brought to a future meeting of the Court.

The Chair reminded those present that the matters under discussion were to be held in the strictest confidence and urged caution in the sharing of information with others. Ms Bey also reminded members to give consideration to declaring conflicts of interest for relevant items, recusing themselves as necessary or appropriate and rejoining the collective discussions thereafter. Ms Sweeney asked the Court to note formally that she was in attendance with the express consent of the Dundee UCU branch.

68. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair invited members to declare if they had, or could be perceived to have, any conflicts of interest in relation to any items on the agenda, beyond those already declared. No new conflicts were declared.

69. **CONVENER OF THE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE**

The Acting University Secretary advised the Court that Glenn Allison had indicated his intention to step down from his convenership of the Audit & Risk Committee. Given the role of that Committee in reviewing the financial statements, the identification of an appropriately qualified and experienced convener had become a matter of urgency. The Governance & Nominations Committee had indicated, by email circulation, their agreement to recommend to the Court that Greg Colgan be appointed as Convener of the Audit & Risk Committee. The Court was therefore invited to approve the appointment of Greg Colgan as Convener of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Resolved: to approve the appointment of Greg Colgan as Convener of the Audit & Risk Committee.

70. **RESIGNATION OF THE INTERIM VICE-PRINCIPAL (INTERNATIONAL)**

The Acting Chair advised the Court that Professor Kim Dale had submitted her resignation from the Court as an elected member from the Senate. Members noted that Professor Dale's position on the UEG constituted a conflict of interest and that an election to nominate a Senate member on Court would be held in due course.

Resolved: to note the resignation of Professor Dale from the Court.

71. **ATTENDANCE AT THE COURT BY SCOTTISH FUNDING COUNCIL OFFICERS**

The Acting Chair advised the Court that the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) had indicated that it would exercise its right to attend meetings of the Court and certain of its Committees as observers.

Resolved: to note that SFC officers would attend future meetings of the Court, the Finance & Policy Committee and the Audit & Risk Committee.

72. **RESERVED BUSINESS: TOWARDS A FINANCIAL RECOVERY PLAN**

The University claims exemption under Section 30 (b) and Section 33 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Members are therefore required to treat the discussion and associated papers as strictly confidential and exempt from public disclosure. The status of this item will be reviewed at regular intervals and will be released when the exemptions are deemed to no longer apply, and following the approval of the Chair of Court.

73. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was declared.

74. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting would be intimated in due course.

Tricia Bey
Acting Chair of Court
University of Dundee