

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

UNIVERSITY COURT

A meeting of the University Court was held at 2pm on 7 August 2025 in the Leverhulme Research Institute for Forensic Science, Ewing Building, and *via* Microsoft Teams.

Present: Dr Ian Mair (Acting Chair);
Alain Bainbridge (online);
Maggie Chapman;
Gregory Colgan;
Tánaiste Custance;
Marcus Flucker;
Claire Martin;
Professor Linda Martindale (online);
Ron Mobed (online);
Dr Andrea Mohan;
Dr Carlo Morelli;
Professor Nigel Seaton;
Amina Shah (online);
Jay Surti (online); and
Dr Martine van Ittersum (online)

In Attendance: Kirsteen Campbell (Interim Chief Operating Officer);
Elise Gallagher (Director of People);
Lee Hamill (Interim Director of Finance);
Richard Maconachie (SFC)(*qua* observer)(online);
Lizzi Nicoll (Interim Director of External Relations);
Dr Veena O'Halloran (Interim University Secretary);
Dr Alison Ramsay (Senior Policy Officer (Corporate Governance)); and
Louise Soutar (Head of Principal's Office and VC's Chief of Staff)

Apologies: Dr Neale Laker

238. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION FROM THE ACTING CHAIR OF COURT

The Acting Chair thanked those present for attending and welcomed Maggie Chapman, Tánaiste Custance, Dr Carlo Morelli and Dr Martine van Ittersum to their first meeting of the Court as members. Dr Mair requested that members maintain the confidentiality of the matters under discussion.

239. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Acting 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. Maggie Chapman noted that she was a Member of the Scottish Parliament, Tánaiste Custance

advised the Court that he was a member of the DUSA board of Trustees and Greg Colgan intimated that he could have a potential conflict of interest, being a board member of V&A Dundee and the Dundee Eden Project. Thereafter, no new conflicts were declared.

240. **UNIVERSITY RESPONSE TO THE GILLIES REPORT**

The Interim University Secretary advised Court that the draft University Response to the Gillies Report had been submitted to SFC on the 1 August deadline on behalf of the University Executive Group, as agreed following discussion at the previous meeting of Court on 31 July 2025. Members were advised that comments had been received from SFC on 4 August and that the responses to these comments, and to those received from Court, would be incorporated into the revised response. The revised response would be circulated to members for final approval, along with a summary of revisions made and a schedule for publication.

Resolved: to note the report.
Action: Interim University Secretary

[Secretary's note: following receipt of comments and amendments proposed by Court members, the University submitted its formal response to the Gillies Report to SFC on 12 August 2025]

241. **RESERVED BUSINESS: UNIVERSITY RECOVERY PLAN**

The University claims exemption under Sections 30, 33(1)b, and 36 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.

Resolved: to approve the University Recovery Plan by a majority vote.
Action: Interim University Principal to submit the URP to the SFC on 11 August.

[Secretary's note: Alan Bainbridge, Professor Linda Martindale and Dr Carlo Morelli left the meeting at this point]

242. **RESERVED BUSINESS: NEW ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The University claims exemption under Sections 30, 33(1)b, and 36 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.

Resolved: to approve the new organisational structure by a majority vote.
Action: Delegation to the UEG to implement the new structure.

243. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was declared.

244. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

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

Dr Ian Mair
Acting Chair of Court
University of Dundee