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TO: ALL MEMBERS OF COURT

A meeting of the University Court constituted under the University of the West of Scotland (Scotland) Order of Council 2009 will be held on **Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 2pm in the Kelvin Suite, Crutherland House Hotel, East Kilbride.**

Donna McMillan
University Secretary & Registrar

AGENDA

	Welcome to New Members Apologies for Absence Declaration of Interest		
1.	Minutes		Document Attached
1.1	Minutes of Meeting held on 9 th December 2014	Approval	
2.	Matters Arising		
2.1	Min Ref 2.1 – Enhancement Led Institutional Review	Information	Oral Report
2.2	Min Ref 4 - Update on Consultation on Governance	Information	Oral Report
3.	Determination of Any Other Business		
4.	Chair's Statement	Information	Oral Report
5.	Principal's Update Report	Discussion	Paper 5
6.	SAUWS Update Report	Discussion	Paper 6
7.	2015/2016 and beyond Outcome Agreement	Approval	Paper 7
8.	Corporate Strategy 2014/2020		
8.1	KPI Reporting and updated Calendar – <i>Presentation by Director of Strategic Planning & Development</i>	Approval	Oral Report
8.2	Enabling Plans – Update Report	Information	Oral Report
9.	REF Outcome Report	Discussion	Paper 9
10.	Proposed Collaborative Activity		
10.1	<i>This paper is exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002</i>		

11.	Indicative Main Grant Letter	Information	Oral Report
12.	Constitution – Amendments	Information	Oral Report
13.	Community Engagement & Economic Impact	Information	Paper 13
14. 14.1	Senate Report from Meetings of Senate held on 8 th October and 10 th December 2014	Information	Paper 14.1
15.	Court – Proposed Schedule of Meetings – 2015/2016	Information	Paper 15
16.	Any Other Business		

Date of Next Meeting : Tuesday 28th April 2015, Board Room, Hamilton Campus

East Kilbride, 3rd February 2015 being the 38th meeting of the Court of the University of the West of Scotland

Present: Mr I Welsh (Chair)
Ms L Barjonas
Ms L Connolly
Ms M Curran
Mr C Devlin
Mr R J Dinning
Mr T Duff
Mr K Galbraith
Ms M Gibson
Ms A Gifford
Mr A Gordon
Mr A Haseeb
Dr W Hatton
Mr A Muir
Professor C MacDonald
Professor C Mahoney
Professor P Martin
Mr J McDougall

In attendance: Ms D McMillan
Mr D Matheson
Professor M Foley
Professor J Keay
Professor R Williamson
Mr T Gabriele
Mr M Ross
Mrs S Cosh
Mrs A Loudon

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Douglas, Ms L Miller, Professor A McGillivray and Mr J G Peterkin

Welcome

The Chair welcomed Ms M Gibson, Professor C MacDonald, Mr A Muir to their first meeting following their appointment to membership of Court.

Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were notified.

1. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th December 2014 were approved as a correct record, proposed by Ms L Connolly and seconded by Mr J McDougall.

2. **Matters Arising**

2.1 **Min Ref 2.1 – Enhancement Led Institutional Review**

The Vice Principal (Education) updated Court on the recent Quality Assurance Agency Enhancement Led Institutional Review (ELIR). Court was pleased to note that the early draft outcome report confirmed that UWS was judged to have “effective” arrangements for managing academic standards and the student learning experience with a number of areas of positive practice identified. Noting that the formal outcome report would be circulated to Court in due course, members wished to put on record Court’s appreciation of the staff involved in the process for this positive outcome.

2.2 **Min Ref 4 – Update on Consultation on HE Governance**

Court noted that, following consultation and input from members of Court, the Senate, the President of SAUWS and the Executive Group, the University’s response to the Consultation on the HE Governance Bill had been submitted to the Scottish Government on 30th January.

3 **Determination of Any Other Business**

No additional items of business had been notified.

4. **Chair’s Statement**

The Chair updated Court for information on discussion at recent meetings of the Committee of Scottish Chairs. Court noted that a summary of the comments noted as part of the appraisal of the Chair and the 1-1 meetings with the Chair would be made available to members in due course.

5. **Principal’s Report**

Court noted for information the report which provided an overview of general information on University developments and an overview of activities since the last meeting of Court.

The Principal highlighted the recent media coverage of the University following the event held on 28th January 2014 at Westminster to launch the Corporate Strategy.

6. **SAUWS Update Report**

Court noted for information a report which set out details of a range of activity undertaken by the Students’ Association.

7. **UWS Outcome Agreement – 2015/2016 – 2017/18**

The Depute Principal spoke to the draft 2015/2016 – 2017/2018 Outcome Agreement with the Scottish Funding Council. Members welcomed the draft Outcome Agreement and agreed that it provided an appropriate illustration of the range of ongoing activity across the University. Noting that the draft Outcome Agreement may be subject to further minor revision following receipt of additional information from colleagues and feedback from the Funding Council, Court approved the Outcome Agreement and

agreed to delegate authority to the Executive Group to finalise the document in advance of formal submission to the Funding Council by the end of February 2015.

8. **Corporate Strategy 2014/2020**

8.1 **KPI Reporting and updated Calendar**

The Director of Strategic Planning & Development reminded Court that it had previously agreed that the proposed reporting calendar to Court of Key Performance Indicators from the Corporate Strategy should be reviewed to ensure availability of relevant information. Court noted and endorsed the revised reporting schedule.

Court was interested to note that the Dashboard facility would shortly be made available to members of Court. It was agreed that it would be useful for members to receive a tutorial on the use of the facility.

Finally, it was agreed that progress towards meeting interim targets within the Corporate Strategy should be included within the report to the next meeting of Court.

8.2 **Enabling Plans**

Court noted that work to develop the Research & Enterprise and Student Success Enabling Plans was progressing well. The finalised Enabling Plans would be brought forward to Court for approval in due course.

9. **Research Excellence Framework (REF) Outcome Report**

The Vice Principal (Research, Enterprise & Engagement) spoke to the report which provided the background to the November 2013 REF submission and the outcome as at January 2015.

Court agreed that, overall, the University had achieved a very good result from the REF 2014 submission, with a higher quality rating and increased number of staff included in the Unit of Assessment.

After discussion, Court welcomed the REF outcome and agreed that this was a very significant step forward for UWS. On behalf of Court, the Chair thanked those staff who prepared and populated the bid and responses to the numerous audit requests received post submission, all of which contributed to the result and now formed a strong platform for future development.

10. **Proposed Collaborative Activity**

10.1 **Branch Campus Developments**

The Vice Principal (International) spoke to the report which provided for the information of Court an update on progress with potential new Branch Campus Developments.

Court noted that discussions were progressing well and a further report, including businesses cases where appropriate, would be submitted to the next meeting of Court.

It was noted that four members of Court had recently visited the proposed London location. Court was pleased to note that feedback from these visits had been positive and those present had been impressed and the business model adopted by the proposed partner.

11. **Indicative Main Grant Letter**

Members were reminded that the indicative funding decisions for AY 2015/2016 had now been published by the Funding Council. This had been circulated separately to Court for information.

12. **Constitution - Amendments**

The University Secretary & Registrar updated Court on ongoing discussions in relation to the proposed amendments to the University's Constitution/Order of Council to ensure alignment with the Scottish Code of Good HE Governance. A revised draft had now been submitted to the Scottish Government for comment and a formal response was awaited. Privy Council approval to the revised Constitution would be sought in due course.

13. **Community Engagement and Economic Impact**

Court was interested to note the paper which provided a summary of a number of areas of current community engagement activity.

In addition, Court noted that consultants had been commissioned to review the University's economic impact and the Gross Value Added measure of the monetary contribution of the University to the economy. A more detailed presentation on this would be provided as part of the residential event.

14. **Senate**

14.1 **Report from Meetings of Senate held on 8th October and 10th December 2014**

Court noted for information the report from the meetings of Senate held on 8th October and 10th December 2014.

15. **Court – Proposed Schedule of Meetings – 2015/2016**

The revised schedule and proposed dates of meetings for 2015/2016 were noted for information.

16. **Any Other Business**

As this was his last meeting of Court prior to retirement at the end of February, on behalf of Court, the Chair thanked the Chief Finance & Information Officer for his significant contribution to the work of Court and its sub Committees and wished him well for a long and happy retirement.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed.