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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 9th December 2014 at 4pm in Room GT38/39, Ayr Campus**

Donna McMillan
University Secretary & Registrar

AGENDA

	Welcome		
	Apologies for Absence		
	Declaration of Interest		
1.	Minutes		Document Attached
1.1	Minutes of Meeting held on 23 rd September 2014	Approval	
2.	Matters Arising		
2.1	Min Ref 7 – Enhancement Led Institutional Review	Information	Oral Report
3.	Determination of Any Other Business		
4.	Chair’s Statement	Information	Oral Report
5.	Principal’s Statement	Information	Paper 5
6.	Financial Statements for Year Ended 31st July 2014 Presentation on Financial Statements	Approval	Paper 6
7.	Corporate Strategy – 2014/2020		
7.1	Progress Against Corporate Strategy KPIs <i>This paper is exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002</i>	Discussion	
7.2	Enabling Plan – Global Reach <i>This paper is partially exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002</i>	Information	Paper 7.2
8.	Outcome Agreement 2015/2016 Onwards	Discussion	Paper 8
9.	<i>This item is exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002</i>	Information	
10.	<i>This item is exempt from disclosure under Section</i>	Information	

	<i>33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002</i>		
11.	Community Engagement Biggar Economic Report	Discussion	Paper 11
12.	Report from Sub Committees		
12.1	Report from Meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 5 th November 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Regulations 	Approval	Paper 12.1
12.2	Report from Meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 26 th November 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit Committee Annual Report to Court 	Approval	Paper 12.2
12.3	Report from Meeting of Governance & Nominations Committee held on 18 th November 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAUWS Code of Practice 	Approval	Paper 12.3
12.4	Report from Meeting of Remuneration Committee held on 18 th November 2014	Information	Paper 12.4
12.5	Report from meeting of Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 5 th November 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health, Safety & Sustainability Annual Report to Court 	Approval	Paper 12.5
13.	Appraisal of Chair of Court	Information	Oral Report
14.	SAUWS Update Report	Information	Paper 14
15.	Student Experience Profile Presentation from Ms Julie McElroy, PhD student	Information	Oral Report
16.	Court Residential Event – 3rd/4th February 2015 – Arrangements	Information	Paper 16
17.	Court Cycle of Meetings	Approval	Paper 17
18.	Leadership Foundation for Higher Education		
18.1	Feedback from Edinburgh event on 14 th November	Information	Oral Report
19.	Any Other Business		

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 3rd February 2014 – Dakota Hotel, Glasgow

Ayr, 9th December 2014 being the 37th 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 J Douglas
Mr T Duff
Mr K Galbraith
Ms A Gifford
Mr A Gordon
Mr A Haseeb
Dr W Hatton
Professor C Mahoney
Professor P Martin
Mr J McDougall
Professor A McGillivray
Mr J G Peterkin

In attendance: Professor M Foley
Professor J Keay
Professor R Williamson
Mr D Matheson
Ms D McMillan
Mr T Gabriele
Mr M Ross
Mrs A Loudon
Mrs S Cosh
Ms J McElroy (item 15 only)

Apologies for absence were received from Ms L Miller and for early departure from Professor M Foley and Mr M Ross

The following members of staff were in attendance as observers:

Ms C Mackay	Head of Registry
Ms L Aitken	Executive Assistant to Depute Principal
Ms C Haig	Research Fellow, Institute of Healthcare and Associated Infection

Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interests were noted.

1. **Minutes**

Subject to minor amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2014 were approved as a correct record, proposed by Mr A Haseeb and seconded by Dr W Hatton.

2. **Matters Arising**

2.1 **Min Ref 7 – Enhancement Led Institutional Review**

The Vice Principal (Education) updated Court on the outcome of the recent Enhancement Led Institutional Review (ELIR). Court was pleased to note that a positive report was anticipated. The final report would be provided to Court for information in due course.

3. **Determination of Any Other Business**

No additional items of business had been notified.

4. **Chair's Statement**

The Chair advised that he would shortly conclude his 1-1 meetings with members of Court. A report on the outcome of these meetings would be circulated to Court for information in due course.

The Chair updated Court on discussions with the Committee of Scottish Chairs in relation to the consultation paper on a Higher Education Governance Bill issued recently. In this connection, the Principal advised that a University response was being developed for submission by end January. Feedback would be sought from members of Court, Senate, Executive Group, Senior Management Team and the Students' Association to inform the University's response.

Finally, Court was interested to hear that, along with the Depute Principal and President of the Students Association, the Chair had recently attended the Scottish Politician of the Year Awards ceremony.

5. **Principal's Statement**

The Principal drew members' attention to report which provided general information on University developments and an overview of activities since the last meeting of Court.

An event would be held in London on 28th January 2015 to launch the Corporate Strategy to which members of Court had been invited.

The Principal updated Court on recent discussion at Universities UK in relation to a proposed UK Bill on Counter Terrorism. Further information on this would follow in due course.

In response to a question, the Principal confirmed that he would seek to organise a meeting with the Chief Executive of South Ayrshire Council with a view to taking forward discussion on the former Ayr Campus site.

Finally, congratulations were passed to the Principal on his appointment to the SportScotland Board.

6. **Financial Statements for Year Ended 31st July 2014**

Members were reminded that the Financial Statements for year ended 31st July 2014 had been considered in detail by the Policy & Resources Committee and the Audit & Risk Committee and had been recommended to Court for approval.

The Interim Director of Finance made a presentation to Court on the Financial Statements for the year ended 31st July 2014.

Court approved the Financial Statements to 31st July 2014. The format of the Financial Statements was welcomed by Court.

7. **Corporate Strategy - 2014/2020**

7.1 **Progress Against Corporate Strategy KPIs**

Members welcomed the comprehensive and helpful report which set out progress against Corporate Strategy KPIs. It was noted that the reporting calendar to Court would be refreshed to ensure availability of appropriate data.

7.2 **Global Reach Enabling Plan**

The Vice Principal (Internationalisation) spoke to the Global Reach Enabling Plan which set out specific objectives to achieve the aspirations stated in the Corporate Strategy. Court was interested to note the activity and measures of success summarised within the report. A session to further update Court on the University's internationalisation agenda would be included within the forthcoming Court residential event.

8. **Outcome Agreement – 2015/2016 onwards**

Court noted for information the ongoing process for developing the Outcome Agreement – 2015/2016 onwards. The final Outcome Agreement would be submitted to the February meeting of Court for approval.

9. *This item is exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.*

10. *This item is exempt from disclosure under Section 33 (1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.*

11. **UWS Community Engagement and Economic Impact**

Due to time constraints, it was agreed that discussion of this item would be deferred to the next meeting of Court.

12. **Reports From Sub Committees**

12.1 **Report from Meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 5th November 2014**

The Chair of PRC spoke to the report from the meeting held on 5th November 2014. Court approved the revised UWS Financial Regulations. The remainder of the report was noted for information.

12.2 Report from Meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 26th November 2014

The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee spoke to the report from the meeting held on 26th November 2014. He drew members' attention in particular to discussion at the Committee in relation to the new FE/HE Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 and conversation to the new Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) with effect from 1st August 2015. As this was a complex and technical issue, a further report on this issue would be submitted to the next meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Court approved the Audit & Risk Committee Annual Report. The remainder of the report was noted for information.

12.3 Report from Meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee held on 18th November 2014

The Chair spoke to the report from the meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee held on 18th November 2014.

Court approved the recommendation that Ms M Gibson, Mr A Muir and Professor C Macdonald be appointed to membership of Court for a 3 year period with effect from 1st January 2015.

In addition, Court approved the Code of Practice relating to the operation of the Students' Association of the University of the West of Scotland.

12.4 Report from Meeting of the Remuneration Committee held on 18th November 2014

The report from the meeting of the Remuneration Committee held on 18th November 2014 was noted for information.

12.5 Report from Meeting of the Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 5th November 2014

The University Secretary & Registrar spoke to the report from the meeting of the Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 5th November 2014.

Court approved the Health & Safety Annual Report to Court. The lower than sector average number of reportable accidents was noted. In response to a question the University Secretary & Registrar outlined the processes in place across the institution for monitoring health and safety at a local level. Interviews would shortly be held for a new Depute Head of Health & Safety who would put in place a system of audit activity to monitor the arrangements in place.

It was agreed that it would be useful for additional training to be provided for members of Court in relation to their responsibilities for health and safety.

13. **Appraisal of the Chair of Court**

The intermediary member of Court advised that the process for the appraisal of the Chair of Court had now been satisfactorily concluded and thanked members for their participation in this exercise. A short meeting had been held with members of Court to discuss and agree feedback to the Chair. This had included feedback on suggested improvements to processes which had been passed to the Chair of Court and Principal for consideration.

14. **SAUWS Update Report**

The President of the Students' Association spoke to the report which summarised activity at the Students' Association this academic session. Court welcomed the range of activities in progress.

In response to a question, the President of the Students' Association advised that the current review of the Association's Constitution, which would align with others in the sector, would ensure a more open, direct and transparent system including the ability to hold sabbatical officers to account. Court welcomed this update and would receive the revised Association Constitution later this session.

15. **Student Experience Profile**

The Chair advised that in order to widen members' knowledge of the student experience at the University it had been agreed that current students would be invited to present a personal profile to Court on their student experience.

The Chair welcomed Ms J McElroy, a PhD student, to the meeting to make a presentation to Court. Members were extremely interested in the inspiring story of Ms McElroy's personal academic journey and achievements and wished her well for the future.

The President of the Students' Association welcomed the introduction of this item on the agenda at future meetings of Court.

16. **Court Residential Event – 3rd/4th February 2014**

Members noted for information details of the Court residential event which would be held on 3rd and 4th February 2015.

17. **Court Cycle of Meetings**

The University Secretary & Registrar reminded Court that the current timing and arrangements for meetings of Court and its Committees had been in place for a number of years and drew members' attention to various alternative options for timing of meetings with a view to offering an opportunity for members to attend meetings at convenient times and to facilitate campus visits etc. It was agreed to trial these for next session. A forward plan of dates would be provided to the next meeting. Meetings of sub committees would remain, normally, at 4pm on a Tuesday.

18. **Leadership Foundation for Higher Education**

Mr A Gordon updated Court on the recent LFHE seminar he had attended with two other members of Court. Court was pleased to note that those present had found this to be a worthwhile and interesting seminar.

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