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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 28th April 2015 at 4pm in the Board Room, Hamilton 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 3 rd February 2015	Approval	
2.	Matters Arising		
3.	Determination of Any Other Business		
4.	Student Experience Profile	Discussion	Presentation
5.	Chair's Statement	Information	Oral Report
6.	Principal & Vice-Chancellor's Report	Information	Paper 6
7.	Students' Association		
7.1	Update Report	Discussion	Paper 7.1
8.	Corporate Strategy 2014/2020		
8.1	KPI Update – Demonstration of Dashboard Facility	Discussion	Presentation
8.2	Research, Enterprise & Engagement Enabling Plan	Approval	Paper 8.2
8.3	Global Reach Update Report	Discussion	Paper 8.3
	The minute for this item is partially exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002		
	The paper is also exempt from disclosure under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002		
9.	London Campus		
9.1	Business Case	Approval	Paper 9.1
	This paper is exempt from disclosure under		

	Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002		
10.	Enhancement Led Institutional Review – Outcome Report	Information	Paper 10
11.	Report from Sub Committees		
11.1	Report from Meeting of Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 12 th February 2015	Information	Paper 11.1
11.2	Report from Meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 3rd March 2015	Information	Paper 11.2
11.3	Report from Meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 10 th March 2015	Approval	Paper 11.3
11.4	Report from Meeting of Governance & Nominations Committee held on 31 st March 2015	Approval	Paper 11.4
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of the West of Scotland (Amendment of the University of Paisley (Scotland) Order of Council 1993) Order of Council 2015 • Resolution of Court • Role Description of Chair of Court 		Appendix 1 Appendix 2 Appendix 3
12.	Senate		
2.1	Report from Meeting of Senate held on 25 th March 2015	Information	Paper 12.1
13.	Any Other Business		

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 23rd June 2015, Paisley Campus

Hamilton, 28th April 2015 being the 39th meeting of the Court of the University of the West of Scotland

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

In attendance: Ms D McMillan
Professor M Foley
Professor J Keay
Mr T Gabriele
Mr M Ross
Mrs A Loudon
Mrs S Cosh
Mr M Anderson (to item 8.1 only)
Mr I Bishop (item 8.2 only)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Haseeb, Mr A Muir and Professor Roddy Williamson and for early departure from Ms L Barjonas and Professor M Foley.

The following were in attendance as observers:

Ms B McMahan	Director, International Centre
Ms K Wilson	Dean, School of Health, Nursing & Midwifery
Mr P Grigor	Head of Strategic Planning
Ms M Beaton	Executive Adviser to Depute Principal
Ms J McKendrick	Student Observer

Welcome

The Chair advised Court that Mr T Duff had been re-elected as member of academic staff on Court for a further 3 year period. The period of appointment of Mr K Galbraith as member of Court elected by all other staff was due to conclude at the end of May 2015. Nominations had been sought from those staff and as more than one nomination was received an election would be held.

Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were notified.

1. **Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd February 2015**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2015 were approved as a correct record, proposed by Dr W Hatton and seconded by Ms M Curran.

2. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising other than those contained elsewhere in the agenda.

3. **Determination of Any Other Business**

No additional items of business had been notified.

4. **Student Experience Profile**

The Chair invited Ms J McKendrick, a 3rd year BA Social Sciences student from the Hamilton Campus to make a presentation to Court. Members were interested to hear of Ms McKendrick's personal academic journey and her role as a student ambassador at the University and wished her well for the future.

5. **Chair's Statement**

The Chair updated Court on the ongoing discussions between the Scottish Government and the Committee of Scottish Chairs in relation to the proposed legislation on higher education governance.

Court noted that the Chair and Vice Chair of Court had met informally with the three members of Court appointed in January 2015 as part of their ongoing induction.

Court was pleased to note that discussions with South Ayrshire Council in relation to the sale of part of the former Ayr Campus had been satisfactorily concluded.

Members were reminded of recent press coverage in relation to a procurement issue at the University. The Chair advised that he had asked for a report on the issue which he had discussed with the Chairs of Policy & Resources and Audit & Risk Committees. The Chair confirmed that he was content that University policy had been followed appropriately. Nevertheless, lessons had been learned from this matter and a revised Procurement Policy & Procedure would be submitted to the next meeting of PRC for approval.

On behalf of Court, the Chair congratulated Ms M Gibson on her achievement of the Queen's Award for Enterprise Promotion.

Finally, the Chair drew members' attention to the forthcoming Dare 2B Different Festival being held at the University on 5th-7th May 2015 during which staff were encouraged to learn more about the work of other Schools and Departments and commended it to Court.

6. **Principal & Vice-Chancellor's Report**

The Principal & Vice Chancellor spoke to the report which provided members with an update on key strategic issues, development, engagements and UWS press coverage since the last meeting of Court.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent, on behalf of the Court, to Professor J Struthers from the School of Business & Enterprise commending him on his appointment as Honorary Consul for Ethiopia in Scotland.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

7. **SAUWS Update Report**

The President of the Student's Association spoke to the report which summarised current SAUWS activities. Court noted in particular the ongoing discussions and consultation at the Association in relation to provision of commercial services.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

8. **Corporate Strategy – 2014/2020**

8.1 **KPI Update – Demonstration of Dashboard Facility**

The Chair welcomed the Senior Planning Officer to the meeting for discussion of this item. The Senior Planning Officer provided Court with a demonstration and update on progress in meeting agreed key performance indicators using the Dashboard Facility which was being developed and would be made accessible to members of Court.

It was agreed that narrative report on KPIs would be provided to the October and June meetings of Court.

8.2 **Research, Enterprise & Engagement Enabling Plan**

The Chair welcomed the Head of Research Services to the meeting for discussion of this item.

The Head of Research Services spoke to the Research, Enterprise & Engagement Enabling Plan, one of the key Enabling Plans supporting the implementation of the Corporate Strategy. The aim of the Enabling Plan was to foster a culture of research and enterprise that supported economic growth locally and globally and drove a substantial expansion of the University through a revitalised focus on income generation derived from core activities of research, enterprise and teaching.

After discussion, Court approved the Research, Enterprise & Engagement Enabling Plan.

8.3 Global Reach Update Report

The Vice Principal International spoke to the report which provided an overview of current activity and achievements against the targets outlined in the Global Reach Enabling Plan.

Court was pleased to note the increased trend in the number of overseas applications, also noting the challenges to international recruitment, particularly by UKVI immigration policy.

This paragraph has been removed under Section 33(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

9. London Campus

9.1 Business Case

The Chair reminded members that a small scrutiny group had been established to consider in detail a draft of the business case for the London Campus, following which a revised business case had been developed for consideration by Court.

The Vice Principal International spoke to the business case for the establishment of a UWS London Campus. Court agreed that whilst the culture and approach to the operation of the London Campus would be fundamentally different to the existing UWS operating model, the risks had been recognised and captured in a comprehensive risk register which would be closely monitored.

After discussion, Court agreed that the London Campus would offer significant opportunities to expand the University brand, increase the international footprint and international student numbers and offer a base from which to collaborate with London based organisations. Court approved the London Campus Business Case.

The introduction and advantages of the Court scrutiny process was also endorsed by Court.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

10. QAA Enhancement Led Institutional Review Outcome Report

The Vice Principal Education spoke to the outcome report from the recent QAA Enhancement Led Institutional Review.

Court was pleased to note the positive judgement received that the University had robust arrangements for securing academic standards and for enhancing the quality of the student experience, with a number of areas of positive practice identified. An action plan was being developed in response to the areas for development identified.

On behalf of Court, the Chair thanked all those involved in the ELIR process and the achievement of this satisfactory outcome.

11. Reports from Sub Committees

11.1 Report from Meeting of the Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 12th February 2015

The report from the meeting of the Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee was noted for information.

11.2 Report from Meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 3rd March 2015

The Chair of Policy & Resources Committee spoke to the report from the meeting held on 3rd March 2015. She drew members' attention in particular to discussion in relation to residence rents. Following the meeting, the paper the paper had been revisited. Following consultation with the Committee, revised proposals on residence rents had been approved by Chair's action.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

11.3 Report from Meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee held on 10th March 2015

The Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee spoke to the report from the meeting held on 10th March 2015.

Court approved the recommendation that the contact with the University's External Auditors should be extended for two years, ie to March 2017 with the tender process for the appointment of new External Auditors commencing in autumn 2016.

In addition, Court approved the revised Terms of Reference of the Internal Audit Service.

Court noted that up to four internal audits would not be started as planned in the 2014/2015 session. In response to a question, the Chair of Audit & Risk Committee advised that the slippage in the internal audit plan had been due to resource constraints. This had now been addressed and the position would continue to be monitored by the Committee. The postponed audits would be included for consideration in the development of the 2015/2016 internal audit plan in the usual way.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

11.4 Report from Meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee held on 31st March 2015

The University Secretary spoke to the report from the meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee held on 31st March 2015.

The attention of Court was drawn to the proposed revised UWS Order of Council 2015. After discussion, Court resolved to approve the revisions to its governance arrangements as set out in the proposed amending Order, to submit this to the Privy Council for approval and agreed that the provisions in the amending Order would be subject to such minor amendments as the Privy Council may require.

Court noted that a recruitment campaign for new members of Court was underway and recommendations would be brought forward to the June meeting.

Finally, Court approved the revised role description for the Chair of Court, noting that staff and students had been offered the opportunity to comment on the role description prior to finalisation.

12. **Senate**

12.1 Report from Meeting of Senate held on 25th March 2015

Court noted for information the report from the meeting of Senate held on 25th March 2015.

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