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TO: ALL MEMBERS OF COURT

A meeting of the University Court constituted under the University of the West of Scotland Order of Council 2015 will be held on **Monday 24th June 2019 at 1:00 pm in the Board Room at the Lanarkshire Campus.**

Donna McMillan
Secretary to Court

AGENDA

	Apologies for Absence Declaration of Interest		
1.	Minutes		Document Attached
1.1	Minutes of meeting held on 25 th April 2019	Approval	
2.	Matters Arising		
3.	Determination of Any Other Business		
CORE BUSINESS ACTIVITIES			
4.	Chair's Business	Information	Oral Report
5.	Students' Association		
5.1	SAUWS Annual Report	Information	Paper 5.1
5.2	SAUWS Financial Report	Approval	Paper 5.2
6.	Senate		
6.1	Report from meeting of Senate held on 6 th June 2019	Information	Paper 6.1
	• Amendment to Scheme of Delegation	Approval	Appendix 1
7.	Committee Reports		
7.1	Report from meeting of Governance & Nominations Committee held on 14 th May 2019	Information	Paper 7.1
7.2	Report from meeting of Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 21 st May 2019	Information	Paper 7.2
7.3	Report from meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 28 th May 2019	Information	Paper 7.3
7.4	Report from meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 3 rd June 2019	Information	Paper 7.4
8.	Annual Legislative Compliance Report	Information	Paper 8
9.	Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity Annual Report	Information	Paper 9
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES			
10.	Financial Sustainability		
10.1	Does Court agree that the University's Budget 2019/20 is prudent, and the Forecast 2021/2022 provides sufficient assurance to the ongoing financial sustainability of UWS?	Discussion & Approval	Paper 10.1
10.2	SFC Strategic Plan Forecast	Approval	Paper 10.2
11.	Key Performance Indicators	Discussion	Paper 11

	What advice would members offer with progress against Key Performance Indicators?		
12.	Student Population Forecast Do members have questions related to the Student Population Forecast for 2019/2020 enrolments?	Discussion	Paper 12
GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK			
13.	Appointment of Chair of Court • Rules for Appointment of Chair of Court	Information Approval	Paper 13 Appendix 1
14.	Revised Standing Orders of Court	Approval	Paper 14
15.	Remuneration Framework	Approval	Paper 15
16.	Review of Effectiveness of Court	Approval	Paper 16
RELEVANCE/EXTERNAL IMPACT			
17.	Principal & Vice-Chancellor's Highlight Report	Information	Paper 17
18.	Any Other Business		
RESERVED BUSINESS			
19.	Minutes Minutes of Reserved Meeting held on 25 th April 2019	Approval	Document Attached
20.	Membership of Court and Court Committees	Approval	Paper 21
STRATEGIC WORKSHOP			
21.	Development of New Corporate Strategy	Discussion	Oral Report

**Date of Next Meeting: Monday 9th September 2019 (Thematic Strategic Discussion)
Wednesday 20th November 2019**

Graduation Ceremonies – Summer 2019:

Lanarkshire Campus – Town House, Hamilton

Tuesday 25th June 2019 – 11am, 2:30 pm and 5:30 pm

The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Dr S Breslin, Chief Executive of the Glasgow Science Centre at the 2:30 pm ceremony

Ayr Campus – Troon Concert Hall

Friday 28th June 2019 – 11am and 2:30 pm

The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Mr W Costley, Hotelier at the 2:30 pm ceremony

Paisley Campus – Paisley Abbey

Tuesday 2nd July 2019 - 11 am and 2:30 pm

The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Mr J Cosmo MBE, Actor at the 2:30 pm ceremony

Wednesday 3rd July 2019 – 11 am and 2:30 pm

The award of honorary doctor will be conferred on Mr A Campbell, European Commercial Director, ISSET at the 2:30 pm ceremony

Thursday 4th July 2019 – 11am and 2:30 pm

Lanarkshire, 24th June 2019 being the 56th meeting of the Court of the University of the West of Scotland

Present: Dr W Hatton (Chair – except item 13)
Ms L Barjonas
Mr C Devlin
Mr A Gordon
Mr H Henry
Ms M Hill
Professor C MacDonald (Chair item 13 only)
Professor C Mahoney
Ms A McKechin
Mr A Munro
Mr T O'Donnell
Professor S Olivier
Ms E Shotter
Professor K Sloman
Mr W Smith
Dr J Thompson

In attendance: Ms D McMillan
Mrs A Loudon
Mr M Ross (item 18 only)

Apologies for absence were received from Ms M Curran, Ms M Gibson OBE and Ms M McCusker.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were notified.

Welcome

The Chair welcomed the 2019/2020 Students' Association Sabbatical Officers who were in attendance as observers.

1. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th April 2019 were approved as a correct record, proposed by Mr A Gordon and seconded by Mr A Munro

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. **Chair's Business**

The Chair reminded members that Court was required to review its effectiveness on an annual basis. Following discussion with the Principal and the Secretary to Court it

had been agreed that the annual review of the effectiveness of Court would take the form of a dialogue and this would be taken later on in the agenda. An externally facilitated session on governance would also be included as part of the Strategic Themed Event for Court in September 2019.

Members noted that as part of the continued enhancements to the interaction between Court and the wider Executive group, a communications protocol was being developed. The Chair also reminded members of the opportunity to meet informally with members of the Executive in advance of each meeting of Court.

The Chair drew members' attention to the agenda for the meeting of Court which had been refreshed and reformatted with a view to enhancing discussion with a focus on key themes, including the structure of the titles of some papers into key questions for consideration by Court. Feedback on the revised structure would be welcome via the Secretary.

The Chair updated the Committee on the recent UWS Inspiring Women Event she had attended as well as a recent meeting of UCEA at which progress on national pay and pensions negotiations had been discussed. Finally, the Chair commended all those involved in the organisation of the official opening of the Lanarkshire Campus by the First Minister of Scotland earlier in the day.

5. Students' Association

5.1 SAUWS Annual Report

The President of SAUWS spoke to the report which provides a summary of activity of the Students' Association during the 2018/2019 academic year.

Members welcomed the range of activities and the levels of engagement of the student community evidenced in the work of the Students' Association.

5.2 SAUWS Financial Report

The President of SAUWS spoke to the report which set out details of the 2019/2020 SAUWS Financial Report.

In response to a question, the President of SAUWS outlined the proposals being developed to enhance the Paisley Campus Students' Union. In this connection, the Principal reminded members that the lease costs of the Students' Union building at the Campus had been waived by the University to enable the Association to meet the costs of repairs and dilapidations.

Court approved the 2019/2010 SAUWS budget, noting that a block grant of £649,000 had been agreed by the University with an additional £16,000 being provided to support hardship funding.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

6. Senate

6.1 Report from meeting of Senate held on 6th June 2019

The Chair of Senate spoke to the report from the meeting held on 6th June 2019.

Court noted the appointment of Emeritus Professor H Maitles.

Court was pleased to note the University's performance in the Complete University Guide league table published in May 2019 which highlighted progress in a number of areas including student satisfaction and improved graduate prospects. In response to a question on staff/student ratios, the Provost confirmed that any approval for VS/VER academic staff in respect of the Rebalancing Project would be considered against strict criteria to ensure that the student experience was not compromised.

Court noted and approved an update to the Scheme of Delegation required to reflect changes in the University's Regulatory Framework and the new Order of Council.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

7. **Committee Reports**

The Chair advised that as part of continued enhancements to meetings of Court, Committee Reports had been augmented by a summary from Committee Chairs highlighting the key points and proposed focus of discussion at Court.

7.1 **Report from Meeting of Governance & Nominations Committee held on 14th May 2019**

Court noted for information the report from the meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee held on 14th May 2019.

7.2 **Report from Meeting of Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 21st May 2019**

The report from the meeting of Health, Safety & Sustainability Committee held on 21st May 2019 was noted for information.

7.3 **Report from Meeting of Audit & Risk Committee held on 28th May 2019**

Court noted for information the report from the meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee held on 28th May 2019.

7.4 **Report from Meeting of Policy & Resources Committee held on 3rd Jun 2019**

The Committee noted for information the report from the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 3rd June 2019.

Court was reassured to note that the University was now on track to achieve the savings required from the Rebalancing Project. Although a general climate of uncertainty amongst staff was an inevitable outcome of this type of Project, relations with the Trade Unions remained positive.

8. **Annual Legislative Compliance Report**

The University Secretary spoke to the Annual Legislative Compliance Report which aimed to provide Court with assurance on the processes in place to ensure legislative compliance across a number of areas.

Court was pleased to note that the new UWS Order of Council had been laid before the Scottish Government and would come into force on 1st October 2019.

Members were reminded that at its February 2019 meeting, Court had agreed that the University should register additional charitable purposes with OSCR. However, OSCR had subsequently confirmed that the University's current charitable purpose was sufficient to cover the scope of activities and no change was needed.

In response to a question on the University's Safeguarding Policy, the University Secretary confirmed that the University adopted a mosaic approach to safeguarding but this was kept under review and would be adapted in the light of new legislation and/or sector good practice.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

9. Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity Annual Report

Court noted for information the Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity Annual Report.

In response to a question, the University Secretary confirmed that opportunities to address gender imbalance on courses, particularly for example, of male students to Nursing programmes, were continually explored.

10. Financial Sustainability

10.1 2019/2020 Budget and 2021/2022 Forecast

The Principal spoke to the report which set out the 2018/2019 projected underlying operating surplus, the 2019/2020 budget and the Financial Forecast to 2021/2022.

Court noted that the projected 2018/2019 underlying operating surplus, which included a full year of Lanarkshire Campus costs, was slightly ahead of budget.

The proposed 2019/2020 budget had been informed by the 2018/2019 outturn and reflected the need to generate a surplus that enabled the affordable ongoing investment in the capital infrastructure in IT and the wider estate whilst at the same time protecting the cash balance.

Opportunities to grow and diversify income continued to be actively explored. This included higher future funding as a result of more controlled numbers and the anticipated growth in the strategic areas of research and commercialisation, Non-EU recruitment and TNE.

Noting the detailed discussion at the last meeting of Policy & Resources Committee, which had endorsed the prudent and realistic approach, Court approved the 2019/2020 budget and the Financial Forecast to 2021/2022.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

10.2 SFC Strategic Plan Forecast

Court approved the Strategic Plan Forecast for onward submission to the Funding Council.

11. **Key Performance Indicators**

The Provost spoke to the report which set out the detail of progress being made towards delivery of four of the University's KPIs for which performance data had been published since the last meeting.

Court was interested to note the considerable progress being made in developing partnerships with industry and agreed that a strategic presentation on enterprise and commercialisation activities at a future meeting of Court would be welcome.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

12. **Student Population**

The Provost spoke to the report which sets out the detail of student population forecasts for 2019/2020 enrolments.

Court was pleased to note that the University was on target to deliver enrolments for Scottish/EU undergraduate programmes. No significant presence in Clearing would be required, although there would likely be a small number of programmes at specific Campuses offered during the Clearing period. Court welcomed these developments.

The refreshed focus and improvements being made to the approach to non-EU recruitment was welcomed. Applications and offers had increased with the focus of activity now on conversion.

It was agreed that it would be useful for a more detailed report on recruitment to the London Campus to be submitted to the next meeting of Court.

Members who had attended the recent Court induction session on non-EU recruitment had been reassured by the more focussed and targeted approach now being adopted and the incremental changes and improvements being made.

The potential implications of the Augar Review of Post-18 Higher Education Funding in England were noted.

After discussion, Court agreed that it was assured that the University was on target to meet fundable student population targets and that recent changes were starting to make a positive contribution to the delivery of the Corporate Strategy objectives.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

13. **Appointment of New Chair of Court**

The Vice Chair of Court assumed the Chair for discussion of this item.

The Secretary to Court spoke to the report which set out the detail of progress being made with the Appointment of a New Chair of Court.

Court approved the Rules for the Appointment of the Chair, noting the consultation process which had been undertaken prior to their submission to Court.

Work was now ongoing to finalise the selection and appointment arrangements with a view to the election of a new Chair of Court in November 2019. Court was pleased to note that the new UWS Order of Council had now been laid before the Scottish Parliament with an anticipated effective date of 1st October 2019.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

The Chair of Court resumed the Chair.

14. **Standing Orders of Court**

Members noted and approved the Standing Orders of Court which have been extensively revised and refreshed to reflect the provision of the HE Act, the Scottish Code and the new UWS Order of Council, together with a review of sector practice.

15. **Remuneration Framework**

Court approved the Remuneration Framework for determining the remuneration of senior University staff, noting that this had been updated to reflect the expectations of the Scottish Code.

16. **Review of Effectiveness of Court**

The Secretary to Court reminded members that the Scottish Code expected Court to review its own effectiveness each year and to undertake an externally facilitated evaluation at least every 5 years.

She drew members' attention to the summary of feedback received from the self evaluation of members of Court, 1-1 meetings with the Chair and following the residential event in February together with additional enhancements put in place during the year.

Members agreed that they were comfortable with the ongoing attention given to improving the effectiveness of the University Court and welcomed the enhancements made during the year. An externally facilitated review of effectiveness would be undertaken early next session.

The remainder of the report was noted for information.

17. **Principal & Vice-Chancellor's Highlight Report**

Court noted for information the report which provided a summary of University activity since the last meeting.

18. **Development of New Corporate Strategy**

Following the conclusion of Reserved Business, the Chair welcomed the Executive Director of Strategic Planning, Marketing, Recruitment & Engagement to the meeting.

The Executive Director made a presentation to Court highlighting the feedback received from various workshops and setting out the proposed focus and options for cross-cutting themes being explored for the new Corporate Strategy.

After discussion, Court agreed that the new Corporate Strategy should be clear and succinct and reflect the drive, ambitions and uniqueness of character of the University. A draft of the new Corporate Strategy would be discussed by Court at its September strategic event with the final version being submitted to the November 2019 meeting for approval.

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