



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

University Court
Seminar Room, Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility,
Western General Hospital
Monday, 3 November 2014, 2.00pm

Agenda

This meeting of Court will be preceded by a presentation on Edinburgh's Clinical Research Facilities delivered by Ms Sharon Cameron, Deputy Director, Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility.

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|--------------------------|--|---------------|
| 1 | Minute | A |
| | To <u>approve</u> the minute of the previous meeting held on 15 September 2014. | |
| 2 | Note of Seminar | B |
| | To <u>approve</u> the note of the seminar held on 15 September 2014. | |
| 3 | Matters Arising | Verbal |
| | To <u>raise</u> any matters arising. | |
| 4 | Principal's Communications | C |
| | To <u>receive</u> an update by the Principal. | |
| SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS | | |
| 5 | Student Experience Update | D |
| | To <u>consider and comment</u> on a paper by Vice-Principal Professor Rigby. | |
| 6 | SRUC Strategic Alignment - update | E |
| | To <u>note</u> an update by the Director of Corporate Services. | |
| 7 | Outcome Agreement - 2015 Cycle and Draft Self-Evaluation of 2013-14 Agreement | F |
| | To <u>consider and approve</u> the proposals in the paper by Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning. | |
| 8 | Draft Corporate Governance Statement | G |
| | To <u>consider and comment</u> on paper by University Secretary. | |

If you require this agenda or any of the papers in an alternative format e.g. large print please contact Dr Katherine Novosel on 0131 650 9143 or email Katherine.Novosel@ed.ac.uk

- 9 Edinburgh at the forefront of the genomics revolution** **H**
To approve the proposal in the paper by Vice-Principal Professor Seckl.

ROUTINE ITEMS

- 10 EUSA President's report** **I**
To receive an update by the EUSA President.
- 11 Audit and Risk Committee Report** **J**
To note a report by the Audit and Risk Committee.
- 12 Policy and Resources Committee Report** **K**
To note a report by the Policy and Resources Committee.
- 13 Nominations Committee Report** **L**
To consider and approve recommendations by the Nominations Committee.
- 14 Any Other Business** **Verbal**
To consider any other matters by Court members.

ITEMS FOR FORMAL APPROVAL/NOTING (Please note these items are not normally discussed.)

- 15 Academic Report** **M**
To note.
- 16 North American Office Bank Account** **N**
To approve.
- 17 Resolutions** **O**
To approve.
- 18 Donations and Legacies** **P**
To note.
- 19 Uses of the Seal**
To note.
- 20 Date of next meeting**
Monday, 8 December 2014 at 2.00pm in LLC, 50 George Square.

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UNIVERSITY COURT

15 September 2014

Minute

- Present:** Rector (in chair)
The Principal
Sheriff Principal E Bowen
Ms D Davidson
Mr A Johnston
Professor A M Smyth
Dr M Aliotta
Professor J Ansell
Professor S Cooper
Dr C Phillips
Dr A Richards, Vice-Convenor
Mr D Bentley
Dr R Black
Ms M Exley
Lady S Rice
Ms A Lamb
Ms B Pegado, President, Students' Representative Council
Ms T Boardman, Vice-President Students' Representative Council
- In attendance:** Senior Vice-Principal Professor M Bownes
Vice-Principal Professor C Jeffery
Vice-Principal Professor R Kenway
Vice-Principal Professor J Seckl
Vice-Principal Professor S Rigby
University Secretary, Ms S Smith
Mr H Edmiston, Director of Corporate Services
Assistant Principal Dr T Harrison
Ms L Chalmers, Director of Legal Services
Mr G Douglas, Deputy Secretary, Student Experience
Ms S Gupta, Director of Human Resources
Mr G Jebb, Director of Estates and Buildings
Mr P McNaul, Director of Finance
Mrs T Slaven, Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning
Dr K J Novosel, Head of Court Services
- Apologies:** The Rt Hon D Wilson, Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh
Mr P Budd
Dr C Masters
Mr L Matheson
Ms S Beattie-Smith, Rector's Assessor

approved subject to insertion of a reference to discussion on the implications of the referendum under University Risk Register: a revised Minute would be circulated.

Court welcomed Dr Anne Richards in her capacity of Vice-Convener of Court and new members Professor Sarah Cooper and Dr Claire Phillips (Senate Assessors) and Ms Mandy Exley and Lady Susan Rice (Co-opted lay members). Court noted that this was the first meeting that Mr Hugh Edmiston was attending in his new capacity as Director of Corporate Services. It was further noted that this would be last meeting attended by Professor Mary Bownes in her capacity as Senior Vice-Principal and Ms Sheila Gupta, Director of Human Resources and Court thanked them for all their work on Court and across the University.

2 Principal's Communications

Paper B

Court noted the content of the Principal's Report and the additional information on: the success of the University's engagement with the Edinburgh Festivals particularly the Book Festival in respect of the James Tait Black awards and Court congratulated all colleagues involved; the current encouraging data on undergraduate, masters and PhD student applications for entry 2014/2015 including the increase in applications from students in SIMD20/40 areas; and the University's approach to communication with students and staff after the outcome of the referendum.

3 Designation of Vice-Principals

Paper C

On the recommendation of the Principal, Court approved the following:

Professor Richard Kenway's term of office as a Vice-Principal to be extended for three years until 31 July 2017 with the title to revert to High Performance Computing with effect from 1 October 2014.

Vice-Principal Professor Jeff Haywood to remain in the full-time role of Chief Information Officer providing leadership of Information Services (IS) until such time as his successor is in post.

Dr Liz Grant to be appointed Assistant Principal Global Health from 1 November 2014 until 31 July 2017.

A revised list of authorised deputies in the Principal's absence.

Court further noted the appointment of Professor Welburn to Vice-Principal Global Access from 1 November 2014 until 31 October 2016 which had been approved via correspondence on 10 July 2014.

SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS

4 Student experience

Paper D

Court noted the outcome of the recent National Student Survey (NSS) and that the University's position in respect of overall satisfaction levels had remained the same as in the previous year although there had been some improvement in areas linked to employability and student support. The University's own internal survey for pre-final year undergraduate students generally mirrored the NSS results except in respect of assessment and feedback where the internal survey score was higher.

While recognising a possible lag time between the introduction of various initiatives and the impact on the NSS and internal student survey scores there was disappointment expressed on the slow pace of evidenced improvement. Court welcomed the engagement with Schools to ensure that relevant information on performance in their area was available and to ascertain their specific plans to tackle the issues highlighted.

There was agreement to continue to pursue the current extensive plan of action during this academic year and to take forward a further strand around culture change as set out in the paper. There were a number of suggestions including further work around student focus groups and increased action to ensure a higher response rate to the internal survey. There was also discussion around the need for a consistent approach to learning and teaching activity across the University looking both at School level but also below this at subject area. The initiatives within the The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies as highlighted at the recent Court induction seminar were commended and it was suggested that there should be further sharing of good practice and improving student communications.

5 SRUC Strategic Alignment - update

Paper E

Court welcomed the continuing work to progress the strategic alliance with SRUC noting the current challenges around taking forward the due diligence exercise and the potential impact on the timetable to the delay in commencement. There was agreement on the importance of undertaking a robust exercise given the complexity of SRUC and that this outweighed any issues around consideration of the current timetable while noting the external constraints particularly in relation to Scottish Government and SFC involvement.

There was also discussion around governance arrangements and how SRUC might operate within the University. It was noted that an Advisory Board approach was a helpful model and that there would be further discussions with SRUC on an appropriate way forward.

The Court Sub-Group would next be meeting on 12 November 2014 and would continue to monitor progress.

6 Turing Institute – update

Paper F

Dr Black declared a potential conflict of interest as a Board Member of an organisation which could be involved in the location of the Alan Turing Institute

There was discussion and agreement on the current approach. Court approved, in principle, that the University should submit an expression of interest in joining a Joint Venture to operate the Alan Turing Institute and delegated authority to the Court Sub-Group to approve the final submission by the deadline of 30 October 2014. Court had previously appointed the members of the Court Sub-Group and approved the extension of the membership to include Vice-Principal Professor Andrew Morris with immediate effect.

7 Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) - update

Court noted the current position in respect of a consultation process being initiated on proposed reforms to the Universities Superannuation Scheme. A Court Sub-Group had been established to advise the Principal and consider the way forward as all senior officers of the University were conflicted being members of USS. The Principal had now responded on behalf of the University based on the deliberations of the Court Sub-Group to the initial USS/UUK consultation document and had asked for additional information.

The outcome of this initial consultation and the 2014 valuation would be considered by USS Trustees and thereafter as appropriate further consultation would be taken forward. Court noted the outline consultation process and stressed the importance of ensuring a meaningful consultation with affected staff.

8 Enhanced Employment

Paper G

It was welcomed that all zero hours contracts/hours to be notified contracts would cease by 31 December 2014 with different contractual arrangements being put in place. Court noted the challenges involved in going forward and it was agreed that there should be a further report to Court on the approach being taken.

9 Staff Annual Review Response Rates - update

Paper H

Court strongly welcomed the improved position achieved of 92.55% for the staff annual review completion rate for 2013/2014 and noted that work would continue to progress further improvements in 2014/2015, including ensuring high quality discussions were taking place.

10 Rectorial Election

Paper I

Rector declared a conflict of interest and did not preside at the meeting for this item; the Vice-Convener of Court was elected to preside.

The arrangements to take forward the 2015 Rectorial Election including the Regulations and timetable were approved subject to further consideration of the introduction at the next Rectorial Election of the ability to seek to re-open nominations (RON) should there be only one valid candidate.

It was noted that EUSA currently undertook this process and members of the electorate were able to vote for either the valid candidate or for RON. Court agreed that the emphasis should be on raising awareness and attracting a strong field of candidates so that this situation did not arise noting that the current Ordinance governing the Rectorial Election was very prescriptive on the period during which the election could be held. If there was a desire to re-open nominations in the event of only one valid candidate then under the current Ordinance there would be no Rector for a year as it would not be possible to organise another election within the required timeframe: this was not considered to be good governance. Actions would be taken to look to amending the current Ordinance.

ROUTINE ITEMS

11 EUSA President's report

Paper J

Court noted the items within the EUSA President's Report and the additional information on: progressing the development of a Strategic Plan towards completion by the end of the calendar year; the improving financial position; the continuing success of EUSA's volunteering service; and the earlier start of the 2014/2015 EUSA Teaching Awards to enable participation of one-year/departing postgraduate students.

12 Policy and Resources Committee Report

Paper K

Court noted the report.

13 Vacation Court and Exception Committee Report

Paper L

Court noted the decisions taken on its authority by the Vacation Court and the new Exception Committee.

14 Any Other Business

Members wished to record the success of the new format and approach to Court and its Committees papers.

ITEMS FOR FORMAL APPROVAL/NOTING (Please note these items are not normally discussed.)

15 Donations and Legacies **Paper M**

Court noted the donations and legacies received by the Development Trust from 5 June to 27 August 2014.

16 University of Edinburgh Statement on Quality Arrangements **Paper N**

Court approved the revised Statement on Quality Arrangements.

17 Annual Report to the Scottish Funding Council on Institution-led Review and Enhancement Activity 2013/14 **Paper O**

Court approved the Annual Report and authorised the Vice-Convenor to sign the Statement on its behalf confirming its satisfaction of quality arrangements.

18 Spectator Stand at East Peffermill **Paper P**

The proposal to name the new football spectator stand at East Peffermill the Alan Chainey Stand was approved.

19 Uses of the Seal

A record was made available of all the documents executed on behalf of the Court since its last meeting and sealed with its common seal.

20 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Court will be held on Monday, 3 November 2014 at 2.00pm in the Seminar Room, Wellcome Trust, Clinical Research Facility, Western General.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Principal's Report

Description of paper

1. The paper provides a summary of activities that the Principal, and the University, have been involved in since the last meeting of the University Court.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to note the information presented.

Recommendation

3. No specific action is required of Court, although members' observations, or comments, on any of the items would be welcome.

Background and context

4. A summary of recent UK and international activity undertaken by the Principal and the University along with relevant news for the sector which is also highlighted.

Discussion

5. *University News*

a) Alan Turing Institute

The Court Sub-Group has approved the final bid for the University's Expression of Interest to join the Joint Venture to establish and operate the Alan Turing Institute. We have submitted strong bid documents and look forward to the next stage of the negotiations.

Further detail is available for Court members to view via the Court wiki <https://www.wiki.ed.ac.uk/pages/viewpage.action?title=Home&spaceKey=UCC>

b) UNPRI

Court members are aware that the University was the first University in Europe to sign up to the UN Principles of Responsible Investment in 2013. Since then a consultation exercise has taken place and CMG has considered, and agreed in principle, a draft Socially Responsible Investment Policy which included a procedure to enable the University to consider contentious investment issues. It was also agreed that a short-life working group will be convened by the Senior Vice-Principal to report to CMG to consider the case for divestment in fossil fuels against the principles and criteria set out in the Policy.

c) USS Changes

In relation to the dispute over changes to USS, UCU members have voted in favour of strike action and action short of a strike (ASOS). The outcome of the UCU ballot was that 77.8% of members who voted supported strike action and 86.7% of members who voted supported ASOS. 17,296 members voted in the ballot, which UCU have indicated is a 45% turnout.

We are now in receipt of the formal letter from UCU providing notice of their intention to take action from Thursday 6th November 2014. The industrial action will take the form of continuous action short of a strike in the form of an assessment and marking boycott. This boycott will intend to halt all actions necessary for, or associated with, student learning outcomes and includes a comprehensive boycott of all setting and marking, course work, assignments and therefore includes all student work submitted for assessment.

Contingency planning is underway and we will of course be seeking to minimise disruption. We will formulate a communication plan to make sure that students are kept informed of the latest developments.

d) Open Days

The University undergraduate open days have been busier than ever this year and we have made some changes to how they are run.

On the day “check-in desks” have been used which have enabled us to give visitors a proper welcome, get a much more accurate idea of who actually attends, and engage with them following the event. Along with other initiatives, including showcasing the activities of student clubs and societies, and extending the length of subject talks, the check-ins have helped to improve the visitor experience and create a really positive atmosphere at open days.

Booking numbers were down again for the June open day, reflecting the shifting pattern of the recruitment cycle and we may in future hold all open days in the autumn. Weekend open days are increasingly popular (both here and across the sector), so we may also need to switch the balance between weekday and weekend open days in future.

e) Chancellor’s Dinner

Our Chancellor, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, presided over two very successful gala dinners in September. The Chancellor’s Dinner honouring, Dr Elizabeth Bomberg, Professor Margaret Frame, Professor Jo Shaw and Dr Nicholas Mills, and the Benefactor’s Dinner to thank our benefactors the following week.

f) I was very pleased to welcome His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco on a visit to the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation. It was a most engaging visit with a number of positive projects discussed with the Prince having the opportunity to view some family related items from our Centre for Research Collections as part of the visit.

g) Blair Summit

The second University Blair Summit took place in early October again kindly hosted by Charles Hendry MP, and gave supporters an excellent opportunity to engage with D&A staff and senior colleagues about related activities.

h) Santander Agreement

I was very pleased to sign an agreement with Santander’s Executive Director and Head of UK banking, Mr Steven Pateman, for further support for

scholarships and enterprise at the University to the value of £400,000 over 3 years.

i) Senior Staff Appointments

Following a robust process, facilitated by a recruitment company, and a very strong field the panel agreed to appoint Ms Zöe Lewandowski as the new Director of Human Resources. Court colleagues will be familiar with Ms Lewandowski in her role as Head of HR with CMVM.

Interviews for the post of Chief Information Officer were held at the end of October with a view to confirming the appointment as soon as possible.

j) School and Department Visits

Since the start of semester I have visited a number of Schools, Health in Social Science, and Physics and Astronomy. In addition I have spoken to colleagues from Estates and Buildings and SASG at away day events about current plans for the University. The visits also provide a good opportunity to meet staff and take questions from them.

I was also very pleased to attend the renaming of the refurbished Chemistry Teaching Labs in the Joseph Black Building, the labs are now named after Christina Miller a leading Scottish Chemist.

k) High Level Visits and Meetings

I was very pleased to host a reception for the Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council who were visiting the University with their Chief Executive Jackie Hunter.

I was a guest of Scotland's Rural College at their annual reception and dinner in early October and spoke at an event at the Scottish Parliament to improve researcher engagement between Universities and the Parliament.

With Vice-Principal Kenway I met representatives from D-Wave, the quantum computing company, to discuss possible joint future activities.

l) Further details of University activity, including research success can be found here:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2014>

Information relating to staff success, news and recognition can be found here:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/news/staff>

6. *International News*

- a) North America – Along with colleagues I was delighted to be in New York for the very successful launch of the North American Office towards the end of October. The new base will aid collaboration between the University and its partners in education, business and government across Canada and the USA. It will also provide a point of contact for prospective students and help strengthen ties with the more than 20,000 Edinburgh alumni in North America.

Events involved the Senior Vice-Principal, Sir Tom Devine, Professor Harald Haas and staff from the Global Health Academy.

While in the US I also attended the installation of the New President of Caltech.

- b) India – India and South Asian Week took place in early October and I was very pleased to welcome Dr Gopalkrishna Gandhi to the University to deliver a lecture marking the University's first India Day celebration on Gandhi's Birthday the 2 October. There were many other events during the week including the Namaste Edinburgh reception to welcome all Indian students to the University.
- c) China – at the end of September the Confucius Institute hosted an open event on the Mound to mark the 10th Anniversary of the establishment of the Confucius Institutes network. It was a tremendously successful day with activities for members of the public and families with over 2,500 people taking part.

I was also pleased to welcome the new Chinese Consul General Mr Pan Xinchun to the University in late October.

- d) Sweden – I was pleased to attend a Magna Charta event at Uppsala University and delighted to welcome around 30 Swedish and UK Vice-Chancellors in a joint visit organised by the Swedish Higher Education Authority and The Leadership Foundation for Higher Education.
- e) Brussels - I spoke at the European Intersectoral Summit on Research and Innovation on the subject of "Science, Media and Democracy" in mid-September.
- f) Venice – I participated in a Coimbra Group High Level Research Policy event to discuss Horizon 2020 in late October.
- g) The Global Academies Annual Conference, *How do we know what we know?*, took place on 3 October 2014. In response to the growing global problem of Ebola the Global Academies are running a series of free public events looking at the crisis.

h) International high level delegations were received from:

- Zhejiang University, China
- Lund University, Sweden
- University of Melbourne
- Nagoya University, Japan
- East China Normal University
- University of Toronto
- Univ. of Electronic Science and Technology China
- Kyungpook National University. Korea
- St Petersburg University, Russia
- University of New South Wales

7. Higher Education Sector

a) Smith Commission

The University has contributed to the evidence being submitted by Universities Scotland to the Smith Commission on behalf of Scotland's 19 Universities and HE Institutions. The Universities Scotland submission is to be finalised by the 31st October and covers matters such as improving the interface between the benefits and student support systems, immigration policy particularly in relation to post-study work entitlement, and using tax incentives to improve rates of business investment and business-university collaboration in research and innovation. The submission also emphasises the sector's commitment to the dual support system for research funding, including Scottish participation in RCUK. The report from the commission covering the recommendations on the further devolution of powers to the Scottish Parliament will be made on 30 November 2014.

Resource implications

8. There are no specific resource implications associated with the paper.

Risk Management

9. There are no specific risk implications associated with the paper although some reputational risk may be relevant to certain items.

Equality & Diversity

10. No specific Equality and Diversity issues are identified.

Next steps/implications

11. Any action required on the items noted will be taken forward by the appropriate member(s) of University staff.

Consultation

12. As the paper represents a summary of recent news no consultation has taken place.

Further information

13. Principal will take questions on any item at Court or further information can be obtained from Ms Fiona Boyd, Principal's Office.

14. Author

Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Sir Timothy O'Shea
2 October 2014

Presenter

Principal and Vice-Chancellor
Sir Timothy O'Shea

Freedom of Information

15. Open Paper



University Court

3 November 2014

Student Experience Update

Description of paper

1. This paper describes ongoing work to understand and enhance the student experience at the University of Edinburgh. The main themes of the paper are a presentation of our performance in an external survey of masters students (PTES), an update on work around NSS, and an update on the wider body of work around the student experience which is overseen by the Student Experience Programme Board.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to note and discuss the content of this paper.

Recommendation

3. None, this is an update paper.

Background and context

4. Work around the student experience tends to be dominated by concerns around the National Student Survey. Extensive work to remediate our performance in this survey are under way and Court was updated on these in September during our discussion of the 2014 results. A brief further update is provided in this paper.

5. Work on the student experience is informed by other external surveys, in which the University of Edinburgh is performing to a much higher standard. One of these, the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey, is reported here for 2014.

6. In addition, work to enhance the student experience extends well beyond NSS work, and includes strands around the personal support of students, the Student Experience Project and our emerging vision for learning and teaching. These fall under the governance of the Student Experience Programme Board, and an update on their recent progress is provided here for Court.

Discussion

7. *Brief update on NSS work*

Since the last briefing to Court, our survey results have been discussed at Senate and through Senate Learning and Teaching Committee. Both of these discussions were constructive and positive, and confirmed a real urgency around the improvement of our NSS scores. Work in support of poorly performing Schools is ongoing, with one Principal visit and one Senior Staff visit completed to date. Sue Rigby has met with the Schools of Maths; Physics; Health; Social and Political Science; Philosophy, Psychology and Language Studies and Geosciences (as of mid-October) all of whom are working in a focussed manner on this problem.

8. Communications work around a 'You said, we listened' campaign is widely visible around campus and through digital media. Planning is underway for the

Survey season campaign.

9. Significant elements in support of NSS work, for example the survey unit and communications team, comes to an end in August 2015. A process has begun through the planning round to bid for the mainstreaming of such support, as it represents critical and new activity for the University.

10. Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey

This survey is run annually by the Higher Education Academy, and is completed alongside NSS and our internal survey between January and mid-March. Our results for 2014 were made available to us at the same time as NSS, and are now presented here. The survey is a national one, but results are released only to the participating institution, with the extra facility that institutional results can be benchmarked against the sector or against mission groups of Universities. This ensures that league tables are not generated from these data as they are for NSS, but raises the worry that these results are regarded as less important through their reduced media visibility or impact on third party rankings.

11. The PTES survey is similar to NSS in format, and is divided into a series of primary themes, such as teaching quality and skills development. Our response to every question is better in 2014 than it was in 2013 (Figure 1).

Primary Theme	Current Question Name	2013	2014	Change from 2013	Change
Teaching and Learning	Staff are good at explaining things	79%	89%	10%	↑
	Staff are enthusiastic about what they are teaching	82%	90%	8%	↑
	The course is intellectually stimulating	81%	87%	6%	↑
	There is sufficient contact time (face to face and/or virtual/online) between staff and students to support effective learning	65%	68%	3%	↑
	I am happy with the support for my learning I receive from staff on my course	71%	75%	4%	↑
	I feel part of an academic community in the University of Edinburgh	54%	67%	13%	↑
Total		72%	79%	7%	↑
Assessment and Feedback	The criteria used in marking have been made clear in advance	69%	72%	3%	↑
	Assessment arrangements and marking have been fair	70%	73%	3%	↑
	Feedback on my work has been prompt	56%	64%	8%	↑
Total		65%	70%	5%	↑
Dissertation or Major Project	I understand the required standards for the dissertation / major project	74%	80%	6%	↑
	My supervisor has the skills and subject knowledge to adequately support my dissertation / major project	79%	82%	3%	↑
	My supervisor provides helpful feedback on my progress.	64%	75%	11%	↑
Total		73%	79%	6%	↑
Organisation & Management	The timetable fits well with my other commitments	74%	78%	4%	↑
	Any changes in the programme or teaching have been communicated effectively	75%	79%	4%	↑
	The programme is well organised and is running smoothly	72%	77%	5%	↑
Total		74%	78%	4%	↑
Resources & Services	The library resources and services are good enough for my needs (inc physical & online)	77%	85%	8%	↑
	I have been able to access general IT resources when I needed to (inc physical & online)	83%	89%	6%	↑
	I have been able to access subject specific resources (e.g. equipment, facilities, software) necessary for my studies	75%	84%	9%	↑
	The library's electronic collections are sufficient for my needs	78%	85%	7%	↑
	The library's print collections are sufficient for my needs	67%	73%	6%	↑
	I am happy with the level of service I have received from library staff, whether by email/telephone or remotely	84%	86%	2%	↑
I have received adequate help and advice from library staff on using library search and research tools	81%	82%	1%	↑	
Total		78%	84%	6%	↑
Skills development	As a result of the programme I am more confident about independent learning	76%	82%	6%	↑
	My research skills have developed during my course	78%	79%	1%	↑
	As a result of this course, I feel better prepared for my future career	65%	74%	9%	↑
	Total		73%	78%	5%

Figure 1 – Scores on individual questions for PTES, 2014.

12. Overall our results have improved year on year since 2012. We perform above the Russell Group Average for six themes out of nine, including on assessment and feedback (Figure 2)

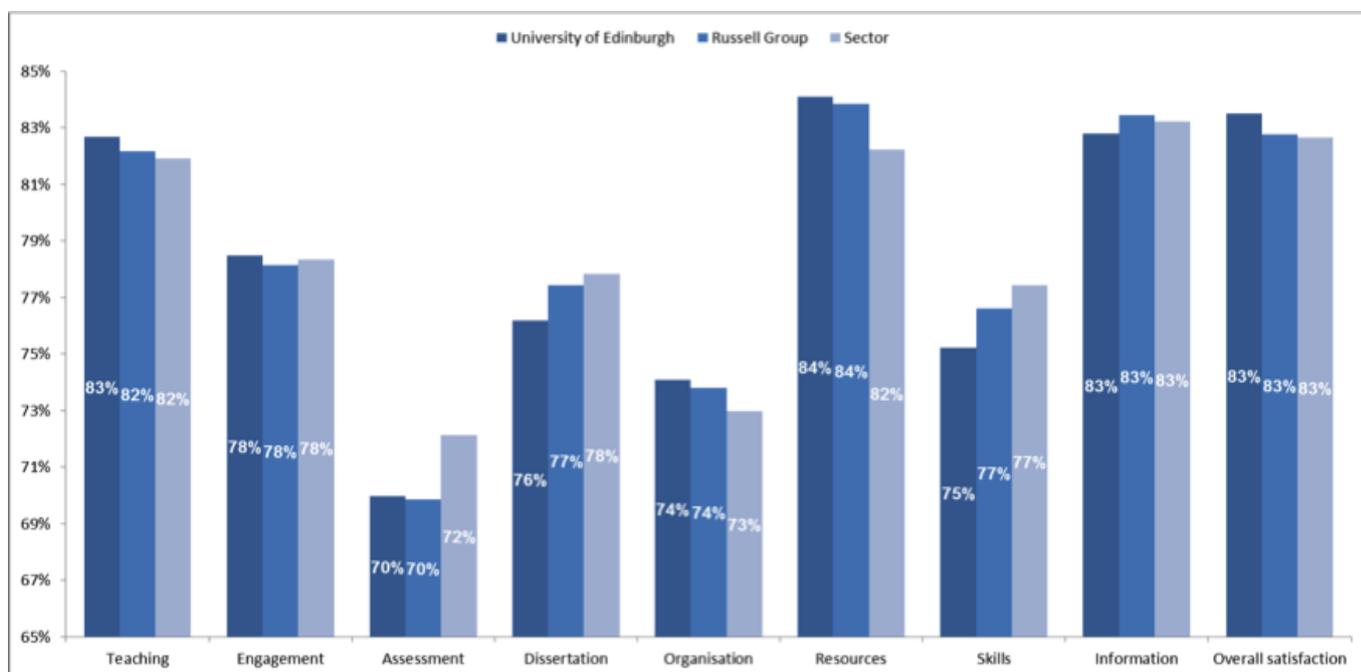


Figure 2 – Comparison by theme of the University of Edinburgh with Russell Group Universities and with the sector as a whole, 2014.

13. Across the sector, masters students tend to be more satisfied with their studies than undergraduates, but the sector comparison suggests that we are as good as or better at this type of study than at least half of our Russell Group peers. This contrasts with the NSS analysis of the same staff at undergraduate level. Several points emerge from this observation:

- We have focussed on enhancing masters level teaching since 2009, providing support networks for staff, good practice sharing and significant support for pedagogical and practical developments in provision. It seems likely that what we have seen since 2012 is the result of that work, though cause and effect cannot be proved.
- Our staff are able to provide an above-average learning and teaching experience with the right support, because they do so at this level.
- We can look to our current masters provision to provide examples of good practice and sustained improvement to learning and teaching, available locally and in all Schools within the University.

14. *Other projects in support of enhancing the student experience*

- Student Experience Project
This major change project designed to enhance and enable reflection into the provision of support for students, is entering its final year of funding. Significant outcomes of the project include; the introduction of Student

Information Points across the University which provide articulated points of first call for our student support services; the introduction of Peer Support in all Schools in the University, enhanced induction provision (including over 6000 downloads of the induction app); two years of enhanced communication work around students; the setting up of our Survey Unit which works with internal and external surveys at University and Course level to provide key management information for planning teaching.

- Personal tutor developments
All of our taught students now have a Personal Tutor. The undergraduate scheme was evaluated in 2013/14 and the outcome of this work will be implemented this academic year. The masters level scheme will be evaluated this year. Support of a similar nature for research students requires further thought and will form a two year project for which planning is under way.
- Experiments towards a vision of learning and teaching – Go Abroad Challenge and Entrepreneurship Awards
Students were successfully supported to undertake informal learning abroad this summer, through a competitive scheme, the Principal's Go Abroad Challenge. The blogs of successful students strongly suggests that this initiative is a notable success - <http://goabroadfund.wordpress.com/>. All students going abroad were supported by the third space initiative, a partnership development between EUSA and the Institute for Academic Development, <https://eusaglobal.wordpress.com/tag/third-space/>.

For students staying in Edinburgh, we are amending our HEAR, the enhanced degree transcript, to recognise a new co-curricular award, in entrepreneurship, being developed out of Launch.ed. This will be available to all students and will validate stages of engagement with entrepreneurship, from attendance at courses to the start-up of a student company.

- Support for staff engaged in learning and teaching
This support is offered primarily through the Institute for Academic Development, which has been fully operational for two years. Work ranges from single workshops through to the provision of formal training for all new members of academic staff. A student intern was able to work with IAD this summer to put together a brochure of events for 2013/14. I am delighted at the range and depth of work now being done in support of learning and teaching, which ranges for international collaboration on shared PhDs to the development of a structured route to all four levels of Higher Education Academy Fellowship. This brochure will be available at Court for interested members.

Resource implications

15. Significant resource is already allocated to improving student satisfaction and to improving our survey outcomes. This paper describes some of the uses to which this funding is being put.

Risk Management

16. No change is required to the University risk register.

Equality & Diversity

17. Work is ongoing to interrogate these results with an equality and diversity approach, but the overall data as presented here require no adjustments.

Next steps/implications

18. Work will continue on our major strands of student experience and survey remediation. Regular updates will be provided to Court.

Further information

19. Author

Vice Principal Professor Sue Rigby
10 October 2014

Presenter

Vice Principal Professor Sue Rigby

Freedom of Information

20. This paper is open.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

SRUC Progress report

Description of paper

1. This paper is a summary progress report to Court following on from a verbal update to the Policy and Resources Committee held on the 20 October 2014.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to note the current negotiated position.

Recommendation

3. No action required.

Paragraphs 4 – 14 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Risk Management

15. A risk register is available and presented to the SRUC Court Sub-Committee.

Equality & Diversity

16. No equality and diversity issues have been identified.

Paragraph 17 has been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Consultation

18. This paper reflects the discussion held at the recent Policy and Resources Committee and recent internal discussions.

Further Information

19. <u>Author</u> Hugh Edmiston Director of Corporate Services Leigh Chalmers Director of Legal Services 24 October 2014	<u>Presenter</u> Dr Anne Richards Vice-Convener of Court
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Freedom of Information

20. This paper is closed :
Its disclosure would substantially prejudice the commercial interests of any person or organisation.

Its disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence actionable in court.



University Court

3 November 2014

**Outcome Agreement - 2015 Cycle
Including Draft Self-Evaluation of 2013-14 Agreement**

Description of paper

1. This paper outlines the self-evaluation of the 2013-14 Outcome Agreement (report attached as appendix 1) and summarises the timetable and priorities for the 2015 cycle.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to consider and approve the draft Outcome Agreement Self-Evaluation report and the priorities/timetable for the 2015 cycle.

3. Court is also asked to note the SFC priorities for the 2015 cycle and to provide guidance on any additional UoE priorities/issues to be raised during the Outcome Agreement discussions.

Recommendation

4. Court is recommended to approve the draft Outcome Agreement Self Evaluation report for 2013-14.

Paragraphs 5 – 15 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Risk Management

16. The risks inherent in Outcome Agreements are addressed in the University Risk Register.

Equality & Diversity

17. The Outcome Agreements with SFC highlight the importance of equality & diversity to the University and specifically include commitments in relation to widening participation, delivery of our Gaelic language plan, our equalities action plan and good governance. Priorities identified for the 2015 cycle by SFC include gender issues in relation to areas of study.

Paragraphs 18 and 19 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Consultation

20. The Self-Evaluation report follows the formal guidance from SFC on length and priorities to be addressed. Evidence on performance has been gathered from the relevant areas across the University.

Further information

21. Author

Tracey Slaven

Deputy Secretary Strategic Planning

23 October 2014

Presenter

Tracey Slaven

Deputy Secretary Strategic Planning

Freedom of Information

22. This paper should remain closed until the University Court has approved the final report.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014



Draft Corporate Governance Statement for 2013/14

Description of paper

1. This paper sets out the draft Corporate Governance Statement to be included in the Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31 July 2014. There will be further consideration of the formatting of the Statement and in particular the information on membership of Court and the various Committees is likely to be shortened into one table.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to consider and comment on the draft Corporate Governance Statement.

Recommendation

3. Court is invited to approve the Corporate Governance Statement subject to any suggested amendments.

Background and context

4. The Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council (SFC) requires the University to make a statement of corporate governance in its Annual Report and Accounts this is included in its Accounts Direction.

5. There have been changes to the Accounts Direction from last year including a new section 6 which refers to an expectation that governing bodies will meet the principles of good governance as set out in the 2013 Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance as well the UK Corporate Governance Code, as applicable, with an explanation if the institution's practices are not consistent with particular principles.

Discussion

6. The corporate governance statement (attached as appendix 1) while similar to that prepared for the Annual Report and Accounts for the year to 31 July 2013 makes reference to the University's compliance with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance.

Resource implications

7. There are no specific implications associated with the preparation of the Corporate Governance Statement.

Risk Management

8. There are significant reputation issues associated with the content of the University's Annual Report and Accounts.

Equality & Diversity

9. The Statement makes reference to the new Court Policy on Equality and Diversity.

Next steps/implications

10. Comments received from Court will be incorporated into the final version included in the Annual Report and Accounts and further layout and presentational revisions are anticipated before the Statement is finalised.

Consultation

11. A previous draft Statement was considered at the last meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee and the attached Statement incorporates comments made by that Committee. The attached draft has also benefited from review and comment by colleagues in Finance and Internal audit.

Further information

12. Author

Dr Katherine Novosel,
Head of Court Services
September 2014

Presenter

University Secretary, Ms Sarah Smith

Freedom of Information

13. This paper is open.

Corporate Governance

The University of Edinburgh is committed to achieving the highest possible standards of corporate governance. During 2013/14 the University considered in detail the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance published on 18 July 2013 and while the University was generally already compliant with this Code the opportunity was taken to review its governance arrangements. As a result of the work of a Court Sub-Group specifically established to look at the implications of this Code a number of changes have been introduced:

- Revised Committee structure was introduced with effect from 1 August 2014;
- Improvements to reporting arrangements and the effectiveness of the decision making process with effect from 1 August 2014;
- Court approval on 4 November 2013 of a statement setting out the specific roles of the Rector and of the Vice-Convener of Court;
- An open and transparent external recruitment process for a new Vice-Convener of Court (similar to Chair of institution) was undertaken during 2013/14 managed by the Nominations Committee in line with the requirements of the Code including the involvement in the process of staff and students: a new Vice-Convener of Court was appointed with effect from 1 August 2014;
- Amendments were made to the composition and remit of the Nominations Committee with effect from 16 September 2013. This included a student member of Court being appointed to the Committee and the remit being extended to enable the Committee to manage the recruitment process for Co-opted members of Court and the Vice-Convener of Court. The remit was also amended so that the Vice-Convener of Court did not chair meetings of this Committee when it was considering their successor;
- Approval of: a Court Skills' Register, a generic job description for Co-opted Court members and a revised letter of appointment for Co-opted members (adapted for those joining Court via election/nomination by outside organisations) which includes the requirement of members to comply with the Nolan Principles;
- Amendments to the operation of the Remuneration Committee with effect from 1 August 2014. These amendments included: the Principal being in attendance at Committee meetings, rather than a member of the Committee; the Convener being a lay member of Court appointed on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee but not the Vice-Convener of Court (although the Vice-Convener of Court remains a member of this Committee); and Court approval of a Remuneration Committee Framework for Decision Making document;
- Review and amendment of the following documents which were already in place: Delegated Authorisation Schedule; Statement of Court's Primary Responsibilities; Standing Orders; a list of items reserved for Court; and delegation arrangements for the Principal. A more comprehensive revision of the Delegated Authorisation Schedule will be undertaken during 2014/15; and
- The opportunity was also taken to formalise the Court's practices on equality and diversity matters with the approval of a Court Equality and Diversity Policy on 23 June 2014.

University governance

The University of Edinburgh is constituted by the Universities (Scotland) Acts 1858 to 1966. The Universities (Scotland) Acts make specific provision for three major bodies in the Governance of the University: The Court, The Senate and The General Council.

University Court

University Court, the University's governing body, is a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal. The present powers of the Court are defined in the Universities (Scotland) Act (1966) and include, inter alia, the amendment of the composition, powers and functions of bodies in the University and the creation of new bodies, the administration and management of the whole revenue and property of the University, internal arrangements of the University, staff appointments and, on the recommendation of Senate, the regulation of degrees, admission and discipline of students. It is responsible for ensuring that the Senate has in place effective arrangements for academic quality assurance and enhancement. An approved Statement on Quality Arrangements has been in place since September 2013 and it is reviewed annually; a revised Statement was approved by the Court on 15 September 2014. The Court is responsible for the strategic development of the University, advised by the Principal in consultation with the Central Management Group.

The University Court has 22 members. The Rector, who is elected by staff and students of the University, presides over meetings of Court. Court has a majority of lay members, including assessors appointed by the Chancellor and the City of Edinburgh Council and elected by the General Council. There are also assessors elected by members of Senate and by non-teaching/academic staff from amongst their number and two fully matriculated student members nominated by the Students' Representative Council (now known as EUSA). The Principal is an ex-officio member and acts as the Chief Executive Officer of the University and its Accountable Officer. Co-opted members of the Court and external members of the Court Committees are appointed through a robust, transparent open advertisement and interview process based on a skills matrix approach managed by the Nominations Committee. In addition to the members of Court and the University Secretary, a number of senior officers of the University regularly attended meetings during 2013/14: Rector's Assessor, Senior Vice-Principal (External Engagement), Vice-Principal (Planning, Resources and Research Policy), Vice-Principal (Public Policy and Impact), Heads of Colleges and Support Groups, Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning and Directors of Communications, Marketing and External Affairs, Estates and Buildings, Finance, and Human Resources.

Four members left Court at the end of the academic year 2012/13 and were succeeded by four new members including two representatives from EUSA. A Senate Assessor resigned during the year with effect from 13 September 2013 and a new Assessor was elected from 15 November 2013 on a short-term basis until 31 July 2014. An induction event was held at the beginning of September 2013 primarily for new members and to which all members of Court were invited to attend. A mentoring scheme is also operated.

The Court is committed to the Nolan Principles regarding standards to be adopted in public life. It maintains a Register of Interest of its members and senior University officers which is publicly available for inspection. The current interests of members of the Court are published on the University's web site at:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/governance-strategic-planning/governance/university-court/overview>.

On joining Court members are required to sign a statement confirming that they will comply with the University's Code of Conduct which makes reference to the Nolan Principles and to the Register of Interests; this has been further strengthened by approval of the letter of appointment as a result of work to ensure compliance with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance.

The Court met on six occasions during 2013/14 and considered any urgent matters which required Court approval between meetings via electronic communication. Members were also kept informed by electronic means of any significant issues affecting the University. Court seminars were held in September 2013 and February 2014 on 'Building on Success: Edinburgh Development and Alumni', and on the 'Future Strategy of the University of Edinburgh-the next 10 Years' respectively. The Court consults with the Senate and the General Council as required by statute.

The Court has taken full account of the Guide for Members of Governing Bodies issued by the Committee of University Chairmen in November 2004 and revised in March 2009. It notes that compliance with this Guidance is not a formal requirement of the Scottish Funding Council. The Court believes that in all significant respects its operations are compliant with this Guidance. The Court at its meeting on 23 June 2014 received a report on the University's compliance with the eighteen main principles within the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance.

In June 2010 the Court approved an amended statement of its responsibilities which was reviewed by the Court Sub-Group considering the implementation of the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance. A revised Statement reflecting the Code was approved by Court on 12 May 2014 and this statement and information on other governance arrangements within the University are available as part of the University's Freedom of Information publication scheme on:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/governance-strategic-planning/governance/university-governance/overview> .

The Court has overall responsibility for the University's strategic development. It is actively engaged in the University's strategic planning processes and in monitoring progress against the approved Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan operative during 2013/14 was adopted by the University Court at its meeting on 2 July 2012 and covers the period 2012/16. The strategic planning process is led by the Principal with support from the Vice-Principal with responsibility for Planning, Resources and Research Policy and the Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning.

During 2013/14 as well as the more routine items, Court considered the following:

- Taking forward the requirements of the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance which included approval of a new Committee structure and a number of Court documents;
- Proposals for a possible strategic alignment with SRUC; and
- Approval of a People Strategy.

Court further welcomed the introduction of the Court News, published following each meeting of Court on the student and staff news University webpages highlighting key items considered by Court. Court also continued to receive reports from the EUSA President outlining activities and matters arising from the student body.

The Court's Committee Structure (operating during 2013/14)

The Court has established several Committees including:

- Audit Committee;
- Estates Committee;
- Finance and General Purposes Committee;
- Health and Safety Committee;
- Investment Committee;
- Knowledge Strategy Committee;
- Nominations Committee;
- Remuneration Committee;
- Risk Management Committee;
- Staff Committee.

Each of these Committees is formally constituted with terms of reference including membership approved by Court, and conducts its business both through regular meetings and by electronic communication when appropriate. The University also has a Central Management Group whose membership includes all the major budget holders in the University and all the Vice-Principals who advise the Principal on senior management decisions, particularly on the allocation of budgets to Colleges and Support Services.

This Committee structure was reviewed during 2013/14 and significant changes introduced with effect from 1 August 2014. These changes include the categorisation of Committees as Standing Committees reporting direct to Court and Thematic Committees reporting into these Standing Committees. A joint Committee with Senate has also been approved.

Audit Committee (from 1 August 2014 Audit and Risk Committee)

During 2013/14 the Audit Committee was responsible for reviewing the University's annual report and financial statements and any changes to accounting policies and advising the Court accordingly. In addition, the Committee received regular reports from the Internal and External Auditors which included recommendations for improvements in internal control and management's responses and implementation plans. The Audit Committee's role in this area was confined to a high level review of the arrangements for internal control. The emphasis was on obtaining the relevant

degree of assurance and not merely reports of exceptions. It also had explicit responsibility for advising on the effectiveness of the University's risk management arrangements.

In addition to the routine items considered by the Committee of particular note were the following:

- The Committee agreed the transitional arrangements in respect of the provision of External Audit Services and welcomed Mr Michael Timar and Ms Lindsay Paterson as the principal representatives of PwC to their first meeting of the Audit Committee on 27 February 2014;
- There was further discussion on the University's response to the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance. It was noted that Court had approved the extension of the remit of Audit Committee to include oversight of risk management arrangements and the adoption of a new name of the Committee: Audit and Risk Committee with effect from 1 August 2014;
- The Chief Internal Auditor retired during 2014 and the Committee was involved in providing advice on the appointment of his successor: the Committee welcomed Mr David Kyles to his first meeting on 29 May 2014; and
- In accordance with previous discussions and recognising the Committee's amended remit from 1 August 2014, the Committee provided the Risk Management Committee with detailed comments and identified further risks to be considered for inclusion in the University's Risk Register operating during 2014/15;

From 1 August 2014 the Audit Committee's remit has been extended, it has been renamed as the Audit and Risk Committee and designated a Standing Committee reporting directly to Court.

Estates Committee

The Estates Committee oversees the preparation, review and implementation of the University's Estate Strategy and its links to corporate and other business plans. It also oversees the University's property portfolio transactions (acquisitions and disposals), matters relating to estate developments and considers reports on progress through the Gateway process. It considers and advises on significant matters related to the amount and deployment of Estates and Buildings recurrent budget, and operational matters including allocation of previously agreed budgets (e.g. Maintenance Programmes, Small Capital Projects) across Colleges and Support Groups. The Central Management Group, the Finance and General Purposes Committee and the Court received a report on matters considered following each meeting of the Committee. It is chaired by the Vice-Principal with responsibility for Planning, Resources and Research Policy. From 1 August 2014 the Estates Committee has been designated a Thematic Committee reporting to the new Policy and Resources Committee and as required preparing papers for Court.

In addition to the above, the Committee progressed and reviewed estate visioning work to 2025 preparing material including a potential development programme to help inform the 2015-2025 estates strategy update.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

During 2013/14 the Finance and General Purposes Committee was responsible for overseeing the University's financial affairs on behalf of the Court and provided advice on business of particular importance or complexity. This included the design of the planning and budgeting process, consideration of the resulting plan and budget in the context of the University's overall strategy, and ensuring adequate monitoring thereafter of the resources of the University. It also had delegated authority to approve various financial arrangements in accordance with agreed levels, including loans to third parties and borrowing arrangements and subsidiary company processes. The Court received a report on matters considered following each meeting of the Committee. It was chaired by the Vice-Convenor of Court.

As well as the routine items including financial monitoring reports, estates and buildings reports and update on widening participation, student bursary schemes and the student experience it considered the following:

- Detailed consideration of the University's proposal in respect of the bid to become a new partner for the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), including the establishment of a Finance and General Purposes Committee Sub-Group: the University was subsequently unsuccessful with its bid; and
- The Committee welcomed the introduction of a 10-year financial forecast report, enhancing the financial monitoring information provided to the Committee and its particular relevance in considering the financial requirements of the estates programme.

The last meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was held on 9 June 2014 and within the new Committee structure the functions of this Committee will be taken forward by the Policy and Resources Committee (Standing Committee reporting directly to Court): Court members on the Finance and General Purposes Committee were appointed to the Policy and Resources Committee to ensure continuity.

Health and Safety Committee

The purpose of the Health and Safety Committee is to contribute to the development of policy and monitor performance in all areas of occupational safety and health within the University. It is chaired by the Director of Corporate Services.

In addition to the routine items which included the Accidents, Incidents and Disease Survey Report and Occupational Health Annual Report, the Health and Safety Committee considered the following:

- Review of the University Health and Safety Policy;
- Review of occupational health provision; and
- Health and Safety Executive inspections and investigations.

Investment Committee

The Investment Committee considers implications of the University's investments in particular the development of an investment strategy to meet agreed investment objectives with regard to ethical and socially responsible issues and to review and monitor both long and short term investments. It has responsibility for overseeing the University's Endowment Funds and ensuring that funds held in trust are operated within the relevant legislation and specific terms of each trust, other investment funds and deposit balances. It reported to the Court via the Finance and General Purposes Committee as appropriate. The Committee also benefited from external advisors invited to attend meetings as necessary and from an independent investment advisor. It is chaired by an external member. From 1 August 2014, the Investment Committee has been designated a Thematic Committee reporting to the new Policy and Resources Committee and, as required, preparing papers for Court. The membership of the Committee has increased from 7 to 9 with effect from 1 August 2014.

In addition to the routine items it considered the following:

- Investment strategy, asset allocation, and opportunities for investing University cash;
- Private equity and other investment opportunities;
- Fund manager reviews with BlackRock, Hermes, Baillie Gifford, RLAM (Royal London Asset Management), Old College Capital and Epidarex;
- United Nations Principles for Responsible Investments (UNPRI) consultation;
- Increased funds directed towards University spin-out financing; and
- Consideration of the suitability of alternative asset classes for the Endowments.

Knowledge Strategy Committee

The Committee oversees the University's knowledge management activities in the areas of Library, Information Technology, e-Learning, Management Information and e-Administration. It also advises on the strategic direction for the University's Information Space, bringing together academic, physical, and financial aspects ensuring that priorities are clearly aligned to the University's Strategic Plan and support the delivery of the core strategic goals: it further monitors progress against agreed targets. During 2013/14 the Central Management Group and the Court received reports as appropriate on matters considered by the Committee. It is chaired by the Vice-Principal with responsibility for Knowledge Management and has a number of Committees which report into it. From 1 August 2014, the Knowledge Strategy Committee has been designated a joint Committee of Court and Senate (Court Standing Committee).

In addition to the routine items it considered the following:

- Distance Education;
- IT Infrastructure Review;
- Enhancement of University-wide IT Security;
- Improvements to Business Intelligence / Management Information.

Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee considers nominations for: Co-opted membership of the Court, membership of Court Committees and for the Court's nominations on the Curators of Patronage. The arrangements to take forward the open advertisement and interview process for Co-opted members of the Court and external members of the Court Committees are also managed by the Nominations Committee. It makes recommendations for consideration and approval to the Court and reports on any other matter considered following each Committee meeting. It is chaired by the Vice-Convenor of Court.

The items and topics considered included:

- Detailed consideration of the implications on the activities of the Committee as a result of the publication of the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance. This resulted during the year in a number of proposals being presented to Court for approval including:
 - a) Revised Terms of Reference for the Nominations Committee such that a student representative became a member of the Committee and the convenership was amended to confirm that the Vice-Convenor did not chair meetings of the Committee where arrangements to appoint their successor was being considered as well as clarifying the role of the Nominations Committee in Court and Committee external members' appointments;
 - b) Revised terms of reference for the Remuneration Committee to confirm that the Principal should be in attendance at meetings of the Remuneration Committee but not be a member of the Committee and that the Vice-Convenor of Court while a member of the Committee could not be its Convenor;
 - c) Development of a Court members' Skills' Register and revised letter of appoint for Court members and those joining Court; and
- Developed arrangements to take forward the recruitment of two new Co-opted members of Court and a new Vice-Convenor of Court in line with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance including the development of job descriptions.

From 1 august 2014, the Nominations Committee has been designated a Standing Committee reporting directly to Court.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee advises Court and oversees the preparation of policies and procedures in respect of salaries, emoluments and conditions of service including severance arrangements for the University's senior management including the Principal and those at professorial or equivalent level. The Committee approves in line with policies and procedures, the total remuneration package for the Principal, those senior staff reporting directly to the Principal, and as appropriate Professorial and equivalent staff.

From 1 August 2014 the terms of reference and membership of the Remuneration Committee have been amended to be compliant with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance: the Principal while attending meetings of the Committee is no longer a member and the Convener is no longer the Vice-Convener of Court (similar to chair in other institutions). The Committee has also been designated a Standing Committee reporting directly to Court. At its meeting on 23 June 2014, Court approved a document setting out the decision making framework of the Committee.

Risk Management Committee

During 2013/14 the Committee supported and advised the Central Management Group, the Audit Committee and the Court, on the implementation and monitoring of the University's risk management policy. It ensured that the identification and evaluation of key risks that threaten achievement of the University's objectives was carried out; that a register of these risks was maintained; that risks were being actively managed, with the appropriate strategies in place and working effectively; and contributed to raising awareness of risk generally across the University and to maintaining the profile of risk management. The Central Management Group, the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Audit Committee and the Court received reports as appropriate and in particular the annual assurance statement and the outcome of the review of the University's Risk Register. It is chaired by the Director of Corporate Services.

The Committee reviewed and amended the University's strategic Risk Register which was then approved by the Court. The Registers of Colleges, Support Groups and subsidiary companies were also reviewed by the Committee. The Annual Report prepared by the Risk Management Committee on its activities provides information to the Audit and Risk Committee and the Court on the adequacy of the University's risk management arrangements and is part of the assurance provision to the Court to enable it to sign off the Annual Report and Accounts. In addition to these routine items the Risk Management Committee considered the following:

- The embedding of the Risk Appetite into the University (following the approval by Court of a significantly revised Risk Policy and Appetite Statement in June 2013);
- The annual report to the Scottish Funding Council on institution-led review and enhancement activity;
- The Bribery Act; and
- The remit of the Committee and its interaction with the Audit and Risk Committee in light of the implementation of the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance from 1 August 2014.

From 1 August 2014, the Risk Management Committee has been designated a Thematic Committee reporting directly to the Audit and Risk Committee with papers as appropriate being considered by the Central Management Group. The Audit and Risk Committee now has an oversight to risk management and it will be this Committee which provides Court with assurances on the University's risk management arrangements based on the advice and information provided to it by the Risk Management Committee.

Staff Committee

The Staff Committee provided advice and guidance on the University's strategic human resources policies and objectives and provided assurance that the University was monitoring its performance and managing its HR issues effectively. The Committee reported to the Court via the Central Management Group and the Finance and General Purposes Committee following each Committee meeting. The Committee is chaired by the Vice-Principal with responsibility for Equality and Diversity. From 1 August 2014 the Staff Committee has been renamed the People Committee and designated a Thematic Committee reporting to the new Policy and Resources Committee with papers as appropriate being considered by the Central Management Group and Court.

As well as the routine items including talent management, HR performance indicators and reviews of maternity and sabbatical leave policies the following significant items were considered:

- Finalising the development of a University's People Strategy; and
- A range of issues around mainstreaming and embedding elements of the Equality and Diversity Strategy particularly gender issues such as progression.

Exception Committee

As a result of the review of the Committee structure, Court approved the establishment of an Exception Committee with effect from 1 August 2014 to improve the efficiency of the decision making process and enable items to be approved between Court meetings. It is anticipated that much of the work of this Committee will be undertaken by electronic means and no schedule of Committee meetings has therefore been set.

Central Management Group

The Central Management Group, whilst formally advisory to the Principal, is the senior body taking forward consideration of management issues. Its members are, between them, responsible and accountable for all components of the University's budget, both income and expenditure. As such it plays an important part in the internal governance and academic operations of the University, and brings together the academic, financial, human resources and accommodation aspects of planning. It reported through the Finance and General Purposes Committee to the Court. The Central Management Group is chaired by the Principal and during 2013/14 it met on eight occasions. As part of the overall review of the Committee structure terms of reference were agreed for the Group and its reporting arrangements revised with effect from 1 August 2014.

The Senate

The Senate is the academic authority of the University and draws its membership from the academic staff and students of the University. Its role is to superintend and regulate the teaching and discipline of the University and to promote research.

During Academic Year 2013/14 67 new members joined Senate and 45 demitted membership. The Senate held three meetings during the academic year with presentations delivered on:

- Open Access;
- Embedding Equality; and
- The University in the Community.

In addition to the routine items covered by Senate there has been a focus on work around improving the student experience including consideration of the results of the National Student Survey and an evaluation of Innovative Learning Week. Senate has four principal Committees which operate in accordance with delegated authority as set out in the terms of reference of each of the Committees.

- **Curriculum and Student Progression Committee**

Convener: Assistant Principal Professor Ian Pirie

Responsible for the academic regulatory framework, apart from those aspects which are primarily parts of either the Code of Student Discipline or the Quality Assurance Framework.

As well as the more routine items, the Committee took forward the following in 2013/14:

- Approved the following policies: Non Graduating Student Policy and Procedure, Informing Students of their Final Programme, Course and Progression Results Policy, and the Code of Student Conduct;
- Approved the following guidance: Boards of Studies Terms of Reference, Non Credit Bearing Online Course Approval: Procedure for External Release, and the development of assessment and examination guidance regarding mitigating the impact of possible industrial action;
- Programme and Course Information Management Project (PCIM) delivered: University level principles for programme and course design, development, approval, changes and closure, confirmation of the purpose of programme and course handbooks and core content, and development of an enhanced course descriptor; and
- Credit for Study Abroad Task Group recommended steps to adopt for a consistent institution wide approach to the arrangements for the award of credit for study abroad.

- **Learning and Teaching Committee**

Convener: Vice-Principal Professor Sue Rigby

Responsible, on behalf of the Senate, for undergraduate, taught postgraduate and other forms of academic provision, apart from postgraduate research and higher degrees. The Committee also provides a forum to facilitate and encourage the development of academic strategy and also discusses and promotes academic developments, whether internally driven or externally indicated.

As well as the more routine items, the Committee took forward the following in 2013/14:

- Discussion initiated on the future learning and teaching strategy and its governance. "*An Emerging Design for Learning and Teaching*", proposed wide-ranging and ambitious ideas for the curriculum and its delivery: there will be wider consultation in 2014/15;
- Oversaw the development of a "*Vision for the Student Experience at the University of Edinburgh*"; and
- Learning and Teaching Committee engaged with the following external developments: Curriculum for Excellence; Grade Point Averages Project; mapping against UK Quality Code Chapter B3: Learning and Teaching, and Massive Open Online Courses.

- **Quality Assurance Committee**

Convener: Assistant Principal Dr Tina Harrison

Responsible for the University's academic quality assurance framework. The Committee also acts as a planning forum for the discussion and promotion of developments in academic quality assurance, whether internally driven or externally indicate.

As well as the more routine items, the Committee took forward the following in 2013/14:

- Continued oversight of the implementation of recommendations from the 2011 Enhancement-led Institutional Review (ELIR) and preparation for the next ELIR in 2015;
- Participated in project group on enhancements to the University's Collaborative Provision framework;
- Participated in setting the groundwork for the planned Quality Hub, which aims to synthesize key internal and external information;
- Held the first Periodic Review of Information Services, as part of a planned programme of reviews of Student Support Services; and
- Work with Senate Curriculum and Student Progression Committee (CSPC) to ensure mechanisms established to incorporate Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs) into the wider quality assurance framework.

- **Researcher Experience Committee**

Convener: Professor Jeremy Bradshaw

Responsible for postgraduate research degree training, higher degrees and provision for the training of other, early career researchers. The Committee provides a forum to facilitate and encourage the development of appropriate strategy and also discusses and promotes relevant developments, whether internally driven or externally indicated.

As well as the more routine items, the Committee took forward the following in 2013/14:

- Code of Practice for Supervisors & Research Students - major review of the Code providing enhanced, accessible information for supervisors and research students;
- Induction and Admissions - worked with Student Experience Project and Student Recruitment and Admissions to develop an enhanced arrival and induction experience for new postgraduate research students;
- Employability - contributed a postgraduate research perspective to the Employability Project; and
- Began scoping the Postgraduate Research Experience project.

Senate Committees submit an annual report to Senate providing an overview of the major items of Committee business completed and to proposing strategic issues for the Committees to focus on for the next academic year and beyond, for approval by Senate. Court considered and noted this report at its meeting on 23 June 2014.

The General Council

The General Council consists mainly of graduates and includes eligible academic staff and a more limited number from other related categories. As at 31 July 2014 it had 192,104 members. It has a statutory right to comment on matters which affect the well-being and prosperity of the University and to be consulted on Ordinances and Resolutions. The aim is to ensure that graduates of this University have a continuing voice in the management of its affairs. It is also responsible for the election of the Chancellor and the election of three Court Assessors.

Half-Yearly meetings of the Council are normally held on the second Saturday in February and the last Saturday in June, although recently the June meeting has been held earlier in the month. During 2013/14 the following items were discussed at these meetings:

- The Principal reported on the University's Reports and Financial Statements at the February Half-Yearly meeting;
- The June 2014 Half-Yearly meeting was held at the University of Toronto and members heard about the University's Internationalisation Strategy and the Student Experience from the Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, and the Vice Principal International, Professor Steve Hiller; and
- Through its Business Committee members follow progress in a number of areas, including student satisfaction, league table positions, internationalisation and the financial status of the University.

The Business Committee is the principal Committee of the General Council with four supporting Standing Committees.

- **Business Committee**
Convener: Professor Charles Swainson
Vice Convener: Dr Frances Dow

It has delegated authority to act on behalf of the General Council between Half-Yearly Meetings, reporting on its activities to each Half-Yearly meeting,

playing an advisory role to the University Court and approving delegated arrangements for its four Standing Committees

During 2013/14 as well as the more routine items the Committee took forward the following:

- Implications of possible changes to Scottish Constitutional arrangements on the University of Edinburgh and the HE sector;
- Contributed to Development & Alumni's Alumni Engagement Strategy review; and
- Follow-up with senior academic staff on the continuing issue of the Student Experience, in particular in Learning & Teaching.

- **Academic Standing Committee:**

Convener: Dr Bruce Ritson

The Committee advises on matters of broad principle in the academic field.

- **Constitutional Standing Committee**

Convener: Mr Gordon Cairns

The Committee advises on matters affecting the constitutional arrangements of the General Council, including those appertaining to the constitutional relationship between the General Council and its Business Committee and other parts of the University.

- **Finance & Services Standing Committee**

Convener: Ms Kirsty MacGregor

The Committee advises on the general financial affairs of the University; the funding of the General Council; and in addition reviews trends in staff and student numbers and patterns of graduation.

- **Public Affairs Standing Committee**

Convener: Mr Simon Fairclough

The Committee advises on matters regarded as important involving the actions of Parliament, HM Government, quasi government agencies and other public bodies which might affect universities in general and the University of Edinburgh in particular and advises on all matters concerning alumni and public engagement.

The University's System of Internal Control

The University Court is responsible for the University's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. Such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The internal control environment includes delegated authorities, policies, procedural and system controls, planning and budgetary processes, professional capability in specialist areas, governance structures and management reporting. The current Delegated Authorisation Schedule was approved by the Court in June 2010 and will be reviewed in 2014/15 to reflect in particular the new Committee structure and other matters introduced as part of the University's approach to taking forward the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance. The senior management team receives regular reports on the University's performance, including appropriate performance indicators, and considers any control issues brought to its attention by early warning mechanisms which are embedded within the operational units and reinforced by risk awareness training. The senior management team and the Audit Committee also receive regular reports from internal audit which include recommendations for improvement.

The University operates processes for the identification, evaluation and management of significant risks. The risk management framework established in the University includes a Risk Management Committee which operated as a formal Court Committee during 2013/14 and was responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Risk Management Policy adopted in 2002. In June 2013, the Court considered and approved a significantly revised and reformatted Risk Policy and Appetite Statement following extensive consideration of the approach to risk management within the University; this approach was taken forward in 2013/14. From 1 August 2014 the Risk Management Committee has been designated a Thematic Committee reporting to the new Audit and Risk Committee. The Audit and Risk Committee has been designated a Standing Committee reporting directly to Court and it is this Committee which now has oversight of risk management arrangements based on advice and information from the Risk Management Committee. The University's strategic Risk Register focuses primarily on risks related to the attainment of the University's strategic objectives and identifies responsibility for the overall management of each risk: it aligns to the University Strategic Plan 2012/16. During 2013/14 the Register was reviewed by the Risk Management Committee and considered by the Central Management Group, the Audit Committee, and the Finance and General Purposes Committee prior to consideration and approval by the Court on 23 June 2014.

College, Support Group and subsidiary company risk registers ensure key operational risks are identified and managed by the relevant sub-organisation within the University. All major projects have risk registers and risk assessment is incorporated into planning and decision making processes: risk assessment training and awareness are promoted through the management structure. The University's major risks are regularly reviewed and there are year-end processes to obtain further assurances on the adequacy of the management of key risks and to document the sources of assurances for each major risk.

Internal Audit undertake an independent review of the operation of the overall risk management process, having regard to best practice as recommended by professional institutes and other relevant organisations. The Audit and Risk Committee considered the Internal Audit opinion on risk management at its meeting on 16 September 2014 and expressed itself satisfied with the outcome.

By its 8 December 2014 meeting, the Court had received the Audit and Risk Committee Report for the year ended 31 July 2014 and information from the Risk Management Committee; it also had taken account of relevant events since 31 July 2014. During 2013/14, the Audit Committee was responsible for advising the Court on the effectiveness of policies and procedures for risk assessment and risk management arrangements, going forward this will be the responsibility of the Audit and Risk Committee. The Court considers, on the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Committee (as successor to the Audit Committee) that a risk management process wholly compliant with the guidance provided by the UK Corporate Governance Code, in so far as its provisions apply to the higher education sector, has been in place throughout the year ended 31 July 2014.

In reaching this view, the Court's confirmation of the effectiveness of the system of internal control has also been informed by the following:

- a) the Internal Audit Service's annual report for 2013/14 presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on the adequacy and effectiveness of systems of internal control including governance and risk management, together with recommendations for improvement, along with the Principal's expression of satisfaction with the performance of the Internal Audit service in his capacity as Accountable Officer;
- b) the Risk Management Committee's Annual Report 2013/14 presented to the Audit and Risk Committee regarding its operation;
- c) comments made by the External Auditors in their Highlights Memorandum and other reports; and
- d) the work of managers within the institution, who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, and by any relevant comments made by other external agencies (e.g. the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, SFC).

Charitable Status

The University had charitable status (No. SC005336) under the legislative framework operative throughout the 2013/14 financial year. The University Court considers that the University meets the 'Charity Test' set out in Section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and it will take such actions as are necessary to ensure continued full compliance with the legislation and retention of charitable status.

The University's endowments are administered as the University of Edinburgh Endowment Fund, overseen by the Investment Committee. As at 31 July 2014 this included the Edinburgh College of Art Prize fund and other Edinburgh College of Art endowments other than the Andrew Grant Bequest which is held within a separate charitable trust. Professional fund managers are employed by that Committee on behalf of the University Court. Investment income is applied for the specific purposes of the relevant endowments, or in the case of other investment funds, for the University's general purposes. All of those purposes are charitable for the purposes of the legislation.

Income derived from philanthropic donations and benefactions arising from the University's Development activities are disbursed by a Trust with separate charitable status: The University of Edinburgh Development Trust. The Board of Trustees includes individuals external to the University. The President during most of 2013/14 was a former member of the Court: a new President was appointed with effect from 1 July 2014. The Trustees meet twice a year. All disbursements are applied for the specific purposes of the relevant donations and benefactions, or in the case of general donations and benefactions, for the University's general purposes. All of those purposes are charitable for the purposes of the legislation.

Going concern

The University's activities and the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Financial Review. Its cash flows and liquidity are set out in more detail in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

The University has adequate financial resources and its current forecasts and projections show it to be well placed to successfully manage its activities despite risks and uncertainties highlighted in the Annual Report and Accounts.

The Court considers that the University has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future and for this reason the going concern basis continues to be adopted in the preparation of the Accounts.

Responsibilities of the Court

On 21 June 2010 the Court adopted this Statement of Primary Responsibilities as set out below and which was in operation during 2013/14.

The Court's primary responsibilities are:

I. Strategic Direction

- 1. To determine the mission and vision of the University and its major priorities as expressed in strategic plans, long term academic and business plans.*
- 2. To ensure that the mission and strategic vision of the University takes proper account of the interests of stakeholders, including students, staff, alumni, the wider community and funding bodies.*
- 3. To approve financial, estates, and human resources strategies in support of Institutional objectives and priorities.*
- 4. To ensure strategies are in place to enhance the student experience.*
- 5. To ensure processes are in place to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the University against the plans and*

approved key performance indicators, which should where possible, be benchmarked against other comparable Universities.

6. *To promote and safeguard the reputation and values of the University.*

II. Governance: responsibilities in relation to Management and Senate

1. *To appoint the Principal as chief executive, including the terms and conditions of such an appointment, and to put in place suitable arrangements for monitoring his/her performance.*

2. *To delegate authority to the Principal {as chief executive} for the academic, corporate, financial, estate and HR Management of the University subject to reserving such matters to itself as the Court thinks appropriate.*

3. *To establish and keep under regular review the policies, procedures and limits within which such management functions shall be undertaken by and under the authority of the Principal.*

4. *To appoint a Secretary to the Court and to ensure that if the person appointed has managerial responsibilities in the University, there is an appropriate separation in the lines of accountability.*

5. *To review decisions made by the Senate as prescribed in statute.*

6. *To ensure that the Senate has processes in place for monitoring and reporting the quality of education provision and to monitor quality enhancement arrangements.*

II. Governance: Exercise of Controls

1. *To ensure the establishment and monitoring of systems of control and accountability, including financial and operational controls and risk assessment, arrangements for internal and external audit and regularly reviewed schedules of delegated authority.*

2. *To be the principal financial and business authority of the University, to ensure that proper books of account are kept, to approve the annual budget and financial statements and to have overall responsibility for the University's assets, property and estates.*

3. *To ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for the management of health, safety and security in respect of students, staff and other persons affected by the University's operations.*

4. *To ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place for promoting equality of opportunity in respect of students, staff and other persons making use of University services or facilities.*

IV. Governance: Corporate responsibilities

1. *To be the University's legal authority and as such, to ensure that systems are in place for meeting all the University's legal obligations, including those arising from contracts and other legal commitments made in the University's name.*
2. *To be the employing authority for all staff in the University and to ensure that obligations thereto are met including with regard to the welfare, development and reward of employees.*
3. *To put in place appropriate arrangements for determining and regular review of the performance, remuneration and conditions of service of senior staff.*
4. *To make provision for the general welfare of students, in consultation with the Senate and EUSA.*
5. *To act as trustee for, or make appropriate alternative arrangements for the trusteeship of, any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift in support of the work and welfare of the University.*
6. *To make appropriate arrangements compliant with relevant legislation for the trusteeship of any pensions scheme established by the Court for University employees and to employ the employer-nominated trustees.*
7. *To ensure that at all times it operates within the terms of the Universities (Scotland) Acts 1858-1966, Ordinances and Resolutions made under those Acts and any other relevant legislation; and that appropriate advice is available to enable this to happen.*
8. *To ensure that the University acts ethically, responsibly and with respect for society at large and the sustainability of the environment.*

V. Effectiveness and transparency

1. *To conduct its business in accordance with best practice in higher education corporate governance and with the principles of public life drawn up by the Committee on Standards in Public Life.*
2. *To ensure that procedures are in place in the University for handling internal grievances, conflicts of interest and public interest disclosure.*
3. *To put in place arrangements for the appointment of co-opted members of the Court so as to maintain a broad balance of expertise taking account of the principles of equal opportunity.*
4. *To establish processes to monitor and evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the Court itself and that of its committees.*

Statement of Responsibilities Relating to the Reports and Financial Statements

These primary responsibilities include those pertaining to financial matters are stated above. The detailed requirements relating to financial matters are governed by law, agreements and regulations as decreed by various bodies and are stated as follows:

The Court is responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the University at any time and enable it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Universities (Scotland) Acts 1858-1966, the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education and other relevant accounting standards. In addition, within the terms and conditions of a Financial Memorandum agreed between the Scottish Funding Council and the Court of the University of Edinburgh, the University Court, through its designated office holder, is required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the University and of the surplus or deficit and cash flows for that year.

In causing the financial statements to be prepared, the Court has to ensure that:

- suitable accounting policies are selected and applied consistently;
- judgements and estimates are made that are reasonable and prudent;
- applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis.

The Court has taken reasonable steps to:

- ensure that funds from the Scottish Funding Council are used only for the purposes for which they have been given and in accordance with the Financial Memorandum with the Funding Council and any other conditions which the Funding Council may from time to time prescribe;
- ensure that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard public funds and funds from other sources;
- safeguard the assets of the University and hence to take reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud;
- secure the economical, efficient and effective management of the University's resources and expenditure.

Members of Court

Mr P McColl Rector

Mr McColl, an alumnus of the University who is a writer, activist and charity worker from Edinburgh was named as Rector from 1 March 2012 following an uncontested election. He succeeds writer and broadcaster Iain Macwhirter as Rector.

Mr McColl came to Edinburgh in 1998 to read geography and holds both an undergraduate degree and Masters from the University. He was Vice President of the Students' Association from 2001-02 and had been President of the University's People and Planet society prior to that. After University Mr McColl worked as an

advisor to Mark Ballard MSP, who was Rector from 2006-2009, and was Mr Ballard's assessor while he was Rector.

Mr McColl was Chair of Transition Scotland Support from 2008-2011 and is an editor of the Bright Green blog.

In 2011 Mr McColl was voted one of the top 100 political bloggers, and was voted top Green blogger by Total Politics Magazine.

Memberships:

2013/14

Court

2014/15

Court until 28 February 2015

Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea Principal and Vice-Chancellor

Timothy O'Shea worked as a researcher in the Computer Science Department of the University of Texas at Austin, the Bionics Research Lab at the University of Edinburgh and the Systems Concepts Lab, Xerox PARC, California.

In 1978 he founded the Computers and Learning Research Group at the Open University and was promoted to a personal chair in Information Technology and Education in 1986. He was appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Open University in 1993. In 1997 he was elected Master of Birkbeck and subsequently appointed Provost of Gresham College and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of London. He held all three posts concurrently until he returned to Edinburgh as Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University in October 2002.

His academic output, produced mainly in collaboration with others and on topics relating to computer based learning, artificial intelligence, and mathematics education, includes 10 books, 22 BBC television programmes and over 100 journal articles. He is currently researching Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and during study leave at Stanford University in early 2012 initiated a partnership with Coursera, a social entrepreneurship company that operates a MOOC platform.

In 2014 Debrett's, in association with the Sunday Times, named the top 500 most influential people in the UK and listed Tim in the top 30 in Technology.

Memberships

2013/14

Court

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Nominations Committee

Remuneration Committee

2014/15
Court
Nominations Committee
Policy and Resources Committee

**Sheriff Principal Edward F Bowen
Chancellor's Assessor**

Sheriff Principal Bowen CBE TD QC was educated at Melville College and the University of Edinburgh. He was called to the Scottish Bar in 1970 and practiced mainly in civil work. In December 1979 he was appointed an Advocate Depute and prosecuted in the High Court for four years before being appointed Sheriff of Tayside Central and Fife at Dundee in 1983. While serving as Sheriff in Dundee, he was a Governor of the Dundee Institute of Technology (now the University of Abertay). In 1990 he resigned from the shrieval bench and resumed practice. In 1992 he was appointed Queen's Counsel. In October 1997 he was appointed Sheriff Principal of Glasgow and Strathkelvin before transferring to the Sheriffdom of Lothian and Borders in 2005 retiring from that office in May 2011.

He has served in various other capacities: as a Chairman of Employment Tribunals; a member of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB); chaired the groups which established Scotland's first Drugs Court and Domestic Abuse Court; and chaired the Review of Sheriff and Jury Procedure which reported in June 2010. He has served as a Temporary Judge in Court of Session and High Court of Justiciary since 2000. He was a Commissioner of Northern Lighthouses from 1997 to 2011, and chairman of the Board from 2003 to 2005.

Sheriff Principal Bowen was appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2010 New Year's Honours List. He resides in Lundie, Angus, and is a past-captain of Panmure Golf Club, Barry.

Memberships

2013/14
Court

2014/15
Court

**Mr Alan Johnston
General Council Assessor**

Alan Johnston qualified in Biochemistry and postgraduate Business Administration, & holds Fellowships and Chartered status of both the UK Society of Biology and Royal Society of Chemistry. He spent some 30 years with Inveresk Research (subsequently Charles River Laboratories) in Edinburgh, initially in practical Safety of Medicines research, then Operations Management, and occupied the position of Commercial Director for the latter 10 years, through the periods of Management Buyout, USA NASDAQ IPO (at multi-million dollar level) and subsequent mergers. At that point, the Company employed some 1,000 staff locally and was attracting

International Research business largely from Northern Continental Europe, USA & Japan. Alan travelled extensively in these territories, where he had responsibility for Commercial staff. He retired early from this, and from Convenership of the Statutory General Council at Edinburgh University, at the age of 55 in 2008.

He is now Trustee of Educational Charities and two significant Pension Funds; is President of the Edinburgh Angus Association & Chairs Edinburgh University SBS Trustees. He was until 2009 Treasurer of the UK Institute of Biology, & Immediate-Past-President of Edinburgh University Graduates' Association. He was Chair of the Board of Marketing Edinburgh Ltd until retirement in 2014, and holds other non-executive and advisory positions with Biosciences Organisations, including the Advisory Board of the Scottish Life Sciences Association and CXR Biosciences Ltd. He is a member of the Board of Edinburgh College, is actively involved with "Business Angel" investments in early-stage Life Sciences companies, and has acted as a Young Enterprise Business Adviser. Locally, Alan has lived in Edinburgh since studying at Edinburgh University in the 1970s, and currently lives in the New Town where he is an active member of the Residents' Association, and other Groups and Clubs, including The New Club.

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Audit Committee
Remuneration Committee
Nominations Committee

2014/15

Court
Audit and Risk Committee (Convener)
Exception Committee
Nominations Committee
Remuneration Committee

Professor A Smyth General Council Assessor

Ann Smyth was educated at the University of Edinburgh, graduating with a BSc in Psychology in 1970 and a PhD in 1974.

Following professional training as a clinical psychologist she was awarded an MPhil (Clin Psych) in 1975.

Through a decade of clinical practice in medical settings she developed research interests in the detection and remediation of psychological distress in people with physical illness.

From 1988 to 2001 she led a research group funded by the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, during which time she played a leading role nationally and internationally in the development of the speciality of psychosocial oncology.

She served on the Board of the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (1997-2000) and chaired its Quality of Life Group (1996-2000). From 2001-2008 she was Director of Training for Psychology Services for NHS Education for Scotland. She was awarded an honorary professorship by the University of Glasgow in 2006 and became a Fellow of the RSA in 2010. She was elected as a General Council Assessor in 2007 and re-elected to serve a second term from 2011.

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Audit Committee
Finance and General Purposes Committee
Knowledge Strategy Committee

2014/15

Court
Exception Committee
Knowledge Strategy Committee (Convener)
Policy and Resources Committee

Ms Doreen Davidson General Council Assessor

Doreen Davidson graduated as a Bachelor of Arts from Edinburgh University. She went on to do a post-graduate course in Human Resource management and is a member of the Institute of Personnel & Development (CIPD).

She has had a long career in human resource management, initially in the publishing sector (with Holmes McDougall), as well as a short spell with a large organisation in Johannesburg, South Africa (Brown Boveri). For more than 30 years she has worked with a large contract research organisation. The company was originally known as Inveresk Research but became part of a global organisation of more than 7,000 staff called Charles River Laboratories, headquartered in Massachusetts, in October 2004. Her current role is Senior Director of Human Resources for their UK and Ireland operations (ca 1,100 staff). As well as having overall responsibility for all human resources and training strategies in these territories, she is also a member of the Executive management team which oversees the preclinical operations in the UK and Ireland. During the period when the company was part of the Inveresk group, she played an active role in mergers and acquisitions including a management buy-out, a number of European acquisitions, a US NASDAQ listing and the sale of the Inveresk group to Charles River in 2004.

In addition to the above, she is currently a member of the General Council Business Committee and previously was Convener of the Finance & Services Standing Committee for 3 years. She is currently a member of the Advisory Board for the Scottish Life Sciences Association and is chair of their Human Resources Special Interest Group.

She was elected to join the Court of Edinburgh University from August 2013.

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Staff Committee from 4 November 2013

2014/15

Court
Investment Committee
Knowledge Strategy Committee
People Committee

Dr Marialuisa Aliotta Senatus Academicus Assessor

Marialuisa Aliotta received a PhD in Physics from the University of Catania (Italy) in 1999. After spending two years in Germany as an Alexander von Humboldt post-doctoral Fellow (1999-2001), she moved to Edinburgh in 2001 when she was appointed Lecturer in the School of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Edinburgh. She was promoted to Senior Lecturer in August 2008 and to Reader in 2013.

Dr Aliotta's research focuses on Experimental Nuclear Astrophysics and she carries out work at various international nuclear physics laboratories worldwide. She serves on the Nuclear Physics Advisory Panel for the Science & Technology Facilities Council and on the selection panel for the Ernst Rutherford Fellowships (STFC).

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Finance and General Purposes Committee

2014/15

Court
Policy and Resources Committee

Professor Jake Ansell Senatus Academicus Assessor

Jake Ansell gained a BSc in Mathematics from University of Leicester in 1975, MSc in Statistics from University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne in 1977 and PhD from University of Keele in 1986.

He became a Chartered Statistician in 1993. He has taught at a numbers of universities before arriving in University of Edinburgh in 1990 as lecturer in Operational Research and Statistics.

He was Associate Dean for admissions for Faculty of Social Science 1996-9 and 2000-2001, Associate Dean for Quality Assurance and Enhancement 2003-5 College of Humanities and Social Science and Dean of Undergraduate Studies College of Humanities and Social Science 2005-9.

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Nominations Committee

2014/15

Court
Exceptions Committee
Nominations Committee

Professor David J Finnegan Senatus Academicus Assessor

David Finnegan obtained a BSc in Genetics from the University of Adelaide in 1968 and a PhD in Molecular Biology from the University of Edinburgh in 1972.

He carried out postdoctoral work in the University of Oxford and in Stanford University before taking up a Lectureship in the Department of Molecular Biology, University of Edinburgh in 1977.

He was Head of the Institute of Cell and Molecular Biology from 1993-1998 and of the Division/School of Biological Sciences from 1998-2003 and is currently Head of the Institute of Cell Biology.

His research is in the area of molecular genetics and he was elected a member of the European Molecular Biology Organisation in 1987 and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1998. He has been a member of several Research Council grant committees and has advised NFR (Sweden) and CNRS (France), and was Chair of the Biological Sciences sub-panel for RAE 2008. And will be chair of the Biology panel for RAE2014 in Hong Kong. He is a Trustee of the Darwin Trust of Edinburgh.

Memberships

2013/14

Court

Professor Anthony Harmar Senatus Academicus Assessor

Tony Harmar obtained a BA in Biochemistry and a PhD in Pharmacology at the University of Cambridge. He held postdoctoral fellowships at the Friedrich Miescher-Institut (Basel, Switzerland) and at the University of Bristol before joining the staff of the MRC Brain Metabolism Unit, Edinburgh, in 1981.

He joined the University of Edinburgh in 2001 and now holds the Chair of Pharmacology. He was Head of the Division of Neuroscience from 2002 – 2005 and Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences from 2005 – 2008.

He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1996. His research focuses on the influence of circadian rhythms on physiology, metabolism and behaviour. He is a Vice Chair of the International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology Committee on Receptor Nomenclature and Drug Classification (NC-IUPHAR) and his team manage the IUPHAR Database, an online resource of information on medicinal and experimental drugs and their target

Memberships

2013/14

Court until 16 September 2013

Staff Committee until 16 September 2013

Professor Julie Taylor Senatus Academicus Assessor

Julie Taylor is the inaugural chair of the Child Protection Research Centre, an innovative partnership between the University of Edinburgh and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC). Before taking up post in early 2013, she was Head of Strategy and Development (Abuse in High Risk Families) with the NSPCC whilst on a three year secondment from her post as Professor of Family Health in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Dundee.

A nurse by profession, funded research has been focused around optimal service delivery conditions for child care and protection practice, including 'good enough' parenting debates. She is the author of five books and over 100 academic papers in child care and protection, most recently focused on children living with domestic abuse experience and child neglect.

Memberships

2013/14

Court from 15 November 2013

Professor S Cooper Senatus Academicus Assessor

Sarah holds a BA (Hons) in Geography from the University of Nottingham and a PhD from Heriot-Watt University, awarded in 1997 for her work on the location and growth of high technology small firms.

She joined the University of Edinburgh Business School as a Senior Lecturer in Entrepreneurship in September 2008 and was promoted to her Chair of Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in 2013. Prior to joining the University of Edinburgh she held positions as Senior Lecturer in Entrepreneurship at the University of Strathclyde (2002-2008), Lecturer in Strategy at Heriot-Watt

University (1992-2001), and Research Associate in Business Organisation at Heriot-Watt University (1986-1992).

Sarah's main research interests lie in entrepreneurship education and factors influencing new venture creation and growth, while her teaching experience spans undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional development communities, primarily in the UK and United Arab Emirates.

She was the Director of Undergraduate Programmes for the Business School from 2011 to 2014.

Memberships

2014/15

Court

Dr C Phillips

Senatus Academicus Assessor

Claire Phillips qualified as a veterinary surgeon with a BVM&S degree from the University of Edinburgh and became a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 1984. She spent 7 years in mixed and small animal general veterinary practice in Hertfordshire, Yorkshire and the West of Scotland before returning to Edinburgh where she gained her PhD in 1995. She lectured in Veterinary Nursing in Dumfries and Galloway before being appointed Lecturer in Veterinary Microbiology at Edinburgh in 1999. In 2006 she was appointed Veterinary Clinical Lecturer in Small Animal Practice and promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2009. She is a member of the Veterinary Medical Education Division at the Vet School and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

She has been Director of Veterinary Admissions and Deputy Director of Veterinary Teaching since 2010 and Director of Quality at the Vet School since January 2014.

Her interests are in the areas of anatomy, clinical skills, communication skills and curriculum development. Her research interests are in admissions and assessment.

Memberships

2014/15

Court

The Rt Hon Donald Wilson

City of Edinburgh Council Assessor

Born in 1959 in Selkirk, Donald Wilson attended Galashiels Academy. Further academic achievements include a BA (Hons) from Stirling University, an MSc in Information Science from London's City University, and a teaching qualification from Moray House in Edinburgh.

A former teacher of Computing at Newbattle Community High School, he has also served as an ICT Curriculum Development Officer and an Adult Education Tutor.

In 1999, he was elected as a City of Edinburgh Councillor, representing the Shandon ward. Donald has served on a range of Committees, and was Executive Member for Communications & Business Management (2001 to 2002), Modernising Government (2003 to 2005) and for Smart City (2000 to 2007), Chair of Edinburgh & Lothians Tourist Board and Edinburgh Convention Bureau (2003 to 2005), Chair of the Edinburgh International Science Festival (1999 to 2007) and Chair of the Edinburgh South West Neighbourhood Partnership (2007 to 2012).

Other active interests include the Edinburgh Institute for Mathematical Sciences. In his free time, Donald enjoys reading, science fiction, opera, antiques and history, and spending time with his partner Elaine and two grown up children.

Memberships

2013/14
Court

2014/15
Court

Professor Stuart Monro Co-Opted Member of Court

Stuart Monro graduated in Geology from Aberdeen University in 1970 and received his PhD from the University of Edinburgh. He had a lengthy career with the British Geological Survey, making a number of distinguished contributions to the understanding of the geology of central Scotland and the application of geology to environmental issues. As Scientific Director, he was instrumental in establishing Our Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh, which facilitates a better public understanding of the processes that have shaped the Earth. He also holds the part-time position of Scientific Director of the Scottish Consortium for Rural Research.

He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts in 1998, and served as President from 2002 until 2005. He has also served as President of the Westmorland and of the Edinburgh Geological Societies. In 2003 he was appointed to the Scottish Science Advisory Council (SSAC), which provides strategic advice to the Scottish Government on scientific issues and served as its first independent co-chair with the Chief Scientific Advisor for Scotland till October 2009. Stuart served as a Trustee of the National Museums of Scotland from 2005 to 2013 and a part-time tutor in Earth Sciences at the Open University from 1982 till 2009 and has served on the OU's Senate and Council. He is an Honorary Professor in the University of Edinburgh (School of Geosciences) and a non-executive Director of the Edinburgh International Science Festival.

He was awarded an OBE for services to science in the New Year's Honours list 2007, and the Geological Society of London's Distinguished Service Award in 2009.

He received the honorary degree of Doctor of the University from the Open University in 2011.

Memberships

2013/14

Court (Vice-Convener)

Finance and General Purposes Committee (Convener)

Investment Committee

Knowledge Strategy Committee

Nominations Committee (Convener)

Remuneration Committee (Convener)

Mr David Bentley

Co-Opted Member of Court

David Bentley is Chairman of the TPE Examinations Board of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland and a member of the Audit Committee of the Law Society of Scotland. He was Group Chief Accountant of Standard Life from 1996 until his retirement in 2011 and this included a period of 4 years when he was Deputy Group Finance Director.

David was educated at the University of Glasgow where he graduated with a BAcc honours degree. He qualified as a chartered accountant with Price Waterhouse and worked in the whisky industry before joining Standard Life. David served as a member of Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland from 2003 until 2010. He is a past Chairman of the ICAS Audit Committee, Chairman of the ICAS Technical Policy Board and Convener of the ICAS Accounting Standards Committee.

David is a past member of the ABI Financial Regulation and Taxation Committee, the European Insurers CFO Forum and the CBI Financial Reporting Panel. He has also served as an external member of the Audit Committee of the University of Edinburgh and as a trustee of the Scottish Accountancy Trust for Education and Research.

Memberships

2013/14

Court

Estates Committee

Finance and General Purposes Committee

2014/15

Court

Estates Committee

Policy and Resources Committee

Dr Robert Black
Co-Opted Member of Court

Robert Black CBE was appointed by the Queen as Scotland's first Auditor General, a post which he held between 2000 and 2012. He arranged for the financial audits and performance reviews of over 200 public bodies in Scotland, including the Scottish Government and the Scottish Parliament. He was Controller of Audit and Chief Executive of the Accounts Commission between 1995 and 2000. His earlier career was in local government, serving as chief executive of Tayside Regional Council between 1990 and 1995 and Stirling Council from 1985 and 1990. Before then he worked in policy planning and research in Strathclyde Regional Council, Glasgow City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. Dr Black is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. He holds an Honours MA degree in economic science from the University of Aberdeen, an MSc degree in town planning from Heriot Watt University and an MSc degree in public policy from the University of Strathclyde. He has an Honorary Doctor of Law degree from the University of Aberdeen and an Honorary Doctorate of Business Administration from Queen Margaret University. He is an Honorary Member of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Nominations Committee
Risk Management Committee

2014/15

Court
Audit and Risk Committee
Nominations Committee
Risk Management Committee

Mr Peter Budd
Co-Opted Member of Court

Peter Budd is a professional civil/structural engineer, a Director of Ove Arup & Partners International Limited, Chairman of Arup Scotland and leads Arup's global aviation business.

He has worked in Africa, the Middle East, East Asia and the USA, and has recently been involved in the planning and design of airports globally. He Chairs the Airports Advisory Council which advises the British Government on matters relating to export policy in the sector. With strong links to China, Peter is heavily involved with China-Britain Business Council (CBBC) which supports the development of Sino-British trade. Peter is a Fellow of the 48 Group Club, an independent business network committed to promoting positive relations with China.

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Audit Committee
Estates Committee

2014/15

Court
Audit and Risk Committee
Estates Committee

Dr Chris Masters Co-Opted Member of Court

Chris Masters CBE, FRSE is currently Chairman of Energy Assets Group plc, the Senior Independent Director of the Crown Agents and a Non-Executive Director of Speedy Hire PLC. He was previously Chief Executive of Christian Salvesen PLC, Executive Chairman of Aggreko plc and Chair of the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council, Babbie Group Ltd and the Scottish Media Group PLC. An industrial chemist by training, he has extensive experience of international business, is a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the independent Co-Chair of the Scottish Science Advisory Council.

Dr Masters is also the designated lay member of Court in terms of section 3.8 of the Code of Practice on Reporting Malpractice ('Whistleblowing') and he can be contacted at: chris.masters@ed.ac.uk

Memberships

2013/14

Court
Finance and General Purposes Committee
Investment Committee
Remuneration Committee

2014/15

Court
Investment Committee
Policy and Resources Committee
Remuneration Committee

Mr Les Matheson Co-Opted Member of Court

Les was educated at Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen and graduated from Edinburgh University with a BCom (Hons). Whilst at Edinburgh he was Chairman of the Industrial Society and President of the Karate Club. He was awarded a half blue in karate.

Les joined Procter & Gamble on their brand management graduate program followed by Jacobs Suchard which became part of Kraft. His assignments took him from the UK to Belgium then Switzerland, where he became European Marketing Director, and then Argentina where he was Managing Director of the business.

In 1997 Les joined Citibank in Asia Pacific, working across the region in marketing and then general management roles. He became CEO of Citibank Australia in 2002 and then Group CEO in 2004 where he added Hong Kong the Philippines and the Pacific Islands to his portfolio. Les joined RBS UK Retail in 2010 where he is now CEO for Personal & Business Banking, based in Edinburgh.

Les has held a number of directorships including Chairman of Diners Club Australia, Deputy Chairman of the Australian Bankers Association (2003-2005) and a director of Citicorp Life Insurance Australia.

He is currently a Director of Visa Europe Ltd.

Memberships

2013/14

Court

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Investment Committee

2014/15

Court

Policy and Resources Committee until 15 August 2014

Mrs Elaine Noad

Co-Opted Member of Court

Elaine Noad was appointed to the Court in 2011 following experience in local government and the voluntary sector. Her local government career culminated in her appointment in 1995 as Director of Social Work and Housing with South Ayrshire Council.

Since 2006 Mrs Noad has held several public appointments and roles with voluntary organisations.

Mrs Noad is currently a lay Member of the Scottish Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal, a lay Member for the General Teaching Council (Scotland) Panel, a Board Member with the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland, a Member of the Scotland Committee for the Commission for Equalities and Human Rights.

Her academic qualifications include: BA Law; Certificate of Qualification in Social Work (CQSW) /Diploma in Applied Social Studies (DASS), MSc Criminology; Diploma in Public Administration (DPA); MSc Local Government Management.

She was awarded an OBE in 2009 for services to disability in Scotland.

Memberships

2013/2014

Court

Audit Committee

Nominations Committee

Dr Anne Richards

Co-Opted Member of Court

Anne graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Electronics and Electrical Engineering from the University of Edinburgh. After completing a research fellowship at CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research in Geneva, she spent two years with Cambridge Consultants before taking a year out to study for an MBA at Insead in Fontainebleau, France. She began her City career as an analyst with Alliance Capital in 1992, subsequently moving onto portfolio management, firstly with JP Morgan Investment Management, and then with Mercury Asset Management, later MLIM. In 2002 she joined the main board of Edinburgh Fund Managers plc as Chief Investment Officer and Joint Managing Director. She continued in her role as global Chief Investment Officer for the combined entity when EFM was taken over by Aberdeen Asset Management in 2003, joining the main board of Aberdeen, a FTSE100 company, in 2011.

In addition to her work at Aberdeen, Anne holds a number of non-executive positions. She is a director of esure Group plc. She is also a member of Council of the Duchy of Lancaster and a member of the FCA Practitioner Panel.

Anne is a Chartered Engineer and holds a Certified Diploma in Accounting and Finance. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute for Securities and Investment, an honorary Fellow of the CFA Institute (UK) and holds an honorary Doctorate of Letters from Heriot-Watt University. Anne is a member of the Board of Leaders of 2020 Women on Boards and is the recipient of the 100 Women in Hedge Funds 2014 European Industry Leadership Award. In June 2014 Anne has been appointed a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) for services as a Member of Council of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Memberships

2013/14

Court

Audit Committee (Convener)

Remunerations Committee

2014/15

Court (Vice –Convener)

Exception Committee (Convener)

Nominations Committee (Convener)

Policy and Resources Committee (Convener)

Remuneration Committee

Ms M Exley

Mandy Exley was appointed Principal at Edinburgh College just ahead of its Vesting Day on 1 October 2012. Previously she was Principal and Chief Executive at Jewel & Esk College for two and a half years and Principal at UHI Perth College for five years.

Mandy has worked in education for over 25 years and her career has been both in England and Scotland, working in large inner city colleges in Birmingham, Manchester and Stoke and rural colleges in Gloucestershire, Perth and the Highlands and Islands. Her career culminated in England as Vice Principal at The Gloucestershire College, having been Assistant Principal in two previous posts.

Mandy moved to Scotland in 2000 and bought and ran a small Hotel and Restaurant in Perthshire whilst continuing to work in the College sector as a consultant until November 2003 when she joined Perth College to work on developing business with SMEs and improving the Colleges external relations. She was appointed to Principal in July 2005 and the College won a number of international and business awards with particular focus on the Tourism industry.

Mandy is a Board Director of the Scottish Institute for Enterprise and has served on a number of other private and public sector Boards and Government and College's Scotland Task Groups, including the recent Government Change Team for College Regionalisation. She has a particular interest in Public Value and an engaged Student Voice within college education.

Mandy has considerable experience of working on international projects in India, Jordan, South Africa, Kenya, USA and a number of European countries.

Memberships

2014/15

Court

Knowledge Strategy Committee

Policy and Resources Committee

Lady Susan Rice

Susan Rice, a Chartered Banker, is Managing Director, Lloyds Banking Group Scotland. She was previously Chairman and Chief Executive of Lloyds TSB Scotland, the first woman to head a UK clearing bank.

Susan is a non-executive director of J Sainsbury plc, Big Society Capital and recently stepped down as NED at SSE plc and Bank of England. She sits on Scotland's First Minister's Council of Economic Advisors, the NCUB, and chairs the Edinburgh International Book Festival, Edinburgh's Festivals Forum and the Patrons of the National Galleries of Scotland. She also chairs Scotland's first Fiscal Commission.

A frequent speaker on the future of financial services, leadership and sustainability,

Susan is Vice-Chair of Scotland's 2020 Climate Change Group and has spoken about renewables internationally. She also plays a major role in matters of financial exclusion and economic development, having helped create CDFIs, advised governments and lent her voice to the subject.

She chairs a new UK-wide initiative to create professional standards for bankers, for the first time – the Chartered Banker: Professional Standards Board. She has received honorary degrees from a number of Scottish universities, including Edinburgh. And she is President of Scotland's premier economic and research body, the Scottish Council of Development and Industry, the first woman to be elected.

Memberships

2014/15

Court

Audit and Risk Committee

Exception Committee

Nominations Committee

Remuneration Committee (Convener)

Ms Angi Lamb

Non-Teaching Staff Assesor

Angi Lamb was educated at Lenzie Academy and Madras College, and has an MSc in Industrial Programming Technology from the University of Sheffield (1988).

She has worked in three other universities (St. Andrews, York and UCL) in a variety of roles from computer technician to research associate before joining the University in 1990. Her current role is as a Senior Computing Officer in IT Consultancy Services within Information Services with a particular interest in evidence-based service improvement.

Active within the University and College Union (UCU) since 2000, she was elected in 2013 as UCU Scotland Honorary Secretary and has a personal commitment to progressive industrial relations policies such as the TUC partnership principles.

Memberships

2013/14

Court

2014/15

Court

Knowledge Strategy Committee

Mr Hugh Murdoch
Student Member of Court

Hugh is President of EUSA from 2013-14. Prior to this he studied Politics, graduating in 2013. In addition to his responsibilities on Court, he represents students at the University and Chairs EUSA's Trustees' Board. His priorities for this year are to ensure EUSA works more closely with students, and develops a strategic plan for the coming years on a sound financial footing.

Memberships

2013/14

Court until 8 June 2014

Finance and General Purposes Committee until 8 June 2014

Nominations Committee from 16 September until 8 June 2014

Ms Kirsty Haigh
Student Member of Court

Kirsty Haigh was educated at George Heriots School in Edinburgh and is currently halfway through her degree in International Relations at Edinburgh. Having been involved in Student Representation since school Kirsty is now the Vice President, Services of the Edinburgh University Students' Association. This role involves looking after the commercial and financial side of the organisation and working on Estates & Buildings and Ethical & Environmental issues. A member of Abortion Rights and a National Committee member of the National Campaign Against Fees and Cuts Kirsty is keen on the rights of people and fighting for social justice.

Memberships

2013/14

Court until 8 June 2014

Ms Briana Pegado,
Student Member of Court

Ms Briana Pegado is EUSA President and is an alumna of the University, who gained a MA Sustainable Development in 2014 and was part of the first cohort of MA Sustainable Development students to graduate from the University of Edinburgh. She was elected President of Edinburgh University Students' Association in March 2014.

Ms Pegado is a recipient of the Edinburgh Award for her work as a student ambassador. She is former President of Edinburgh University North American Society (EUNAS), one of EUSA's largest student societies, which won EUSA Best New Society in its first year in 2013.

She also received the first ever EUSA Global Student Star Award in her second year for her work launching the University of Edinburgh's first Black History Month, improving student engagement on BME and international student issues, and

building a stronger network within BME and international groups in the local community.

Ms Pegado was a student member of the University's Chaplaincy Committee for two years and has worked on bringing students together around interfaith understanding and acceptance.

She also has experience working for various organizations in the third sector including the National Education Association Foundation (NEAF) where she helped launch online, distance curricula for teachers' union members and supported an NEAF grant project on an urban farm called Growing Power in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The urban farm specialized in providing healthy food alternatives and education to local public schools as well as combating diabetes and obesity in the local, predominantly African American population. She has also written various pieces on urban farming, the economics of prosperity, Obama's green energy agenda, and the polarization of American politics.

Memberships

2013/14

Court from 9 June 2014

Finance and General Purposes Committee from 9 June 2014

Nominations Committee from 9 June 2014

2014/15

Court

Exceptions Committee

Knowledge Strategy Committee

Nominations Committee

Policy and Resources Committee

Ms Tasha Boardman Student Member of Court

Tasha Boardman is the Vice President Services at Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA). She is currently halfway through her degree at the University of Edinburgh, studying combined honours in French, Spanish and European Union Studies. Tasha's role involves looking after the commercial and financial side of the organisation and working on Estates & Buildings and on Ethical & Environmental issues. Prior to winning her sabbatical election, Tasha has been actively involved in Student Representation, working in voluntary positions such as LGBT+ Convenor for EUSA and is now a committee member for NUS Scotland LGBT. Tasha is keen on the rights of people and fighting for social justice.

Memberships

2013/14

Court from 9 June 2014

2014/15

Court

University Court

		Meetings attended
Rector Presides at meetings of Court	Mr Peter McColl	6/6
Principal and Vice-Chancellor	Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea	5/6
Chancellor's Assessor Nominated by Chancellor	Sheriff Principal Edward F Bowen	3/6
General Council Assessors Three Assessors elected by General Council for terms of office of four years	Mr Alan Johnston	4/6
	Professor Ann M Smyth	5/6
	Ms Doreen Davidson	6/6
Senatus Academicus Assessors Four Assessors elected by the Senate for terms of office of four years	Dr Marialuisa Aliotta	4/6
	Professor Jake Ansell	6/6
	Professor David J Finnegan	6/6
	Professor Anthony Harmar	1/1
	Professor Julie Taylor	2/4
City of Edinburgh Council Assessor One Assessor nominated by City Council	The Rt Hon Donald Wilson	0/6
Co-Opted Members Eight appointed by Court for a term of office of three years including the Vice-Convener (equivalent to Chair of institution)	Professor Stuart Monro (Vice-Convener of Court)	6/6
	Mr David Bentley	6/6
	Dr Robert Black	4/6
	Mr Peter Budd	3/6
	Dr Chris Masters	4/6
	Mr Les Matheson	3/6
	Mrs Elaine Noad	3/6
	Ms Anne Richards	4/6
Non-Teaching Staff Assessor Elected by non-teaching staff for a period of four years	Ms Angi Lamb	6/6
Student members Annually nominated by the Students' Representative Council (now known as EUSA) from among sabbatical officers	Mr Hugh Murdoch	3/5
	Ms Kirsty Haigh	4/5
	Ms Briana Pegado	1/1
	Ms Tasha Boardman	1/1

Audit Committee

		Meetings attended
Lay members of Court	Ms Anne Richards (Convener)	4/4
	Mr Peter Budd	3/4
	Mrs Elaine Noad	3/4
	Mr Alan Johnston	2/4
External Members Appointed through an open advertisement and interview process	Mr Martin Sinclair	4/4
	Mr Alan Trotter	3/4

Estates Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-officio Members:		
Vice-Principal Planning, Resources & Policy Research	Professor Jonathan Seckl (Convener)	4/4
University Secretary	Ms Sarah Smith	3/4
Director of Corporate Services	Vice-Principal Mr Nigel Paul	4/4
Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning	Mrs Tracey Slaven	4/4
Director of Estates and Buildings	Mr Angus Currie	3/3
	Mr Gary Jebb	1/1
Director of Finance	Mr Phil McNaull	2/4
Director of Development and Alumni	Ms Kirsty McDonald	4/4
Vice-Principal of Knowledge Management	Professor Jeff Haywood	3/4
Director of Accommodation Services	Mr Richard Kington	4/4
Heads of Colleges (or his/her Nominee)	Mr Hugh Edmiston (MVM)	4/4
	Vice-Principal Professor Dorothy Meill (HSS)	3/4
EUSA Representative	Mr Hugh Murdoch	4/4
Lay Members of Court	Mr David Bentley	4/4
	Mr Peter Budd	2/4

Finance and General Purposes Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-officio Members:		
The Principal (Vice-Convener of Court)	Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea	5/6
	Professor Stuart Monro (Convener)	6/6
University Secretary	Ms Sarah Smith	6/6
Director of Finance	Mr Phil McNaull	6/6
Student Member of Court	Mr Hugh Murdoch	4/5
	Ms Briana Pegado	1/1
Vice-Principal nominated by Central Management Group	Professor Jonathan Seckl	6/6
Senate Assessor	Dr Marialuisa Aliotta	4/6
Lay Members of Court	Mr David Bentley	4/6
	Mr Les Matheson	0/6
	Dr Chris Masters	6/6
	Professor Ann Smyth	5/6

Health and Safety Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-Officio Members:		
Director of Corporate Services	Vice-Principal Mr Nigel Paul (Convener)	2/2
Director of Health and Safety	Mr Alastair Reid	2/2
Deputy Director of Health and Safety	Mrs Karen Darling	2/2
Occupational Health Manager	Mrs Janet Craig	1/2
Physician in Charge of the University Health Service	Dr Tim Brown	0/1
Physician in Charge of the University Health Service	Dr Bill Donovan	0/1

Subject Area Representatives:	Mrs Ann Diment	1/2
	Mr Tim King	1/2
	Mr Duncan Herd	2/2
	Ms Lesley Pert	2/2
	Mr Gregor Cunningham	1/2
	Mr Derek Burnett	2/2
Trade Union Representatives	Mr Gordon Reid	2/2
	Mr Peter McDonald	1/2
	Mr Neil Kempself	1/2
Management Reps	Mr Joe Brannigan	2/2
	Ms Maureen Munro	1/2
	Mr Ronnie Millar	1/2
EUSA Representative	Mr Hugh Murdoch	0/2

Investment Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-Officio Members		
Director of Corporate Services	Vice-Principal Mr Nigel Paul	4/4
Convener of Finance and General Purposes Committee	Professor Stuart Monro	4/4
Five additional members of whom at least 3 External members appointed through an open advertisement and interview process	Les Matheson	1/4
	Dr Chris Masters	2/3
	Mr Alan McFarlane (Convener) Until end Aug 13	1/1
	Ms Maxine Cuffe	4/4
	Mr Richard Davidson (Convener) From 1 Sep 2013	4/4
	Mr Bill Hughes	4/4

Knowledge Strategy Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-Officio Members		
Vice-Principal Knowledge Management	Vice-Principal Professor Jeff Haywood (Convener)	2/3
Vice-Principal and Director of Corporate Services	Vice-Principal Mr Nigel Paul	1/3
Head of Knowledge Management and IS Planning	Ms Jo Craiglee	3/3
EUSA Representative	Mr Alex Munyard	0/2
	Mr Dash Sekhar	1/1
Lay Members of Court	Professor Ann Smyth	2/3
	Professor Stuart Monro	1/3
College of Humanities and Social Science	Ms Janet Rennie	3/3
College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine	Professor David Dewhurst	1/1
	Mr Hugh Edmiston	2/3
College of Science and Engineering	Professor Arthur Trew	3/3
Deputy Secretary – Strategic Planning	Mrs Tracey Slaven	1/3

Nominations Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-officio Members		
The Principal	Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea	4/4
Vice-Convener of Court	Professor Stuart Monro (Convener)	4/4
University Secretary	Ms Sarah Smith	4/4
Senate Assessor	Professor Jake Ansell	3/4
Lay Members of Court	Dr Robert Black	3/4
	Mrs Elaine Noad	4/4
	Mr Alan Johnston	2/4
Student Member of Court	Mr Hugh Murdoch	3/3
	Ms Briana Pegado	0/0

Remuneration Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-officio Members		
The Principal	Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea	3/3
Vice-Convener of Court	Professor Stuart Monro (Convener)	2/3
Lay Members of Court	Ms Anne Richards	2/3
	Dr Chris Masters	3/3
	Mr Alan Johnston	1/3

Risk Management Committee

		Meetings attended
Ex-officio		
Vice-Principal and Director of Corporate Services	Vice-Principal Mr Nigel Paul (Convener)	4/4
University Secretary / Deputy Secretary, Student Experience	Ms Sarah Smith	1/1
	Mr Gavin Douglas	3/3
Director of Finance	Mr P McNaull	2/4
Director of Quality Assurance	Assistant Principal Dr Tina Harrison	4/4
Non-ex-officio		
Senior officer nominated from each of the three Colleges	Mr Frank Gribben, College Registrar HSS	2/4
	Mr Hugh Edmiston, College Registrar MVM	4/4
	Dr Bruce Nelson, College Registrar CSE	4/4
Senior officer nominated by Information Services Group	Mr Brian Gilmore, Director of EUCS	3/4
Academic Representative	Professor Jake Ansell	4/4
Lay Member of Court	Dr Robert Black	3/4

Staff Committee

		Meetings attended
Court Member	Ms Elaine Noad	2/3
	Professor Antony Harmor	1/1
	Ms Doreen Davidson	2/2
Heads of Colleges and Support Groups or representative		
Head of College of Science & Engineering	Vice-Principal Professor Lesley Yellowlees	2/3
Head of College of Humanities & Social Science	Vice-Principal Professor Dorothy Miell	0/3
Head of College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine	Vice-Principal Professor Sir John Savill Representative	1/3
Director of Corporate Services	Vice Principal Mr Nigel Paul	2/3
University Secretary & Head, Student & Academic Services Support	Ms Sarah Smith	2/3
Director of Human Resources	Ms Sheila Gupta	3/3
Head of School		
Head of School of Biological Sciences	Professor David Leach	1/1
External Directors of HR from Industry commerce or the professions		
External Member	Mr Alex Killick	2/3
	Mr Alan Gibson	2/3
Director Institute of Academic Development	Dr Jon Turner	2/3
Convener, Research Experience Committee	Professor Jeremy Bradshaw	1/3
Vice-Principals and Assistant Principals with responsibility for:		
Vice-Principal Learning & Teaching	Professor Sue Rigby	2/3
Vice-Principal Equality & Diversity	Professor Lorraine Waterhouse (Convener)	1/1
Vice-Principal Equality & Diversity	Professor Jane Norman (Convener)	2/2
Vice-Principal International	Professor Steve Hillier	0/3
Vice-Principal for Knowledge Management & Chief Information Officer	Professor Jeff Haywood	1/3



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Edinburgh at the forefront of the genomics revolution:

Business plan for an Illumina HiSeq X Ten genome sequencing platform

Description of paper

1. Court is requested to consider and formally approve capital-only funding to purchase an Illumina HiSeq X Ten genome sequencing system. This is intended to position the University immediately at the global forefront of emerging capabilities in human genomics and data analytics of healthcare research, practice and related industrial engagement and commercialisation opportunities.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to consider and formally approve capital funding to purchase an Illumina HiSeq X Ten genome sequencing system to link with our world-leading data analytics capabilities and accelerate UoE to the small elite group of Universities leading genomics research and understanding.

Recommendation

3. Court is recommended to approve the capital investment which has been critically reviewed and supported by the Director of Finance and the VP Planning, Resources and Research Policy.

Paragraphs 4 – 17 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Risk Management

18. *Key Risks:*

- Failure to retain/recruit key staff within Edinburgh Genomics
- Rapid replacement of Illumina as the leading technology provider
- Illumina unduly delays adaptation for non-human genome sequencing
- Competition from alternative HiSeq X Ten facilities means machines are not used at capacity
- Inadequacy/failure of the computing and informatics infrastructure
- Delayed or failed clinical accreditation of the sequencing facility

19. *Strategies to mitigate risks:*

- The purchase of the leading technologies is central to the motivation and retention of key staff. The availability of substantial existing leaders within Edinburgh Genomics allows reassurance that we can accommodate change.
- UoE's leading position means we are well acquainted with the global commercial scene. We perceive no competitor emerging in the next 24 months or more. Edinburgh's HiSeq X Ten will have generated a leading position within 12 months.
- Non-human genomics can be accommodated, albeit at increased cost and a slower pace, on our existing previous generation machines. These are not suited to human high-throughput sequencing but could be a "poor man's" solution for livestock research pro tem.

- The advent of effective competition is anticipated and will be carefully monitored; Edinburgh Genomics is exceptionally well-connected with the UK genomics community and the technology manufacturers. The risk to UoE's operation are minor because fixed costs are a relatively small proportion of turnover. With a strong capital base and large well-established local genomics community, Edinburgh Genomics is better-placed than others to remain competitive. Commercial providers have the additional disadvantage of being unable to provide effective pre-, and post- sequencing study design and leading informatics support. Edinburgh Genomics will therefore continue to compete on the basis of quality.
- The continued generation of massive amounts of data, and requirement for storage of clinical sequences taxes the capacity of any University. However, it also means that Edinburgh is the most likely UK University to remain competitive.
- Clinical accreditation is a clear risk because there are no precedents for the requirements of whole genome sequencing. We will work closely with NHS and government regulators to ensure ISO compliance as regulations come into force. The UE10 manager will be experienced in clinical governance to mitigate this risk.

Equality & Diversity

20. No implications

Next steps/implications

Paragraph 21 has been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Consultation

22. Widely reviewed in Edinburgh by senior academic staff, by Heads of College CSE and MVM, relevant Heads of School, the Director of Finance, Director of Planning, Head of Procurement, Head of Legal Services and VPs Data Science and Planning Resources and Research Policy.

Further information

23. Authors

VP Andrew Morris,
Professors Tim Aitman, David Hume,
Mark Blaxter, David Porteous
23 October 2014

Presenter

Vice-Principal Professor Jonathan Seckl

Freedom of Information

24. This paper is closed.

Disclosure would substantially prejudice the commercial interests of the University. Withhold until purchase and installation complete to maximise UoE's competitive advantage.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

EUSA President's Report to Court

Description of paper

1. This paper is to note the developments of Edinburgh University Students' Association since the last Court meeting and any matters arising from previous Court meetings.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to note this paper.

Recommendation

3. That information provided in this paper be considered to support other projects and initiatives to improve student satisfaction at the University of Edinburgh.

Background and context

4. Edinburgh University Students' Association has provided reports to Court on projects, campaigns and developments of the organisation as a whole.

Discussion

5. EUSA Strategic Plan

EUSA sabbaticals and the senior management team have been working on developing a strategic plan, following the strategic review and stakeholder research we undertook prior to the summer. We have focussed on developing our vision, mission, values and strategic goals, and will use this work to support our operational planning process in the New Year. We are currently consulting our staff, trustees and Student Council on this work, and are also reporting to the EUSA/University of Edinburgh Forum meeting on progress with this.

6. Estates Developments

We have been in discussion with the University estates team regarding possible redevelopment of the Pleasance site, to support our student societies. EUSA and university staff visited Sheffield and Leeds University and union spaces to gain a sense of what might be possible. There is high demand in particular for good quality rehearsal/dance space, as well as modernised facilities for specific activities such as our media societies like Fresh Air, Photography, and Student newspaper. Alongside this there is a more general demand for better, fit-for-purpose space for society meetings and to facilitate a sense of society community, and a more visible sense of the vibrancy our student societies bring to campus. There is also the opportunity to improve this space to maximise daytime use for students more generally as informal learning and social blended space. We are also working with University colleagues to consider how to provide this space such that it complements the adjacency Centre for Sports and Exercise and creates and sports and arts hub of activity that has its own critical mass of users and supports the need for informal spaces around the campus.

7. Residential Accommodation

We welcomed the opportunity to participate in recent University discussions regarding

the need to develop a Residential Accommodation Strategy for the University. This comes following some recent coverage of community concerns regarding the expansion of purpose-built student accommodation. In addition, we have also noted significant challenges for our new students searching for private accommodation in the city this year – inevitable perhaps as the student population in Edinburgh has been growing in recent years, and most available private accommodation has already been secured by 2nd and subsequent year students. Our Advice Place reported a significant rise in comparison to last year's figures for students seeking support with their accommodation search well after Fresher's Week, and we anticipate that this is a trend that will continue. EUSA has written a response to the Edinburgh Student Housing Development Plan 2014/2015 in support of the student purpose built housing developments but criticising the private rental sector and lack of affordable accommodation in the city of Edinburgh, and will be briefing the City Council's Health Social Care and Housing Committee at their next meeting in November. EUSA is also working with the Edinburgh Student Collective, a collective of all the Sabbatical Officers at FE and HE institutions across Edinburgh, to start a housing campaign, and in particular to develop a student Tenants' Union.

8. Finance update

The results for EUSA's half year point (period 6 – end September) show a broadly favourable position with our planned financial recovery continuing well. The headline result shows a strong surplus. However we anticipate the second half of the year to be leaner due to the normal phasing including no Festival or Fresher's Week and generally lowers student activity. We anticipate the end of year position is likely to be positive.

9. Following on from the half year results, to allow us to get an indication of what the full year picture is likely to be, we are carrying out a reforecasting exercise. This will help us to plan the second half of the year and four years beyond, and will lead into our budgeting process which will begin in the New Year.

10. EUSA Transport Campaign

We have been working with student reps at outlying campuses and the University's Surveys Unit to develop our transport survey. Our face to face engagement with students has highlighted concerns about the frequency of the KB bus and lack of bus services available at peak hours. Students wrote testimonials on how they think the KB bus can be improved and this will be filtered into the nature of questions asked to students at KB through the survey. We are also making good progress on our partnership project with the University and Cycling Scotland to develop a pilot Cycle Scheme from Pollock Halls in semester 2, and have procured a bicycle supplier and storage. We are continuing to collect signatures for our petition to the Council to develop a City-Wide cycle scheme.

11. Edinburgh Student Arts Festival (ESAF)

We are collaborating with the Edinburgh Student Collective (ESC) and institutions across the city of Edinburgh to host the first ever Edinburgh Student Arts Festival. The festival will take place Friday 6 through Sunday 15 February in venues across central Edinburgh. The vision for this festival is to showcase student art to the arts community and to the public. We will showcase art in the broadest sense from the performing arts to fine art.

12. Students have a chance to get involved by organising the festival, performing in the festival, producing marketing, organising press, stage managing, curating, running tech and promoting the festival across the city.

13. The Edinburgh Student Collective or Edinburgh Student Forum is a collective of Student Union Sabbatical Officers from all of the Higher Education and Further Education institutions in the City of Edinburgh which include the Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA), Heriot-Watt University Student Union (HW Union), Queen Margaret University Students' Union (QMUSU), and Edinburgh College Students' Association (ECSA).

14. The idea is for the festival to have a Fringe feel with events running throughout the day like exhibitions and performances running in the evening. Over the weekend, we aim to have all day performances. We are looking into sponsorship opportunities and want to create opportunities for students to run their own pop-up shops/businesses.

15. I have put together a working group to meet fortnightly starting in the last two weeks of September to begin planning, to identify funding sources, and to identify student groups that would be interested in forming the board for the festival.

16. We have received generous support and funding from the University Principal Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea.

17. *Equality and Diversity and Liberation*

October saw a varied range of events organised by EUSA and supported by the University to celebrate Black History Month. The events included a panel debate, dance performance, film screenings and a fascinating lecture by Musa Okwonga, and we were delighted that most of our events were sold out. EUSA reps were also involved in this year's Reclaim the Night march in the city, which was organised by EUSA's Womens' group. The event aims to raise awareness of and fight against street harassment.

18. *Look after your Mate*

We are working in partnership with the Residence Life team in accommodation services to launch a new peer support campaign in University accommodation. The campaign will include printed material, events, stalls and training for RAs, and aims to tackle a number of issues around bullying, isolation, mental health and more by equipping students to look out for each other

19. *Ethical Investment*

Tasha has been progressing discussions with the University about the ethical investment policy and the proposal for the University to disinvest from fossil fuels and armaments. We welcomed the opportunity to speak at CMG on this issue to highlight student concerns. We will be participating in the new working groups looking into possible divestment from arms, and fossil fuels. In relation to this we were pleased to hear of the recent decision at Glasgow University.

20. Social responsibility and Sustainability

EUSA and the SRS team partnered to set up a Student social responsibility and sustainability forum (with the aim for students to share ideas for projects and initiatives on various themes of sustainability, social responsibility and community engagement) with an SRS project fund which student groups can apply for in order to run small scale sustainability projects and campaigns. The first forum took place last month with students from a very diverse range of societies and areas of the University and University staff.

21. Student involvement in learning and teaching

We are meeting with Schools to progress ideas for curriculum co-creation projects, and Dash Sekhar has been working on the new Open Content Courses project which will see students devise their own course content, assessment etc. This particular project will be piloted during Innovative Learning Week before undergoing further development.

22. EUSA has been delivering class rep training sessions across the University, and has also been running School-based class rep inductions, which have been very popular and have been attended by 75-80% of the reps in these Schools. This really supports effective rep engagement with course teams.

23. EUSA's Learning Conversations programme for this year is underway – we are working in collaboration with the IAD to deliver these events open to all staff and students, to discuss issues and develop thinking around learning, teaching and assessment. Topics this year range from 'Let's Ban Assessment' to 'They said first year was easy'.

24. Other academic campaigns currently progressing include work with students at ECA regarding opening/access times for buildings, and addressing student concerns about exam timetable release dates.

25. Edinburgh Award

Once again EUSA is running several strands of the Edinburgh Award, to support students participating in a range of activities reflect upon their experience and the development benefits those experiences bring. Alongside Edinburgh Awards for EUSA student staff, student representatives, Advice Place volunteers, student volunteering, Peer Support and Global Citizenship, we have launched a new Award this year for those holding leadership positions in Student Societies and Volunteering Groups – so far just under 100 student leaders have taken up the opportunity to work towards this new award, and we expect across all of our strands to be supporting around 400 students in total to achieve the award.

26. EUSA Impact Report 2014-2015

Every year EUSA produces an annual impact report to highlight our work over the previous year. This year's impact report includes testimonials from students on their work with EUSA. The impact report also features a useful one-pager on EUSA finances on the last page, illustrated by a helpful infographic graph. Please see the full report on the court Wiki at:

<https://www.wiki.ed.ac.uk/display/UCC/University+Court>

Resource implications

27. There are no immediate resource implications.

Risk Management

28. There are no risk implications.

Equality & Diversity

29. Equality and Diversity considerations are implicitly included in this paper. Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA) represents the interests of a diversity of student interest groups and exists to maintain the equal representation of students and student groups.

Next steps/implications

30. There are no next steps to be taken as a result of this paper.

Consultation

31. Some students were consulted through our events and campaigns.

Further information32. Author

Briana Pegado
EUSA President
29 October 2014

Presenter

Briana Pegado
EUSA President

Freedom of Information

33. This paper is open.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Audit and Risk Committee Report

Committee Name

1. Audit and Risk Committee.

Date of Meeting

2. The meeting was held on 16 September 2014.

Action Required

3. Court is asked to note the key points from the meeting.

Key points

4. The Committee discussed the draft Corporate Governance statement, which had required amendments following a new SFC Accounts Direction, requiring that compliance with the Scottish Code of Good Higher Education Governance is detailed in the statement.

5. The Committee also discussed the University Superannuation Scheme and in respect of the risk this presents will have this as a standing item on future agendas.

6. The 2013-14 Internal Audit plan has been completed and a satisfactory International Audit Opinion on the overall control, risk management, governance and value for money arrangements, based on the work carried out during 2013-2014, was also noted by the Committee.

Paragraph 7 has been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Full minute:

8. <https://www.wiki.ed.ac.uk/display/UCC/Audit+and+Risk+Committee>

Equality & Diversity

9. No direct equality and diversity implications were raised in this report

Further information

10. Author

Dr Deborah Cook
September 2014

Presenter

Mr Alan Johnston
Convener of the Audit and Risk
Committee

Freedom of Information

11. This paper is closed.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

K

Policy and Resources Committee Report

Committee Name

1. Policy and Resources Committee.

Date of Meeting

2. The Committee met on 20 October 2014.

Action Required

3. Court is invited to note the key items discussed at the meeting as detailed below.

4. Court is further invited to approve, on the recommendation of the Policy and Resources Committee, that the University enters into a 15 year Nominations Agreement with Ziggurat Student Living (Brunswick Village) LLP.

Key points

Paragraphs 5 – 11 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Full minute:

10. All the papers considered at the meeting and in due course the Minute can be accessed on the Court wiki at the following URL:

<https://www.wiki.ed.ac.uk/display/UCC/Policy+and+Resources+Committee>

Equality & Diversity

11. There are no specific equality and diversity issues associated with this report.

Further information

12. Author

Dr Katherine Novosel
October 2014

Presenter

Dr Anne Richards
Convener Policy and Resources
Committee

Freedom of Information

13. This paper is closed: Its disclosure would substantially prejudice the commercial interests of the organisation.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Nominations Committee Report

Committee Name

1. Nominations Committee.

Date of Meeting

2. The Committee met on 29 September 2014 and conducted business by correspondence which concluded on 20 October 2014.

Action Required

3. Court is invited to note the key points discussed at the meeting and to consider the recommendations for appointment.

Paragraph 4 has been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Key points

5. University Court

The Committee considered and was content with the current list of skills and attributes required for an effective Court and with the current generic job description for a Co-opted Court Member.

6. Standing and Thematic Committees

A review was undertaken of the potential and current vacancies for Court and external members on Standing and Thematic Committees with the initial recommendations being presented to this Court for approval. There will be further consideration of membership early in 2015 when the future membership of Court has been determined.

7. Scrutinising Committee

The regulations for the Rectorial election 2015 as approved by Court set out guidance on those individuals to be appointed to the Scrutinising Committee. The recommendations to Court as set out above comply with the approved Regulations.

Paragraph 6 has been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Full minute:

9. The Minute for and papers considered at the meeting can be accessed at the following URL:

<https://www.wiki.ed.ac.uk/display/UCC/Nominations+Committee>

Equality & Diversity

10. The University wishes to ensure a diverse membership of Court and its Standing and Thematic Committees and action is taken to attract when

advertising for members external to Court and the University applications from across the community. To re-enforce its commitment, Court has approved a University Court Equality and Diversity Policy.

Further information

11. Author
Dr Katherine Novosel
October 2014

Presenter
Dr Anne Richards
Convener, Nominations Committee

Freedom of Information

12. This paper is closed.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Senatus Academicus Report

Committee Name

1. Senatus Academicus.

Date of Meeting

2. 1 October 2014.

Action Required

3. To note the key points from the Senate meeting.

Key points

4. *The presentation and discussion section of Senate was Postgraduate Research.* Dr Isolde Van Bülow, Head of the Graduate Center at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) discussed the development of doctoral studies at LMU, in particular focussing on their successful framework for establish and supporting structured PhDs. Professor Richard Coyne, Postgraduate Research Dean in the College of Humanities and Social Science, presented on Distance PhDs and posed the question whether they should be exceptional or the norm and how the University could support them. Dr Louisa Lawes, Head of Researcher Development, Institute of Academic Development, provided a case study on joint doctorates. Professor Jeremy Bradshaw, Assistant Principal, Researcher Development discussed plans for a postgraduate research support project which would ensure the University was able to maintain and enhance the quality of the student experience as postgraduate research student numbers increased.

5. There was much discussion about the need to embrace different types of PhD models which would suit the needs of the University and its students. Senate emphasised that the University should be at the forefront of sector discussions in doctoral education. Senate expected this discussion to be a catalyst for further discussions on how this should be taken forward within the University.

6. As part of formal business, Professor Sue Rigby, Vice-Principal Learning and Teaching, provided an update on the 2014 National Student Survey (NSS) and Edinburgh Student Experience Survey (ESES) results. There was full discussion on the results. In relation to feedback on assessment, Senate emphasised that Schools must collect data on meeting deadlines for providing feedback on assessment and verify the quality of the feedback provided to students. Interventions must take place where feedback was not satisfactory. This data needed to be communicated to students and would be used internally to plan future actions. It was recognised that Heads of School must adopt a leadership approach to this matter.

7. No observations were received on the draft resolutions contained in "*Resolutions – Chairs*" paper, Paper e-S 14-15 1 I, circulated to Electronic Senate which was conducted from Tuesday 9 September to Wednesday 17 September 2014.

8. Senate approved proposed changes to the Senate Standing Orders set out in Paper e-S 14/15 1 E circulated to the Electronic Senate, September 2014.

Full minute:

9. <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/committees/senate/agendas-papers>

Equality & Diversity

10. No key implications for equality and diversity were raised by Senate. The NSS Updates paper stated that “Work is ongoing to interrogate these results with an equality and diversity approach”. All paper authors are asked to consider and identify equality and diversity implications.

Further information

11. Author

Anne Marie O’Mullane

Academic Services

27 October 2014

Freedom of Information

12. This paper is open



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

N

Bank Account for North American Office

Description of paper

1. As part of establishing efficient processes to support the University's activities in North America, it is recommended that a bank account be opened in the name of North American Office – University of Edinburgh, Inc, the entity under which the University conducts its activities in the US and Canada.

Action requested

2. Court is asked to approve the opening of a bank account for use by the North American Office.

Recommendation

3. Approval is hereby sought from Court for the Executive Director of the North American Office, under the auspices of the Director of the International Office, to open an account in the name of North American Office - University of Edinburgh with Chase to be operated as set out below.

Paragraphs 4 – 10 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Risk Management

11. Given the relatively modest level of funds to be kept in the account, the risks will not be significant. The thresholds for operating the account will mitigate these risks.

Equality & Diversity

12. There are no equality & diversity issues associated with this decision.

Paragraph 13 has been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Consultation

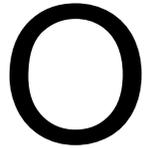
14. This paper was considered and approved at the Board meeting of the North American Office - University of Edinburgh Inc.

Further information

15. Author
Joanna Storrar
Executive Director, North
American Office
21 October 2014

Freedom of Information

16. This paper should not be Included in open business as its disclosure would substantially prejudice the commercial interests of the organisation. This paper should be withheld for 2 years.



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Resolutions

Description of paper

1. The paper invites Court to approve Resolutions to establish or change the names of existing chairs in accordance with the agreed internal arrangements and the requirements as set out in the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966.

Action requested

2. Court is invited to consider the attached Resolutions presented in final format.

Recommendation

3. Court is invited to approve the attached Resolutions.

Background and context

4. In accordance with the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, Court has powers exercisable by Resolution in respect of a number of matters including founding professorships (chairs). The Act also stipulates that Senate, the General Council and any other body or person having an interest require to be consulted on draft Resolutions throughout the period of a month with the months of August and September not taken into account when calculating the consultation period. The University has also in place approval arrangements for the creation of established or personal chairs which involves the Central Management Group and the Central Academic Promotion Committee.

Discussion

5. In accordance with the agreed processes and with no observations having been received from Senate, the General Council or any other body or person having an interest Court is invited to approve the following Resolutions (attached as appendix 1):

Resolution No. 51/2014:	Alteration of the title of the Chair of Psychiatry
Resolution No. 53/2014:	Foundation of a Personal Chair of Astrophysics
Resolution No. 54/2014:	Alteration of the title of the Personal Chair of Adaptive Learning Environments

6. In respect of Resolution 52/2014 the title of the chair has been amended to better reflect the role of the Chair: the original title was Personal Chair of Reproductive Health :

Resolution No. 52/2014:	Foundation of a Personal Chair of Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences
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Resource implications

7. There are no specific resource implications associated with this paper. Part of the approval process involved confirmation of the funding in place to support these new Chairs.

Risk Management

8. There are reputational considerations in establishing and renaming Chairs which are considered as part of the University approval processes.

Equality & Diversity

9. There are no specific equality and diversity issues associated with this paper. However equality and diversity best practice and agreed procedures are adopted in appointing individuals to the chairs.

Next steps/implications

10. Senate and the General Council will be notified that these Resolutions have been approved and notice will be displayed on the Old College, notice board. The list of approved Resolution is annually reviewed and published on the University's web site.

Consultation

11. Senate and the General Council have been asked for observations on the draft Resolutions and a notice has been displayed on the Old College notice board and published on the web to enable observation from any other body or person having an interest to express observations.

Further information

12. Author

Dr Katherine Novosel
Head of Court Services
October 2014

Freedom of Information

13. This paper is open.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Resolution of the University Court No. 51/2014

Alteration of the title of the Chair of Psychiatry

At Edinburgh, the Third day of November, Two thousand and fourteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to alter the title of the Chair of Psychiatry founded by Resolution 53/2005;

AND WHEREAS paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, provides that the University Court may, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and with the consent of the incumbent and patrons, if any, alter the title of existing professorships;

AND WHEREAS the Chair dealt with in this Resolution is in the patronage of the University Court itself:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Chair of Psychiatry shall hereafter be designated the Chair of Psychiatry of Ageing.
2. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 1 October Two thousand and fourteen.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Resolution of the University Court No. 52/2014

Foundation of a Personal Chair of Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences

At Edinburgh, the Third day of November, Two thousand and fourteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to found a Personal Chair of Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Act, hereby resolves:

1. There shall be a Personal Chair of Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences in the University of Edinburgh, which shall be established solely for the period of tenure of the Professor appointed, and on the Professor ceasing to hold office, the provisions of this Resolution shall cease to have effect, and the said Personal Chair shall thereupon cease to exist.
2. The patronage of the Personal Chair shall be vested in and exercised by the University Court of the University of Edinburgh.
3. Notwithstanding the personal nature of this Chair, the terms and conditions of appointment and tenure which by Statute, Ordinance and otherwise apply to other Chairs in the University shall be deemed to apply in like manner to the Personal Chair of Gynaecology and Reproductive Sciences together with all other rights, privileges and duties attaching to the office of Professor.
4. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 1 August Two thousand and fourteen.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Resolution of the University Court No. 53/2014

Foundation of a Personal Chair of Astrophysics

At Edinburgh, the Third day of November, Two thousand and fourteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to found a Personal Chair of Astrophysics:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Act, hereby resolves:

1. There shall be a Personal Chair of Astrophysics in the University of Edinburgh, which shall be established solely for the period of tenure of the Professor appointed, and on the Professor ceasing to hold office, the provisions of this Resolution shall cease to have effect, and the said Personal Chair shall thereupon cease to exist.
2. The patronage of the Personal Chair shall be vested in and exercised by the University Court of the University of Edinburgh.
3. Notwithstanding the personal nature of this Chair, the terms and conditions of appointment and tenure which by Statute, Ordinance and otherwise apply to other Chairs in the University shall be deemed to apply in like manner to the Personal Chair of Astrophysics together with all other rights, privileges and duties attaching to the office of Professor.
4. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 1 October Two thousand and thirteen.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Resolution of the University Court No. 54/2014

Alteration of the title of the Personal Chair of Adaptive Learning Environments

At Edinburgh, the Third day of November, Two thousand and fourteen.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to alter the title of the Personal Chair of Adaptive Learning Environments founded by Resolution 34/2014;

AND WHEREAS paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, provides that the University Court may, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and with the consent of the incumbent and patrons, if any, alter the title of existing professorships;

AND WHEREAS the Chair dealt with in this Resolution is in the patronage of the University Court itself:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Personal Chair of Adaptive Learning Environments shall hereafter be designated the Personal Chair of Interactive Learning Environments.
2. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from 1 August Two thousand and fourteen.

For and on behalf of the University Court

SARAH SMITH

University Secretary



UNIVERSITY COURT

3 November 2014

Donations and Legacies to be notified

Description of paper

1. A report on legacies and donations received by the University of Edinburgh Development Trust from 28 August to 17 October 2014, prepared for the Meeting of Court on 3 November 2014.

Action requested

2. Court is invited to note the legacies and donations received.

Recommendation

3. No further action is recommended at this time.

Paragraphs 4 – 7 have been removed as exempt from release due to FOI.

Risk Management

8. There are policies and procedures in place to mitigate risks associated with funding activities including the procedure for the ethical screening of donations.

Equality & Diversity

9. There are no specific equality and diversity issues associated with the paper. Cognisance is however taken of the wishes of donors' to ensure these reflect the University's approach to equality and diversity and that these comply with legal requirements.

Next steps/implications

10. The University is grateful for the support provided to enable it to continue to provide high quality learning and research.

Consultation

11. This paper has been reviewed and approved by:
Kirsty MacDonald, Executive Director Development & Alumni Engagement/Secretary,
University of Edinburgh Development Trust and Heather Wallace, Head of Donor
Relations, Development & Alumni

Further information

12. Author

Natalie Fergusson
Donor Relations Officer,
Development & Alumni
20 October 2014

Presenter

Kirsty MacDonald
Executive Director, Development & Alumni
Engagement/Secretary, University of
Edinburgh Development Trust

Freedom of Information

13. This paper is closed - Its disclosure would substantially prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs