



UNIVERSITY COURT

MINUTES

of the meeting of the University Court held on Wednesday 29 June 2022 at 2.00pm in the Boardroom and via Microsoft Teams

Acting Chair: Dr A Ingram (Vice-Chair of Court)

Ms N Ahmed	Ms G Ghafoor	Mr I McDonald
Professor L Bacon	Mrs L Hamilton	Ms C MacEachen
Mr A Bailey	Professor T Inns	Professor E Sim
Mr J Barnett	Mr F Jakimow	Dr K Smith
Ms R Donoghue	Mr F Keir	Ms R Thiel
Mrs A Duffy	Ms V Lynch	
Mrs H Dunk	Mr A Marks	

Secretary: Ms C Summers

In attendance:	Ms L Baldie	Professor E Ritchie (Advance HE - for Item 6)
	Ms D Feriancova	Ms O Robertson
	Ms D Gray	Mr C Warnock (for Item 14)
	Mr P Henry	Mr G Weir
	Professor A Irons	Mr A Porter (Advance HE - for Item 6)
	Ms J McKenzie	

NON-RESERVED AREAS OF BUSINESS

82 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed members to the last meeting of Court for the 2021/22 session. Dr Ingram, as Vice-Chair of Court, explained that she would be chairing the meeting because of Mr Shaw's unavoidable absence.

It was noted that the members, who had been on the brief tour of the Annie Lamont building and some of the recently refurbished areas of the campus prior to the meeting, had found it very helpful.

The Chair welcomed Professor Bacon to her first Court meeting as Principal and Vice-Chancellor, She welcomed also Ms Summers in her new role as Vice-Principal (Strategy and Governance) and University Secretary. It was noted that Professor Alastair Irons the Deputy Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor designate was joining the meeting as an observer (via Teams).

The Chair welcomed, as observers, Liv Robertson and Lauryn Baldie the

President and Vice-President Elect of Abertay Students' Association and congratulated them on their election to office.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Shaw, Mr J MacGregor and Dr H Mehrpouya.

83 DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to indicate if they had, or could be perceived to have, a conflict of interest in relation to the non-reserved items for discussion.

Mr Marks advised the Committee that his Company, 20/20 Business Group, had signed a Knowledge Transfer Partnership Agreement with the University, marking the beginning of a 34-month project. Members heard that the Register of Interests had been updated to reflect this fact, and that this would not compromise his position as Vice-Chair of FCPC. The Committee noted that the Chair of Court had been apprised of the Agreement.

Thereafter, no declaration was made.

COURT AND GOVERNANCE MATTERS

84 MINUTES OF THE CHAIR'S COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2022

CT/0622/60

Dr Ingram advised members that the minutes were largely for information, and highlighted three items:

Minute 54: The SFC had required a signed version of the previously agreed outcome agreement. This had been signed by the Chair of Court and the Principal and submitted at the end of May.

Minute 57: The provisional date for the Court Conference was Tuesday 22 November continuing into Wednesday 23 November. It was anticipated that it would follow a similar format to previous years, with more informal discussions taking place on the evening of the Tuesday and on Wednesday in the morning, while formal Court business would be held in the afternoon.

Minute 59.1: It was agreed that Court would continue to meet face to face and that the other Court committees should agree their preferred option. It was acknowledged that, for some members who lived some distance away, joining meetings via Microsoft Teams was a more pragmatic solution.

85 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COURT HELD ON 27 APRIL 2022: UNRESERVED

CT/0622/61

Court approved the minutes as an accurate record subject to the inclusion of Mrs Dunk's name in the list of apologies for absence.

86 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES

Oral report

Mr Henry advised members of two matters arising from the last meeting not dealt with elsewhere on the agenda:

Min 65: It was noted that a property consultant had been appointed to assist in taking the student residences to market.

Min 67: It was noted that proposed amendments to the Code of Student Discipline: Academic Misconduct had been approved by members, by email, after the last meeting.

87 ADVANCE HE GOVERNANCE EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW: REPORT

CT/0622/62

Dr Ingram, as Chair, thanked all of the members of Court who had contributed to the report by completing the survey and attending the various focus groups and other meetings. She then invited Mr Porter from Advance HE to take members through the report and its findings.

Mr Porter introduced the report by stating that, overall, governance at Abertay University was effective, with a strong commitment for ongoing improvement. He added that the report should be seen as positive, and that the University had managed well some recent transitions at a senior level of management.

Mr Porter advised Court that the most significant issue identified in the report was the boundary between governance and management. He explained that the boundary was never 'black and white' and that where the line is drawn varied across institutions. He added that the boundary might need to change over time to take account of the regulatory environment. However, it was important for a consensus to be reached and a shared understanding about where the line is drawn.

The next area of significance in the report was equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). Mr Porter advised that the report found that, although there had been some really good progress, there was still room for improvement, especially with regard to ethnicity. Court noted, however, that not all protected characteristics were immediately obvious. All committees had a role to play in EDI and it would be important to revisit each committee's remit to ensure that EDI was being dealt with explicitly. In addition, cover sheets could help by including specific reference to EDI.

Mr Porter then referred to the report's findings about the concerns expressed in the feedback received about the induction and training of members of Court. This was an area where the University had not performed well and that a much more refined approach to induction was needed. Induction was not a single event but required a more personalised approach that took account of members' existing strengths and delivered over a 12-to-18-month period. It was noted that training should continue throughout a member's tenure on Court.

In summary, Mr Porter advised Court that the report was positive though there were some areas where change was needed. The fundamentals were sound and, therefore, Court could have confidence about how to approach the recommendations in the report.

In the discussion that followed, it was agreed that the report reflected members' experience and their concerns. With regard to EDI, it was agreed that further attention was required to ensure that Court was more representative of the University community. However, it was acknowledged that much had been done in this area and whilst Court was aware of the issue, there had been significant challenges in attracting new members to Court.

Court noted that the induction experience of members varied considerably and, whereas it was accepted that COVID did have an impact on the training that was provided (not face to face) and opportunities for member engagement, it was clear that a more structured approach was required that tailored the training to meet the specific needs of individual members. Members welcomed the prospect of an induction programme that would be delivered over a 12-to-18-month period and took account of their developing experience as members of Court and its committees over that time. It was also agreed that mentoring of new Court members by a more experienced Court members would be helpful.

There followed a lengthy discussion on the boundary between governance and management. It was accepted that there should be clarity about where the boundary lay, however, there was also an element of fluidity. Good communication was essential in building trust and that when issues arose it was important there was transparency about actions being taken. Developing a clearer understanding of the links between strategic priorities and institutional risks would assist Court also in identifying where best to focus its attention. It was noted that Court had overall responsibility for the governance of the University. It was agreed that the Court Conference in November would provide an opportunity to discuss this important issue more fully.

Ms Summers advised Court that the report would provide an important backdrop for the development of the new Governance team. She would be discussing the report with Dr Ingram as Chair of the Governance and Nominations Committee and others, including the Chair of Court, and the Principal. Then, taking account of those discussion and the discussion at this meeting, a draft action plan would be developed and brought to Court in September with the expectation of further discussion at the Court conference in November.

Action: Ms Summers and Dr Ingram to develop a draft action plan for the meeting of Court in September.

Thereafter Court noted the report.

[Secretary's note: Mr Porter and Professor Ritchie left the meeting at this point]

COMMITTEE MINUTES AND REPORTS

88 GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES: 16 MAY 2022

CT/0622/63

Dr Ingram, as Chair of the Committee, referred to the minutes and invited Court to note the following:

Minute 38.1: Steps were being taken to secure appropriate Unconscious Bias training for all members of Court. It was noted that this might include accessing external sources to provide appropriate training.

Minute 38.2: The Committee noted the appointment of the two new Governance and Policy Officers and welcomed the expectation that the new Governance Team would be, integrated, flexible, mutually supporting, and outward-looking in its approach.

Minute 39: The Committee noted the arrangements for the final stages of the Court Effectiveness Review.

Minute 40: The Committee noted it had been agreed that the internal audit review of Governance would be deferred to the next academic year.

Minute 41: The Committee agreed changes to Court Committee membership: the Chair (Dr Ingram) would move from membership of People, Health, and Equality Committee to the Finance and Corporate Performance Committee. This would enable Ms Donoghue to join the People, Health, and Equality Committee.

In the discussion that followed, it was noted that the Unconscious Bias training that had been provided previous had been helpful, but more was needed, especially face to face engagement.

Ms Summers advised members that, following interviews for the Head of Governance and Deputy University Secretary post, an offer had been made to one of the candidates.

Thereafter Court received the minutes.

89 PEOPLE, HEALTH AND EQUALITY COMMITTEE MINUTES: 01 JUNE 2022

CT/0622/64

Ms Ghafoor, as Chair of the Committee, referred to the minutes and invited Court to note the following:

Minute 53: The Committee received a presentation on the outcome of the 2022 Staff Survey which had been completed in partnership with a new provider: People Insight. The survey went 'live' from 22 February to 15 March and had a 77% response rate; one of the highest in the UK. The Committee noted the

importance of responding to the survey and being seen to do so.

The Committee noted also that some of the negative results may have been due to Covid-19 and people being overworked. The survey appeared to show an underlying theme that staff sought to be treated equally. It was recognised that the use of divisive language should be avoided.

Minute 54: The Committee had a discussion on the development of the People Strategy. The Committee noted the matter of diversity and equity and queried whether enough was being done to support staff and that, at times, positive support would be needed to get individuals to the same base line.

The Committee noted that it would be helpful to have more ambition in the strategy, as well as having a separate statement about behaviours, values, and culture, and that the values of the University needed to come 'from the top down'.

Minute 56: The Committee welcomed the fact that Mr Weir, the Director of FICS, had agreed to act as Vice-Chair of the Health and Safety Sub-Committee.

Minute 57: The Committee discussed the provision of Unconscious Bias training for all members of Court. The Committee noted that it would be helpful to undertake a review into the impact of the training on Court and Court members in subsequent years.

In the discussion that followed, it was noted that further analysis needed to be done on the staff survey to see if it was possible to determine the extent to which COVID had influenced some of the negative responses. Ms Summers advised Court that much work was being undertaken at SMT and in Schools and Divisions to identify and understand key themes to ensure that appropriate action plans were put in place.

Finally, Court noted the importance of continuing to ensure that divisive language was not used in the University.

Thereafter Court received the minutes.

90 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES: 07 JUNE 2022

CT/0622/65

Mr Barnett, as Chair of the Committee, referred to the minutes and invited Court to note the following:

Minute 60.1: Internal Audit Report on Student Applications, Induction and Enrolment. The Committee noted that the report provided substantial assurance over the controls and governance of the processes involved. However, several matters were raised that had not been included within the scope of the original audit. These included the UCAS embargo processes, student terms and conditions in relation to Competition and Markets Authority regulations, and the role of academics in the admissions process.

Mr Barnett advised Court that, after the meeting, members had been provided with detailed responses to each of the concerns raised to confirm that the University had processes in place to deal with them in an appropriate and effective manner.

Minute 60.2: Internal Audit Report on Student Visa Compliance. The Committee noted that the report provided moderate assurance around the design and operational effectiveness of the controls surrounding student visa compliance arrangements. The report's recommendation that academic staff are reminded to take attendance at the start of each lecture led to a discussion about how the University met its obligations as a UKVI sponsor.

Mr Barnett advised Court that, after the meeting, members had been provided with a detailed response to the UKVI sponsor concerns to confirm that the University had processes in place to deal with them in an appropriate and effective manner. Court noted the serious implications of failing to meet the UKVI sponsor obligations.

Mr Barnett stated that these two reports served, in part, to highlight the need for a change to the way in which internal audit processes were managed.

Minute 61: The Committee considered the Internal Audit 'Tracker' Report on the implementation of recommendations. It noted the good progress being made on cyber security and that the move of systems and applications to 'the cloud' was close to completion with only one or two of core systems remaining on site. The Committee noted also that IT had an ongoing focus on security with annual network penetration tests in plan and the Information Security Working Group continued to meet regularly.

Minute 63: The Committee noted that the internal audit on Governance was being postponed until after Court's consideration of the Advance HE report on its Governance Effectiveness Review. The agreed terms of reference of the postponed internal audit would take account of the outcome of the review.

Minute 65: The Committee considered the Risk Management Update and noted that it provided the latest version of the strategic risk register as confirmed by the Senior Management Team on 23 May 2022. It was noted that further deep dives would be brought back in the autumn when there would be a wider discussion of risk management, including how best to engage with Court on the matters of risk and risk management

It noted that Risk 1 (Failure to fill the SFC funded places) was still a risk given the potential under supply of such students in Scotland. Looking at Risk 4 (Increased Competition) the Committee felt that it was important for the University to be proactive in developing appropriate relationships/partnerships with other institutions as an important element in mitigating the risk and this would be reflected in a revised narrative.

Minute 67: The Committee approved a proposed change to the Internal Audit

process. This was not a change to the remit of the Committee but rather a change to its practise. In future, at the start of each year, when the Committee approves the list of audit topics, the internal auditors would prepare draft terms of reference for all the planned audits. SMT would then review the proposed terms of reference and agree any changes with the internal auditors before bringing them to the Committee for its final approval.

Minute 68: The Committee considered the Communication of Risk between Court Committees. This discussion highlighted the fact that risk was not just a matter for the Audit and Risk Committee to consider. It required a wider understanding and appreciation of risk across all committees of Court and Court itself. The Committee did note that there were potential overlaps with Advance HE report on their Governance Effectiveness Review.

The Committee welcomed the potential opportunity that the Governance Effectiveness Review presented to have a much more holistic approach to risk. The Committee noted that it would be important to have a lead executive identified as the 'owner' of each risk and clarity about which committee of Court was most appropriate to deal with actions arising out of all audit recommendations to ensure timely responses to audit tracker follow-up.

Minute 75: The Committee agreed the arrangements for the conclusion of the tendering process for the Internal Audit contract.

In the discussion that followed, members noted the significant risks associated with failure to meet the UKVI requirements for sponsoring international students. Court welcomed the revised approach to internal audits and the wider discussion of risk, noting that risk appetite was a matter for all Court members and would be discussed as part of the Court conference in November.

Thereafter, Court received the minutes.

91 FINANCE AND CORPORATE PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:
09 JUNE 2022

CT/0622/66

Mr McDonald, as Chair of the Committee, referred to the minutes and invited Court to note the following recommendations which were related to items 12 and 14 on the agenda:

Minute 52: The Committee had a lengthy discussion on the paper on Operational Planning and Budgeting for 2022/25, noting the assumptions on which the plans were based. The Committee agreed to recommend to Court, for its approval, the proposed adjustment to the EBITDA range, and the financial plan, which would form the basis of the strategic financial plan submission to the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) due at the end of June 2022.

Minute 54: The Committee considered the Estates Strategy Update and, after discussion, agreed to recommend to Court, for its approval, the designation of

the proposed two priority projects, and the funding proposal to develop investment ready business cases for these two projects as part of the Capital and Infrastructure Plan.

Mr McDonald then invited Court to note the following from the minutes:

Minute 48: The Committee noted the declaration from Mr Marks regarding his association with a Knowledge Transfer Partnership Agreement with the University and noted that this would not compromise his position as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Minute 51: The Committee received the UBS Update Report and noted that the value of the investments had gone down from £12.04M on 20 October 2021 to £11.62M on 08 June 2022. However, after discussion, the Committee agreed that the long-term approach was right for the University and noted that short term cash balances might be invested.

Minute 53: The Committee received the Capital and Infrastructure Projects Update noting that valuable lessons had been learned from the successful completion of the cyberQuarter and that all projects were subject to post project review and benefits realisation as part of the methodology.

Thereafter Court received the minutes.

92 REMUNERATION COMMITTEE REPORT FROM MEETING HELD ON 16
MAY 2022

CT/0622/67

Court noted the report.

[Secretary's note: Mr C Warnock joined the meeting at this point]

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL

93 OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL PLANNING UPDATE 2022/3 TO 2024/5

CT/0622/68

Court noted that the paper presented the University's updated operational and financial plans for 2022-23 to 2024-25 and that the Finance and Corporate Performance Committee (FCPC) had considered an earlier version of the paper and was content to recommend the paper to Court for its approval.

Ms Summers introduced the report and advised Court of the challenging environment the University continued to face. Whereas there had been good news with the increase in funding arising from the outcome of the recent Research Excellence Framework (REF) exercise, the 1.5% increase in funding per student place from the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) for 2022/3 fell well short of inflation, with a 'flat cash' funding scenario in future years. Court noted that while there was confidence that the plans and financial forecasts were realistic and prudent, the Executive Group, with the Senior Management Team (SMT), would be keeping these under regular review. Appropriate action to manage costs would be taken should the circumstances

change and FCPC would continue to receive regular reports at its meetings.

Ms Summers explained that the planning round focused on ensuring that the University would continue to deliver its strategic plan commitments and continued to secure the financial sustainability of the University in the medium term. The University was developing new income streams through activity to support online and international partners and the plan included support for this as well as other key business activities. Ms Summers emphasised that the assumptions on income were prudent, and that UK Government 'Green Book' optimism bias of 40% had been applied as well. Ms Summers noted the risks associated with the forecast drop in student numbers and added that the University was expected to meet the SFC 'threshold' this year, but this might not be the case in future years. Ms Summers confirmed that there would be a review of the position in the autumn.

Court noted that, while some areas of the University would have less resource next year, there were no plans for a structured programme of redundancies or restructuring as had happened in previous years and that all areas were being asked to look at different modes of delivery.

Mr Weir referred members to Section 6 of the paper and advised Court that the EBITDA stood at 11.54% currently. He added that Court had set an initial EBITDA range of 6% - 8% and, in 2021/2, increased this to 10% - 12% when student recruitment was much improved over the budgeted position, bringing additional fee income to the University. Court was being asked to consider a revised EBITDA range of 8% - 10% which should achieve an approximate accounting 'break-even' position. Mr Weir confirmed that the financial plans took account of the risk factors and included a detailed sensitivity analysis.

Mr McDonald welcomed the level of detail in the plan and highlighted the challenges of developing a three-year plan when there is certainty only with the first year. He added that the University was in a healthy position and emphasised that FCPC received quarterly financial reports and that the Committee was happy to recommend the paper to Council for its approval.

In the discussion that followed, members welcomed the quality and detail of the paper, and the assurances provided to Court despite the real term reduction in funding from SFC. In response to a question about partnerships in countries such as China, Professor Bacon responded that that work was underway to develop a revised partnerships framework that would take account of the risks inherent in such arrangements. She added that a paper would be brought to Court on this matter in the autumn. In the meantime, she cautioned that there were potential risks associated with withdrawing from existing partnerships without due cause.

Thereafter, Court **approved** the following:

- The revised EBITDA range of 8% - 10%.
- The financial plan set out in section 6 of the paper and Annex C, noting that this will form the basis of the strategic and financial plan submission

to the Scottish Funding Council (SFC).

- The capital plan assumptions in section 6.4 of the paper, noting the requirement for business case development of any major projects.

94 DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT TO SFC ON QUALITY

CT/0622/69

Professor Bacon, as Chair of Senate, introduced the draft annual report to the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) and advised that it had come from Senate with a recommendation for Court to consider it for approval and submission to SFC by 30 September 2022. It was noted that some data were outstanding as they were not yet available and would be added later, noting that appropriate placeholders had been added and highlighted in the paper.

Professor Bacon advised Court that the University continued to perform well. The report reflected a successful Enhancement-led Institutional Review (ELIR), that had taken place between October and November 2021, and had resulted in an 'effective' judgement. Professor Bacon explained that this was a positive judgement which confirmed that the University meets sector expectations in securing the academic standards of its awards and enhancing the quality of the student learning experience it provides, currently and into the future. The judgement confirms also there can be public confidence in the University's awards and in the quality of the learning experience it provides for its students. Professor Bacon added that the review report included four commendations for good practice and five recommendations. In addition to the ELIR, there had been three Institution-led Reviews (ILRs) during the year and each of these had resulted in 'effective' judgments for the areas concerned.

Professor Bacon highlighted the very effective work being done in enhancement, including the development of micro-credentials which were proving successful in underpinning student retention. Court noted that there had also been some excellent accreditation outcomes with several important Professional Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs). She added that there had been very positive outcomes from the 2022 JISC Digital Insights Survey.

In response to a question about the University's formal responsibility for student outcomes delivered through its various partnership agreements, Professor Bacon confirmed that this requirement applied to UK students only. However, the University did monitor outcomes, where this was practicable, to ensure that partners were delivering programmes to a high standard. Court noted that some outcomes, such as employment, were difficult to track for students studying overseas. It was noted that the use of acronyms in the report made reading it quite difficult at times.

Thereafter, Court **approved** the report on the understanding that it would receive the final draft version at its September meeting, and **delegated authority** for submission of the report to the Chair of Court and the Principal.

Action: Professor Bacon to provide Court with final draft report for the September meeting.

95 ESTATES STRATEGY

CT/0622/70

Mr Warnock, the Head of Estates, introduced the paper and advised Court that the paper was an update on the development of the estates strategy that identified two priority projects to be taken forward as the next phase of development of the Estates Strategy. Court noted that the paper and its proposals had been considered by FCPC at its meeting on 09 June 2022 and that references to the Strategic Plan had been included in the report as suggested at that meeting. FCPC's support for the paper and its proposals was noted also.

Mr Warnock explained that the intention was to develop investment ready business cases for the two priority projects (the Energy Centre and the Health and Wellbeing Collection) over the years 2021/22 (£145K required) and 2022/23 (£289K required). He advised Court that the University had demonstrated its ability to deliver projects of this scale on time and within budget with the very successful completion of the work on the Annie Lamont Building (cyberQuarter). The projects were aligned with key Scottish Government priorities relating to environmental sustainability and that there had been positive discussions with representatives of Scottish Government. In addition, the projects were aligned also with priorities for Dundee City Council, including the planned redevelopment of the Bell Street public car park.

In the discussion that followed, Court noted the positive impact the projects could have on the whole University community and the city of Dundee. In response to a question about the likelihood of success in securing funding for the projects, Mr Warnock indicated that there was a better than even chance of securing subsequent funding adding that extensive work was being done to secure local support for the projects. Court noted that the proposed timescale for completion of the two projects was November 2026.

Thereafter, Court **approved**:

- The designation of the proposed two priority projects identified in the paper; and
- The funding proposal to develop investment ready business cases for the two projects as part of the Capital and Infrastructure plan.

[Secretary's note: Mr C Warnock left the meeting at this point]

96 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY (NSS) 2021

CT/0622/71

Professor Bacon introduced the report and advised Court that the 2022 NSS results were due to be published on 06 July. She explained that this report on the 2021 NSS results reflected the actions that had been taken already. Whereas there had been some very positive outcomes in the 2021 NSS, there were five programmes where there were significant concerns and a number of University-wide themes.

Professor Bacon assured Court that a high-quality student experience was a top priority and that there was ongoing activity in schools to implement relevant action plans to ensure that the University recovered its previous high national standing in the NSS. In response to a question about the impact of COVID, Professor Bacon accepted that there was some risk of overstating its impact but assured Court that the University would continue to be robust in its analysis of any mitigating factors. It was noted that COVID had a particularly detrimental effect on laboratory-based subjects.

In the discussion that followed Court noted that the school action plans included feedback from individual module surveys and that where there had been significant improvements, it wasn't always possible to translate this more generally to other subject areas. It was also acknowledged that for some programmes, the results continued to highlight challenges and that Deans were working closely with the programmes concerned to seek sustained improvement. Professor Bacon added that the student experience was not a precise science and advised Court that a new approach to student learning, including more social interaction, was being launched in the new session and that there would be a comprehensive review of its impact. Professor Bacon confirmed that Court would receive an update on the 2022 NSS Survey outcomes once a full analysis had been completed.

Thereafter Court noted the report.

97 REVISED DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2022/23

CT/0622/72

Court **approved** the revised draft calendar of meetings of Court and Court Committee meetings.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

98 ACADEMIC MATTERS REPORT AND SENATE REPORTS

CT/0633/73

Professor Bacon introduced the Academic Matters report highlighting the very successful Research Excellence Framework (REF) outcome for the University.

Thereafter, Court noted the report and the reports of the meetings of Senate held on 30 April 2022 and 08 June 2022.

99 PREVENT DUTY: ANNUAL REPORT TO COURT

CT/0622/74

Ms Summers introduced the Prevent Duty Annual Report to Court for the 2021/22 session and advised Court that she was now the single point of contact for Prevent and sat on the region's multi-agency CONTEST Board (the remit of which includes Prevent as well as other strands of the CONTEST strategy).

Thereafter Court noted the report.

100 STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION REPORT TO COURT

CT/0622/75

Ms Thiel introduced the report and advised Court that it had been a good year despite the challenges of COVID. She reflected on her experience as President of the Students' Association over the year and said that the experience and relationship with the Court and its Committees have been a positive one for her. The Chair thanked Ms Thiel and said that Court had enjoyed receiving her reports throughout the year.

Thereafter the Court noted the report.

101 GRADUATION CELEBRATION EVENTS SUMMER 2022

CT/0622/76

Ms McKenzie provided the Court with an update on progress for the upcoming graduation celebration events. The Chair encouraged members to attend especially the Friday ceremony. Ms McKenzie requested that any remaining Court members who wished to attend the lunch should approach her at the end of the Court meeting today to confirm.

Thereafter the Court noted the report.

102 DEPARTURE OF MEMBERS

Oral report

The Chair advised Court that this would be the last meeting for Professor Inns, Ms Thiel, and Mr Jacimow. She thanked Professor Inns for his commitment to the University and his constructive and helpful challenges during discussions. The Chair then thanked Ms Thiel and to Mr Jacimow also for their time and commitment to the Court and its Committees and wished them both well in their future endeavours.

103 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Oral report

No other business was declared.

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and contributions to a busy agenda and to the meetings.

[Secretary's note: Professor Bacon, Ms Baldie, Professor Irons, Ms McKenzie, Ms Robertson, Ms Summers, and Mr Weir left the meeting at this point.]

107 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next scheduled meeting is Wednesday 14 September 2022.

**Dr A Ingram
Chair**