

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

Court

Minute of Meeting held on Wednesday 22 June 2005 in Senate Room

Present:

Dr Jacqueline Atkinson, Professor David Bennett, Mr Norman Berry, Professor John Briggs, Professor Andrew Christie, Professor Mike French, Dr Alastair Hunter, Dr Geoffrey Moores, Mr John Andrew Murray, Dr Keith Nimmo, Mrs Margaret Paxton, Mr David Ross, Sir Muir Russell, Mr Ian Russell, Mr Michael Sandford, Dr Mona Siddiqui, Mrs Joy Travers, Professor David Watt, Mr Donald Wilson.

In attendance:

Professor Steve Beaumont (Vice-Principal Research), Mr Ralph Connolly (Human Resources), Dr Gordon Hamilton (University Medical Officer), Mr Ian Hawkins (Administrative Officer), Mr Robert Fraser (Director of Finance), Professor Peter Holmes (Vice-Principal), Miss Jan Hulme (Academic Secretary), Professor Robin Leake (Vice-Principal), Professor Malcolm McLeod (Vice-Principal), Professor Chris Morris (Vice-Principal), Professor Anton Muscatelli (Vice-Principal Strategy and Budgeting), Professor Andrew Nash (Clerk of Senate), Mr David Newall (Secretary of Court), Professor Andrea Nolan (Vice-Principal Learning and Teaching), Mr Alastair Sim (Director of Planning Services).

Apologies:

Members: Mr Scott Cairns, Ms Kate Phillips, Dr Craig Reddie, Mrs Margaret McCafferty, Mr Robert McLaggan, the Rector.

Attendees: Mr Ian Black (Director of Human Resources), Ms Annie Vaz (Acting Director of Publicity Services).

CRT/2004/55. [Minutes](#) of the meeting held on Wednesday 11 May 2005

Court approved the minute of the meeting held on 11 May 2005

CRT/2004/56. Matters Arising

56.1 Procedure for the Appointment of Deans

Court noted that further discussions were to take place between the Territorial VPs, the Principal and the Secretary of Court on whether or not there would be a presumption in favour of an internal appointment in the procedure for the appointment of Deans. A report would be submitted to Court on the matter in October. In the meantime should any decisions be required to be made on the process of the appointment of Deans the Secretary of Court would consult with the relevant Territorial VP, the Principal and the Chancellor's Assessor at the appropriate time.

56.2 Governance

Court noted that further discussions on this matter would be held between the Chancellor's Assessor and the Secretary of Court over the summer months.

CRT/2004/57. Report from the Senior Management Group

57.1 Geomatics

Court noted that the report should refer to the closure of the *Geomatics Section of the Department of Geography and Geomatics* and not the Geomatics Department as stated in the report.

57.2 Budgets 2005-06

Court noted the views of the SMG on the budgets for 2005-06 and the financial forecasts to 2008 and considered in detail the relevant part of the Report from the Finance Committee (Paper 7.6 on the agenda).

The Principal emphasised that there was no serious challenge to the overall policy being pursued to create financial headroom to allow the University to refocus and invest in those areas of strength in accordance with its strategic objectives.

In response to questions the Director of Finance reassured Court that the figures in the budget and financial forecasts for the voluntary severance scheme were a full assessment of the costs. He also confirmed that pay costs would continue to rise despite the implementation of the scheme and the modernisation agenda. Court noted that the delayed onset of the voluntary severance scheme would not necessarily lead to lower savings in 2005-06 as factors such as the length of time the scheme was open and the individual dates of the end of employment were more critical in determining how quickly savings would be accrued. Court also noted that although the maximum figure of 69 weeks of salary was unchanged, in order to make the scheme sufficiently attractive to a larger number of staff, a minimum figure of 12 weeks salary had been introduced.

Also with regard to the voluntary severance scheme the Vice-Principal (Strategy and Budgeting) confirmed that non-pay budgets would not suffer if savings under the scheme were delayed, though in such circumstances the pay budgets would need to be reprofiled.

In response to questions the Director of Finance confirmed that the University's peak aggregate borrowing requirement as set out in the budget of £30M was not unmanageable and he was comfortable that this position was sustainable. He reminded Court that the University had a higher level of borrowing before it entered into the *Glasgow Student Villages* arrangement.

Court approved the 2005-06 budget as attached to the report of the Finance Committee and agreed that the *Commentary on the Financial Forecasts* and the *Strategic Plan Forecast 2004-08* be passed to SHEFC.

57.3 Science Research Investment Fund/ Learning and Teaching Infrastructure Fund SRIF/LTIF

The bids made followed the priorities emerging under the Shape and budget exercises. The Principal agreed to circulate to the members of Court the summary document referred to in the report on the successful SRIF/LTIF bids.

CRT/2004/58. Modernisation Agenda

The Secretary of Court introduced a presentation by Mr Ralph Connolly on the progress of the University's implementation of the national framework agreement with the Trades Unions for a more rational pay structure and Performance and Development Review. He added that a Sub-Group of the Senior Management Group had been established to lead the process and that this included the Director of Human Resources, the VP (Teaching and Learning), the Director of Finance and the Secretary of Court.

CRT/2004/59. Report from the Secretary of Court

59.1 Universitas 21 - Memorandum of Understanding

Court approved the Memorandum of Understanding with U21Global as set out in the report and noted that it focussed on the issue of academic recognition. Court also noted it was likely that a request for further investment in U21 would be received later in the calendar year and that a paper would be brought to Court for discussion at that time.

Court also noted the University's engagement with the U21 Network as set out in the report.

59.2 Revised Smoking Policy

Court noted that the University's existing policy permitted smoking in certain designated areas and licensed premises and that the SRC supported a no smoking policy in all public places (minute 11.6 of November 2004 refers).

Subject to consultation with the College Club, the Student Unions and the Postgraduate Club, Court approved the proposal as set out in Annex 2 of the report that all exemptions be removed from the Smoking Policy so that it should read:

Smoking will not be permitted in any University building, department or official vehicle. All public areas in all buildings will be non-smoking.

The Clerk of Senate undertook to raise the issue of not permitting smoking in those student residences owned by *Glasgow Student Villages* at its Board meeting later that month.

Court also took the view that tobacco and tobacco products should not be sold or provided from University premises and agreed that the College Club, the Student Unions and the Postgraduate Club be consulted on this as well.

Court noted that, in order to be in place before students began to arrive for the next academic year, a proposed start date for the revised policy of 1 September 2005 would be appropriate.

59.3 Review of Student Funding - Submissions from the QMU and the GUU

Court noted that the Student Finance Sub-Committee had considered the submissions by the two Unions on the matter of the level of their funding settlements for 2005-06 and that it had also met with representatives of each of the student bodies. The Secretary of Court reported that both the QMU and GUU had returned deficit budgets but the Sub-Committee had emphasised to each of the Unions that it was for them to manage those deficits. All the student

bodies had been encouraged to submit bids for additional one-off grants from the Development Fund set aside for 2005-06.

Court agreed the recommendation of the Sub-Committee that the settlement with each of the student bodies be confirmed at the levels previously approved by Court ie:

	2005/06 (£)
<i>Students' Representative Council</i>	368,000
<i>Glasgow University Union</i>	156,000
<i>Queen Margaret Union</i>	138,000
<i>GUSA</i>	172,000
<i>Hetherington Research Club</i>	27,500
<i>Development Fund</i>	<u>215,500</u>
	1,077,000

59.4 Appointment of the Head of Division of Molecular Genetics (IBLS)

Court approved the recommendation of its Appointing Committee that Professor Marshall Stark be appointed as Head of the Division of Molecular Genetics for the period 1 August 2005 to 31 July 2009 and noted that Professor Darren Monckton would be appointed as his deputy.

59.5 Appointing Committee for the Headship of the School of Business and Management

Court noted that the Secretary of Court, acting under delegated authority, had extended the remit of the Appointing Committee in the Faculty of Law, Business and Social Sciences to include the nomination of a successor to Professor Robert Paton as the Head of the School of Business and Management.

Court also approved the appointment of Professor Laing as the Acting Head of the School of Business and Management with effect from 1 August 2005.

59.6 Arrangements for the Election of the Chancellor

Court appointed the Clerk to the General Council to the position of Registrar for the purposes of the election of the Chancellor as provided by Ordinance 199.

In response to questions the Secretary of Court confirmed that although recent SRC elections had been undertaken electronically this was not currently feasible for the position of Chancellor as e-mail addresses were not available for the full population of members of the General Council and security issues would need to be addressed.

59.7 University Parking Charges

Court confirmed that parking charges would rise in 2005-2006 from £135 to £150 (Gilmorehill) and from £85 to £100 (Garscube).

Court noted the views of some members that, as part of any green transport policy, staff should be encouraged to cycle to work and this should include the provision of showers and covered, secure parking facilities.

59.8 Resolutions

Court approved the following final Resolutions as set out in the report subject to the consideration of any comments from the General Council.

- 542 - Amendment of Resolution 114; Regulation to Revise the Master of Letters to Accommodate a new Master of Letters Taught Degree
- 543 - Template for Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees

59.9 Braveheart Ventures

Court noted that, acting under delegated authority, the Chancellor's Assessor, the Principal and the Secretary of Court had approved an agreement with Braveheart Ventures, a Perth-based investment syndicate. The agreement made available £5m to support the commercialisation of technologies in receipt of funding from Scottish Enterprise's *Proof of Concept Fund*.

59.10 Amendments to the Constitution of the SRC

Court noted that, acting under delegated authority, the Secretary of Court had approved temporary constitutional amendments to take account of the fact that the 7th Statutory Meeting of the Council was adjourned and reconvened at a later date.

59.11 Bequest

Court noted the receipt of a bequest from the late Laura Ruth R Pickford (RW Pickford's Trust) in the sum of £145,042 to be used to fund a Staff Travelling Fellowship in Psychology, known as *The Pickford Travelling Fellowship*. This bequest was in addition to £800,000 received in March 2005, for the same purpose and reported to Court at that time.

59.12 Deanship of the Faculty of Law, Business and Social Sciences

Court agreed the recommendation of its Committee of Recommendation that Professor Noreen Burrows be appointed as Dean of the Faculty of Law, Business and Social Sciences for a period of four years until 31 July 2009.

59.13 Deanship of the Faculty of Physical Sciences

Court approved the establishment of the following Committee of Recommendation:

- Professor Robin Leake (Territorial VP - Convener)
- Professor John Hancock (Cognate Dean)
- Dr Mona Siddiqui (Member of Court)
- Mr Norman Berry (Member of Court)

Two representatives of staff (to be nominated by the staff)

Court noted that the current incumbent, Professor David Saxon was eligible to serve for a second term of four years.

59.14 Headship of the Department of Economic and Social History

Court agreed the recommendation of its Appointing Committee that Dr Neil Rollings be appointed to the headship of the Department for the period 1 January 2006 until 31 July 2009. The current head of the department, Professor Ray Stokes will remain in post until that time.

59.15 Membership of the Nominations Committee

Court approved the appointment of Mr Donald Wilson to the membership of the Nominations Committee to replace Mr Michael Sandford such that the membership of the Committee should be:

- Chancellor's Assessor (Convener)
- The Principal
- Mr Scott Cairns (Lay Member of Court)
- Mr Donald Wilson (Lay Member of Court)
- Secretary of Court

59.16 The Beatson Institute

Court approved the action of the Chancellor's Assessor, the Principal and the Secretary of Court who, acting under delegated authority and on behalf of Court, had accepted a tender for the construction of the CRUK Beatson Cancer Research facility at Garscube in the sum of £11.95M within a total estimated project cost of £15.22M. Court also noted that external funding had been secured from Cancer Research UK (£5.95M), the Wolfson Foundation (£2M) and the Robertson Trust (£1M). A further contribution of £800,000 would be met from SRIF funds received from SHEFC, with the remaining £5.47M funded from borrowing within the figure of £30M referred to by the Director of Finance at minute 57.2 above.

59.17 The Draft Revised Financial Memorandum with SHEFC

Court noted the new draft revised Financial Memorandum with SHEFC attached to the report and that this addressed the University's main issues of concern that the earlier draft had been too prescriptive.

CRT/2004/60. Communications from Senate

60.1 Draft Amendments to Resolution and Regulations for the Degree of Master of Philosophy

Court approved the revised draft resolution and draft regulations for the degree of MPhil as set out Appendix A to the report.

60.2. Draft Constitution: Centre for Scottish & Celtic Studies

Court approved the draft constitution for the Centre for Scottish and Celtic Studies.

Court otherwise noted the Communications from Senate

CRT/2004/61. Minutes and Reports of Court Committees

61.1 Human Resources Committee

The report from the Human Resources Committee was noted

61.2 Estates Planning and Strategy Committee

The report from the Estates Planning and Strategy Committee was noted.

61.3 Research Planning and Strategy Committee

The report from the Research Planning and Strategy Committee was noted.

61.4 Academic and Academic Related Board of Review

Court agreed, formally, the promotions/advancements of academic and related staff report set out in the report whilst noting that the staff concerned had already been notified of the outcomes in accordance with Court's decision at its last meeting (Minute 51.6).

Court also agreed that Dr Campell Leith of the Faculty of Law, Business and Social Sciences be promoted to a personal professorship under the fast track procedures.

Court also noted that, acting under delegated authority, the Principal had appointed Mr Aleksandr Lazarev as an Honorary Professor for a period of two years from 18 April 2005.

61.5 Secretarial and Related Committee of Review

The report from the Secretarial and Related Committee of Review was noted.

61.6 Finance Committee

61.6.1 The Hub Redevelopment

The Secretary of Court informed Court that it was hoped that options for the Hub would be presented to the Convener of the Finance Committee and the Principal by mid-August.

61.6.2 Update on Financing Matters

Court agreed the recommendation of the Committee that the current banking arrangements be retained and that the loan facility of up to £30M (at base rate plus 0.25%) from the Royal Bank of Scotland be accepted as a standalone item in relation to the Hub, Beatson and Small Animal Hospital projects.

61.6.3 Credit Facilities with the Clydesdale Bank

On the recommendation of the Committee Court approved the following amendments to the Facilities Letter from the Clydesdale Bank:

A. The Overdraft Facility is increased from £10M to £15M until the 30th September 2005 reducing to £10M until the review date.

B. An increase in the overall gross overdraft from £35M to £40M to reflect the increase in "A" (Gross Overdraft is the total figure resulting from adding the accounts which are overdrawn together and not adjusting for any accounts which are not overdrawn)

C. The change in the review date from 30th April 2005 to 30th April 2006

D. The change in the BACS limit to reflect the Payroll and Creditors BACS increase of £1M to £14M

In addition to the above, the overdraft interest rate with the Clydesdale Bank for any overdrafts within the agreed Overdraft Facility will continue to be 0.4% over Base rate.

The report from the Finance Committee was otherwise noted.

(Also see Minute 57.2 for discussion on the budget and financial forecasts).

61.7 Audit Committee

The report from the Audit Committee was noted.

61.8 Nominations Committee

The report from the Nominations Committee was noted.

61.9 Equality and Diversity Strategy Committee

With regard to the outcomes of the equality audit set out in the report, Court noted that the Director of Human Resources would look at how the proposals could be resourced and the Principal confirmed that further decisions would be needed before any additional expenditure was incurred.

The report from the Equality and Diversity Strategy Committee was otherwise noted.

61.10 Health, Safety and Environment Committee

Court noted that the Secretary of Court and the University's Director of the Safety and Environment Protection Service would meet the following day to look to resolve the issues highlighted by the Health and Safety Executive Inspectors' visits to the Division of [Immunology, Infection & Inflammation](#) in the Faculty of Medicine.

The report from the Health, Safety and Environment Committee was otherwise noted.

CRT/2004/62. Any Other Business

62.1 Thanks and Farewells

As this was the last meeting of Court in the current session the Chancellor's Assessor expressed her thanks to the following members of Court for the dedicated and hard working way they had dealt with matters before them and the collegial fashion in which business had been conducted:

- Mr Michael Sandford
- Dr Geoffrey Moores

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- Professor David Watt
- Mr John Andrew Murray

Court wished the outgoing President of the SRC, John Andrew Murray, well for the future.

CRT/2004/63 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Court would be held on Wednesday 5 October 2005 at 2:00pm.

Prepared by: Ian Hawkins Clerk to Committee i.hawkins@admin.gla.ac.uk

Last modified on: Tuesday 11 October 2005

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