

SUMMARY REPORT OF COURT 11 June 2026

The Court met on campus on Thursday, 11 June 2026 for the final meeting of the 2025–26 academic year. It was the first meeting for new lay governors, Andrew Craig, Barbara Allison CBE, Cara Chambers and Vida Rudkin, and for the new Student President, Chinaenyenwa Ugo. The Court congratulated Hamza Siddiqi on his re-election and his appointment for a second year as a student governor. Court welcomed the reappointment of the two trade union nominated governors, Ellen Gibson and Dr Nick McKerrell.

The Court expressed warm appreciation of the outstanding contribution made over the last nine years by lay governors, Asif Haseeb OBE and Daniel Gallacher who will demit office on 31 July.

Professor Craig Gaskell was welcomed to his first meeting in attendance as Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. The Court thanked Professor John Connolly and Professor Sharron Dolan for their invaluable contribution to its understanding of the research agenda and wished them well as they stepped down from their shared interim Pro Vice-Chancellor Research role.

What follows is a high-level summary of the main issues addressed by Court on 11 June, which will also appear on the University website. Minutes of the meeting will be published on the University website in due course.

Yvette Hopkins
Chair of Court

1. Principal & Vice Chancellor's Report

The Court discussed the Principal's report, which included progress on the Programme for Change, industrial action, and continued engagement with staff, students and trade unions.

The report highlighted strategic activity, including the development of the Strategy for 2035, and the focus on enhancing the University's profile and partnerships. Sector developments included the Scottish Funding Council allocations, Parliamentary engagement, and participation in a national Quality Assurance Agency review of awarding arrangements.

The Principal also reflected on recent events and achievements across the University community, including academic conferences such as the University's Education Conference 2026, external partnerships, student and staff successes, and preparations for summer graduations.

2. Finance and Risk

- **Finance and Risk Report**

The Court discussed a report from the Chief Financial Officer which provided an overview of the organisation's financial position, including forward projections, debt and cash status, key financial performance indicators, and the current corporate risk profile.

- **UKVI Compliance and Action Plan Report**

Court discussed the work to address the UKVI Action Plan and the implications of the new even more stringent UKVI compliance regime and metrics.

- **Student Recruitment Report**

The Court noted the report, which provided a summary view of student numbers at the Glasgow and London campuses in 2025-26 together with an update on international applications for the Trimester A 2026-27 cycle.

3. Strategic Refocus 2035

A presentation from the Principal outlined the work underway to support a strategic refocus, ensuring continued alignment with the University's long-term priorities and external environment. This process is intended to review existing activities, strengthen areas of strategic importance, and position the institution to respond effectively to emerging opportunities and challenges.

4. Draft Budget 2026-2027

The Court approved the draft budget for 2026-27, noting the key assumptions and a range of scenarios which reflected the continuing uncertainty around the principal budget drivers. Although approved, the budget would continue to be refined and return to Court as uncertainty diminished.

5. Students' Association Student President's Report

The Student President reported on recent activities and initiatives of the Students' Association, including the induction of the 2026-27 Full Time Officer team and their objectives and the successful premiere of Osinubi Oluwatomisin's *Not Your Student* documentary, which explored the lived experiences of students. The report covered the ongoing research into student participation in university committees to strengthen student voice and representation, as well as recent engagement with the Quality Assurance Agency national review of awarding arrangements.

6. University Secretary's Report

The Court noted a report from the University Secretary which covered governance and operational matters. Court approved delegated authority for the Chair during summer, the Court's annual work programme and the meetings calendar 2027-28.

7. University Senate Report – 3 June 2026

The Court received a report from the Senate meeting held on 3 June 2026 and approved the revised Code of Student Conduct, including the amendments to the composition of the Court Appeal Committee.

8. Research Report Q3

The Court noted a report which highlighted strong research activity, alongside progress in REF2029 preparation, research culture, and innovation.

9. Standing Committee Business

The Court noted reports, and approved various recommendations, from the People Committee, Audit and Risk Committee, Finance and General Purposes Committee, and the Remuneration Committee.

10. Operational Matters Update and Communications Report

The report provided an update on operations across Executive portfolios, focusing on issues of strategic significance. The report covered estates; security, safety and resilience; asset management and maintenance; student

surveys; cyber security; progress on the 150th Anniversary Campaign, alumni engagement, entrepreneurial initiatives, and an update on the Commonwealth Games accreditation centre. It also highlighted the quarterly media coverage received by the University during April and May 2026.

11. Chair of Court's annual appraisal

Led by the Vice-Chair, the Court considered the performance of the Chair of Court after completion of her first year in the role. The Vice-Chair will provide feedback to the Chair who absented herself for the discussion along with those in attendance at the meeting.

12. Appointment of Vice-Chair of Court

After due process, Alan Dickson has been named as Vice-Chair to succeed Meg Lustman when she demits office as a governor after the September Court meeting.

13. Date of next Court meeting

The next meeting of Court will take place on Thursday, 17 September 2026, with the Court Dinner taking place on Wednesday, 16 September 2026.