

SUMMARY REPORT OF COURT 8th February 2024

The University Court met today, 8th February 2024.

The Court welcomed Caroline Bysh, PVC Engagement, and Professor Louise Dixon, PVC Education, on joining the University Executive. They heard a brief account from each on their career to date and how they want to take forward these important portfolios.

I confirmed to Court my intention to step down from the role at the end of my current term of office in February 2025. The Vice-Chair of Court will lead the process for the appointment of my successor.

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

Rob Woodward
Chair of Court

1. Principal & Vice Chancellor & UEG Report

The report provided a summary of items arising since the previous Court meeting with the Principal highlighting key issues. Court was briefed in particular on PwC's Financial Sustainability Report on the sector, the Ministerial Group on Educational Reform, changes to the Skilled Worker Visa Rules, the Scottish Government Budget Announcement, the evolution of the Research Excellence Framework and postponement of the next REF until 2029, and an update on the University's QAA Quality Enhancement and Standards Review which will be published in mid-February.

2. Chancellor

Court addressed the appointment of a new Chancellor for the University.

3. Chief Operating Officer and DVC's Report

The COO and DVC gave an overview of key developments in finance, Estates, IT, Future Students, Marketing & Communications, Foundation, Registry & School Professional Services and Covid Inquiry.

4. Student President's Report

The Student President reported on the recent activities and initiatives undertaken by the Students' Association drawing particular attention to the Cost of Living Crisis Support, Strategic Plan 2025 Update, Winter Warmer Campaign, Re:Union Bar Upgrade Works, Full Time Officer Elections, NUS UK Manifesto and Student Partnership Agreement Launch.

5. Students' Association Trimester 1 Report

The Student President delivered the Association's Trimester A report.

6. University Secretary's Report

The Court noted a report from the University Secretary which referred to the response to the quinquennial Governance Effectiveness Review being proposed by the Court Governance and Nominations Committee and the Calendar of Meetings 2024/25 and 2025/26.

7. Strategy 2030 Refresh

The Court discussed a report on the Strategy Refresh and associated consultations with staff and students in Glasgow and London. The Court noted plans for consultation with other stakeholders.

8. Student Recruitment Report

The Court considered a report on Student Recruitment showing indicative Tri B 2023/24 recruitment and indicative full-time PGT Tri A and Tri B recruitment combined.

9. Update on GCNYC

The Court noted a report on the progress of the GCNYC transition work.

10. Senate Disciplinary Committee Annual Report

The Court noted the annual report from the Senate Disciplinary Committee covering offences considered under the terms of the Code of Student Conduct during Session 2022/23.

11. Complaints Handling Procedure Annual Report

The Court noted the annual report on the application of the Complaints Handling Procedure in the period of 1st August 2022 to 31st July 2023 which will be published on the University's website.

12. Research Update Trimester A

The Court noted a report on key research policy changes affecting the University and summaries of research proposal submissions and awards for Q2 2023/24.

13. Senate

The Court received a report from the Senate meeting held on 13th December 2023.

14. Standing Committee Business

The Court received reports and where relevant approved recommendations from the People Committee, Audit Committee, Court Governance & Nominations Committee and Finance & General Purposes Committee.

15. GCNYC Board of Trustees Report from Meeting on 15th December 2023

The Court noted the report on the GCNYC Board of Trustees' meeting which took place on 15th December 2023.

16. Communications Report – November-December 2023 Update

The Court noted the report which highlights the media coverage received by the University in November and December 2023.

17. Date of next Court meeting

The next meeting of Court will take place on Thursday 18 April 2024.