

## **SUMMARY REPORT OF COURT 14<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

The University Court met on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and welcomed three new governors, Sharon Lowrie, Meg Lustman and Sylvie Freund Pickavance as well as Sagoon Paudel who is interning at the Committee of University Chairs (CUC) and was invited to attend as an observer.

The meeting was followed by a presentation and discussion on the work of the Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit (SPIRU) led by Professor John McKendrick and Professor Stephen Sinclair with contributions from Peter Kelly, Director of the Poverty Alliance, and Jill Marchbank, a GCU alumna and a researcher in SPIRU.

The Court had previously met with staff and students over dinner and received a presentation from Craig Jamieson, Regional Director for Scotland & Northern Ireland of Barclays Wealth Management, on the £450m Barclays' investment in Glasgow which represents the largest inward investment in Scotland's history. This was also attended by Professor Iain Renwick, the recently appointed President of the British School of Fashion, Glasgow Caledonian University campus in London.

What follows is a high-level summary of the main issues addressed by Court yesterday, which will also go 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 & Executive Board Report**

The report provided a summary of substantive items considered by the Executive Board since the previous Court meeting. The Court noted in particular: the University's success in achieving the authority from the US Homeland Security to allow GCNYC to recruit internationally (including in the UK); the sector's disappointment at the level of funding settlement for 2019/20; the University's considerable work in partnership with the Students Association focused on Mental Health which had attracted praise; and the remaining objectives for 2018/19.

### **2. Student President's Report and Students Association Trimester A Report**

The Student President reported on the Students' Association's current issues, recent activities and the outcome of the recent elections for the 2019/20 office-bearers. She also presented the Association's report on Trimester A activity which is aligned to the Bigger Plan, the SA's 2020 strategic plan. The Court noted in particular the visibility of the Association's drive to support student Mental Health and the high satisfaction ratings of the Association and clubs and societies in the recent International Student Barometer (ISB) survey.

### **3. University Secretary's Report**

The Court noted the report and approved the appointment of two new lay governors, Campbell Fitch and Peter Baguley, on the recommendation of the Court Governance and Nominations Committee.

#### **4. Student Recruitment and Admissions Report**

The Court noted the report on recruitment and admissions including the position following the Trimester B intake. The Court commended the DVC Strategy on an improving performance, discussed further growth and requested a more in-depth briefing on recruitment and admissions on a future occasion.

#### **5. SFC Strategic Dialogue Meeting**

The Court noted that there would be a meeting with representatives of the Scottish Funding Council on 12 April as part of the Council's programme of strategic dialogue meetings with institutions. The event will involve sessions to include lay governors, members of the Executive and staff and students.

#### **6. Draft Outcome Agreement 2019/20**

The Court endorsed the draft Outcome Agreement and will receive the final version for approval before submission to the SFC.

#### **7. 2019 HESA Performance Indicators**

The Court was pleased to note the University's continuing strong showing in these Performance Indicators relating to participation of under-represented groups, projected outcomes and non-continuation.

#### **8. Development of Strategy 2030**

The Court endorsed the proposed framework for the emerging 2030 strategy and the first phase of the consultation with staff, students and external stakeholders in April.

#### **9. GCU Corporate Risk Register**

The Court approved the Register and the inclusion of additional risks and agreed a protocol for addressing its responsibility for risk and monitoring the management of risk.

#### **10. Research Update and Code of Practice for determining the University's REF 2021 Submission**

The Court was pleased to note recent successes in the University's research performance and endorsed the Code of Practice that would govern staff inclusion in REF 2021.

#### **11. University Senate: Report from meeting of Senate held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019.**

The Court noted the report and in particular Senate's consideration of Degree Classifications in the context of a review undertaken by the UK Standing Committee for Quality Assessment. The Senate report included the annual report of the Student Discipline Committee.

#### **12. Standing Committee and GCNYC Board Business**

The Court received reports presented by the Chairs of the Audit Committee, the Finance and General Purposes Committee, and the GCNYC Board of Trustees.

### **13. Date of next Court meeting**

The next meeting of Court will take place on Thursday 2 May 2019.