

SUMMARY REPORT OF COURT 2nd MAY 2019

The University Court met on 2 May 2019 and welcomed a new governor, Campbell Fitch.

The meeting was followed by a visit to the Students' Association to discuss how the Association responded to meeting the needs of a diverse student community.

The Court had previously met with staff and students over dinner and received a presentation from Professor Mike Mannion, who gave a glimpse into intelligent surveillance and the questions it will raise for organisations, including universities, in his talk entitled '*Personal profiling technologies to enhance the student experience – service personalisation or surveillance?*'

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

The report provided a summary of substantive items considered by the Executive Board since the previous Court meeting. These included the positive engagement and constructive dialogue with representatives of the Scottish Funding Council in the course of the recent periodic SFC Strategic Dialogue event - the SFC team was much impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm of staff and students they met; the University's high performance in the new Times Higher Education University Impact Rankings; the research events which took place at GCNYC in early April led by Professor Cam Donaldson and Professor Tahseen Jafry; and the University's retention of its Eco-Campus Platinum status.

2. Student President's Report

The Student President reported on the Students' Association's current issues, recent activities which included the Association's work in partnership with the University on Mental Health and the relocation of functions in the ground floor of the Association's North Hanover Street Building to the CEE building.

3. Chief Operation Officer's Report

The Court noted the report which referred to topics relating to finance, staffing and the estate.

4. University Secretary's Report

The Court noted the report and approved the regulations for the conduct of elections for elected staff governors. The call for nominations for both the academic and the professional and support staff elected governors will be invited soon with a view to filling vacancies arising at the end of July 2019. The Court agreed that these elections should be conducted using the Alternative Vote system

instead of the First Past the Post system which has been used previously. This will need clear communication.

5. Student Recruitment and Admissions Report

The Court noted the report which was an early view of 2019-20 Trimester A student recruitment.

6. International Student Barometer 2018-19 Results

The Court noted the good level of GCU student participation and the University's strong performance in these results.

7. Development of Strategy 2030: Student Consultation

The Principal and the Student President updated Court on the events organised to engage the student community in the development of the strategy and the strong interest that students had shown in the opportunity. Future events will similarly bring engagement with staff to elicit ideas and feedback.

8. Draft GCU Risk Management Policy

The Court approved a revised Risk Management Policy.

9. Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) Report

The Court approved the PSED Report which is published on the University's website as a statutory requirement. The Court discussed the report with the University's Equality and Diversity Adviser and commended the breadth of work undertaken to promote equality and diversity within the university community and beyond.

10. Standing Committees

The Court received reports presented by the Chairs of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, People Committee and the Audit Committee. The Court approved the terms of reference of the Audit Committee which had been modified to include the Committee's specific responsibilities in respect of information governance and security.

11. Date of next Court meeting

The next meeting of Court will take place on Thursday 20 June 2019.