

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE

UNIVERSITY COURT

A meeting of the University Court was held on 4 September 2009.

(Note: this brief business meeting formed part of the annual Court Retreat.)

Present: Mr JR Milligan (in the Chair), Principal Professor CP Downes, Professor RJ Abboud, Mr WI Ball, Professor Emerita A Burchell, Mr R Burns, Mr D Cathcart, Dr A Goligher, Dr J Lowe, Dr LI McLellan, Dr H Marriage, Ms A Newton, Dr AM Roger, Mr A Smith (President of the Students' Association), Professor JS Taylor, Mr IDM Wright

In Attendance: Vice-Principals Professor AH Anderson, Professor J Calderhead and Professor CA Whatley, Professor MC Smith, University Secretary, Directors of Finance, Strategic Planning and Human Resources, Director of Information Services & Deputy Secretary and Clerk to Court

88. **MEDICINES & HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS REGULATORY AGENCY (MHRA) INSPECTION**

The Court received a report from the Clerk to Court outlining the provisional findings of the recent inspection of clinical trials carried out by the MHRA. The University would receive the final report from the inspectors in October. Provisional findings suggested that there were areas for concern but that the University had been allowed to continue to undertake clinical trials. The Inspection Team found evidence that there had been significant positive change in trial systems and processes, including effective sponsor oversight, since the establishment of the Clinical Trials Unit in October 2008, under the leadership of Professor JJF Belch.

In a discussion of the resourcing of the Clinical Trials Unit, the Secretary assured Court that the Unit would be fully supported in the short term, during which time Professor Belch, along with colleagues in the College, would develop a robust business plan with the aim of ensuring that the income derived from clinical trials would cover the costs of their associated governance.

The Court decided: to thank Professor Belch and her staff in the Clinical Trials Unit for their hard work in revising processes and systems and in preparing for the MHRA inspection.

89. **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2009/10**

Following discussion by correspondence amongst members of the Nominations Committee, the Court received and considered the proposed committee memberships for 2009/10. It was noted that, following comments received during the review of Court effectiveness, the process for considering the membership of committees would be revised by the Nominations Committee.

The Court decided: to approve the memberships presented, subject to the addition of Mr Wright as a member of the Nominations Committee (**Appendix 1**).

90. **V&A AT DUNDEE**

The Court received an update on the project from the Director of Strategic Planning. Since the last meeting of Court, the Scottish Government had announced that it would apply significant funding to support the project. The Steering Group for the project, comprising local partners and the V&A, would soon pass its responsibility to a Charitable Company, of which the University would be a founding member.

91. **TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE STRATEGY**

The Court received the Translational Medicine Strategy, which had been endorsed by the Senior Management Team on 25 August 2009. Discussion on the further development and implementation of the strategy would now take place with senior colleagues under the leadership of the Principal.

92. **CHANGES TO ORDINANCES: ORDINANCE 56 - COLLEGES**

The Court decided: to confirm the decision, taken at its meeting on 15 June 2009, to approve the amendments to Ordinance 56, such that the entire text of paragraph 4(g), relating to student representation on College Boards, be replaced with the following:

At least one DUSA Sabbatical Officer, at least one School President from the schools within the College and at least one postgraduate student, and the College Board may authorise the nomination of one or more postgraduate students in the College for this purpose.

93. **VICE-PRINCIPAL & HEAD OF THE COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES**

Note: For this item, Vice-Principals and Officers 'in attendance', with the exception of the Clerk to Court, withdrew from the meeting.

The Principal discussed with Court members the appointment process for his successor as Vice-Principal & Head of the College of Life Sciences. The Court agreed to the Principal's proposal that he conduct discussions with colleagues in the College of Life Sciences on the role of Head of College. The Principal undertook to present proposals for the conduct of an appointment process at the next meeting of Court on 26 October 2009.

MEMBERSHIP OF COURT COMMITTEES 2009-10

Note: The Secretary of the University is responsible for ensuring that each Committee is provided with secretarial services by a member of the University's administrative staff. In addition other officers may attend for all or part of a meeting to provide information and/or to contribute to discussion. No officer, however, shall have voting rights on any Committee unless identified in this list as a member.

1. **Audit Committee**

Members

Mr Richard Burns (Convener)
Mr John Barnett
Emeritus Professor Ann Burchell
Mr Howard Marriage
Ms Alison Newton
Ms Jacqui Thomson

Officers normally in attendance

Convener of Finance & Policy Committee
University Secretary
Director of Finance
Clerk to Court (Secretary)
Other officers at the discretion of the Director of Finance

2. **Ethical Review Committee**

Members (note: most of the membership comprises a pool, from which members are drawn for each meeting)

Professor John McEwen (Convener)
Dr Simon Arthur
Professor David Balfour
Professor Julian Blow
Rev Dr Fiona Douglas
Professor Alan Fairlamb
Professor Nick Fyfe
Dr Colin Henderson
Mr Ian Hunter
Professor Aleksandar Jovanovic
Dr Alasdair Maclean
Mr John MacLeod
Mrs Lorraine Malone
Dr John Mullarkey
Mr Andrew Newman
Mr Gordon Tennant
Professor Julie Taylor
Professor Colin Watts
Professor Eric Wright
Deputy Secretary (Mr P D Evans)
Director of Biological Services

Officer normally in attendance

Ms Edna Finnie (Secretary)

3. **Finance & Policy Committee**

Members

Mr Eric Sanderson (Convener)
Principal
Vice Principal (Professor James Calderhead)
Mr Ian Ball
Dr Janet Lowe
Dr Lesley McLellan
Mr John Milligan
Mr Iain Wright
President of the Students' Association – Andrew Smith
Lay Vacancy

Officers normally in attendance

Convener of Audit Committee
University Secretary
Director of Finance
Deputy Director of Finance
Director of Information Services
Director of Strategic Planning
Director of Campus Services

Clerk to Court (Secretary)

4. **Human Resources Committee**

Members

Dr Janet Lowe (Convener)
Vice Principal (Professor Anne Anderson)
Professor Rami Abboud
Mr Donald Cathcart
Mr Ian Leith
Professor Gary Mires
Dr Howard Marriage
Dr Angela Roger

Officers normally in attendance

University Secretary
Director of Human Resources
Deputy Director of Human Resources (Secretary)
Other officers at the discretion of the Director of Human Resources

5. **Nominations Committee**

Members

Mr John Milligan (Convener)
Principal
Rector
Professor RJ Abboud
Mr Ian Ball
Mr Richard Burns
Dr Janet Lowe
Mr Eric Sanderson
Mr Iain Wright

Officers normally in attendance

University Secretary
Clerk to Court (Secretary)

6. **Remuneration Committee**

Members

Mr Richard Burns (Convener)
Dr Janet Lowe
Mr John Milligan
Ms Alison Newton

Officers normally in attendance

Principal (as required)
University Secretary (as required)
Director of Human Resources (as required)

7. **Senior Management Team**

Members

Principal (Convener)
Vice-Principals
University Secretary
Director of Finance

Officers normally in attendance

Other Directors of Student & Academic Support Services (at the discretion of the University Secretary)
Clerk to Court (Secretary)

8. **University/NHS Strategic Liaison Committee**

University Members

Principal
Head of the College of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing
Dean of Dentistry
Dean of Medicine
Dean of Nursing & Midwifery