

MINUTE OF A MEETING of the University Court of the University of Edinburgh held in the Board Room, Evolution House, Edinburgh College of Art on Monday, 7 November 2011.

Present: Rector (in chair)
The Principal
Mr A Johnston
Mrs M Tait
Dr M Aliotta
Professor J Ansell
Professor D Finnegan
Professor A Harmar
Professor S Monro, Vice-Convener
Professor J Barbour
Dr C Masters
Mr M Murray
Mrs E Noad
Ms A Richards
Mr D Workman
Mr M McPherson, President Students' Representative Council
Mr M Williamson, Vice-President Students' Representative Council

In attendance: Ms S Beattie-Smith, Rector's Assessor
Senior Vice-Principal Professor N Brown
Vice-Principal Professor D Miell
Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees
Vice-Principal Professor C Breward
Dr K Waldron, University Secretary
Mr N Paul, Director of Corporate Services
Dr I Conn, Director Communications and Marketing
Dr A Cornish, Deputy University Secretary and Director of Planning
Mr A Currie, Director of Estates and Buildings
Mr J Gorringe, Director of Finance
Ms S Gupta, Director of Human Resources
Ms F Boyd, Principal's Policy and Executive Officer
Dr K J Novosel, Head of Court Services

Apologies: Sheriff Principal E Bowen
Professor A M Smyth
The Rt Hon G Grubb, Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh
Mr P Budd
Mr D Brook

Court received a presentation from Vice-Principal Professor Chris Breward entitled 'Future directions for the new Edinburgh College of Art'.

A FORMAL BUSINESS

1 MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2011

Paper A1

The Minute of the meeting held on 19 September 2011 was approved as a correct record.

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHANCELLOR’S ASSESSOR Paper A2

Court welcomed the appointment of Sheriff Principal Edward Bowen to the position of Chancellor’s Assessor with effect from 17 October 2011 for an initial period of four years until the 31 July 2015.

B PRINCIPAL'S BUSINESS

1 PRINCIPAL’S COMMUNICATIONS Paper B1

Court noted the items within the Principal’s report and the additional information on: international collaborations and partnerships; the outcome of the spending review; the installation of the Chancellor and other high profile events including that to mark the commencement of work on the Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic; the merger with the Medical Research Council’s Human Genetics Unit on 1 October 2011; and current data on applications received for the next academic year.

2 DESIGNATION OF ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS Paper B2

On the recommendation of the Principal, Court approved the designation of three new Assistant Principals:

Professor James Smith, Global Development
Professor Sue Welburn, Global Health
Professor Mark Rounsevell, Global Environment and Society.

Each appointment to be with effect from 1 November 2011 for an initial period of three years until 31 October 2014.

C SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS

1 REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Professor Monro presented the papers previously circulated.

Report of the Central Management Group meeting of 11 October 2011 **Paper C1.1**

Court welcomed and approved the Equality and Diversity Strategy and Action Plan noting that these documents had been prepared in response to the Equality Act 2010 which brought together previous separate legislation. Court further welcomed the Annual Review Policy Statement and that guidance to take the policy forward was being developed. It was further confirmed that a survey of staff at King’s Buildings had established the level of childcare provision required and that a possible site for the new facility had now been identified. The other items in the report were noted, particularly the Security Advisory Group’s Annual Report which outlined the significant contribution of security and servitor staff in ensuring the success of the increasing number of high profile events.

Report on Other Items **Paper C1.2**

The Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy was approved by Court noting that this Policy applied to all staff across the University and to activities undertaken within the UK and overseas. Court welcomed the training and awareness raising actions and the process being taken forward by the Ethical Fundraising Advisory Group in respect of this new Policy. Court further fully endorsed the proposals on the collection of student debts and that the University Secretary would review each case prior to any legal action being initiated.

Court noted the significant and satisfactory work undertaken over the last few months following the merger with the Edinburgh College of Art to take forward detailed operational arrangements and to familiarise ECA staff with the University's practices and procedures. The Post-Merger Working Group continued to monitor progress and ensure integration; some areas were proving more complex than anticipated and actions were being progressed to resolve outstanding issues. It was noted that the Scottish Funding Council would be undertaking a visit to monitor progress at the beginning of December 2011 and Court approved the remit and membership of a University Working Group to undertake a formal review one year after the merger as set out in the paper subject to the inclusion in the membership of two student representatives: an ECA student representative as well as the EUSA President.

3 REPORT FROM NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

On the recommendations of the Nominations Committee the following were approved:

Term of Office

A standard approach to future periods of appointment to Court and Court Committees with appointments commencing on 1 August and finishing on 31 July unless otherwise determined. This approach to be phased in by initially confirming that all current and future appointments will now cease at 31 July subject to the caveat above.

Membership of Court

Mr Peter Budd to be appointed for a further three year term of office until 31 July 2015.

Membership of Committees*Audit Committee*

Mr Martin Sinclair and Mr Peter Budd both to be appointed for a further three year term of office until 31 July 2015.

Estates Committee

Mr Peter Budd to be appointed for a further three year term of office until 31 July 2015 and Dr Chris Masters to be appointed from the start of the 2012/2013 academic year until 31 July 2014.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Senior Vice-Principal Professor Nigel Brown appointed CMG representative with effect from the start of the 2011/2012 academic year for as long as the Senior Vice-Principal has responsibility for planning, resources and research policy.

Mr David Bentley to be appointed from the start of the 2012/2013 academic year for three years until 31 July 2015.

Nominations Committee

Professor Jake Ansell to be appointed with immediate effect until 31 July 2012.

Dr Robert Black to be appointed from the start of the 2012/2013 academic year until 31 July 2015.

Remuneration Committee

Ms Anne Richards' appointment to be extended until 31 July 2013.

Mr Alan Johnston to be appointed from the start of the 2012/2013 academic year until 31 July 2015.

Staff Committee

Professor Anthony Harmar to be appointed with immediate effect until 31 July 2014.

Employment Related Appeals

Mrs Elaine Noad to be appointed with immediate effect for as long as she remains a member of Court.

Dr Robert Black to be appointed from the start of the 2012/2013 academic year for as long as he remains a member of Court.

Scrutinising Committee

Professor Jake Ansell, Mr Brian Martin, Convenor of the Joint Unions Liaison Committee and Mr Matt McPherson to be appointed members of the 2012 Rectorial Election Scrutinising Committee.

Code of Practice in Reporting Malpractice and Raising Concerns under the Public Interest Disclosure Legislation

Dr Chris Masters to be the designated member of Court in terms of the above Code from the start of the 2012/2013 academic year until 31 July 2014.

4 REPORT FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE

Paper C4

Court noted the draft minute of the last meeting of the Audit Committee, in particular the two accounting issues relating to heritage assets and the requirement to prepare a set of Accounts in accordance with US GAAP (General Accepted Accounting Principles). It was further noted that the Audit Committee had undertaken a review of Internal Audit Services and that the Committee remained very satisfied with the services provided to the University.

Court further noted the matters relating to the Edinburgh College of Art and the process being undertaken to provide Court with the necessary assurances to enable it to sign off the Edinburgh College of Art Accounts and those of the Andrew Grant Scholarship Fund. The Andrew Grant Scholarship Fund Accounts would also have to be considered and approved by the Court in its capacity as the corporate Trustee of the Andrew Grant Bequest. It was noted that the Audit Committee had benefited from discussion with the internal and external auditors of Edinburgh College of Art and the Andrew Grant Scholarship Fund.

5 REPORT FROM ESTATES COMMITTEE

Paper C5

The various recommendations as set out in the paper were approved by Court. In particular it was noted that further information would be presented regarding the arrangements to take forward the developments at the Roslin Institute. The proposal to refurbish the Old College reception area was also welcomed by Court. Court further noted the updated position on the long running legal dispute on the disposal of the Cramond campus and the satisfactory conclusion to this matter; Court thanked all those involved in the negotiations particularly the Finance and General Purposes Committee sub-group and the Director of Estates and Buildings.

6 GOVERNANCE STATEMENTS

Draft Corporate Governance Statement UoE

Paper C6.1

Court noted the draft Statement and asked for amendments to the information on membership of the General Council. There was also discussion on the list of Court Committees for which information on members' attendance during 2010/2011 was disclosed. Concern was expressed that the number of Committees was too limited and should be increased, specifically to include the Risk Management Committee and the Estates Committee. Court noted that an amended Statement would be included in the Reports and Financial Statements presented to the next meeting of Court.

As previously intimated, Court would be invited to consider and approve the Report and Financial Statements of the Edinburgh College of Art at its meeting on 12 December 2011. Court noted the current draft Statement.

ECA-Andrew Grant Scholarship Fund Trustees' Report

As previously intimated, Court would also be invited to consider and approve the Trustees' Report and Financial Statements of the ECA – Andrew Grant Scholarship Fund at its meeting on the 12 December 2011 in the capacity of holder of ECA endowments. Court noted the current draft Report.

7 BURSARIES/SUPPORT – SCOTTISH DOMICILED STUDENTS

It was noted that there had been previous discussion on improving the support currently provided to Scottish domiciled students in light of the provision agreed for RUK-domiciled students; there had also been discussion on utilising part of the surplus that the University was anticipated to record for 2010/2011 to support undergraduate and postgraduate students. On the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Court welcomed and approved the proposals set out in the paper to utilise the balance of the general investment fund established in 2007 which was in the order of £10m and anticipated to deliver £340k income per annum to provide support to Scottish domiciled students. The additional access and accommodation bursaries which this level of income could sustain were noted by Court.

8 EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK (EIB) – LONG TERM LOAN

Court at its meeting on 16 May 2011 had been supportive of the University exploring the opportunity of securing long-term loan arrangements with EIB. Court approved the application for loan finance from the European Investment Bank to the value of £50m noting the very favourable rates and the conditions attached to the loan. The loan required to be utilised to fund 50% of a capital programme to be completed in full over a five year period from contract signing. The Court further approved the projects to be included on the capital programme which had a total anticipated cost of above £100m; there was some flexibility in the exact projects to be included. It was noted that EIB had undertaken a robust due diligence exercise and that there had been discussion with EIB on which projects to be included in the capital programme.

9 ANNUAL REVIEW 2010-11

Court approved the articles to be included in the 2010/2011 Annual Review.

10 EUSA REPRESENTATIVES ON COURT

There had been previous discussion on how to assist EUSA representatives to become familiar with Court and Committee business given that they only served for a period of one year. Court welcomed and approved the proposal to invite the EUSA President and Vice-President Academic Affairs designate to be in attendance at Court and Committee meetings as soon as they were elected prior to them taking up post. There was also debate on whether it was appropriate for a member of EUSA staff to be in attendance at Court meetings. It was considered that there were more appropriate mechanisms which could be utilised such as the University Secretary and the Head of Court Services providing increased levels of support to the EUSA President and Vice-President Academic Affairs as soon as elected.

D ITEMS FOR FORMAL APPROVAL OR NOTE

- 1 ACADEMIC REPORT** **Paper D1**
- Court noted the report from the Senate meeting and on the business conducted by the electronic Senate. In particular Court welcomed the debate on academic and pastoral support systems for students and that this important matter was being taken forward by Senior Vice-Principal Professor Brown and Vice-Principal Professor Hounsell, working closely with EUSA colleagues.
- 2 RESOLUTIONS** **Paper D2**
- Court approved the following Resolutions:
- Resolution No. 52/2011: Foundation of a Personal Senior Research Chair of History
 - Resolution No. 53/2011: Foundation of a Chair of Computer Security
 - Resolution No. 54/2011: Alteration of the title of the Chair of Psychiatry
 - Resolution No. 55/2011: Alteration of the title of the Chair of Visual Theory and Scottish Art
- 3 ORDINANCE 210** **Paper D3**
- Court noted that Ordinance 210: Election of Chancellor and General Council Assessors and Charing of General Council Meetings had been approved by the Privy Council on 12 October 2011 without any further amendments to that approved by Court on 20 June 2011.
- 4 EUSA CONSTITUTION** **Paper D4**
- At its last meeting, Court had approved, in principle, changes to the constitution of the Students' Representative Council and Court noted that the proposed changes had now been ratified by the student body and that the new structure would be implemented in full after the March 2012 EUSA elections.
- 5 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES** **Paper D5**
- Court was pleased to note the donations and legacies to be notified received by the University of Edinburgh, Development Trust between 15 September and 31 October 2011.
- 6 USE OF THE SEAL**
- A record was made available of all the documents executed on behalf of the Court since its last meeting and sealed with its common seal.

MINUTE OF A MEETING OF THE TRUSTEE OF THE ANDREW GRANT BEQUEST *held in the Board Room, Evolution House, Edinburgh College of Art on Monday 7 November 2011.*

Present: Rector (in chair)
The Principal
Mr A Johnston
Mrs M Tait
Dr M Aliotta
Professor J Ansell
Professor D Finnegan
Professor A Harmar
Professor S Monro, Vice-Convenor
Professor J Barbour
Dr C Masters
Mr M Murray
Mr D Workman
Mr M Williamson, Vice-President Students' Representative Council

In attendance: Ms S Beattie-Smith, Rector's Assessor
Senior Vice-Principal Professor N Brown
Vice-Principal Professor D Miell
Vice-Principal Professor L Yellowlees
Dr K Waldron, University Secretary
Dr I Conn, Director Communications and Marketing
Dr A Cornish, Deputy University Secretary and Director of Planning
Mr A Currie, Director of Estates and Buildings
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Ms F Boyd, Principal's Policy and Executive Officer
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Apologies: Sheriff Principal E Bowen
Professor A M Smyth
The Rt Hon G Grubb, Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh
Mr P Budd
Mrs E Noad
Ms A Richards
Mr D Brook
Mr M McPherson, President Students' Representative Council

1 ANDREW GRANT SCHOLARSHIP FUND DRAFT TRUSTEES' REPORT

Paper E1

Court in its role as corporate Trustee of the Andrew Grant Bequest considered and noted the current draft version of the Trustees' Report.