

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

COURT

Minutes of the Sixtieth Annual meeting of Court  
held on Friday 10 February 2017

**Present:**

The Rt Hon the Lord Grocott (Chancellor)	
Mr G Arthur	Mr D James
Mrs J Arthur	Mr I Johnson
Mr P Ash	Mr J Kapasi
Mr E Baines	Mr C King
Mr K Beaumont	Mr P Lawson
Dr R Bettles	Dr D G Lewis
Mr G Bodiwala	Mrs H Lewis
Professor P Boyle	Dr A Linsell
Lady Ann Brooks	Cllr Mr B Liquorish
Mr S de Looze	Col R Martin
Mr G Dixon	Mr D Moore
Mr H Doyle	Professor M Peel
Ms M Duke	Dr N Reed
Mrs D Few	Mr P Rivlin
Mrs S Forsyth	Mr R Sandhu
Dr J Foster	Dr V Sharma
Dr S Furness	Dr P Sykes
Professor R Graham-Brown	Mr D Tams
Jennifer, Lady Gretton	Dr B Towle
Ms S Hamilton-Fox	Mr M Turnbull
Mr B Hellyer	Mrs S Watson
Dr J Higgins	Mr A Wessel
Very Rev Dr D Hole	Mrs C Wessel
Dr L Howard	Dr A Weston
Mr P Wilson	

**In attendance:** Mr M Riddleston (Director of Finance, University of Leicester); Professor N London (Head of the Medical School, University of Leicester, specifically for item 17/M6); Mr B Friar, Mr C Shaw, Ms L Davies and Ms R Faint (all from the Development and Alumni Relations Office, University of Leicester); and Mr N Cox (Secretary).

**Apologies for absence** were received from those members of Court whose names are listed in the Appendix attached to these minutes.

17/M1 **MINUTES**

**Court formally received** the minutes of the fifty-ninth Annual Meeting, held on 6 February 2016.

Arising from minute 16/M3 (Engagement events with members of Court), **Court noted** that two such events had been held during 2016, covering the University's ambitions for the development of its physical estate; student volunteering activities; and early ideas on celebrations for the approaching hundredth anniversary of the University's inauguration.

**17/M2 MEMBERSHIP OF COURT**

**Court received** the list of the Full Members of Court, correct at 1 February 2017. **Court noted** that the updated list was presented each year, at the Annual Meeting, and the complete and updated Full and Associate membership lists could also be viewed at any time on the University's website.

**17/M3 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL**

**Court noted** that Full Member of Court Dr Neville Reed would retire from membership of the University Council on 31 July 2017, upon completion of the maximum allowed term of 9 consecutive years as a member of the Council.

**Court agreed** that the University's Nominations Committee would in due course present for the approval of Court, by correspondence, its recommendation for the appointment to Council of a new Full Member of Court, replacing Dr Reed, for an initial term of 3 years effective from 1 August 2017.

**17/M4 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REVIEW 2015-16**

**Court formally received** the University's audited financial statements for the 2015-16 financial year, as approved by Council as the University's governing body, and the published annual review of the institution's activities and highlights over the last year.

**Court noted** that in the year to 31 July 2016 the University's income totalled £296 million, of which income from student tuition fees accounted for 51% of total income. Central government grant funding remained static compared with the previous year. Overall, the operating surplus for the year was £3.2m, equivalent to 1.1% of income.

**17/M5 PRESENTATION BY THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR**

The University's President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paul Boyle, made his third annual presentation to Court.

In the course of a wide ranging review of a successful year for the University, despite significant external challenges, Professor Boyle reflected on the establishment of foundations for delivery on the Strategic Plan and for Leicester to become a bold, outward-looking institution. The University was actively promoting closer regional, national and international relationships to deliver investments and partnerships to underpin stable growth, whilst redesigning student services and launching the digital campus to deliver the right tools for a new generation of students.

Professor Boyle explained the importance of developing strategic partnerships and to this end the University was proactively engaged with initiatives such as the Midlands Engine, Leicester Enterprise Zone, the Life Sciences Opportunities Zone, the National Space Park, the Leicester DNA Visitor Centre, and the creation of an Education Quarter to establish Leicester as a student city with a unique city campus.

The University was keen to develop its partnerships and impact at all levels, and a new truly internationalised approach to learning would see the development of research and teaching centres in China, Indonesia, Iraq and Kurdistan, and a stronger focus on the international experience of Leicester's students.

Finally, Professor Boyle referred to the University's ongoing sense of pride in its heritage as a living memorial to those lost in the First World War. A centenary campaign was planned to commence in 2018, with a major fundraising focus to establish ambitions for the next 100 years.

17/M6 **'PATIENTS FIRST' – THE NEW LEICESTER MEDICAL SCHOOL CURRICULUM**

Court received a presentation by Professor Nick London, Head of the Medical School, on the launch of the University's new medical curriculum. This had been designed to be patient- rather than disease-focused, to maintain and promote compassionate caring, and to develop in students the learning and lifestyle skills required for a working life in medicine. Surprisingly, patients had not always been at the centre of medical teaching – regardless of where it was delivered - despite overwhelming evidence from patients that it was the 'softer' qualities of empathy, compassion and listening that differentiated the good doctors from the poor ones.

The new curriculum sought to give full recognition to these other qualities, rather than to seek to teach students the totality of Medicine, and to embrace a full programme of community engagement work. Philanthropy had a major part to play in this; a gift from the Edith Murphy Foundation had funded the capital aspect of the Centre for Medicine and the community engagement project, whilst a local donor had made a transformational gift to allow students from disadvantaged backgrounds to enter the Foundation Programme.

CHAIR

Duration of meeting: one hour and 30 minutes

**UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER**

**MEETING OF COURT**

**Friday 10 February 2017**

**Apologies**

Dr P Bateman  
Mr J Bonner  
Mr J Bowie  
His Hon Judge D Brunning  
Dr M Chamberlain  
Cllr Mr S Corral  
Mr P Cottingham  
Dr R Hake  
Mr D Hall  
Mr R Hampson  
Dr W Hickling  
Mr M Hindle  
Mr B Hindocha  
Ms R Holland  
Emeritus Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys  
Dr D Lockett  
Mr A Mamujee  
Mr A Morgan  
Mrs L Perham  
Mr C Ramsey  
Mr S Sharma  
Ms C Thorogood  
Mr L Trotman  
Mr D Wilson  
Mr D Woodhead