



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER

63rd Annual Alumni Meeting of the Alumni Association

Saturday 2 October 2021





UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

63rd ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING

**To be held on Saturday 2 October 2021
1.30pm-3pm**

Digital Reading Room, David Wilson Library / Zoom

AGENDA

1. **Welcome by Chair of the Alumni Association Committee**
2. **Keynote address, Nishan Canagarajah, President and Vice-Chancellor, followed by Q&A**
3. **Report of the 61st Annual General Meeting, held on 8 June 2019*** **AGM 21/01**
TO APPROVE
4. **Chair's Report of the Year**
5. **Accounts: Funds at the disposal of the Standing Committee*** **AGM 21/02**
TO APPROVE/CONSIDER:
 - a) The statement of accounts for the year ending 31 July 2020
 - b) Presentation from the Treasurer of the Alumni Association on future use of funds
6. **Elections*** **AGM 21/03**
TO APPROVE:
 - a) The election of Members of the Standing Committee
 - b) To CONSIDER opportunities for other Alumni to serve
7. **Future work of the Alumni Association Committee**
8. **Thank you and close**



UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Report of the 62nd Annual Meeting

Held on Saturday 3 October 2020 by Microsoft Teams Live

Present:

Michael K Aw	Daniel J Flatt	Lukas M Stahl
Elizabeth J Blood	Jacqueline D Harley	Lynda J Wight
Martin Cullen	Kerry Law	Laura Woodhouse
Charles du Couëdic de Kerérant	Paul Robbins	Alumni and friends
Robert W Fairbrother	Rachel Selfridge	Wider PACE Team

Apologies: Simon Green

1. Welcome by Chair of the Standing Committee of the Alumni Association

The Chair (SO) welcomed members to the 62nd and first virtual Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association, recognising the members from the worldwide alumni community were in attendance.

He highlighted the meeting agenda and introduced the keynote address from the Vice-Chancellor, emphasising the opportunity for alumni to ask questions in the live chat.

The Chair announced that the AGM was the launch of a series of events for Alumni as the Festival of Change: Partnering with Alumni to make a difference. These events will continue until April 2021 when our Centenary celebrations commence. A video was shown to highlight events taking place as part of the Festival of Change.

2. Keynote address, Nishan Canagarajah, President and Vice-Chancellor, followed by Q&A

The Vice-Chancellor gave a keynote speech during which he shared some details about his background and his vision for the future of the University. It was noted to be the first of many times he will be engaging with alumni globally.

In particular the Vice-Chancellor highlighted:

- Changing the world for the better is the very ethos of the University as Citizens of Change.
- His commitment to eliminating the awarding gap between BAME and white students and the introduction of BAME scholarships from this academic year.
- The launch of the Leicester Institute for Inclusive Higher Education in 2021 to ensure the University becomes a leader in transformational higher education, addressing access, transition and support challenges, awarding gaps and outcome differences affecting students from all backgrounds.
- The University response to Covid-19 in the local community, in partnership with the NHS and Local Resilience Forum, with over 200 staff and students volunteering to help where needed.
- Leicester being ranked as one of the top performing universities in the UK for Covid-19 research, after being awarded more than £10.8 million of grant funding since the pandemic began. Our researchers were the first in the world to discover the link between people from BAME backgrounds being more susceptible to severe cases of Coronavirus and will now lead a new £8.4 million national research study into the long-term health impacts of

Covid-19.

- We are one of the first universities in the UK to have introduced a Covid-19 screening programme
- The key role of alumni in responding to Covid-19 by continuing to support both the City of Leicester and the University - volunteering to mentor final year students, creating congratulatory messages for the Class of 2020 and making and donating face masks. £200k of alumni donations has been used to fund the Emergency Student Hardship Fund.
- The launch of a special Covid-19 appeal to enable the University to respond quickly to emerging needs against an uncertain backdrop. Our two key priorities at this time are to advance pioneering research and to invest in our students.
- The launch of our blended learning approach; ignite, which combines face to face, on-campus study with flexible digital learning
- The 'Leicester: Graduate City' in partnership with Leicester City Council and De Montfort University to set up an internship scheme that will support small businesses to offer workplace opportunities to students. It will see £1.6 million invested in encouraging graduates to stay in Leicester once they have finished their studies.
- Campus developments including:
 - The completion of our £15.8 million Brookfield project to create a School of Business at a dedicated site on London Road.
 - A £20 million refurbishment and extension of the Percy Gee Building, the home of the Students' Union, to create flexible, multi-use areas all in one space. The four-story expansion will feature a new dedicated Informatics lab, a high-tech Media Centre and a performance studio all state-of-the-art facilities.
 - Circa £95 million is going towards Space Park Leicester developments. Construction is now underway, with the first building scheduled to open in early 2021, providing a vital link between learning and industry.
 - The investment of £148 million into new student accommodation, a teaching and learning centre as well as multi-storey car park on the Freeman's Common site.
- The strong successes of alumni chapters in Ghana, Hong Kong, Nigeria and London, and the launch of the Medical Chapter later in 2020.

The VC emphasised that the University relationship with alumni is a partnership and that he is keen to explore ways to work together and strengthen the university going forward into its second Century. He called for any alumni keen to explore ways of supporting the University further to contact the alumni team.

The VC thanked alumni for their vital support and passion for the University.

A live question and answer session took place with the Vice-Chancellor. Any questions not answered during this session will be posted on the Alumni pages on the University website.

3. Report of the 61st Annual General Meeting, held on 8 June 2019* AGM 20/01

The Report on the 61st Annual General Meeting, held on 8 June 2019 was received and APPROVED as a true record.

4. Chair's Report of the Year

The Chair gave a presentation reviewing his priorities for 2019/20 and provided an update on the success of each, noting the impact that Covid-19 and subsequent contingencies and constraints in place. These included:

- Enhancing Relationship with the University
- The March 2020 Alumni Awards Ceremony successes
- July 2019, January 2020 and July 2020 (virtual) Graduations which included greater alumni support, the introduction of Alumni Pins for newly graduating students and the video messages of support from alumni for the virtual ceremonies in July 2020.

- Highlights from each Alumni Chapter
- The establishment of the American Friends Foundation Chaired by Lukas Stahl

The Chair also outlined his priorities for the 2020/21 year, including:

- A Governance Review of the Alumni Association and Alumni Association Committee Terms of Reference to ensure that they are refined and modernised, aligning the Alumni Association and the University's strategic goals. A draft report will be available in December 2020.
- Providing support to alumni and the University for the impacts of Covid-19;
- Supporting the Centenary Celebrations with clear alumni representation throughout the planning and implementation;
- The official launch of the American Friends Foundation;
- Continuing to participate and support the graduations including giving out the alumni pins again as soon as it is possible,
- Welcoming Alumni back to Campus at an appropriate time in a safe and Covid-compliant manner.

The Chair welcomed feedback and suggestions from alumni on these objectives.

5. Alumni engagement in University Centenary planning

The Centenary Project Manager explained that in October 2021 the University will be marking its Centenary. The University is preparing a programme of activities to celebrate this and to transition the University into the second Century as Citizens of Change. RS explained there are three work streams to support and deliver the Centenary events:

- **Our 100:** focusing on the identification of a comprehensive and inclusive list of the University of Leicester's '100' people, places and spaces, milestones and events, objects and artefacts that have been most significant in the past, present and for our future.
- **Think 100:** showcasing the University's breadth and depth in understanding the world and how we can make it a better place. There will be a comprehensive programme of events for staff, students, alumni and the wider community - addressing and supporting issues that matter.
- **Engage 100:** delivering a programme of activity with and for our communities in the city, region and internationally that advances and celebrates diversity and inclusion, supports health and well-being and sustainable futures through the arts and culture, volunteering and philanthropy.

Alumni have an important role to play as one of our largest stakeholder groups, to contribute ideas and suggestions for events throughout the Centenary period. RS explained that alumni could apply to become members of the Project Teams delivering the Centenary. This will ensure that globally our alumni are represented and are able to engage with the process in a meaningful way. She highlighted that ideally the following alumni applicants would be required:

- at least one member who is internationally-based and was an international student
- at least one member who is based in Leicester/Leicestershire
- at least one member who graduated within the last five years

The role and expectations of alumni volunteers was explained, including the availability to attend monthly project meetings. The recruitment process and deadlines for expressing interest in volunteering to support the Centenary preparations were outlined. Further information, and the expression of interest form can be found on the Alumni section of the University website.

6. Accounts: Funds at the disposal of the Standing Committee* AGM 20/02

a) The statement of accounts for the year ending 31 July 2019

The Chair, on behalf of the Treasurer, presented the Association's Statement of Accounts for the year up to 31st July 2019.

b) Presentation from the Treasurer of the Alumni Association on future use of funds

The Chair presented a motion regarding the proposed use of the William Ruddick Fund and Convocation Fund. The revised criteria for these funds will be to make awards based on hardship as a result of Covid-19. All other eligibility criteria for the Funds remain unchanged.

The motion was APPROVED.

7. Elections*

AGM 20/03

a.) The election of Members of the Standing Committee

The Chair reported that membership of the Committee expires on 30th September each year.

Full Membership:

- Martin Cullen (Chair) (2023)
- Lynda Wight (Vice-Chair) (2022)
- Elizabeth Blood (2021)
- Charles du Couëdic de Kerérant (2021)
- Robert Fairbrother (2020) – standing for re-election
- Dan Flatt (2021)
- Simon Green (2021)
- Lukas Stahl (2020) – standing for re-election
- Stephen Wright (2020) - Retiring

Co-opted Members (One year period): Oge Obioha (2020)

It was resolved that:

The following members and co-opted members stand down from the committee:

- Stephen Wright (2020) – Retiring
- Oge Obioha (2020)

The following members be re-elected to the Committee for a period of three years as of 1 October 2020:

- Robert Fairbrother (2023)
- Lukas Stahl (2023)

The following shall serve a one year term as a co-opted member representing the Student's Union:

- Mia Nembhard (2021)

b.) To CONSIDER opportunities for other Alumni to serve

There are currently vacancies for additional full members under category (a) of the constitution and also vacancies for co-opted members under category (b) of the constitution. The Chair welcomed expressions of interest from Alumni to being co-opted onto the Committee for a one year period. Should any of the newly co-opted members then wish to become full members this can be proposed at the AGM in 2021 for election. Further information can be found on Alumni website.

A video was shown to introduce current AAC members. The Chair thanked the AAC for their hard work and support in the last year.

8. Any Other Business

The Chair addressed some of the questions from the Live Question and Answer session earlier in the meeting. A full report from the Question and Answer session will be posted on the Alumni pages on the University website following the AGM.

The Chair encouraged Alumni to complete the live Slido poll relating to the Festival of Change.

9. Thank you and close from the Chair

The Chair thanked Alumni for attending and the meeting concluded.

(Duration of meeting 90 minutes)

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS 2019/2020

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ACCOUNT 31st July 2020		
<u>WILLIAM RUDDICK LEGACY FUND Z99045</u>		
<u>Capital Fund</u>		£
Opening Balance 1 August 2019		32,002.34
Increase in value 2019/20		605.00
Balance as at 31st July 2020		32,969.28
<u>Expendable Fund</u>		£
Opening Balance 1 August 2019		6,769.91
Unapplied total return balance		5503.78
Add bank deposit interest		28.43
Less expenditure in the year		0.00
Balance as at 31st July 2020		12,302.12
<u>THE CONVOCATION JUBILEE FUND Z99046</u>		
<u>Capital Fund</u>		£
Opening Balance 1 August 2019		38,883.18
Increase in value		1,174.76
Balance as at 31st July 2020		40,057.94
<u>Expendable Fund</u>		£
Opening Balance 1 August 2018		5,017.84
Less Expenditure in the year		0.00
Add income and bank deposit interest		21.07
Unapplied total return balance		7633.43
Balance as at 31st July 2020		12,672.34

**UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING**

2 October 2021

The Standing Committee of the Alumni Association (Convocation) is comprised of 10 members and the Chair, who are elected by the membership at the Annual Alumni Meeting, plus the immediate past Chair and five members co-opted by the Committee.

CONVOCATION

Convocation shall consist of the following members:

- a) The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors and the Treasurer of the University
- b) The Members of the Academic and Academic Related Staff of the University
- c) The Registrar of the University
- d) The Graduates of the University including the Honorary Graduates
- e) All persons who have obtained a Degree of the University of London or of any other University while registered students of the University or of the University College of Leicester.
- f) The holders of such other academic qualifications of the University as shall be prescribed by Ordinance.

Membership of the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee of the Alumni Association is comprised of 10 members and the, who are elected by the membership at the Annual Alumni Meeting, plus the immediate past Chair and five members co-opted by the Committee.

Membership

- a) The Chair of the Alumni Association
- b) Ten elected members
- c) The immediate past Chair
- d) Co-opted members (maximum of five to include a Sabbatical Officer to represent the Students' Union)

Duration of appointments

- i) Members appointed under (a) and (b) shall be appointed by the Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association to serve for three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment. (The Standing Committee has adopted the convention of Council that elected members should normally retire after a maximum period of three terms of three years).
- ii) Members appointed under (d) shall be appointed annually by the Standing Committee and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

Membership of the Committee as of 2 October 2021

(Membership expires on 30 September of the year indicated in brackets)

a) Full Membership :

Martin Cullen (Chair) (2022)
Lynda Wight (Vice-Chair) (2022)
Elizabeth Blood (2021) – standing for re-election
Charles du Couëdic de Kerérant (2021) – standing for re-election
Robert Fairbrother (2023)
Dan Flatt (2021) – standing for re-election
Simon Green (2021) – standing for re-election
Lukas Stahl (2023)

b) Co-opted Members (One year period)

Mia Nembhard (2021)

c) Guest Member

None

Elections and Membership of the Standing Committee

TO REPORT:

1) That the membership of the following is due to expire on 30 September 2021:

Elizabeth Blood (2021)
Charles du Couëdic de Kerérant (2021)
Dan Flatt (2021)
Simon Green (2021)

2) That the co-opted membership of the following is due to expire on 30 September 2021:

Mia Nembhard (2021)
Richard Lee (2021)
Jashan Johal (2021)
Michael Aw (2021)

3) That nominations have been received in respect of the following as elected members:

Elizabeth Blood	Stands for re-election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member
Charles du Couëdic de Kerérant	Stands for re-election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member
Dan Flatt	Stands for re-election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member
Simon Green	Stands for re-election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member

Richard Lee	Stands for election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member
Jashan Johal	Stands for election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member
Michael Aw	Stands for election for a 3 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a full member

That there are therefore no vacancies for full members under category (a) of the constitution.

4) That nominations have been received in respect of the following as co-opted members:

Rhiannon Jenkins	(Students' Union Representative) Stands for election for a 1 year period as from 1 October 2021 as a co-opted member
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That there are therefore four vacancies for co-opted members under category (b) of the constitution.

TO CONSIDER:

Election of the 7 members listed in section (3) above to membership of the Standing Committee from 1 October 2021 as a full member and co-option of the Students' Union Representative named in section (4) from 1 October 2021.