



University
of Dundee

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE CHARTER

Dr Neale Laker

Director of Academic & Corporate Governance

e-mail: n.laker@dundee.ac.uk

University of Dundee, Dundee, DD1 4HN, Scotland, UK

Charter

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS an humble Petition has been presented to Us by the University Court of the University of St Andrews and the Council of Queen's College, Dundee, in the University of St Andrews, praying that We should constitute and found a University within Our City and Royal Burgh of Dundee for the advancement and diffusion of knowledge, wisdom and understanding and to grant a Charter with such provisions in that behalf as shall seem to Us right and suitable.

AND WHEREAS We have taken the said Petition into Our Royal Consideration and are minded to accede thereto:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have willed and ordained and by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors do will and ordain as follows:

- 1 The Chancellor, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor, and all other persons who are, pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University for the time being, members of the University are hereby constituted and from hence-forth for ever shall be one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal by the name and style of 'The University of Dundee' (hereinafter called 'the University').
- 2 The objects of the University shall be to advance and diffuse knowledge, wisdom and understanding by teaching and research and by the example and influence of its corporate life.
- 3 The University shall be both a teaching and an examining body and shall, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University (hereinafter called 'the Statutes'), have the following powers:
 - (a) To provide instruction in such-branches of learning as the University may think fit, whether for members of the University or for others, and to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in such manner as the University may determine.
 - (b) To prescribe in the Ordinances of the University (hereinafter called 'the Ordinances') the conditions under which any person may be admitted as a student of the University or to any particular course of study provided by the University.
 - (c) To grant, under conditions laid down in the Statutes or Ordinances, a degree, diploma, certificate or other academic award to any person who shall have pursued a course of study approved by the University and shall have passed the examinations or other tests prescribed by the University.
 - (d) To admit any graduate of another University to a degree of equal or similar rank in the University.
 - (e) To grant, under conditions laid down in the Statutes or Ordinances, any degree of the University to any person who holds office in the University or who shall have carried on research therein.
 - (f) To grant to any approved person, under conditions laid down in the Statutes or Ordinances, an honorary degree or other academic award.
 - (g) On what the Court and the Senatus Academicus of the University shall after due enquiry deem to be good cause, to deprive any person of any degree, diploma, certificate or other academic award granted to him by the University.
 - (h) To accept any examination or period of study passed by any student of the University at another university or place of learning as equivalent to such examination or period of study in the University as the Senatus Academicus of the University may determine, and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.
 - (i) To admit to any of the privileges of the University or to recognise for any purpose, and either in whole or in part, any college or institution or any member of staff or student thereof, on

such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes or Ordinances.

- (j) To take over such of the property, rights, liabilities and functions now vested in or attaching to the University Court of the University of St Andrews, that University, the Council of Queen's College, Dundee, in that University, or that College, as may be prescribed by, or under powers conferred by, Act of Parliament, and to enter into any agreement with respect to such matters.
- (k) To enter into any agreement for the incorporation within the University of any institution and for taking over its property, rights, liabilities and functions and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.
- (l) To accept the transfer to the University of any property of whatever description and to enter into any agreement with respect thereto.
- (m) To join with any other University or with any other public or private body, institution, authority or association having in view or promoting any purpose the same as or similar or related to any purpose of the University, or to appoint one or more representatives to act upon any such body, institution, authority or association, in either case for such purposes as may be agreed upon or as may be provided for or permitted by law, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes or Ordinances, and in particular to co-operate by means of joint boards or otherwise with the University of St Andrews for the extension of university teaching and influence in academic matters, and for such other purposes as the Court of the University may from time to time determine.
- (n) To institute such offices as the purposes of the University may require, to appoint persons to and to remove them from such offices, and to prescribe their terms and conditions of service.
- (o) To prescribe rules for the discipline of the students of the University and to prescribe by Ordinance the procedure by which any infractions of discipline shall be investigated and judged.
- (p) To institute and award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, exhibitions, bursaries, prizes and other aids to study and research.
- (q) To make provision for research, design, development, testing and advisory services and with these objects to enter into such arrangements with any other institution or with any public or private body or with any person or persons as may be thought desirable and to charge to any user of such services such fee as may be thought desirable.
- (r) To print, reproduce and publish or to provide for the printing, reproduction and publication of research and other works to be issued by the University.
- (s) To sell, provide for reward or otherwise such books, stationery and other goods and services as may be deemed expedient and consistent with the objects of the University as a place of education, learning and research.
- (t) To demand and receive fees, to procure contributions to the funds of the University and to raise money in such other manner as the University may deem fit.
- (u) To act as trustees or managers of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for purposes of education or research or otherwise in furtherance of the work and welfare of the University and to invest any funds representing the same in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.
- (v) To give guarantees for the payment of any sums of money on the performance of any contract or obligation by any company, body, society or person if in the interests of the University to do so.
- (w) To borrow money and for that purpose to grant securities over, to mortgage or charge all or any part of the property of the University, whether heritable or moveable, real or personal, and to give such other security as the University may deem fit.
- (x) To acquire armorial bearings which shall be duly matriculated in Our Public Register of Arms and Bearings in Scotland.
- (y) To establish and maintain and to administer and govern institutions for the residence of the students of the University whether Colleges, Halls or Houses and to license and supervise such institutions and other places of residence whether or not maintained by the University.

- (z) To do all such acts and things (including the promotion of a Bill or Bills in Parliament) whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further any one or more of the objects or the interests of the University.
- 4.1 ¹There shall be a **Chancellor** of the University who shall be the head of the University and shall preside over all Academic Ceremonies of the University at which he is present.
- 4.2 The first Chancellor shall be Our most dearly beloved Mother, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.
- 4.3 The manner of appointment of the successors to the first Chancellor and the period of office of the Chancellor shall be as prescribed in the Statutes.
- 5 There shall be a **Rector** of the University who shall be elected by the matriculated students of the University in such manner and for such period as may be prescribed by the Statutes.
- 6.1 (a) There shall be a **Principal** of the University who shall also be the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The Principal shall be the chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and shall, when present and unless otherwise provided in the Statutes, preside over meetings of the Court and the Senatus Academicus of the University and shall, as the Vice-Chancellor, in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in that office, exercise and perform all the functions of the Chancellor including the conferment of Degrees.
- (b) The first Principal shall be Our trusty and well beloved James Drever, Esquire, Master of Arts and Fellow of Our Royal Society of Edinburgh.
- (c) The manner of appointment of the successors to the first Principal shall be as prescribed by the Statutes.
- (d) The powers and duties of the Principal shall be as prescribed in the Statutes.
- (e) During a vacancy in the office of Principal or during his inability through illness or any other cause to perform; his duties, as to which the Court of the University shall be the sole judges, the said Court may appoint one or more persons to perform the duties of the Principal, including his functions as Vice-Chancellor.
- 6.2 ²The Court of the University may, if it shall deem it appropriate, appoint one or more **Vice-Principals** with such powers and duties as the said Court may determine.
- 7.1 There shall be a **Court** of the University (hereinafter called 'the Court') which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes, shall be the Governing Body of the University.
- 7.2 The Court shall direct the form, custody and use of the Common Seal.
- 7.3 The Court shall be responsible for the management and administration of the whole of the revenue and property of the University and, except as may be otherwise provided in this Our Charter, shall have general control over the University and all its affairs, purposes and functions and all such other powers and duties as may be conferred upon it by the Statutes or Ordinances.
- 7.4 The constitution of the Court, its powers and functions, the manner of election and period of office of its members, the manner of filling vacancies in its membership and all other matters relative to the Court which it may be thought proper so to regulate, shall be as prescribed in the Statutes.
- 8.1 There shall be a **Senatus Academicus** of the University (hereinafter called 'the Senatus') which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes and to the general control and approval of the Court, shall be responsible for the academic work of the University, both in teaching and in research, and for the regulations and superintendence of the education and discipline of the students of the University.
- 8.2 The constitution of the Senatus, its powers and functions, the manner of election and period of office of its members, the manner of filling vacancies in its membership, and all other matters relative to the Senatus which it may be thought proper so to regulate, shall be as prescribed in the Statutes.
- 9 ³The organisation and management of the academic disciplines of the University, and all matters pertaining thereto which the University may think proper to regulate, shall be as prescribed in the Statutes or Ordinances.

¹ As amended by the Privy Council on 11 February 2015

² As amended by the Privy Council on 22 October 2002.

³ As amended by the Privy Council on 7 June 2006.

- 10.1 There shall be a **Students' Association** in the University.
- 10.2 The method of approval of the regulations of the Students' Association its powers and functions, and all other matters relative to such Association which it may be thought proper so to regulate shall be as prescribed in the Statutes or Ordinances.
- 10.3 The University shall in no way be liable for the debts, liabilities and other obligations incurred or for any act done or omitted to be done by the Students' Association.
- 11.1 ¹There shall be a **Graduates' Association** of the University.
- 11.2 ¹The constitution of the Graduates' Association, its powers and functions, and all other matters relative thereto which it may be thought proper so to regulate, shall be as prescribed in the Statutes or Ordinances.
- 12.1 ²There shall be a **Staff Council** of the University which shall consist of all the staff of the University and such other members of the University as shall be designated by the Senatus. The Principal shall be Chairperson of the Staff Council.
- 12.2 ²The powers and functions of the Staff Council and all other matters relative thereto which it may be thought proper so to regulate shall be as prescribed in the Statutes or Ordinances.
- 13 The University shall not make any dividend, gift, division or bonus in money unto or between any of its members, but without prejudice to the right of the University to award to any member a prize, reward or special grant.
- 14 No test related to sex, race, colour or religious or political belief shall be imposed on any person in order to entitle him to be admitted as a member, teacher or student of the University or to hold office therein, or to graduate thereat, or to hold any advantage or privilege thereof: Provided that where any condition involving such a test has been attached by the founder to a benefaction, the regulations made for the administration of the benefaction shall as far as possible, give effect to the wishes of the founder.
- 15.1 The **Statutes** may contain, in addition to all such matters as are in the foregoing provisions of this Our Charter require to be prescribed or regulated by Statutes, all such other provisions consistent with this Our Charter as it may be thought proper to make for the convenient and effective attainment and execution of the objects and purposes of this Our Charter.
- 15.2 The first Statutes shall be those set out in the Schedule to this Our Charter and they shall remain in force until they have been amended, added to or repealed in the manner hereinafter prescribed.
- 15.3 The Court may from time to time, after consultation with the Senatus, by Special Resolution make Statutes amending, adding to or repealing the Statutes: Provided that no such Statute shall be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or have effect until approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
- 16.1 The Statutes may direct that any of the matters prescribed or regulated by Statute as authorised or directed in this Our Charter shall be further prescribed or regulated by Ordinances: Provided that any such further prescription or regulation shall not be repugnant to the provisions of the Statutes or of this Our Charter.
- 16.2 The **Ordinances** shall be made by resolution of the Court on the recommendation of, or after consultation with, the Senatus and such Ordinances shall have effect when the resolution of the Court has been confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the Court held not less than one calendar month and not more than three calendar months after the meeting at which that resolution was first passed: Provided that in cases specified to be urgent by a resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members of the Court present and voting at a meeting of the Court, Ordinances may be made and shall have immediate effect.
- 16.3 Ordinances may add to, amend or repeal the Ordinances from time to time in force.
- 17 ²Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes and Ordinances, the Court, the Senatus, the Graduates' Association and the Staff Council respectively may from time to time make regulations for governing their proceedings, and may amend, add to or repeal any regulations theretofore made.

¹ As amended by the Privy Council on 11 February 2015

² As amended by the Privy Council on 12 April 2017.

- 18.1 The Court may at any time, after consultation with the Senatus, amend, add to or repeal this Our Charter by a Special Resolution passed in that behalf and such amendment, addition or repeal shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs and Successors in Council, have effect so that this Our Charter shall thence-forward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so amended, added to or repealed.
- 18.2 This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended, added to or repealed in the manner aforesaid.
- 19.1 Every resolution of the Court to amend, add to or repeal this Our Charter or the Statutes or the Ordinances shall be communicated to the Senatus and shall be displayed publicly within the University for not less than twentyeight days as soon as may be after the said resolution has been passed at one meeting of the Court and before the same has been confirmed.
- 19.2 Every special Resolution of the Court when allowed or approved as hereinbefore provided, and every Ordinance made, amended, added to or repealed by the Court shall forthwith be published within the University.
- 20 For the purpose of this Our Charter, a Special Resolution means a resolution passed at one meeting of the Court and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former: Provided that notice of each meeting shall be given to each member of the Court not less than fourteen days before the meeting be held, and that the resolution be passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of those present and voting.
- 21 In this Our Charter 'Statutes' means the Statutes set forth in the Schedule hereto and any Statutes amending, adding to or repealing the same or any of them which may hereafter be made and may be approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council; 'Ordinances' means Acts of the Court under the powers conferred by this Our Charter to which Our further sanction is not hereby or by Statute required; 'Regulations', except when otherwise required by the context, means Regulations made pursuant to this Our Charter, the Statutes or the Ordinances.
- 22 Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter shall ever be construed benevolently, and in every case most favourably to the University and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.
- 23 This Our Charter shall, notwithstanding the date thereof, come into force and effect on such day as We may by Order in Council appoint for the provisions of Section 13 of the Universities (Scotland) Act, 1966 to take effect.

IN WITNESS whereof We have ordered the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland in place of the Great Seal of Scotland to be appended hereto.

GIVEN at Our Court at St James's the twentieth day of July, One thousand nine hundred and sixty seven in the sixteenth year of Our Reign.

PER SIGNATURAM MANU S.D.N. REGINAE SUPRA SCRIPTAM.

Written to the Seal and Registered and Sealed at Edinburgh the twenty-seven day of July in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixty seven.