University of Bristol

Annual General Meeting of Convocation

Saturday 15 July 2017, 9.45 am to 10.45 pm

Chemistry Lecture Theatre, Cantock’s Close, Bristol BS8 1TS

Papers:

A: Draft Minutes of the 2016 AGM of Convocation – for approval
B: Report from the Chair of Convocation and Convocation Trustee
C: Convocation Trustee – paper for the approval of Convocation
D: Report from the Director of Development and Alumni Relations
E: Report from the Treasurer of Convocation
F: Elections and appointments

Glossary of terms
The President of Convocation, The Rt. Hon. the Baroness Hale of Richmond DBE PC (Hon LLD 2002) presided over the meeting. Also in attendance was Mrs Julie Goldstein (BSc 1978), the Chair of Convocation, Mr David Clarke, the Treasurer of Convocation and Ms Tracey Beck, the Clerk to Convocation.

The Chancellor welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their dedication.

The AGM was attended by 78 members of Convocation and was quorate.

Mr Faik Mohammed Abdul Aziz (BSc 1957); Miss Nicola Julie Alfonsi (BA 1988); Miss Jacqueline Rosemary Aslan (BA 1977); Mr John Edward Barnbrook (BSc 1974, Certificate in Education 1975); Dr Edward Joseph Beech (BSc 2012, MBChB 2015); Dr David Frank Billett (BSc 1964, MSc 1966, PhD1972); Mr John Harold Binsted (BA 1954); Mr Sumit Kumar Biswas (BSc 1984); Mrs Ann Ruth Bradford (née Milner) (BSc 1964); Professor Hugh R Brady (Vice Chancellor); Mr Robert John Bromham (BSc 1960); Dr Derek George Brooks (BSc 1952); Mrs Lilian Edna Brown (née Oakman) (BA 1951, Certificate in Education 1952, Honorary MA 2005); Mr Andrew John Burkitt (BSc 1971, MSc 1972); Mr Peter Maurice Burling (BA 1955); Mr Christopher Terence Burns (BSc 1977); Dr Jennifer Irene Burstson (née Lewis) (MB ChB 1962); Mr David Alan Clarke (BA 1965); Dr Anthony Arthur Codd (MB ChB 1958, MD 1972); Mr Rab Adam Brisbane Cross (BA 1984); Dr Martin John Crossley Evans MBE, JP (BA 1978, PhD 1990); Mr Christopher Andrew Didcote (BSc 2008); Dr Helen Dorothy Donoghue (BSc 1967, PhD 1971), Mr David Neil Ewart (BSc 1977); Mr Anthony William Franks (BA 1959); Mr Andrew Franks (MEng 2010); Dr Theresa Bernadette Regin Freeman-Wang FRSA (MB ChB 1989); Dr Tom Harrison Frewin (MB ChB 1971); Dr Anu Ganapathy (MSc 1999, PhD 2009); Ms Sarah Goodwin Gilbert (BA1980, Diploma 2000 MSc 2002); Dr Stuart Andrew Goldsmith (BA 1966, Honorary LLD 2007); Mrs Julie Ann Goldstein (née Lee) (BSc 1978); Mr Charles Matthew Mcmanus Gunter (BSc 2006, Certificate in Education 2007, MSc
2009); Mr John Ernest Hemken (BA 1956); Mr Paul Arthur Herbert (BSc 1961); Mr Trevor Frank Bertram Jaggar (BSc 1946, Certificate in Education 1952); Mrs Margaret Eiry Jenkins Jaggar (née Davies) (BSc 1955); Mrs Gillian Rosemary Beamon Jones (née Jackson) (BA 1964, Diploma 1965); Mrs Janet Mary Kirk (née Bolwig) (BSc 1968, Certificate in Education 1970); Mr Philip George Lake (BSc 1978); Dr John Cyril Manley (PhD 1982); Mr Adrian Joseph Mezzetti (LLB 1965); Dr Tim John Fitzmaurice Mitchell (MB ChB 1980); Mr Graham Mullan; Mr Stephen O’Connor (Director of Alumni Relations); Mr Owen Bryce Peachey (BSc 2008); Mrs Patricia Price (née Moir) (BA 1953); Mr Christopher Laurence Row (BA 1968); Ms Cornelia Christina Elfrieda Rulf (BA 1976); Mr Timothy John Scaife (BSc 1976); Mr Alastair Francis Douglas Scott (BSc 1965); Dr Michael Ernest Sheard (MB ChB 1957); Dr Vincent Jervis Smith MBE (PhD 1969); Mr Leon R Smith (BA 2005); Mr David Raymond Snoxell (BA 1966); Mr Dennis Roy Stinchcombe MBE (Honorary MA 2010); Dr Ivan Thompson (MB ChB 1957); Mrs Kathleen Thompson (née Guite) (BSc 1957); Dr Jane Lesley Thompson DL (Certificate in Education 1986, PhD 1995); Mr Roger James Wilson Tucker (BA 1968, Certificate in Education 1969, BA 1973); Mr John Turner (BA 1966); Mrs Jill Kay Wakefield (née Sadler) (BA 1961); Mr Michael Alan Wakefield (BSc 1961); Mr Patrick Keith Leonard George Walesby (BA 1981); Mr Keith Walton (BSc 1972); Mrs Julia Margaret Wathen (née Richardson) (BSc 1972); Dr Jillian Mary White (Honorary DMus 2003); Mr Ian Frank Whiteman (BA 1964); Mr Stephen Thomas Wiggan (BA 2002); Mr Richard Guy Willis FRSA (BSc 1974, Certificate in Education 1975); Mrs Helen Maureen Willoughby Hempsall (BA 1951, Testamur 1952, Honorary MA 1999); Dr Stuart Kevin Paterson Wilson (BSc 1979); Mrs Linda Jane Wilson (LLB 1982); Mrs Sylvia Ann Wilson (née Welding) (BVSc 1980); Mrs Alison Mary Wilson (née Gomm) (BA 1966); Mr Lawrence de Villamil Wragg (BA 1966); Mr Grant William Wray (MSci 2014).

Item 1: Apologies for absence
Apologies have been received from Dr Eric Albone (Cert Ed 1979), Roy Barlow (BSc 1972) and Robert Foster (BSc 1978)

Item 2: Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 11 July 2015

The Minutes were adopted as a true and correct record. There were no matters arising.

Action: Chancellor to sign minutes as an accurate record.

The Chancellor welcomed the Vice-Chancellor Professor Hugh Brady to his first Annual General meeting of Convocation and the Alumni Association.

Item 3: Report from the Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor advised that when he came to Bristol a strategic planning process was embarked upon to determine the future direction of the University. He explained that a “Blue skies” consultation process had been undertaken before Christmas, and a draft proposal was produced in the New Year which led to the approval by the Board of Trustees of a new Strategic Plan at the end of May. He noted that when looking at the QS ranking of top universities, Bristol is currently
ranked 37th in the world. He remarked that the University is an interesting success story; virtually all the top 50 universities are either ancient, large, well-endowed or capital city based. However even though Bristol falls outside of any of these categories, over the decades it has succeeded in competing with the very best in the world. The questions which needed considering were what parts of the University should continue as business as usual, and what are the measures we need to take to make sure that we can continue to compete at the very top level. The discussion on these matters has been very interesting and he advised that he found the level of engagement very inspiring, from students, staff, and from alumni who contributed in a most constructive way to these conversations. The sessions which included alumni and friends across the globe, in Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Hong Kong had been very inspiring, and a real passion for the University had been displayed. A great ambition, honesty about the challenges facing us and some really interesting ideas and suggestions had been made as to how we can move forward in the next phase of the evolution of the University’s success.

The new strategy was launched internally in June and an external launch will be held in the autumn. Some of the highlights and priority actions were described by the Vice-Chancellor as follows.

**Education and the student experience**

The University’s international reputation is based on excellence in research, and all our rankings reflect this very well. A piece of work is needed on education and the student experience to bring these up on par with the standards of research: where rankings ignore the quality of research Bristol does not do as well as might be expected. The fundamentals are very strong, when students are asked if they are stimulated intellectually by their course and degree programmes we perform well. It is the feedback on softer areas such as facilities and the environment where we do not do well. There is a focus up front in the plan to address education and the student experience with a determination to bring these up to a higher level.

A new curricular initiative which many alumni have advised on will be introduced. All students from 2017 on will have access to one of three personal and development pathways. The core research rich disciplinary curriculum is unequivocally protected and will continue. However students, parents and employers are looking for breadth and depth of experience, flexibility and resilience in the background of our graduates.

The three pathways comprise

- (i) innovation and enterprise;
- (ii) sustainable futures and
- (iii) intercultural understanding and global citizenship

This initiative, known as the ‘Bristol Futures’ curriculum has been considered in the light of recent events including the Brexit vote to see if it is fit for purpose, and it would seem that it is even more appropriate now than when it was first formulated.

A reshaping of the postgraduate portfolio will take place particularly around the masters courses which have traditionally been a taster prior to PhD training. The
majority of masters students coming to the University are now looking for an additional string to their employability bow, so a major initiative around the taught masters portfolio, particularly around business education and the interface between business education and the stem subjects of science, engineering, computer science and mathematics for example. There is great enthusiasm from within the institution to create a space where we can nurture the excellent community of innovators in teaching and learning, to encourage and support their growth – to scan the horizon to see what is happening elsewhere, take best practice from within our University and disseminate it across the institution. A Bristol Institute of Learning and Teaching will be created for this purpose.

There will be a major capital investment around Tyndall Avenue to create the Tyndall Place precinct, with the aim of creating a student centred hub at the heart of the University. Bristol is not a campus university but by investment around a new University library on the Hawthorns site, coupled with some work on the existing library building and public realm works, some of the benefits of a campus university can be captured without compromising the attractiveness of our city university features.

The Vice-Chancellor showed an illustration of what Tyndall place may look like, and advised that interactions have taken place with the City. However consultation must also take place with local residents, thus no time line is in place at the moment for the development.

Finally and very importantly, we will establish a real step up to achieve diversity among the student body. We have some of the best scholars in the world in the University. Steps have been taken in the past to diversity our student population but it has been found to be very difficult to progress in this area. There are several initiatives within the plan, perhaps the most significant of which is the Bristol Scholars Programme, where we have been working with the principals of schools within Bristol to offer five unconditional places to each of those schools. We will work with the Principals and teachers within the schools to identify as early as possible students who would thrive within the University. This is a significant widening participation initiative. As many of you will recall, there was some controversy around ten years ago when it was felt that these initiatives were displacing students from independent schools. The circumstances have changed now as there is no cap on student numbers, so no-one will be displaced. This is a strong signal of our intent to address the issue of diversity within the student body.

**Research, innovation and partnerships**

In the area of research our challenges are remarkably different, we need to build on our success. We have world class scholars in all of our disciplines, so what we are looking to do is identify a certain number of areas where we either have existing scale or the potential to develop scale. In those areas we will look to build PhD numbers, create new VC scholarships and new staff appointments. In certain areas we will create specialist research institutes to give them enhanced visibility on the international stage.
With our partner institutions in the City region we will also identify areas where we can work together to make a significant contribution to the economy, prompted by the government science and innovation audit which challenged us to work with our neighbouring universities in the city and the region, and with industry. This seems especially relevant now given the recent circumstances. Our particular focus is on the digital economy, where Bristol’s contribution in terms of job creation and productivity is on par with the very best. With our academic expertise and partnerships in this area, the University has the potential to serve as a catalyst for the next phase of the development of that economy.

**Our staff**

The Vice-Chancellor highlighted the area of diversity, commenting that the Russell Group universities have a relatively low proportion of females, for example within our professoriate and within senior leadership roles. The experience elsewhere has been that if such posts are advertised openly, encouraging the brightest and the best to apply both internally and internationally, one can attract a more diverse field. The University Plan commits to doing this.

**Internationalisation and global relations**

We are redoubling our efforts, especially in the light of recent events, to build relationships in partnership with other international universities to create more opportunities for our students to study or volunteer abroad, and to diversify the international mix of students on the Bristol campus. This will replicate the world of work and society that our graduates will enter upon graduation.

**Physical and digital infrastructure and sustainability**

The Vice-Chancellor noted that the development of Beacon House and the Life Sciences building were very important investments for the future. There is a rolling programme of infrastructure upgrades planned that will include Biomedical Sciences, Geography, and the Victoria Rooms. The two major new infrastructure investments in the plan are the Tyndall Avenue development, including a new Arts and Social Sciences Library, and a new campus. Campus facilities are currently at overflow capacity with the 21,000 students we have now. We are already a distributed campus with Langford, the Science Park with the National Composites Centre, our NHS Trust partners and the Engine Shed at Temple Meads. Many of our residences are now down in the town centre, and they are particularly popular with international students.

Many of you will be aware that we have been working with the City to identify additional sites to futureproof the University for the next twenty to thirty years. The one which is most attractive at the moment is the development of the Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone which already hosts our Engine Shed enterprise incubator. However, we are also exploring other options. A challenge will be how to connect the additional campus with the ‘mother ship’.

The University over the last 10 – 15 years has grown at approximately 2% each year, and that growth is not sustainable for the Clifton campus. By identifying an additional
campus we will both unlock future potential and decompress the existing campus, ensuring a top quality experience for students and staff.

**In Closing**

The Vice-Chancellor noted that our plan, as with any strategic plan, is a framework for the next phase of the University of Bristol’s development. It contains multiple dependencies, checks and balances and so called ‘go or no-go’ check points. Clearly, we must be sure of our various income streams before making major capital investments. The plan should be resilient and responsive to the external environment. We hope that the plan, when launched, will inspire alumni and other partners to invest in us.

He spoke about the plan in the light of the recent outcome of the Brexit referendum, and asked members of Convocation to use all of their contacts to influence an outcome that will provide a stable future for our students and staff. He related his experience when leading an institution in Ireland through the financial crisis which started in 2008 and went on to 2013, and the challenges that had to be faced.

With regard to the referendum, UK students are very concerned about Erasmus opportunities and EU students want to know if they have access to the student loan book. Jo Johnson, Minister for Universities and Science, has given reassurance to existing EU students and for new EU students coming in September, but not beyond that. There are many EU students who were contemplating coming in 2017 who are now wondering what kind of system they might come into. International students have contacted us, following publicity on social media, to ask if the UK is now safe to come to. These are serious concerns from the student point of view, and the situation from the staff perspective is equally serious. In what is usually a very tolerant city, staff have suffered racial abuse, and across the country more serious incidents have occurred. Leading international staff across Europe who we are trying to recruit have pulled out and have concerns about access to European Union programmes.

The University is doing everything it can to calm concerns although it may take several years for the full consequences to be clear. Government needs to be persuaded to give international staff and students the reassurances they need. Many leading researchers across the UK have reported being frozen out of major EU research consortia, not through malice but due to the perceived risk attached to including them.

Certainty is needed surrounding long term access to European Union programmes. The UK universities are working to secure reassurance. The Vice-Chancellor asked our proud and accomplished alumni to work with the University using all of their connections to influence this agenda.

The Chancellor thanked the Vice-Chancellor and noted he would be available for the question and answer section. The Vice-Chancellor received a round of applause.

The Chancellor asked Julie Goldstein (BSc 1978) the Chair of Convocation and Convocation Trustee to report, and noted that Julie had now been in post for a year.
Item 4: Report from the Chair of Convocation and Convocation Trustee

The Chair of Convocation and Convocation Trustee Julie Goldstein (BSc 1978) commented that it was good to see such a large number of alumni at the AGM and that she was honoured to be making her first report.

The Chair outlined the scope of her report (see Item 6 on the website for a copy of the Chair’s Report) which covers the range of exceptional initiatives undertaken by the Convocation and Alumni Association in close collaboration with the Development and Alumni Relations Office over the last year. She stressed the important contributions made by University volunteers all around the world including those in the local Bristol area. One of the most important strategic missions of the Convocation and Alumni Association is to further alumni engagement and to continue to build a sense of community amongst alumni. She reiterated the Vice-Chancellor’s words that alumni can add value and become involved in University initiatives.

Branches and informal networks continue to be core to alumni engagement both locally and increasingly so internationally. The Chair outlined the important work being undertaken in this area and the many alumni leaders involved. These groups are increasingly connected with the University, and members of the University senior team including the Vice-Chancellor often attend these group’s events to engage first hand.

She highlighted the contributions to international alumni engagement that the Development and Alumni Relations Office are taking regarding the different ways alumni around the world communicate. The CAAC flagship events, the Alumni Association Student Awards and the annual Convocation Lecture also provide key opportunities both for alumni to get together, and for them to connect with students. Convocation strives to maintain a relevant agenda in association with the University, and the Chair noted that this is particularly important with the introduction of the new strategy.

The alumni magazine Nonesuch continues to grow both in focus and visibility, and she noted her amazement at the level of interest and engagement with the features and stories. Nonesuch is a great source of information about what is happening in the University. The Chair thanked the team who put the publication together and encouraged alumni to use it to keep up to date with developments and events. She encouraged all present to vote in the upcoming elections when the Deputy Chair of Convocation, Convocation and Alumni Association Committee members and Convocation Representatives on Court will be contested.

The Chair outlined the key areas which are relevant to Convocation’s future in relation to the new strategy. It is important that the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee looks to develop its goal and objectives in alignment with the new University strategy to find ways to take a more active collaborative role, and this will be a focus of the first meeting of the year in September.

She thanked all the members of the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee for their hard work during last year, particularly the support they have given in her first year as Chair. She thanked the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar and the members of the senior team who have been generous with their time and wise
counsel and she expressed special thanks to the Chancellor and President of Convocation for her guidance and commented it been an enormous privilege and pleasure to support her in the interests of the Convocation and Alumni Association.

The Chair referred to Paper C, Standing Orders of Convocation: Council title update. The title change from Council to Board of Trustees reflecting the new structure and name was noted.

**Item 5: Convocation Trustee – paper for the consideration of Convocation**

The Chair explained that she is both Chair of Convocation and the elected Convocation Trustee. The Convocation Trustee serves a three year term, and in two years’ time the position will be up for election. At the AGM in 2015 it was brought to the attention of Convocation that the mechanism for selecting the Convocation Trustee would be changing. The proposal in Paper D, Convocation Trustee: Discussion Paper, has been brought to Convocation for further consultation. The proposal brings forward suggestions as to how nominees can be brought forward to a nominations committee of the Board of Trustees who will select the Convocation Trustee from the candidates put forward. The paper gives full transparency to the process suggested by the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee to put forward candidates for the very important position of Convocation Trustee.

The Chair asked for comments and questions.

The Chancellor indicated that Convocation should be grateful to the University and the Board of Trustees for their readiness to have the continuing involvement in University governance of a Convocation Trustee. She noted that the objective of the proposal put forward is to bring the appointment of the Convocation Trustee into line with the process to appoint all the other Trustees. This process involves a Nominations Committee who will want to identify a skill set that will be most needed in the reduced board membership. Convocation will be invited to put forward two or more candidates to the Nominations Committee for selection. The proposal for consultation in front of the AGM is the method to put forward those candidates from Convocation to the Nominations Committee. Questions and comments were invited.

Keith Walton (BSc 1972) asked about the process for feedback and comment to be provided by the date within the paper of 29 September.

The Clerk to Convocation explained the mechanism; an item will be included in the monthly August e-newsletter to all alumni inviting comment, and for those present a leaflet is available at the back of the Hall providing the email and postal address for comments and feedback. She encouraged those present to take a copy.

Dr Edward Beech (BSc 2012, MB ChB 2015) asked for clarification as to the powers and responsibilities of the Convocation Trustee on the Board and what the likely preferred skills would be.

The Chair of Convocation outlined the structure of the Board, which is made up of 20, one of which is the Convocation Trustee. The responsibility of that person is to review the agenda and activities carried out by the University, as any member of a governing board. The Board of Trustees role is separate from the Chair of
Convocation. As Convocation Trustee the alumnus/a in this position can bring the perspective of a member of Convocation and the Alumni Association when considering the business of the University.

Jill White (Honorary DMus 2003) asked about the number of meetings of the Board. The Chair of Convocation informed that there are six meetings and they are notified on the University website. Members also sit on a variety of sub-committees.

The Chancellor commented on the substantial time commitment required to be a member of the Board of Trustees. It oversees the work of the University and the Vice-Chancellor reports to it.

**Item 6: Report from the Director, Development and Alumni Relations Office**

The Chancellor introduced Mr Stephen O'Connor to the meeting as the new Director of the Development and Alumni Relations Office.

Stephen noted that this was his first Convocation AGM and thanked those present for their warm welcome. He is now entering his fifth month at the University and said how much he had enjoyed meeting Bristol Alumni in the UK and internationally.

He noted that there are increasing opportunities for alumni and friends to engage and become involved with their alma mater. There are of course challenges too, not least rising to the communications challenge of connecting and communicating with a diverse worldwide community, in the digital age. (See Item 5 on the website for a copy of the Director’s Report)

Stephen too reflected on the growing importance of philanthropy for our University and described an event the previous day unveiling a shield in the Wills Building in honour of the Wolfson Foundation in recognition of their committed philanthropic support for the University over the last 40 years. There is a long history of philanthropy at Bristol and he noted the foresight of leading benefactors and local civic leaders whose support established this great institution and ensured that today it is amongst the top 50 in the world. Every year thousands of donors choose to support the University as one of their charitable causes; Bristol is seen as a trusted partner through which people can help to change the world for the better. From clinicians working on heart research to climate change research advanced by the Cabot Institute. Philanthropic support for scholarships enables talented students to benefit from the transformational experience of a Bristol education regardless of their background, and also gives the University a degree of independence at a time when the funding model for universities has changed forever, and traditional sources of funding are diminishing. It enables the University to undertake new projects which would otherwise not have been possible, to do things better and faster and to a higher quality. Philanthropy enables the University to leverage significant investment, particularly when partners are able to see the commitment of alumni and donors to projects – it makes a strong case when seeking matched funding and investment of scale.

In the last 12 months Bristol has received over £7m in donations. Income across the sector has increased to £861m and Bristol is keen to secure a greater share to support our plans for growth. Stephen reflected that support could be attracted internationally as well as in the UK for example around 140 major donations had been made to UK
projects by trusts and foundations and individuals from Hong Kong, half to higher education establishments, but sadly none to Bristol. The University is seeking to increase awareness of the world leading work we do today and seeking to engage with leading philanthropists who want to make a transformational difference. Bristol has a story and a vision which captures the imagination and will resonate with many more potential donors from across the world. Bristol aims to build further on our fundraising success in the years to come.

Stephen thanked all those present who have supported the University with a generous gift or legacy. The impact of gifts and the difference they make is important to beneficiaries; and at Bristol our supporters have helped leading research which addresses some of society’s biggest problems and challenges. It has assisted early careers academics through post graduate scholarships and students who face financial hardship through unexpected life changes and initiatives such as the Big White Wall initiative which promotes positive mental health within the student body. The new Vice-Chancellor’s Fellowships, which will be launched later in the year, will be key to attracting and retaining even more talented academics to Bristol.

The Development and Alumni Relations Office is always delighted to work with volunteers and alumni groups, and Stephen commented on the visit to South East Asia with the Vice-Chancellor and academic colleagues in April which was very successful in building alumni engagement. Over eight days the travelling group met over 400 people, including large receptions and individual meetings with alumni and donors. The visits took in Tokyo, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur and ended in Singapore at an event at the Raffles Hotel which was attended by a very enthusiastic group of alumni and friends.

He noted that alumni have had a major part to play in shaping the new University strategy, assisting with student recruitment and inspiring undergraduates through mentoring and guest lectures. Stephen described a recent event at the Design Centre in London, where leading alumni from business heard presentations from budding entrepreneurs and offered their invaluable support and advice to students and recent graduates. The event typified the University’s commitment to cultivating an environment which supports innovation and reflected the huge entrepreneurial ability of Bristol students.

In closing, Stephen thanked Tracey Beck for the amazing job she had done as Acting Director for over a year and has now taken up her substantive role as Deputy Director. He also thanked Julie Goldstein the Chair of Convocation for her wonderful support and advice during his early months in post. He also thanked all members of the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee for their tremendous support, and all alumni and friends who have supported Bristol so generously with their time, expertise and donations.
Item 7: Questions and Answers

Owen Peachey (BSc 2008) commented that the students of the University had been noted at length during proceedings but that there was not a voice for students at the AGM, and that he could not see any current students in the room. He asked that an opportunity be made available in future for a student representative to address the AGM and that an item be added to the agenda in the future. He added that the Chancellor would be very much missed after she steps down.

Mr Peachey asked the Vice-Chancellor about the future of the residences and asked him to update the AGM about the residences in terms of the new strategy regarding the development of their staffing and personnel.

The Vice-Chancellor advised of a decision made recently to accelerate a rolling programme of refurbishment over the coming years at the residences. Over the last two or three years the University has taken part in collaboration with the private sector including Orchard Heights with Unite in partnership, to create residences with both rooms and social areas. The design of the social spaces has taken on board criticism in the past about private sector student accommodation. The Vice-Chancellor related that one of his first duties was to open such a hall, and the social spaces were very much appreciated by the students when seeing them for the first time. Lessons can be taken from this if a new campus is created – any new campus must be animated and the social spaces in residences will undertake an important role. In the future the development of student residences will be done in partnership with the private sector. The experience in working with Unite gives confidence that appropriate buildings can be created to enhance the student experience. A review is being launched to identify if student support in residences is fit for purpose, and the balance between the traditional Warden’s role and staff who may be professionally trained in such areas as mental health support will be considered.

Lilian Brown (BA 1951, Cert Ed 1952, Hon MA 2005) referred to Paper D, the opening sentence which reads “every member of Convocation shall be eligible to stand for appointment to the Board of Trustees as the Convocation Trustee”. She asked that bearing in mind the international reputation of the University and the financial stresses it has, if a qualified and well suited Chinese alumna was minded to stand, whether all expenses would be paid.

The Vice-Chancellor responded that if this happened it would be a test case but one which the University would welcome. The Convocation Trustee stated that travel expenses are paid for all members in accordance with the Board’s expense procedure. The amounts that current members receive are modest and she said she was not aware of any precedents covering persons travelling from outside the UK to take part in University Committees.

Christopher Burns (BSc 1977) asked the Chair of Convocation when looking at the timings of meetings in Bristol, for example the Volunteers Reception which preceded the AGM, to bear in mind that it is quite difficult to travel to Bristol from some of the northern outposts of Britain. In the current difficult times he noted that the University might look to accommodate people who do not live in Bristol or the south of England so they can attend events such as the extraordinary meeting of Court taking place in the afternoon following the AGM.
The Chancellor commented that the extraordinary meeting of Court is not likely to last more than 15 minutes and would not overlap with any of the Hall dinners. The Chancellor requested that members of Convocation attend the meeting of Court if they were able to.

The Chair of Convocation spoke about the programme for the Alumni Weekend, and said that the expectation was that people would join in for the whole weekend, commencing with the reception on the Friday evening. She advised that the scheduling of future events will however try to take into account people travelling from outside Bristol.

Leon Smith (BA 2005) thanked the Vice-Chancellor for the candour of his report. He asked if there is one message that alumni should take home which they can act upon to support the University in the difficult times ahead.

The Vice-Chancellor asked those with connections to government, politicians or senior civil servants to impress upon them the urgency of the guarantees needed to EU and international students and staff that their status in the UK is secure. Jo Johnson has given a guarantee about 2016 entrants to UG and masters programmes that they will have access to the student loan book and has promised to consider the 2017 entry as a matter of urgency. It is very important that staff receive unequivocal reassurances about their status in the UK.

Stuart Goldsmith (BA 1966, Honorary LLD 2007) asked if there had been any developments in the discussions about the structure of future Court meetings.

The Vice-Chancellor reported that following consideration of this matter the need for a longer period of consultation and reflection had been identified. The Chancellor advised that there is a commitment to having a useful University Court making a vibrant contribution.

The Chancellor thanked all for their reports and questions and answers.

Item 8: Report from the Treasurer of Convocation (paper F)

The Treasurer David Clarke (BA 1965) presented and explained the accounts for the year 2015/16 and brought attention to his report. Mr Clarke highlighted three things.

- That the accounts show a deficit due to special expenditure on the purchase of Convocation medals and the Alumni Association Student Awards board which is now on display in the foyer of the Student Union building.
- An alumnus has committed to give an annual donation of £100 towards Convocation funds.
- The valuation of the Zutshi-Smith fund was causing some concern following market volatility, however at the end of June it is now £105k, up from £103 in March.

Questions were invited, no questions were forthcoming.
Approval of the accounts was proposed by Linda Wilson (LLB 1982) seconded by Dr Martin Crossley Evans MBE (BA 1978, PhD 1990). The meeting adopted the accounts.

The Chancellor thanked the Treasurer for all of his work throughout the year.

**Item 9: Elections and appointments (paper G)**

The Chancellor noted that the elections are taking place with members of Convocation voting electronically and in person. The results of the election will be announced in the week following the AGM.

The Chancellor informed the meeting that it needs to consider the appointment of an Independent Assessor of Convocation’s Accounts 2016-17.

Mr David Eastham Ratcliffe FCA (BA 1965) was proposed by Dr Stuart Goldsmith (BA 1966, Honorary LLD 2007) and seconded by Mr Richard Willis FRSA (BSc 1974, Certificate in Education 1975)

The meeting appointed Mr Ratcliffe to the post. It was agreed that Mr Ratcliffe has served Convocation for the past 13 years in this role and that Convocation should send its formal appreciation for the work he has so judiciously undertaken

**Action:** Chair to write to Mr Ratcliffe to thank him for his work.

**Item 10: Chancellor's Business**

The Chancellor informed the meeting that she is embarking on a number of ‘last times’ as she takes part in University functions in her role as Chancellor.

She has already attended her last Charter day, this is her last Alumni Weekend and Convocation AGM; four degree ceremonies remain ahead and then the Alumni Association Student Awards and Court in December.

The Chancellor reflected on her role, saying that it has been a wonderful job, and she likened it to being a bit like a Queen. This meant that she could wear a pretty frock/robe and a fetching hat, give out prizes and awards, say thank you to everybody and make a series of uncontroversial speeches. She noted that there is also the conventional Monarch’s role in of giving advice and encouragement and on occasion warnings to the top staff of the University. The Chair of Council and the Vice-Chancellor have always felt it possible to come and share their thoughts, worries and plans as they know she has the University’s best interests at heart and has gained experience and insights over the past 13 years.

The Chancellor commented that 13 years was a good length of time, and one which was also the tenure of her predecessor. She had wanted to make sure the new Vice-Chancellor was firmly established before moving on. One more new challenge awaits her now as Treasurer of Gray’s Inn starting in the New Year. This role is not one of looking after the books, but another “Queenly” role and will involve even more eating and drinking than being Chancellor. She will be the second woman Treasurer following Dame Rose Heilbron, who was in her time the most famous barrister in the country. She noted that she was also the second woman Chancellor following Dorothy Mary Hodgkin, the Nobel laureate and brilliant scientist.
The Chancellor thanked all alumni for the way they engage so positively with the University. She gave special thanks to the three Chairs of Convocation she has worked with, Stuart Goldsmith, Bill Ray and Julie Goldstein, and to the Committee members and staff in the Development and Alumni Relations Office, with particular thanks to Tracey Beck.

Julie Goldstein presented the Chancellor with flowers as a token of appreciation from Convocation to a rousing round of applause.

**Any other business**

No other business was raised and the Chancellor declared the meeting closed.
Papers for the following items were referred to during the AGM and are published at: http://www.bristol.ac.uk/alumni/the-alumni-association/annual-general-meeting-of-the-alumni-association/

They are also available by request from the Development and Alumni Relations Office.

Item A  Minutes of the meeting held on Saturday 11 July 2015

Item B  Report from the Chairman of Convocation and Convocation Representative on Council including the Convocation Member of Council: Consultation Document

Item C  Standing Orders of Convocation: Council title update, for noting

Item D  Convocation Trustee: Discussion paper

Item E  Report from the Acting Director of Development and Alumni Relations

Item F  Report from the Treasurer of Convocation

Item G  Elections and appointments
It is with great pleasure that I present my second report as Chair of Convocation and the Alumni Association, and Convocation Trustee.

The Convocation report provides an overview of the extensive range of activities and events undertaken during the year by Convocation and the Alumni Association working in close collaboration with the Development and Alumni Relations Office (DARO) and all the University volunteers located around the world who do so much for the University in so many ways.

I would like to formally acknowledge and express our warmest thanks and congratulations to Sir Paul Nurse as Chancellor of the University and President of Convocation and the Alumni Association and look forward to his increased involvement in the years ahead.

As outlined in previous communications, our most important strategic mission is to further alumni engagement and to continue to build a sense of community amongst our alumni. In this report I will touch upon some of the key initiatives we have undertaken this year that hopefully take us further towards achieving our goals.

Last year over 350 alumni and friends travelling from across the globe; the USA, the Netherlands, Australia, Gibraltar, New Zealand, Ireland and various locations throughout the UK attended the 2016 Alumni Reunion Weekend and participated in many of the 12 events. These included a Welcome Garden Party reception in The Orangery, Goldney Hall where we enjoyed a delightful buffet supper and had the opportunity to visit the Grotto, a Grade 1 listed building; a Celebration Lunch in the Great Hall where we heard from the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor and celebrated the presentation of the Convocation Medals to Lind a Wilson and Alison Wilson; a Talk by Professor Viv Bennett CBE, Chief Nurse at Public Health England; an afternoon tour of Beacon House and the evening closing with the ever popular Hall Association dinners. In all, a delightful weekend programme of events, which provided significant opportunities for alumni to re-connect with their University and re-establish links with members of their schools, Halls, clubs and societies.

Branches and informal networks continue to be core to our engagement both locally and internationally.

The London Branch continues to be extremely active, offering a robust programme of events throughout the year. The year began with a graduate careers seminar and drinks reception, open to recent graduates seeking advice on their career progression. Many thanks to alumni volunteers who took the time to share their expertise at this event. The London Branch Annual Lecture was delivered by George Ferguson CBE (BA 1968, BArch 1971, Hon MA 1999) in November 2016 to an audience of over 60 alumni. It focused on the highlights of his career in Bristol and prompted lively debate. This was preceded by the London Branch AGM and election of the new Chair London Branch, Julian Metcalfe. Our thanks and appreciation to Mike Robb who stepped down as Chair after serving two years, during which he
made a valuable contribution to the London Branch. The annual Carol Service took place in December and continues to be a popular event. In March, Professor Steve Williams of King's College, London, provided a fascinating insight into advances of neuro-imaging in medical science. The Branch also supported the University runners at the London Marathon in April, and enjoyed a sell-out walking tour of the Famous Square Mile in May.

The Cambridge Branch led by Alison Wilson continues to deliver an active programme of events. The highlight of the year being the Alumni Branch Annual Dinner at Churchill College in October 2016 where the Vice-Chancellor Professor Hugh Brady was the Guest Speaker and outlined the University’s new strategy to over 60 alumni. The Branch AGM and Spring Lecture was held in May 2017 which featured a talk by Professor Sir Mark Welland FRS (MSc 1981, PhD 1984, Hon DSc 2014), Director of the Nanoscience Centre at the University of Cambridge, on his experiences as a world leader in nano-scale science and technology.

In Bristol Jane Thompson, Dick Willis, Linda Wilson and John Barnbrook continue to organise a range of interesting events for our alumni and these include a tour of the famous Clifton Suspension Bridge abutment chambers, which sold out very quickly, the Paul Esser Memorial Lecture featuring English explorer Doug Scott CBE, two visits to the Bristol Museum’s Staffordshire Hoard exhibition and a fascinating lecture on urban policy and British cities. As well as these events organised by the Bristol Branch, the annual golf challenge goes from strength to strength with Owen Peachey leading the way, and the Bristol University Officer Training Corps continues its programme of activities to keep its alumni connected.

Internationally, the Hong Kong branch led by Veronica Pearson held an amazing array of events this past year including their annual Snake Soup Supper in November 2016, and AGM and BBQ lunch in February. At the AGM, Chair of the Branch Professor Veronica Pearson announced that she will be stepping down from her post at the end of the year – I’d like to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work in Hong Kong, and we look forward to welcoming the Branch’s new Chair, Dr Raymond Yuen, in 2018.

Alumni groups in the USA and SE Asia have been very active during the year and in addition to ongoing local activities have hosted alumni events to promote visits from the Vice-Chancellor in September 2016 and May 2017.

I continue to be delighted by the quality of these events and the loyalty that our alumni demonstrate to the University in this regard. In developing our international networks DARO is making great strides on building outreach into many countries and this will be covered more fully in the report from the Director of DARO.

We again recognise the important role and value that the Hall Associations play in building alumni engagement. Wills, Manor, Churchill and Badock Halls are once again to be congratulated on increasing their outreach and activities, and in a new initiative we have a single Halls Association Dinner this year, which has attracted over 100 guests at the Alumni Weekend.

Our two annual flagship Committee events are the Alumni Association Student Awards Reception and the Alumni Association Annual Lecture which once again were led superbly by Linda Wilson and Dick Willis respectively and with the support of the DARO team and in particular Jo Friend and Charles Gunter.
The Student Awards Reception was held on 1 December 2016, and once again we were delighted to have the evening hosted by the former Chancellor, The Right Hon, the Baroness Hale of Richmond DBE who presented the awards to the students. Over 150 guests including alumni, faculty members and parents attended the evening, and we were pleased to note the large number of students who had come along to support their fellow students. Awards were presented to four students and the formalities concluded with a wonderful performance by the Bristol University Madrigal Ensemble.

The evening also provided us with the opportunity to thank and say a fond farewell to our former Chancellor The Right Hon, the Baroness Hale of Richmond DBE (Hon LLD 2002) who was presented with a framed print of Bristol and an engraved Bristol Blue paperweight on behalf of Convocation and the Alumni Association.

The Annual Lecture was held on 27 April 2017, and our keynote speaker Margaret Aldred CB CBE (BSc Geography 1975), the Secretary to the Iraq Enquiry, gave an enlightening lecture reflecting on her experiences as a civil servant with particular reference to working as a women holding senior positions in the MOD and her role as the Secretary of the Iraq Inquiry from 2009 to 2016 - including the purpose of such a politically controversial Inquiry, the role of the Secretariat, and the choices of the Inquiry about its conduct and conclusions. The event attracted over 150 alumni and friends and concluded with a Q&A session led by Professor Guy Orpen, Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Our annual flagship events provide the opportunity for alumni, students and members of the University to interact and engage. After 10 years chairing the AA Student Awards, Linda has decided to hand over the running to John Barnbrook and Jane Thompson for the 2017 Awards later this year. We also would like to acknowledge the significant contribution from Dick Willis who has consistently succeeded in securing the most interesting speakers and overseeing the flawless organisation of the event for several years. Dick has completed 6 years on CAAC and decided not to stand for re-election this year. He will be missed. Thanks again to Linda and Dick for leading on these important events in the Alumni calendar.

The Convocation and Alumni Association Committee (CAAC) has continued to strive to maintain a relevant agenda appropriate to the University and address the needs and interests of alumni in a number of areas including taking on a more active advisory role, acting as ambassadors for the University and supporting our current students in their career choices.

I would like to comment on the high level of commitment expressed in response to the launch of the new Strategic Plan. As alumni we represent a significant
stakeholder group and there are many ways that we can get involved. It is exceedingly encouraging to hear, directly or from others, of the many offers of support received from alumni.

In keeping with our undertaking to develop our goals and objectives in alignment with the new University Strategy, the Committee has embarked upon a review process to develop an alumni strategy in collaboration with the DARO that will enable us to build an even more positive and brighter future for engagement with our alumni worldwide.

This initiative was launched by holding a Strategy Planning Day in September 2016 to consider a number of issues, including how the Committee could change its role, objectives and activities to support the work of the University, to increase participation of alumni and to play a role in improving outcomes for students.

The outcome of these discussions resulted in identifying four key areas of focus:

a) Student Employability
b) Alumni Communications
c) Alumni Recognition and Awards, and
d) Student Engagement

Members of the Committee have been working closely with DARO to increase alumni engagement in these key areas by developing new programmes, especially those targeted to support student employability and alumni recognition.

I would like to thank the Deputy Chair, Linda Wilson, for her energy and commitment to the ongoing work of the Committee; the Treasurer, David Clarke for his experienced and measured approach to the finances and also to all other members of the Convocation and the Alumni Association Committee (CAAC) for their enthusiastic support and dedication.

We are especially grateful to John Barnbrook, Stephen Wiggan and Julian Wathen for their efforts and involvement in supporting the Careers Service and maintaining a focus on Student Employability and to Vikki Stace for her continued commitment to the marketing and communications initiatives.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our colleagues in DARO. The strategic commitment from the Director, DARO Stephen O’Connor and the ongoing day to day support and collaboration from Tracey Beck, Joanna Sochacka and Mark Davey who are always ready and willing to assist on any project undertaken by the CAAC. I am also extremely grateful to the ongoing support and guidance from Katy Gullon and the Governance team.

Nonesuch has maintained its consistently high quality editorial content and I would like to thank everyone involved in the production of the magazine, and in particular I was delighted to see the emphasis on the progress of the University’s campus plans in recent editions, which I know we all enjoy reading about.

The elections have generated significant interest from alumni who are keen to get involved. I am pleased to report that there are 25 nominations for (25) Convocation Representatives on Court, 8 nominations for (4) Convocation Committee positions, and 1 nomination for the role of Treasurer of Convocation.
It is encouraging to report that registrations for this year’s Alumni Weekend are high and continue to reflect the increased interest from our alumni in engaging with the University and participating in the various events taking place over this special weekend.

I am delighted to report that the Committee is awarding Convocation Medals to three alumni in 2017: Adrian Mezzetti, David Snoxall and Clive Scowen for their outstanding contributions to Wills Hall Association and Court; the London Branch, CAAC and Court; CAAC and Court respectively over many years. The awards will be presented by the Chancellor at the lunch following the AGM.

I am also very pleased to advise you that our former Chancellor, Lady Hale, will be granted an Honorary Fellowship by the University in July.

As Convocation Trustee and member of the Board of Trustees, it has been a privilege to participate in the development of the University’s Strategy and I am pleased to report that during the course of the year the Board has devoted a substantial amount of time to reviewing the University’s Long Term Financial Plan and given due consideration to the risks associated with the delivery of the University’s ambitious objectives.

The Strategy committed the University to an extensive Capital programme involving major upgrades of facilities and specifically, the development of a second campus at Temple Quarters and the creation of a centre to the main campus on Tyndall Avenue. In order to finance these and other projects the University has borrowed £200 million and this exercise was subject to the rigorous scrutiny of the Board and external advisors.

The Strategy also committed the University to the following courses of action:

- “Empowering our staff to operate effectively, through a lean and agile approach to governance and management that enables staff to fulfil their roles and provides effective, transparent and accountable decision-making” and
- “Reviewing and refreshing the core statutory elements of our governance structure to ensure they are fit for purpose”.

In April the University commissioned KPMG to undertake a review of the University’s internal decision-making structures and processes and to report on the current status together with providing recommendations for streamlining the processes and structures, at all levels of the University, to better equip the University for the challenging and evolving HE environment of the future particularly in respect of academic quality and standards.

The review involves consideration of the role of Senate and other bodies, including Court and Convocation. The provisional report and recommendations are being considered by the University and will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the July meeting.

In the area of Education and the Student Experience, the University took the decision to enter the government’s pilot Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). I am pleased to report that the University has been awarded a ‘Silver’ rank by the Higher Education Funding Council for England in this review. The TEF is one of many
reviews and rankings of universities, and Bristol’s performance in national and international league tables continues to be very strong. The recent QS rankings, one of the world’s most respected ranking systems, places the University in the UK top 10, and in the top 50 globally. The University was the highest climber in the Guardian University Guide this year (up 11 places), and a top 20 institution in this year's Complete University Guide.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Hugh Brady for his outstanding leadership of our University, the Registrar Robin Geller and all the members of the senior team for their significant endeavours and the Chief Financial Officer, Robert Kerse who has done an outstanding job steering us through the financial complexities during his first year at the University.

Julie Goldstein  
Chair, Convocation and the Alumni Association  

28 June 2017
CONVOCATION TRUSTEE: PROPOSAL

The Annual General Meeting of Convocation and the Alumni Association is asked to: consider and approve this report

This report has been prepared by: Tracey Beck, Clerk to Convocation

Date of report/paper: 29 June 2017

Paper Summary: This paper proposes a process for the selection of multiple candidates for the role of Convocation Trustee, from whom the Board of Trustees or its nominations committee will select a person to act as the Convocation Trustee.

Paper History: This report is based on a paper prepared by Clive Scowen, Chair of the Governance Sub-Committee of the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee; and approved by Julie Goldstein, Chair, Convocation and Alumni Association Committee on June 2016. This update provides a current status report as at February 2017.

Motion: That the CAAC approve the Proposal contained in this paper to recommend a shortlist to the Board of Trustees Nominations Committee for the appointment of a Convocation Trustee.

1. Issue
A new University ordinance was adopted on 1 January 2016 (as prefigured in the Council Effectiveness Review Paper at the Convocation AGM in 2015) which provides that one member of the Board of Trustees must be nominated by Convocation (the Convocation Trustee). Every member of Convocation shall be eligible to stand for appointment to the Board of Trustees as the Convocation Trustee, and that wherever possible at least two candidates should be put forward by Convocation for that position -for consideration by the Board of Trustees or nominations committee of the Board of Trustees if so constituted (see Appendix 1). Final authority for appointment of the Convocation Trustee remains with the Board of Trustees itself and cannot be delegated to a sub-committee.

Convocation’s role as an organisation is therefore to come up with a shortlist for the the Board of Trustees/its nominations committee.
The Convocation Trustee position was most recently contested and filled in 2015. Therefore the earliest that a vacancy will arise for a Convocation Trustee is 1 August 2018.

2. Proposal
The Convocation and Alumni Association Committee (CAAC) propose a four stage approach to this process:

(i) As soon as the University’s Board of Trustees announces the vacancy for the Convocation Trustee and the skills which it is seeking in the person to be appointed to that role the CAAC will communicate with the Convocation membership to invite any member with the relevant skills to put himself or herself forward for the role of Convocation Trustee, based on the skill set sought by the Board.

(ii) The CAAC or a Nominations Committee of the CAAC will review all applications, shortlist and interview potential candidates. This process aims to result in multiple candidates being put forward who (a) are likely to fulfil the Board’s recommendations as to preferred skills, and (b) will be prepared to take up the ex-officio role on the CAAC as well.

(iii) As part of the annual round of elections the Convocation membership will be invited to vote for one of the candidates put forward by the CAAC or its Nomination Committee as a result of stage (ii). The membership will thereby effectively rank the candidates in order of preference.

(iv) The CAAC or a Nominations Committee of the CAAC will review the outcome of stage (iii), and recommend the top two or more candidates to the Board of Trustees for the role of Convocation Trustee, indicating the number of votes each received at stage (iii).

3. Consultation on Proposal
The Convocation membership was invited to consider this proposal from July – September 2016 as follows:

1. CAAC consultation via email to all CAAC Branches world wide
2. Notice/advice of consultation in August 2016 Alumni e-newsletter (all alumni world wide)
3. Comments and feedback sought from Convocation membership three months from the date of the AGM – by 29 September 2016

It was agreed that consultation responses would be reviewed by the CAAC and a final recommendation on the process for the selection of multiple candidates for the role of Convocation Trustee would be put forward at the Convocation AGM in July 2017.

One response was received to the Consultation, which is included as Appendix 2.
Appendix 1: Ordinance 5, University of Bristol

EXTRACT FROM THE CHARTER, ACTS, STATUTES, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL 2015-16

Point 4. The Convocation Trustee

Every member of Convocation shall be eligible to stand for appointment to the Board of Trustees as the Convocation Trustee.

Prior to (or upon, if the vacancy is a casual vacancy) a vacancy arising on the Board of Trustees for a Convocation Trustee, the Board of Trustees will consider the balance and range of skills, backgrounds and experience of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may make recommendations as to any Preferred Skills.

The Clerk to the Board of Trustees, in conjunction with the Clerk to Convocation, will invite members of Convocation to stand for appointment to the Board of Trustees and notify them of any Preferred Skills. Candidates shall be recommended by Convocation, following selection in a manner determined by Convocation. In considering its recommendations, Convocation will have regard to any Preferred Skills. Wherever possible, Convocation will seek to recommend at least two candidates per vacancy.

The Board of Trustees shall consider the recommended candidates. The Board of Trustees may delegate responsibility for consideration of the recommended candidates to a nominations committee of the Board of Trustees (howsoever called or constituted). Where such delegation occurs, that nominations committee shall nominate one candidate per vacancy to the Board of Trustees.
Appendix 2: Response to Convocation Consultation Paper

16 July 2016

FAO Mark Davey, Volunteers Officer

Dear Mark

I would have preferred the Convocation Trustee to be directly elected by the Convocation membership.

Since the Ordinance prevents this, I am happy with the proposed process, but I believe the number of votes cast for each candidate should be known by each of those with a decision-making responsibility in the process.

Best wishes

Chris Row

BA Classics 1968
I am pleased to present my annual DARO report to the AGM of Convocation covering key areas of activity in 2016/17.

Alumni and Friends Engagement

This year c2,000 alumni and friends have attended 30 events directly organised by DARO and c70 more events organised by our alumni volunteers across the world. These events provide a platform for building valuable new networks and developing Bristol's alumni community from Shanghai to San Francisco and Malaysia to Chile. We are very grateful to the many dedicated local volunteers who host and organise these events in the UK and overseas.

Communications

The DARO team are in regular contact with alumni and in the last year the office fielded 1,000 phone calls, 6,500 letters and 5,300 emails sent to alumni@bristol.org.uk from graduates and made c40,000 updates to alumni records.

Nonesuch continues to be our flagship alumni publication, however we are responding to the continuing move to digital especially to meet the preferences of our younger and overseas audiences including bespoke e-newsletters to our key international audiences in the US and South East Asia. Many alumni comment how they like to receive our regular e-news updates and this popularity is confirmed by an excellent 30% open rate this year.

People and communities increasingly communicate at speed and through film and photography. We continue to work closely with the University Marketing and Communications team on joint productions. This year we produced a well received filmed interview with the Chancellor prior to his installation and the 'Why you give' and 'Inspirational Philanthropy' films showcasing our donors and the impact of their support.

Social networks also continue to play a growing part in in our work to remain connected with our graduates. The University of Bristol Alumni Facebook numbers increased by 15% this year, from 6,129 to 7,071 and we now have c20,000 members of our vibrant LinkedIn group.

I have included a snapshot of some key engagement activities as follows.

UK Engagement

There has been a wide range of activity in the UK across the year. In general volunteer networks have gone from strength to strength, with UK Branches, Halls Associations and special interest groups all holding successful alumni activities. Indeed the Wills Hall dinner during Alumni Weekend 2017 is a sell out.
In London, the annual Pioneers Reception in September 2016 attracted over 50 committed donors. The President and Vice-Chancellor outlined the cornerstones of the University’s new strategy, followed by a vibrant Q&A. In early October, Steve O’Connor hosted the ‘Professor Sir Eric Thomas Scholarship Fund’ presentation event in Bristol. Ten talented students received the very first postgraduate scholarships to be awarded from the Fund. The appeal for this Fund raised £592,000 to support a range of student support and education projects.

Over 250 alumni attended the University’s high profile Strategy launches in London and Bristol in November 2016. In London, alumnus Mike Robb (BSc 2007) gave a powerful address about the importance of the Bristol alumni network in helping to champion and deliver our strategic ambitions. The year closed with the annual Christmas Carol Concert organised by the London Branch and a festive reception hosted by the President and Vice-Chancellor for c30 leading donors and friends at Stuart House with the Madrigal Choir providing the entertainment.

The University sponsored the Women in Business Awards and the Business Awards for the first time in April and June 2017. These events organised by the Bristol Evening Post provide an ideal opportunity to host local business and community partners and supporters. Alumnus and honorary graduate George Ferguson was presented with the lifetime achievement award by Steve O’Connor in recognition of his lifelong contribution to the city.

The Chancellor Sir Paul Nurse and the President and Vice-Chancellor hosted a reception for donors and supporters prior to the Chancellor’s memorable installation ceremony in March 2017. DARO also organised a Varsity rugby VIP reception and an International rugby dinner hosted by the COO and Registrar, Robin Geller with alumni, supporters and members of the visiting French team.

**International Engagement**

**China**

In September over 300 alumni and friends attended careers and networking events in Shanghai and Beijing hosted by Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Erik Lithander. These events helped to raise the profile of the University, advance some key partnerships, cultivate stronger alumni networks, and offer recent graduates invaluable careers advice. The events included very popular Career Expert Panels featuring high profile alumni, and social receptions which provided a platform to recruit alumni volunteers.

We now work with over 700 alumni volunteers across the world and in April 2017 a team of 35 volunteers played a major part in delivering a very successful graduation ceremony in Beijing hosted by the President and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Hugh Brady, which attracted over 1,000 attendees, including c400 graduating students and their families. Professor Brady also hosted a number of high profile alumni receptions and career networking events attracting over 300 guests in Beijing and Shanghai. China alumni network leaders Siyan Ruan (MSc 2014) and Shanna Lin recruited participants for the alumni event and career networking programme.
USA

A business visit by the President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Hugh Brady, Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Erik Lithander, DARO Director Steve O’Connor and Deputy Director Tracey Beck to New York in September 2016 provided a valuable opportunity to launch the University’s new strategic plan and develop our continuing engagement with more alumni, friends and supporters. Convocation Trustee and CAAC Chair Julie Goldstein kindly arranged a marvellous venue at the Met Tower for a successful supporter stewardship dinner and alumni reception. A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Foundation USA was also held to review plans and agree disbursements.

Volunteer alumni events have included three social gatherings in Seattle hosted by Julija Kod (BSc 2010, MSci 2012) and in February a ‘meet and greet’ in Washington DC was hosted by the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dr Erik Lithander.

In May 2017 DARO organised a five day business visit to the USA by the President and Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellor Dr Erik Lithander and Professor Dave Cliff (Academic Director of the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus) with the Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Deputy Director and Volunteers Manager to further develop engagement and fundraising activities. The Foundation USA hosted a very successful and high profile reception in New York at the Guggenheim Museum. The Vice-Chancellor’s Fellowship programme was launched during the event and attracted a pledge of $200,000 from a generous alumna to fund a Fellowship and a Postgraduate Scholarship. This pledge has attracted a further $50,000 in matched gifts.

A memorable alumni reception was also held in San Francisco at the top of the Transamerica Pyramid Tower which attracted over 90 guests. This popular occasion provided the launch pad for our engagement plans on the West coast and the launch of the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus with a keynote address from Professor Dave Cliff. A series of meetings in San Francisco and the Silicon Valley with partner institutions, leading alumni, prospects, donors and companies complemented the set piece events.

SE Asia

Dato Sri Nazir Razak (BSc Economics and Politics 1988), Chairman, CIMB Securities, Malaysia, returned to campus for the first time since his graduation in March 2017. Nazir visited the TQEC site and met the project team and then presented a lecture to a packed audience of current students from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law. He also met the first intake of students at the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and was guest of honour at an evening reception organised by students from the Malaysian and Singaporean Students Association.

In April the Director of Development and Alumni Relations, Deputy Director and DARO Volunteers Manager accompanied the President and Vice-Chancellor and senior colleagues to South East Asia. A range of successful events and meetings were held with leading alumni, organisations, donors and prospects in Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong.
Alumni Foundation

I would like to thank staff and alumni who serve on the Alumni Foundation Committee and the Chairman Emeritus Professor Bob Evans. The Foundation is supported by DARO and funded by donations from alumni and friends. It awards much sought after travel grants and project funding to student societies and groups. The Committee has made awards of over £163,000 so far this year.

Partnership Programmes

The DARO team are fully engaged in partnership activity with other Divisions most notably the International Office, Recruitment and Careers. I have highlighted some of the key activities.

Alumni have been fully involved in recruitment events with prospective students, current students and alumni at successful Offer Holder events in London and overseas in 2016-2017. At a first event in London, alumni were recruited by DARO to share their Bristol story on the theme of ‘Creating outstanding graduates’. Alumni from PwC shared their special Bristol experience and how they had successfully secured graduate training scheme places. Alumna Emily Wheeler (BA Politics and French 2013) shared her experience of careers support and studying at Bristol with a very appreciative audience. At the second event in London, leading corporate supporters Thompson Reuters provided an excellent venue and highly regarded alumnus Dr Peter Warwick (BA 1973), Chief People Officer at Thompson Reuters, gave an inspiring address about his career and transformational experience at Bristol. Three alumni also spoke as part of the University’s flagship recruitment Open Days, sharing their varied and successful career paths with potential applicants.

In January 2017 DARO supported the launch of the second University of Bristol Enterprise Fund in collaboration with Parkwalk, with over 60 alumni and guests attending a highly participative event in London. New start-ups showcased their innovative products and services to potential investors.

The President and Vice-Chancellor hosted a very exclusive visit to CERN in February 2017 for over 40 leading alumni, supporters and guests organised by DARO with the School of Physics. The IGRCT also recently hosted a successful stewardship dinner for over 20 donors.

Philanthropy

There has been notable success in our fundraising activity this year and we are on target to secure new funds raised of £16m+ which equates to a year on year increase of 200%.

The most recent Ross-Case Survey Report places Bristol at 15th in the Russell Group rankings for philanthropic income. We are delighted to report that over 6,000 donors chose to support the University as one of their charitable causes. We are proud to say we have the third highest number of donors amongst UK institutions and the top Telethon appeal run with our magnificent student caller team.
On behalf of the University, I would like to thank all our donors - alumni, students, staff, parents, friends, trusts and foundations, corporate partners and many more - for their tremendous generosity and continuing support. Your inspirational philanthropy has enabled us improve the student experience, deliver innovative teaching and advance world leading research.

Notable fundraising activity and gifts include;

- Our student caller team held over 6,600 conversations during the Telethon and 997 alumni chose to donate in support of their alma mater
- Many donors make committed gifts to Bristol and helped to raise a wonderful c£1m in the last year
- The trustees of the Wolfson Foundation supported the appeal for the renovation of the Fry Building, the new home for the School of Mathematics with a grant award of £780,000.
- The Foundation also granted £150,000 over 5 years to fund two new Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award grants of £150,000
- A grant of £82,500 from the Denise Coates Foundation will provide 40 bursaries for first year Law students.
- Corporate support of £82,500 from Huawei will support the research of Professor Dimitri Simeonidou,

The Foundation Inc USA, chaired by alumna Lesley Silvester (BA 1968), has made an enormous contribution to furthering the University's outreach. The board of six alumni Directors work unstintingly to raise the University's profile and to engage with more of our US based alumni. The Board has endorsed a new plan for philanthropic fundraising and engagement - ‘A new Era for Bristol in America’ - which was informed and shaped by interviews with alumni, donors and supporters.

DARO has visited the US on several occasions in the last year as our activity grows and we are very grateful to Board Directors and alumni across the USA who have embraced a shared new vision for raising our profile and developing our activity.

The DARO team have worked closely with academic colleagues across the University to secure a number of major gifts in 2016-2017. We have exceeded the largest gift ever received from an individual on three occasions as follows;

- A generous gift of £500,000 from John Partridge (BEng 1962, Hon DEng 2016) in support of the fundraising appeal for the Queen’s Building extension
- A tremendous gift of £1m from Georgina and Dr Jonathan de Pass (MB ChB 1979) will support medical research and innovation.
- We were delighted to announce a landmark principal gift pledge of £10m in support of the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus from Hugh Sloane (BSc Economics and Politics 1977) and the Sloane Robinson Foundation.
Alumni Association and CAAC

A close and supportive working relationship with the Chair of Convocation and the Alumni Association is an important aspect of any successful alumni engagement programme. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Julie Goldstein for her sterling commitment, invaluable advice and continuing support over the last year.

I would also like to extend my thanks to all members of the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee for their contributions and service and to all our alumni and friends who have supported Bristol and our community over the past year and helped to achieve so much for their alma mater.

Mr Stephen O’Connor
Director of Development and Alumni Relations

10 July 2017
Treasurer’s Report

I have pleasure in submitting the 2017 accounts for consideration at the AGM

Income

Income for the year to 31 March 2017 amounts to £7,551. This includes the University Grant of £7,000 and an amount of £450 relating to monies transferred from the Zutshi Fund in respect of qualifying contributions paid to the branches.

In addition a donation of £100 was received during the year.

Expenditure

Events

The total cost for events in 2017 amounted to £4369 compared with a prior year expenditure of £3,883.

This amounts to a net increase of £486 for the year of which there was a saving of £690 on the cost of Awards Reception due to the reduced time for the reception and an increase of £1268 in the cost for the Annual Lecture as a result of providing a light buffet supper. No costs were incurred in respect of the Alumni Weekend.

Operating expenses

Awards and Medals £2,193 - this is consistent with prior years and it should be noted that the 2016 expenditure was unusually high.

Administration costs £1,320 - includes stationery expenses, Committee meeting refreshment costs and travel expenses for Committee members in attending Committee meetings. In addition, the number of meetings in 2016/17 was higher than previous years.

Contributions to Branches £450 - In keeping with the remit to promote the UoB branches throughout the world funds were given to the London branch and a UoB Society. Under the terms of the Zutshi-Smith Bequest these expenses can be claimed against the Fund and £450 has been transferred from the ZSF to the main account.

Summary

The Net loss for the year is £781.

The Zutshi- Smith Fund

This Fund was left to Convocation by a previous Chair. During the year the Capital element increased by £12k due to world stock market upturns. Convocation only has access to the Current account which stands at £11k at 31 March 2017

David Clarke, Treasurer
University of Bristol Convocation

Income and Expenditure Account for the year to 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Grant</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers from ZSF</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>1,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank interest received</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,551</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,268</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EXPENDITURE     |       |       |
| EVENTS          |       |       |
| Alumni weekend 2016 | -    | 92    |
| Awards reception 2016 | 2,175 | 2,865 |
| Annual lecture 2016 | 2,194 | 926   |
| **Total EXPENDITURE** | **4,369** | **3,883** |

| OPERATING EXPENSES |       |       |
| Awards and medals  | 2,193 | 4,327 |
| Administration     | 1,320 | 704  |
| Contributions to branches | 450  | 1,165 |
| Contribution to SU - Shaun the Sheep | -    | 1,000 |
| **Total OPERATING EXPENSES** | **3,665** | **7,136** |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXCESS OF (EXPENDITURE) OVER INCOME</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>(781)</strong></td>
<td><strong>(2,811)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESERVES BROUGHT FORWARD</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9,343</td>
<td>12,154</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESERVES CARRIED FORWARD</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8,562</td>
<td>9,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance sheet at 31 March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>31 March 2017</th>
<th>31 March 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business reserve account</td>
<td>4,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank current account</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University account</td>
<td>3,124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,562</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LIABILITIES |               |
| Accruals    | -              |
| **Total LIABILITIES** | - |

| NET ASSETS |               |
|            | **8,562** | **9,343** |

The Zutshi-Smith Fund for Convocation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total value of fund at 31 March 2016</td>
<td>103,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from investment pool</td>
<td>3,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to Convocation fund</td>
<td>(450)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase / (decrease) in market value</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,990</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total value of fund at 31 March 2017</td>
<td><strong>118,662</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I have examined the financial statements of the University of Bristol Convocation for the year ended 31 March 2017 set out above and can confirm that they have been prepared in conformity with the underlying financial records.

D.A. Clarke BA, FCA (Treasurer)  
20 April 2017

Julio Goldstein BSc, ACA (Chair)  
20 April 2017

D.E. Ratcliffe BA, FCA (Independent Assessor)  
20 April 2017
a. Election results 2016

Election for the Deputy Chair of Convocation and the Alumni Association Committee for the period 2016-2019. Three candidates stood in the election.

Successful candidate:

- Mrs Linda Jane Wilson (LLB 1982)

Election to the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee for the period 2016-2019. Twelve candidates stood in the election for 4 places:

Successful candidates:

- Mr Max Austin (BA 2015)
- Mrs Catherine Ellis (BA 2007)
- Ms Victoria Stace (BA 1971)
- Mrs Julia Wathen (BSc 1972)

Election to become a Convocation Representative on Court to serve 2016-2020. 35 candidates stood for election for 25 places.

Successful candidates:

- Dr Eric Stephen Albone MBE (Certificate in Education 1979)
- Mr Max Daniel Austin (BA 2015)
- Mr Nicholas Jonathan Barnett BSc (BSc 2008)
- Mrs Ann Ruth Bradford (née Milner (BSc 1964)
- Mr Simon Alastair Nigel Csollinson (BSc 1985)
- Dr Robert Dufton (LLB 1983; Honorary LLD 2014)
- Mrs Catherine Emma Ellis (née Hackforth) (BA 2007)
- Dr Theresa Bernadette Regin Freeman-Wang FRSA (MB ChB 1989)
- Dr Anuradha Ganapathy (MSc 1999; PhD 2009)
- Mr Robert Griffiths (BSc 2013)
- Mr Charles Matthew Mcmanus Gunter (BSc 2006; Certificate in Education 2007; MSc 2009)
- Dr Stephanie Jane Harris (MSci 2011; PhD 2015)
- Miss Ashley Howden-Richards (BA 2012)
- Dr Martin William Lunnnon (BSc 1973; PhD 1976)
- Dr Tim John Fitzmaurice Mitchell (MB ChB 1980)
- Mr Graham Mullan
- Dr John Millington Munns (MPhil 2007)
- Mrs Nicola Helen Press (née Clapton) (BA 1975)
- Mr Richard Julian Rossington (MA 1994; Diploma 1998)
- Mr Clive Richard Scowen (LLB 1980)
- Mr Leon R Smith (BA 2005)
- Miss Danielle Standish (BSc 2015)
b. **Election of the Treasurer of Convocation 2017-2020**

Each year, one of the three Officers of Convocation is elected for a three-year term, renewable for a maximum of three terms. This year it is the Treasurer of Convocation. One valid candidacy has been received. The meeting is asked to approve the duly nominated candidate, to be elected unopposed.

**Mr David Alan Clarke (BA 1965)**

Having had three wonderful years at Bristol, I graduated in 1965 and trained with Whinney Murray (now Ernst and Young) and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1968. I continued to work in Ernst and Young’s London Office with a spell in Abu Dhabi until 1971. I then joined Slater, Walker followed by a spell in a USA owned scientific company. In 1984 I set up a partnership in the field of financial consultancy, which lead to me becoming Managing Director of a payroll and management accounts company, a business with which I am still associated. I have always been grateful to my time at Bristol so have put some time back as Treasurer of Convocation since 2003, a member of Court and Chairman of the Churchill Hall Association besides helping the London Branch.

*Proposed by: Dr Bill Ray (BSc 1975, Hon LLD 2016)*
*Seconded by: Dr Stuart Goldsmith (BA 1965, Hon LLD 2007)*

c. **Election of four members of the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee for the period 2017-2020**

Each year Convocation may elect four members to serve for renewable three-year terms on the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee. This year eight valid candidacies have been received, therefore an election is required.

*Current Committee Member. The number of Committee meetings the Member has attended, out of 14 since being elected in 2014, is indicated ( /14).*

Candidates – Convocation and Alumni Association Committee 2017

1. Mr Christopher Andrew Didcote (BSc 2008)
2. Dr Stephanie Jane Harris (MSci 2011, PhD 2015)
3. Mrs Helen Margaret Hodge (née Dewar) (MSc 2004)
4. Mr Ben Hudson (MSci 2012, MSc 2014)
5. Mr Clive Richard Scowen (LLB 1980) *(11/14)*
6. Mr Andrew Jonathan Webley Smith (BA 1974)
7. Mr Stephen John Vause (BSc 1983)
8. Mrs Rebecca Louise Whincup (née Sharp) (BA 1998)
Candidate statements are shown below:

1. Mr Christopher Andrew Didcote (BSc 2008)

I have remained actively involved in the life of the University since graduating in 2008 having sat on both Convocation Committee and Court before allowing some time to focus on my career. I was responsible for bringing the Manor Hall Association out of abeyance in 2007 and acted as its Chairman until 2010 when I stepped down. In 2014 at the Association’s AGM I was made an honorary Vice-President for life in recognition of my continued efforts within the Hall. In my professional life I work as a web consultant and have acted as the technical lead on a large development project for one of the major political parties. Over the past seven years this project has helped over 650 local associations and MPs better connect with party members and the wider electorate. I feel my skill set in this regard would be ideally suited to the aims of Convocation.

Proposed by: Dr Martin Crossley Evans MBE (BA 1978, PhD 1990)
Seconded by: Mrs Lilian Brown (née Oakman) (BA 1951, CertEd 1952, Hon MA 2005)

2. Dr Stephanie Jane Harris (MSci 2011, PhD 2015)

I started at Bristol in 2007, completing both a Master's and PhD in Chemistry in 8 years as a student. I went on to become a sabbatical officer at the Students’ Union in 2015, sitting on the University’s Board of Trustees during the time of development of the new strategy. I am currently a Convocation representative on Court and work in Higher Education policy. I was heavily involved with Rowing whilst at Bristol and was Club Captain for 2 years. It was through this role that I first became aware of the Convocation and Alumni Association, when awarded one of it’s student awards in 2014. My time at Bristol was hugely transformative, providing unforgettable experiences and opportunities and allowing me to create an invaluable network of colleagues and friends. I would relish the opportunity, through a place on this committee, to extend the same opportunities to all students and graduates.

Proposed by: Mr Max Austin (BA 2015)
Seconded by: Mx Jamie Cross (BSc 2015)

3. Mrs Helen Margaret Hodge (née Dewar) (MSc 2004)

I began studying Geography in 2000, enjoying the course and university life so much that I extended my time at Bristol and completed an undergraduate Masters. From my first year in Wills Hall onwards, I was always active in student community groups; notably the University Speleological Society as Honorary Secretary and AIESEC, arranging work placements for international graduates. I also worked for the Alumni Department as a telephone fundraiser. Throughout, I engaged with a range of Bristol graduates and felt inspired by their achievements and successes. Bristol provided me with a platform to apply my passion for environmental sciences – first in consultancy roles in Sydney and London; now back living in Bristol, and Associate Director of a risk mapping consultancy in Bath. An engaged alumni community is a
critical asset and I would be delighted to represent the alumni in supporting the university’s future development.

Proposed by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)
Seconded by: Miss Claire Powell (BA 2004)

4. Mr Ben Hudson (MSci 2012, MSc 2014)

Since beginning my postgraduate studies at Bristol in 2011, this University has become integral to my life. In 2014, I graduated with my second MSc, and am nearing completion of my PhD. From establishing initiatives such as the University’s award-winning Sanctuary Scholarships and Postgraduate Network, to being an active member of the Beacon House project team, I have been dedicated towards continually improving the quality of education and student experience. I have taught on units across three faculties, and developed and led a bespoke IFP Law unit. Between my degrees, I volunteered in Georgia, working with forced migrants, an experience from which spawned my research. I can contribute my managerial and business development skills towards the effective implementation of the University’s strategy, which I was involved in developing through membership of Senate. I am passionate about this illustrious institution and relish the opportunity to further contribute towards its ongoing development.

Proposed by: Professor Judith Squires (Pro Vice-Chancellor)
Seconded by: Professor Sally Heslop (Academic Director of Graduate Studies)

5. Mr Clive Richard Scowen (LLB 1980) *(11/14)*

Called to the Bar in 1981 I have been a writer or editor of law reports for most of my career. Since 2008 I have been the Editor of The Law Reports and The Weekly Law Reports. I have represented Convocation on Court since 1980. A member of CAAC since 2002 I currently lead on Governance; I offer myself for re-election at the urging of several colleagues. I am a licensed lay minister in the Church of England and serve on its General Synod, as well as being a trustee of several charities.

Proposed by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)
Seconded by: Mr Oliver Stobbs (BSc 2010)

6. Mr Andrew Jonathan Webley Smith (BA 1974)

I read French with German and made lifelong friends in Badock where I was JCR Chairman of Facilities. I debated, learned ballroom dancing and began my passion for classical music. After graduating in 1974, I pursued a career in UK and international sales/marketing, eventually returning to university, this time Manchester, to undertake a PGCE. I then became a course director at Manchester Business School managing/delivering language training, leading to my own language services company and chairmanship of a national association of fifty private and university language centres. I also worked as a communications consultant advising exporters for UK Trade & Investment (DTI/FCO). I now volunteer for the University of the Third Age as executive committee member for communications, art group leader and charity trustee, and for the National Trust. I am a persuasive
communicator and wish to use my skills and experience to benefit students, alumni and our University.

Proposed by: Mr George Alexander Mill (BA 1974)
Seconded by: Mr Gordon Richardson (BSc 1974)

7. Mr Stephen John Vause (BSc 1983)

Starting in 1981, I spent my first year in Wills Hall. Whilst at Bristol I represented the University at Swimming and Water Polo as well as joining the Bristol University Officer Training Corps initially as a Cadet before being commissioned. After graduating in 1983, I gained management training in manufacturing roles before moving into HR in the financial services sector. Relocating back to Bristol in 1992, I managed the HR Consulting operations in the South West for a global Consultancy before setting up my own business in 2000, providing support to Change Management Projects. Although maintaining links with the University, I became actively involved in 2010 by becoming an elected convocation member. I have also worked closely with the Alumni Office after setting up the BUOTC Alumni Association. I am passionate about supporting current students through effective networking and would now like to extend this by joining the Alumni Committee.

Proposed by: Ms Sarah Gilbert (BA 1980, Diploma 2000, MSc 2002)
Seconded by: Mr Rab Cross (BA 1984)

8. Mrs Rebecca Louise Whincup (née Sharp) (BA 1998)

Since graduating in English, I have worked in PR and marketing for companies from start-ups to multi-nationals, with a focus on education for the last 6 years. An integral aspect, and one of the most enjoyable parts of my current position in an independent school, is communicating with, and connecting the various school communities. I am excited to have the opportunity to contribute my experience to the association. I would like to play a part in ensuring it remains a relevant and connected forum for alumni in the years to come. I hope my expertise in communications and communities can be of value in giving back to this institution which has given so much to me. Bristol University was a very special place and time where I forged lifelong friendships, as well as furnishing me with the stepping stones for a successful career and many very happy memories.

Proposed by: Mrs Victoria Stace (BA 1971)
Seconded by: Mrs Tamsin Dockree (née Williams) (BVSc 2001)

*CAAC meetings attended since being elected in 2014

d. **Election of 25 Convocation representatives on Court for the period 2017-2021**

Each year Convocation may elect 25 members to serve for renewable four-year terms as Convocation Representatives on Court. This year, 25 valid candidacies
have been received. The meeting is asked to approve the duly nominated candidates, to be elected unopposed.

* Current Member of Court. Years listed denote meetings attended since being elected in 2013.

Candidates – Convocation Representatives on Court

6. Mr Nicholas Ian Coward (LLB 1989)
7. Mx Jamie Cross (BSc 2015)
9. Mr Christopher Andrew Didcote (BSc 2008)
10. Mr Richard McLeod Ellis (LLB 2005)
12. Mr Alexander William David Hasthorpe (PGCE 2006)
13. Mr Ben Hudson (MSc 2012, MSc 2015)
14. Dr James Anthony Foljambe Jackson (BSc 2005, PhD 2011)
15. Mr Thomas Samuel Phipps (BSc 2014)
18. Mr Brian Frederick Shipp (BSc 1981)
19. Mr Andrew Jonathan Webley Smith (BA 1974)
20. Mr Thomas Sutherland (LLB 2014)
22. Dr Annis May Timpson (BSc 1977)
24. Mr Keith Walton (BSc 1972)
Candidate statements are shown below:

1. **Mr Graham Charles Ash (BSc 1983)** *(2013, 2014, 2016)*

I graduated from the University in 1983 with a BSc in Economics and Accounting and then trained as a Chartered Accountant. I qualified in 1986 and continued to work for KPMG in Bristol and Swindon until 1994. This was followed by a period with Nat West Life. From 1997 to 2004 I was the Finance Manager for the Diocese of Bristol, taking on the additional role of Deputy Diocesan Secretary in 2002. I am now semi-retired. I have been a Convocation representative on Court since 1985, and have retained close links with the University through my membership of St Paul's Church, Clifton, the home of the University church Choir. Having been a member of the church council and church treasurer for many years, I have now taken on the role of Finance Manager for the church.

*Proposed by: Ms Sarah Gilbert (BA English 1980, Diploma 2000, MSc 2002)*  
*Seconded by: Mr Robert Wedden (BSc 1966)*


Since graduation I have made Bristol my home. I live in Redland, surrounded by students and I enjoy the vibrancy and culture that is brought to the city by its student population. My three children attended school opposite the Zoology Department. I have spent my career working in education. In my early years I was a teacher of Biology, in the days when Science in schools was exciting and interesting. I moved on in management, becoming headteacher in 2 comprehensive schools and then working as an interim school leader, providing help and support for several schools in difficult circumstances. I have served on Court since 2013 and, since 2015, I have been a member of the Convocation and Alumni Association Committee of the University, playing an active role in work on student awards and student employability. I am proud to represent generations of past students in CAAC and on Court.

*Proposed by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)*  
*Seconded by: Mr Richard Willis FRSA (BSc 1974, PGCE 1975)*


At Bristol I studied Physics, and was involved in running the Music Society, playing in orchestras, making many lifelong friends. Lots of students' union activities culminated in a year as Vice-President. My subject discipline, and Bristol’s superb extra-curricular opportunities, together springboarded me into my career! I now have my own business providing leadership in business change: architecting the activity which moves strategy into practice. I love the blend of skills needed: operational, organisational, process, and human. My earlier career was with Vodafone (UK Director for cross-organisational change), Telewest (a Planning Director), Thorn Retail, and strategy consulting with Bain and Company. Home is near Oxford; we have three teenage children. I have remained connected to the University, and
Court. I would like to continue for a further term: with my experience, I feel I can offer perspectives on the issues facing the University in its future direction.

Proposed by: Mr Nicolas Wilkins (BA 1985)
Seconded by: Mrs Kate Cowie (née Ward) (BA 1986)


I graduated in History in 1972. During my time at University I served as the secretary of the University of Bristol Speleological Society (UBSS), and I am now the President of the Society. Following a successful career in the army, I became a consultant specialising in post-conflict and governance, and institutional development related to reconstructing post-conflict governments, working mainly for the UK Foreign Office, but also organisations such as the United Nations, the EU, OSCE and the World Bank. I have written and lectured extensively on the Balkans, and on Afghanistan, and was formerly Director of the International Crisis Group in Kosovo. I have always retained an interest in history, and have maintained my links with the University, and in particular with the UBSS. I would like once again to stand for membership of Court, which I believe remains an important oversight body in these rapidly changing times for universities.

Proposed by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)
Seconded by: Mr Richard Willis FRSA (BSc 1974, PGCE 1975)


Having had 3 wonderful years at Bristol I qualified as a Chartered Accountant with Whinney Murray & Co (now Ernst and Young) and worked in their London office until 1971. I then joined Slater Walker Group followed by 6 years with a US owned scientific research company. In 1984 I set up my own accountancy partnership which led to me becoming MD of a payroll management accounting services company in North London - a business with which I am still associated. I have always been grateful for my time at Bristol and have put some time back having been Treasurer of Convocation since 2003, Chair of Churchill Hall Association for 5 years, and a member of Court.

Proposed by: Dr Bill Ray (BSc 1975, Hon LLD 2016)
Seconded by: Dr Stuart Goldsmith (BA 1966, Hon LLD 2007)

6. Mr Nicholas Ian Coward (LLB 1989)

When I left Bristol with a Law degree in 1988, I knew I was heading to City solicitors, Freshfields. I had no idea that I would end up working as General Secretary of the Premier League, Chief Executive of British Horseracing or the FA, a director at Wembley Stadium or advising sports and entertainment businesses in India, Turkey and China; and many others. I have had many reasons over those thirty years to think about the great importance of high quality education and research, and particularly at our Universities. Promoting our Universities, and mine is Bristol, is important to the students, of course, but also to the country, and globally. Election to
Convocation would enable me to take some of that experience and help promote Bristol University and all it stands for.

Proposed by: Mr Simon Waldman (BA 1988)
Seconded by: Mr Christopher Henley (LLB 1988)

7. Mx Jamie Cross (BSc 2015)

I'm Jamie Cross (BSc Mathematics 2015), a current sabbatical officer at Bristol Students’ Union, student trustee on the University Board of Trustees, member of Court and member of Convocation and Alumni Association committee. I'm immensely proud to have attended Bristol University, and to have had the opportunity over the past two years to contribute to the new University strategy. This is an ambitious, but essential journey the University must go on if its future graduates are to be as proud as I am. It’s imperative that we have Convocation Representatives on Court with varying experiences to ensure the University hears the diversity of views Bristol’s alumni have. I think having spent the last two years representing a diverse student body, this experience would make me a capable, enthusiastic choice to represent the views of alumni at University Court. Let’s ensure the University remains on the right track.

Proposed by: Dr Stephanie Harris (MSci 2011, PhD 2015)
Seconded by: Mr Max Austin (BA 2015)


Dr Crossley Evans was resident in Wills Hall between 1975 and 1978, and graduated from the University of Bristol with a BA in Archaeology and Geology in 1978. After training as a school master at the University of Keele, he taught at Shrewsbury School, and Gresham’s School, Holt, before returning to the University to become Warden of Manor Hall and Sinclair House in 1984. He was Clerk to Convocation and Assistant Secretary of the University between 1989 and 2008, served as the University's first Alumni Officer between 1989 and 1994, and helped to establish the alumni database. In 1990, he was awarded a PhD in Ecclesiastical History from the University. He has published numerous articles in refereed journals and edited "A Grand City" (2011) , a collection of essays on the history of Bristol in the 18th and 19th centuries. He is a past President of the Barneys Club, and was Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the McInnes Club (1985-2011); he is one of the Church Wardens of Christ Church with St Ewen's, Broad Street, Bristol; and a member of Councils of the Bristol Record Society, and the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society. Elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London (1994), he was appointed a JP for Bristol in 1999 and gazetted as an MBE in the New Year's Honours 2001 for "services to higher education". He was awarded the Convocation Medal in 2006, given honorary life membership of the Union in 2008 for "services to students, student societies, and halls of residence", and was successively Senior Warden and Head Warden of the University between 2008 and 2015. He served on the academic advisory group for the new Museum of Bristol, was President of the Bristol and Gloucestershire
Archaeological Society in 2010-1. A ceremonial officer of the University since January 1993, he was appointed the University’s Marshal in 2012.

*Proposed by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)
Seconded by: Dr Jane Thompson DL (PGCE 1986, PhD 1995)*

9. Mr Christopher Andrew Didcote (BSc 2008)

I have remained actively involved in the life of the University since graduating in 2008 having sat on both Convocation Committee and Court before allowing some time to focus on my career. I was responsible for bringing the Manor Hall Association out of abeyance in 2007 and acted as its Chairman until 2010 when I stepped down. In 2014 at the Association’s AGM I was made an honorary Vice-President for life in recognition of my continued efforts within the Hall. In my professional life I work as a web consultant and have acted as the technical lead on a large development project for one of the major political parties. Over the past seven years this project has helped over 650 local associations and MPs better connect with party members and the wider electorate. I feel my skill set in this regard would be ideally suited to the aims of Convocation.

*Proposed by: Dr Martin Crossley Evans MBE (BA 1978, PhD 1990)
Seconded by: Mrs Lilian Brown (née Oakman) (BA 1951, CertEd 1952, Hon MA 2005)*

10. Mr Richard McLeod Ellis (LLB 2005)

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Bristol. I was involved in several student societies and, via the Debating Society, represented the University in a number of inter-varsity debating competitions (with enthusiasm if not always a great deal of success). Since graduating I have maintained an interest in education. My first job was as a researcher for David Willetts when he was Shadow Secretary of State for Education and Skills and I am currently a governor and literacy partner at an infants’ school in London. Having studied law, I make frequent use of my Bristol degree in my work as a solicitor. I am also a (very occasional) contributor to the comment pages of The Daily Telegraph. I would like to serve on Court to try to provide a voice for alumni and to make sure that we are able to stay informed, to be involved and to express our views.

*Proposed by: Dr Stuart Goldsmith (BA 1966, Hon LLD 2007)
Seconded by: Mr William Moss (LLB 2006, LLM 2014)*


The University of Bristol gave me the means to have a successful career. I have subsequently supported it as a Convocation Representative on Court and served for a period as a member of Council (now the Board of Trustees) and as Chairman of Convocation. I would welcome the opportunity to serve a further term as a Convocation Representative on Court.
12. Mr Alexander William David Hasthorpe (PGCE 2006)

In my 12th year of teaching Physics to secondary school students, I have experience of managing resources and managing my time. I have spent the last eight years in promoted posts, as Head of Science at Clifton College and now at Wetherby Senior School in London. I have experience of managing teams (21 staff at Clifton) and managing a budget of tens of thousands. I work with young people all the time and understand their concerns and strengths. I love Bristol and return there often. I am passionate about the work of the university and the culture of the city in particular. I believe my skills could be useful at Court.

Proposed by: Dr Neil Ingram (Senior Lecturer, University of Bristol)
Seconded by: Dr Matt French (MSc 2005, PhD 2009)

13. Mr Ben Hudson (MSc 2012, MSc 2015)

Since beginning my postgraduate studies at Bristol in 2011, this University has become integral to my life. In 2014, I graduated with my second MSc, and am nearing completion of my PhD. From establishing initiatives such as the University’s award-winning Sanctuary Scholarships and Postgraduate Network, to being an active member of the Beacon House project team, I have been dedicated towards continually improving the quality of education and student experience. I have taught on units across three faculties, and developed and led a bespoke IFP Law unit. Between my degrees, I volunteered in Georgia, working with forced migrants, an experience from which spawned my research. I can contribute my managerial and business development skills towards the effective implementation of the University’s strategy, which I was involved in developing through membership of Senate. I am passionate about this illustrious institution and relish the opportunity to further contribute towards its ongoing development.

Proposed by: Professor Judith Squires (Pro Vice-Chancellor)
Seconded by: Professor Sally Heslop (Academic Director of Graduate Studies)

14. Dr James Anthony Foljambe Jackson (BSc 2005, PhD 2011)

I read Physics at Bristol, starting in 2002, and subsequently undertook a PhD in High Energy Particle Physics here. Following a period of post-doctoral research at RAL I moved to become an officer in the British Army, commissioning in to The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards in 2012. While at Bristol I was an active member of the Physics Student Society (Chaos) and Mountaineering Club (UBMC), and held the role of Vice President in the latter. I have recently enjoyed working closely with esteemed academic institutions such as the University of St. Andrews; I am keen to further the relations between academia and those in public service to the mutual benefit of all. I would like to take these experiences and apply them to benefit the University of Bristol such that it continues to flourish and offer the quality of teaching and research that I was honoured to enjoy.
15. Mr Thomas Samuel Phipps (BSc 2014)

My name is Tom Phipps and I graduated from Bristol University in 2014 with a BSc in Politics. I am a former sabbatical officer at Bristol SU (2014-2016) where I represented students’ views to the university and the wider community. I was the student representative on University Council (Board of Trustees) for two years and sat on a number of other university bodies e.g. Convocation and Alumni Committee. I was a member of Court for 2 years and enjoyed contributing to the development of the new strategy for the university. I found studying in Bristol for three years hugely rewarding (both academically and co-curricularly) but as a recent graduate I feel the university still has a way to go to ensure it delivers for all. In a challenging higher education sector I want to contribute so the university continues to be one of the leading universities in the world.


As a student, I served on Union Council, Senate, and the Law Faculty Board, and as Captain of Bristol’s last University Challenge team of the Bamber Gascoigne era. After leaving Bristol, I gained an MBA at UWIST and, in the course of a wide-ranging career, experience as, among other things, a management consultant, director of companies in several sectors, the author of books translated into eight languages, a newspaper columnist, a city and county councillor, a researcher in enterprise policy, a charity fundraiser, and a professional blogger and podcaster. I have also served on Cardiff’s University Court and as governor of several schools. Grateful for my Bristol experience, I have tried to ‘put something back’, serving terms on the Standing Committee of Convocation and as a founder-member of the Nominations Committee, and 32 years on Court. My special interests are the University’s organisational structure and student accommodation.


Following a year of voluntary service overseas, my working life was in educational publishing, primarily with Oxford University Press in Nigeria and Hong Kong – where I was Regional Director, Greater China. I helped establish and develop the HK Branch of the Alumni Association. The Branch has an active social programme; but has also been involved with the University in terms of fund-raising, publicity, student recruitment and post-graduation networking, and academic links. In particular, it generated a Scholarship Fund that assists a post-graduate student to study at Bristol. Since returning to UK, I have served on various University committees: as a member of Court since 2001, and of its Nominations Committee from 2003-12; of the Annual Fund Panel from 2004-10; of the Convocation & Alumni Association.
Committee since 2001, and as Secretary of the Churchill Hall Association Committee. I should welcome the opportunity of serving for a further term on Court.

Proposed by: Dr Stuart Goldsmith (BA 1966, Hon LLD 2009)
Seconded by: Ms Alison Wilson (née Gomm) (BA 1966)

18. Mr Brian Frederick Shipp (BSc 1981)

I graduated in Engineering Mathematics in 1981. I have worked for over 30 years in the defence industry, financial markets, IT services, Central Government and as a senior manager in the NHS. I have just returned from living in New York for three years supporting my wife's career. In America I was a member of the Bristol Alumni association. I understand that Bristol graduates are amongst the most generous and enthusiastic in the UK in support of the University and its graduates. I also know that there are opportunities to increase that support and develop the links between the University and its graduates and students.

Proposed by: Miss Elizabeth Higgs (LLB 1981)
Seconded by: Mr Vince Ormrod (BSc 1981)

19. Mr Andrew Jonathan Webley Smith (BA 1974)

I read French with German and made lifelong friends in Badock where I was JCR Chairman of Facilities. I debated, learned ballroom dancing and began my passion for classical music. After graduating in 1974, I pursued a career in UK and international sales/marketing, eventually returning to university, this time Manchester, to undertake a PGCE. I then became a course director at Manchester Business School managing/delivering language training, leading to my own language services company and chairmanship of a national association of fifty private and university language centres. I also worked as a communications consultant advising exporters for UK Trade & Investment (DTI/FCO). I now volunteer for the University of the Third Age as executive committee member for communications, art group leader and charity trustee, and for the National Trust. I am a persuasive communicator and wish to use my skills and experience to benefit students, alumni and our University.

Proposed by: Mr George Alexander Mill (BA 1974)
Seconded by: Mr Gordon Richardson (BSc 1974)

20. Mr Thomas Sutherland (LLB 2014)

I graduated from Bristol in 2014 having studied Law. I enjoyed my time as a student and the communities I was part of have stuck with me even after graduating. In addition to studying at the University, I also worked in professional services and was a senior resident for a period – so I have seen how the organisation works from several angles. Although I now work in a totally unrelated field (IT!) for another organisation, I want to use these experiences to give back and make sure that the voice of recent graduates is heard by the University in its decision-making, so that it will continue to be the same great place that I benefited from during my time as a student for students of the future.
Proposed by: Miss Hiu Yi Jacqueline Tai (BSc 2015)
Seconded by: Mr Jonathan Gazeley (BSc 2007)


I graduated from Oxford Brookes University in 1976, with a BSc in Human Biology, followed by an MSc in Animal Nutrition from Aberdeen University. Having worked at the Medical Research Council Molecular Haematology Unit, University of Oxford, I came to Bristol in 1985 to do a PGCE. At that time I had a tutorship in Wills Hall, and subsequently was Deputy Warden for 12 years. In 1994 I obtained a PhD in Clinical Veterinary Medicine and then changed career to be a Chartered Financial Planner and I currently act as an expert witness on financial matters. I have been in the Reserve Army for 35 years, a great deal of it at Bristol University Officers Training Corps. In August 2009 I became the first woman to command the Bristol City and County Army Cadet Force, a youth organisation staffed mainly by volunteers. I keep in contact with the University by sitting on a number of Committees, including the Wills Hall Association, Knowlson Trust and Convocation. I also run Barneys Club, a discussion group for students. I live in Bristol where I am Chairman of the Army Benevolent Fund and Deputy Lord Lieutenant.

Proposed by: Mr Richard Willis FRSA (BSc 1975, PGCE 1975)
Seconded by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)

22. Dr Annis May Timpson (BSc 1977)

I benefitted enormously from my education at Bristol with inspirational teaching in Politics and Social Administration that laid the foundation for a future career in higher education. At Bristol I served as Education and Welfare representative on the Students Union Council and enjoyed success as winner of the Winston Cup for debating. I made life long friends through engaging in a range of activities including through team travel by train to Iran, Syria and Iraq. My interesting career has included leadership and academic appointments in a range of UK Universities and active engagement in international research teams concerned with gender equality and Indigenous governance. I have extensive fund-raising, committee, outreach and media experience. I am keen to contribute actively to the University, particularly as it continues to deliver excellent learning and teaching to students from a wide range of economic and ethnic backgrounds.

Proposed by: Dame Jane Roberts (MBChB 1980, Hon LLD 2007)
Seconded by: Rev David Butlin (BA Theology 1977)


I am pleased to have been a member, for twenty years, and have missed no meeting, either Annual or Extraordinary. I have made a number of written submissions that have been well received. Though the Court's powers have, alas, been reduced, I believe its role to remain significant, in times of change in the University and nation. Sir Eric's belief of 14,000 maximum is challenged by talk of
28,000. The familial atmosphere of `small' is probably lost already; but caution is needed, in the face of the impact on both the University and the City, of further large increase in student numbers. Would this increase individual isolation and feeling of insignificance, abuse of drugs and alcohol? The number of suicides is a matter of great concern. The Court embodies wide and great experience, should be consulted on all these matters, and its advice prized.

Proposed by: Dr Martin Crossley Evans MBE (BA 1978, PhD 1990)
Seconded by: Mrs Helen Willoughby (née Hempsall) (BA 1951, Testamur 1952, Hon MA 1999)

24. Mr Keith Walton (BSc 1972)

I read mathematics at Bristol leading to a career in Banking before moving to the Civil Service. In these posts I was involved in developing and enhancing a number of areas of our service to the public. I believe that it is important that a wide variety of experience is available through the elected members of Court and that my career experience gives me a good understanding of areas which will always be of concern to the University. I was resident in Churchill Hall and retained my connection with the Hall through the Churchill Hall Association. I have been involved in helping to resurrect the activities of the Association over recent years, during which time I have been the Treasurer. I was a founding member of the Midlands Branch of Alumni. I have also been involved in the running of a number of charitable organisations, both local and national.

Proposed by: Mr Alastair Scott (BSc 1965)
Seconded by: Mr Timothy Drakeford (BA 1966)


After graduating from Bristol in English I took a Diploma in Librarianship and later received an MLitt. from Cambridge and an MSc. in Information Science from UCL. I have been a consultant to libraries and archives for 25 years, a role which has taken me into many different organisations. As Librarian and Fellow of Murray Edwards College for 19 years I gained extensive experience of student administration, served on the College Council and was much involved in Development. Since semi-retirement in 2010 I have strengthened links with Bristol by becoming a Convocation Member on Court, a Convocation and Alumni Association Committee member and setting up the Cambridge Branch of Bristol Alumni. I was awarded a Convocation Medal in 2016 for outstanding service. I have a thorough understanding of Bristol's new strategy and hope to continue to use my diverse skills and experience to give something back to the University.

Proposed by: Mr Lawrence de V. Wragg (BA 1966)
Seconded by: Ms Sarah Gilbert (BA 1980, Diploma 2000, MSc 2002)

*Years attended Court since being elected in 2013
e. **Appointment of an Independent Assessor of Convocation’s Accounts 2017-2018.**

Each year Convocation appoints an Independent Assessor for its accounts, to serve for one year.

The meeting is asked to consider appointment of an Independent Assessor of Convocation’s Accounts for the 2017-18 year.

The meeting is asked to appoint **Mr David Eastham Ratcliffe FCA (BA 1965)**

*Proposed by: Mrs Linda Wilson (LLB 1982)*
*Seconded by: Mr Richard Willis FRSA (BSc 1974, Certificate in Education 1975)*

Mr David Ratcliffe graduated from the University of Bristol in 1965 where he was an active member of the Hockey Club. He is a Chartered Accountant, having trained with Binder Hamlyn & Co. He retired in 2001 after working in the manufacturing industry and in the city, where he was Managing Director of a London Metal Exchange member firm and a non-executive director of the Securities and Futures Authority. In retirement he is Treasurer of a number of local charitable organisations and mentors a number of business start-ups for the Prince’s Trust. His interests are theatre, hockey, golf and fell walking.
## Glossary of Terms

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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>CAAC</td>
<td>Convocation and Alumni Association Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>DARO</td>
<td>Development and Alumni Relations Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linkedin</td>
<td>The World’s largest professional online network</td>
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<tr>
<td>TEF</td>
<td>Teaching Excellence Framework</td>
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