EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper has been informed by the high-quality responses received during the consultation exercise that has been running with the members of Court since July 2018. This has explored a vision of Court as a vibrant, engaged forum, where conversations with key external stakeholders help to address the fundamental challenges facing the University and actively shape its future success. The proposals seek to set out a way in which the collective commitment and ambition of Court members can better support the long-term success of the institution as a world-leading, research-intensive, civic university; contribute to the health, prosperity and quality of the Bristol city/region; and develop solutions to the skills and research challenges of the UK and beyond.

The University’s channels for communicating with its local, national and global stakeholder groups have developed and expanded over time and all these connections are critical to the success and influence of the University. The University also has many fora for engaging with its staff and students and these are continually reviewed and developed. This consultation has aimed to define the unique role which Court plays within these networks.

The proposals aim to redefine Court’s primary purpose as a place for strategic level engagement, where the members have three key roles:
• Connecting the wider University to individuals, organisations, networks and funders that align with its strategic objectives
• Acting as a source of advice and wise counsel in the formulation of strategy for the University
• Serving as ambassadors and advocates for the University in the UK and across the world

This reimagined Court is supported by changes in governance good practice reflecting increased oversight of Universities by the government and its regulators. Governance best practice, including the CUC Higher Education Code of Governance, suggests that the Board of Trustees should be the body with accountability and authority for the governance of the University. This enables Court to refocus its role on providing strategic advice and guidance to the University as outlined above.

Moving forward on the basis described within this paper gives rise to a proposed membership comprised wholly of external parties. Elected Members would be drawn from the Alumni and the Emeriti populations; Nominated Members would be from the elected bodies from the City and its surrounding area and from a range of organisations and institutions. Court would be informed and supported by Appointed Attendees drawn from the student-body, the Board, and the employees of the University. To ensure that the membership is appropriately diverse and reflects the needs of Court, the Chancellor would have the ability to supplement the membership on an annual basis with Additional Appointed Members.

The proposals in this paper represent a move for Bristol which is consistent with best practice across the Sector and creates a structure which reflects the needs of the modern university. These are put forward with the intention of optimising the value that members of Court can bring and will support the University in achieving its ambitions in an increasingly competitive and dynamic environment.
INTRODUCTION

1. Court currently meets formally once each year, typically in December. The agendas for Court have evolved over the years. Today, the formal business of each meeting includes receiving annual accounts of the University and a report of the changes to Statutes and Ordinances made in the preceding academic year, and the exercise of Court’s powers. In addition, there are generally several presentations on topics considered to be of interest to members of Court.

2. The University of Bristol’s Court is composed currently of around 650 members, of whom around 200 attend each meeting. Whilst courts in the Russell Group vary significantly in size, Bristol’s Court is more than twice as large as the largest Court of any Russell Group university (Cardiff has around 250 members). Based on an analysis of the other 21 members of Russell Group in England and Wales undertaken last year, five have never had a Court, five have abolished their Court and five have Courts with ceremonial powers only. Oxford and Cambridge have different constitutional structures and of the remaining four, Cardiff, Imperial and Leeds have limited powers. Only Newcastle’s Court has the power to approve the creation and amendment to Statute.

3. The environment in which the University operates has changed over time and the regulatory environment continues to develop. Governance best practice now suggests that the University Board of Trustees should have governance oversight of the University and the role and composition of the Board of Trustees has evolved in response to these changes in context and expectation.

4. The changes in the external environment and advances in connectivity have contributed to and enhanced the ways that universities engage with many communities, including government, alumni, funding agencies and foundations, accrediting bodies, employers, other universities and other institutional partners. At the University of Bristol, there has been significant development of its engagement activities with both its internal and external stakeholders through multiple fora. Equally engagement with the Student and Staff bodies, both directly and through their respective Unions, has become multi-layered and systematised, with targeted engagement on specific topics in addition to open lines of communication that allow for a broader set of views to be shared.

REIMAGINED ROLE OF COURT

5. In line with the picture set out in the consultation documentation, this proposal is about refining our Court in response to changes in the needs of the University and changes in the external environment, at the same time as protecting and honouring the deep engagement that Court has within the institution.

6. This proposal is intended to present a future Court as a small, engaged and vibrant forum, where the opportunities and challenges presenting themselves to the University can be dissected and discussed to work towards the shared ambition of University of Bristol maintaining its place among the world’s leading civic research-intensive universities. Achieving this means contributing to the health, prosperity and quality of the Bristol city/region and developing solutions to the skills and research challenges of the UK and beyond.

7. The consultation exercise has been run over two phases between July to November. The first phase set out a vision of Court as described above and asked for free-text comments from all members of Court on the initial proposals relating to a) the role of

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1 Such as the appointment of a Pro Chancellor or a lay member trustee; granting of an honorary fellowship;
Court; and b) the size and composition of Court. 84 responses were received and analysed, the results of which were shared with the Board of Trustees and informed the refinement of the proposals that were set out in Stage Two. Stage Two was commenced in September and sought to engage the level of agreement to specific proposals in addition to requesting further free-text comment in three specific areas: Role of Court; Powers of Court; Composition of Court. Stage Two saw an increase in participation with 101 responses and 144 individual comments. The results from Stage Two demonstrated a strong level of support for nearly all the proposals set out in the consultation document and the majority of these have therefore passed into these final proposals. Others, including composition, have been amended to reflect the feedback received. It is recognised that a broad spectrum of views is still held on some points, but these proposals are intended to reflect the majority view taken from the consultation responses.

8. To enable this, the vision is that the role of members of Court is to work with the University by:
   - Connecting us to individuals, organisations, networks and funders that align with our strategic objectives
   - Acting as a source of advice and wise counsel in the formulation of strategy
   - Serving as ambassadors and advocates for the University in the UK and across the world

9. In this reimagined role we would like the opportunity to communicate with Members of Court on a basis that is not practical with over 650 members. For example, University Management would find it valuable to present its industrial strategy, have the opportunity to work with members of Court on refining the plans and then collaboratively identify ways and means to take the University forward. University Management sees subjects such as International Strategy; University Growth; Mental Health & Wellbeing; Student Employability; Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; and Community Engagement Strategy as topics where Court could be usefully engaged and bring its collective wisdom and experience to bear. The agenda for Court would be set by the Chancellor in consultation with the Chair of Trustees and Vice-Chancellor

10. The responses to the consultation exercise highlighted considerable support for this view of Court. The free-text comments at both stages of the consultation contained a key theme about how the wider University can leverage the expertise of Court and keep members connected to the affairs of the University.

11. The change to the role of Court described above would be written into the Charter and Statutes for the University. Consent to make these changes is requested within the motion at the end of this paper.

**Reimagined Powers of Court**

12. Within the context of the revised role of Court, the power to appoint and remove trustees would pass to the Board of Trustees. Appointments would be made on the basis of recommendations made by the Nominations Committee. This Committee would be chaired by the Chair of the Board with two of the five members being elected by and from Court. The balance of the membership would be drawn from non-executive trustees (including academic trustees, professional services trustees and student trustees). If a particular technical expertise is required, the Committee would be permitted to co-opt external parties.
13. It is felt that Court should retain its ceremonial role and continue to appoint its own officers, such as the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellors of the University. The search for potential candidates would be led by the Nominations Committee and recommendations would be made to Court by the Board of Trustees. Appointment would be made by way of a vote at Court.

14. Changes to the University’s Statutes relating to Court would continue to require the consent of Court.

15. The proposed changes to the Powers of Court will required amendment to the Charter and Statutes. Consent to make these changes is requested within the motion at the end of this paper.

**REIMAGINED SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF COURT**

16. The consensus arising from the consultation questions based on the topic of size and composition was less strong than in the other areas. However, when the role of Court is conceived as it is above, then it follows that the membership should be composed of individuals external to the University. Those parties who are engaged with the University on a day-to-day basis are proposed as attendees at Court with the purposes of informing its discussions and deliberations. The details are set out below.

17. The proposal is for a core membership of c.80 external only members as follows:

- The Chancellor;
- The Pro-Chancellors;
- Thirty Elected Alumni Association Representatives elected by and from the Alumni Association, of whom five should be international alumni;
- Twenty Members nominated by their organisations, drawn from civic, cultural and community organisations or bodies;
- Twenty Members nominated from unions, professional organisations, business community and industry or other knowledge-intensive organisations;
- Five representatives from amongst those formally elected to represent the people of the City and Region;
- Five Emeriti elected by and from the population of emeritus professors.
- Honorary Fellows.

18. The number of Emeriti and selection process for these members will be reviewed in the event that the University establishes an Emeritus College - likely after the opening of the Temple Quarter Campus.

19. The Chancellor shall have the facility to appoint additional representatives from the body of honorary graduates and external organisations as annual members as the needs and business of the Court require. These appointments would be recommended by the Nominations Committee and made following consultation with the Vice-Chancellor and Chair of Trustees.

20. To facilitate the attendance of those from overseas, we will explore the options for joining Court via video-link.
21. The Nominations Committee will formally lead the process to request and collate nominations for the forty core members and the additional members by working with the University Faculties, Divisional Heads and others to identify and recommend the membership to the Chancellor. In addition, the Nominations Committee may directly engage with organisations, institutions and bodies on behalf of the University to gauge their interest in joining the membership of Court.

22. The Nominations Committee will also have responsibility for monitoring the tenure of Court members and ensure that individuals’ tenures are kept to two periods of four years in a single category up to a maximum of ten consecutive years in any category (except for those who are ex officio). The Chancellor may choose to appoint some organisations for an initial period less than four years to create a stagger in the appointments during the first four years of Court. For the avoidance of doubt, the maximum tenures will apply only to the individuals representing the organisations and not to the organisations themselves. The process requirements for dealing with matters such as casual vacancies will be set out in Ordinance and Standing Orders as appropriate.

23. Attendees at Court will have a critical role in informing the members of Court as well as being able to respond to questions or comments from members. For these reasons it is proposed that the attendees will be as follows:

- Twenty individuals elected by and from employees of the University from both the academic and professional services staff cohorts;
- The elected Sabbatical Officers of the Students' Union;
- The Trustees of the University (including the Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer);
- The University Management Team (including VC, DVC, PVCs, Registrar, Deputy Registrar, COO and Deans);
- The University Secretary;
- University Librarian;
- The Bursar;
- The Secretary & Clerk to Court;
- Other members of University Academic Staff, Professional Services or Management as required.

24. To implement these changes to composition to Court updates to the University Statutes are required. Consent to make these changes is requested within the motion at the end of this paper.

**NEXT STEPS**

25. To allow time for the University to appoint/elect the new members of the reimagined Court, we propose that the amendments take effect from 1 August 2019.

26. To enable the underpinning work to these changes, the Chair of Trustees will convene a small task-group with representation from, amongst others, the Court membership, University Secretary and University Governance, to design and implement the processes that would be required to enable these changes. Expressions of interest to join the task-group are welcomed from Court members and should be sent to governance@bristol.ac.uk with a short covering note, which sets out capacity and capability to participate. The task-group membership will be agreed by the Chancellor.
27. This task-group would also work with the different cohorts to design their processes and ensure that the Ordinances are updated to reflect the Charter and Statute changes, e.g. revised Court member election processes for the Alumni Association.

THE MOTION

The Board of Trustees may alter, amend or add to the Royal Charter (the "Charter") of the University of Bristol and make, amend, add to or repeal the statutes made pursuant to the Charter (the "Statutes") by special resolution.

Pursuant to clause 11 of the Charter, the consent of Court is required to any amendments proposed to be made by the Board of Trustees to any Statutes which relate to the appointment and election of Members of the Court and their respective periods or terms of office, the filling of vacancies amongst Members and all other matters relating to the constitution of the Court or matters relative to the Court which it may be thought are proper to be regulated. Accordingly, Court is asked to consent to the proposed amendments to the wording of the Statutes set out in the schedule to this motion and which are shown in the Charter and Statutes (the "Proposed Amendments") and which (for the avoidance of doubt):

- show additions to the wording as underlined text; and
- show deleted wording as strikethrough text; and

subject to any minor changes to the Proposed Amendments required by the Privy Council (and, for the purposes of Court's consent, minor changes shall be those changes to the Proposed Amendments which the Board of Trustees shall determine to be minor but which shall not in any event include any changes which are not consistent with the proposals set out in the paper headed "The Reform Of University of Bristol Court" and circulated to Court in advance of this meeting.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Proposed Amendments shall not take effect unless and until the same are agreed by the Privy Council (subject to any minor changes required by the Privy Council).
Schedule 1  Amendments to Charter and Statutes requiring the consent of Court

Charter Paragraphs

- 6
- 10
- 11
- 15 (cosmetic correction only)
- 16 (cosmetic correction only)

Statutes

- 4(1)
- 11
- 12(2), 12(5)
- 13(1), 13(3), 13(4), 13(5)
- 14
- 15(1), 15(3)
- 16(2) (cosmetic correction only)
- 17(3), 17(16)
- 25(1), 25(2)
- 29(4)
- 31(3)
Charter of Incorporation

PREAMBLE

EDWARD VII, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith.

TO ALL TO WHOM these presents shall come, GREETING:

WHEREAS Petitions have been presented to Us by University College Bristol in the said City and by others praying Us to erect a University within the said City for the promotion of Arts Sciences and Learning and of the objects for which the said College was established and to grant a Charter with such appropriate provisions therein in that behalf as shall seem to Us meet and fit.

And whereas the Society of Merchant Venturers of the City of Bristol also presented a Petition to the same end.

And whereas We have taken the said Petitions into Our Royal consideration and are minded to accede thereto.

Now therefore Know Ye that We by Virtue of Our Royal Prerogative in that behalf and all other powers enabling Us so to do of Our special grace certain knowledge and mere motion by these Presents do for Us Our Heirs and Successors grant will direct and ordain as follows:

1. University of Bristol

There shall be from henceforth for ever in Our said City of Bristol a University by the name and style of “The University of Bristol” by which name the Chancellor and other Members of the University for the time being are hereby constituted one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal and with full power by and in such name to sue and be sued and without any further licence to take by gift or otherwise purchase and hold grant demise or otherwise dispose of real or personal estate and with other powers by this Our Charter prescribed.

2. Visitor

We Our Heirs and Successors Kings and Queens of the Kingdom aforesaid shall be and remain the Visitor and Visitors of the University of Bristol through the President of Our Board of Trustees for the time being and in exercise of the Visitorial Authority We and Our Heirs and Successors shall have the right from time to time and in such manner as We or They shall think fit to direct an inspection of the University its buildings laboratories libraries and general equipment and also of the teaching examinations research and other work done by the University.
3. Powers

The University shall have the powers following:

(1) To grant and confer Degrees and other academic distinctions, including Degrees and other academic distinctions awarded jointly with other institutions, to and on persons who shall have pursued an approved course of study in or under the auspices of the University and shall have passed the examinations in or approved by the University under conditions laid down in its Statutes or Ordinances provided that degrees representing proficiency in technical subjects shall not be conferred without proper security for testing the scientific or general knowledge underlying technical attainments.

(2) To admit Graduates of other Universities to Degrees of equal or similar rank in the University.

(3) To confer Degrees of the University on any persons who hold office in the University as Professors Readers Lecturers or otherwise or who shall have carried on independent research therein.

(4) To grant Diplomas Certificates or other distinctions to persons who have pursued a course of study approved by the University under conditions laid down by the University.

(5) To confer Honorary Degrees or other distinctions on approved persons PROVIDED THAT all Degrees and other distinctions shall be conferred and held subject to any provisions which are or may be made in reference thereto by the Statutes Ordinances or Regulations of the University.

(6) On good cause shown to deprive persons of any Degrees Diplomas Certificates or Distinctions granted to or conferred upon them.

(7) To provide for instruction in such branches of learning as the University may think fit and also to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge.

(8) To examine and inspect schools and other educational institutions and grant Certificates of proficiency and to provide such lectures and instruction for persons not members of the University as the University may determine.

(9) To accept the examinations and periods of study passed by Students of the University at other Universities or places of learning as equivalent to such examinations and periods of study in the University as the University may determine and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.

(10) To affiliate other institutions or to admit the members thereof to any of its privileges and to accept attendance at courses of study in such institutions in place of such part of the attendance at courses of study in the University and upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as may from time to time be determined by the University or to recognise any members of the
teaching staff of any College or institution whether affiliated to the University or not as teachers of the University.

(11) To co-operate by means of Joint Boards or otherwise with other Universities and Authorities for the regulation and conduct of Matriculation and other Examinations for the examination and inspection of schools and other academic institutions and for the extension of University teaching and influence in academic matters and for such other purposes as the University may from time to time determine.

(12) To enter into any agreement with any other institution for the incorporation of that institution in the University and for taking over its property and liabilities and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.

(13) If necessary to promote a Bill or Bills in Parliament to confirm or carry out any such agreement as above referred to.

(14) To institute Professorships Readerships Lectureships Teacherships and any other offices required by the University and to appoint to such offices.

(15) To institute and award Fellowships Scholarships Exhibitions Bursaries and Prizes.

(16) To provide Halls for the residence of Students.

(17) To make provision for Research and to furnish Scientific Advice for public purposes and for these objects to enter into such arrangements with other institutions or with public bodies as may be thought desirable.

(18) To do all such other acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the University as a Teaching and Examining Body and to cultivate and promote Arts Science and Learning.

4. Authorities

The Authorities of the University shall be the Chancellor Pro-Chancellors Vice-Chancellor Pro-Vice-Chancellors the Court the Board of Trustees the Senate and the Alumni Association.

5. Chancellor

The Chancellor of the University shall be the President of the Court and Alumni Association and shall hold office for such period as shall be determined by Statute. The Chancellor shall be elected by the Court of the University on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

6. Pro-Chancellors

There shall be a Pro-Chancellor or Pro-Chancellors of the University who or any one of whom may, subject to the Statutes of the
The Pro-Chancellor or Pro-Chancellors shall be elected by the Court of the University on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

7. Vice-Chancellor

There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the principal Academic Officer of the University and ex officio Chairman of the Senate and who shall in the absence of the Chancellor confer degrees.

8. Pro-Vice-Chancellor

There shall be a Pro-Vice-Chancellor or Pro-Vice-Chancellors of the University who or any one of whom may subject to the Statutes of the University act for the Vice-Chancellor pending a vacancy in that office or during the absence or inability of the Vice-Chancellor or at the request of the Vice-Chancellor and may when so acting confer Degrees.

9. Treasurer and Other Officers

There shall be a Treasurer and other proper officers of the University.

10. The Board of Trustees

With effect from 1 January 2016, the name of the Governing Body of the University was changed from “Council” to “the Board of Trustees”. After this date, all references in the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and otherwise to “Council” shall be changed to, and shall be construed as, references to “the Board of Trustees”.

Powers of the Board of Trustees

There shall be a Board of Trustees which shall be the Governing Body of the University and have power to direct the use of the University Seal and subject to the Statutes of the University shall have the government and control of the finances of the University and of the affairs and property of the University. The Board of Trustees shall submit a report to each annual meeting of the Court, including a report of changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances made in the preceding academic year.

The Trustees

Statutes of the University shall regulate the election and continuance in office of the Trustees the filling of vacancies among the Trustees and all other matters relative to the Board of Trustees which it may be thought are proper to be so regulated.
Statutes

The Board of Trustees may make Statutes and amend or repeal the Statutes for the time being but no such Statute and no such amendment addition or repeal shall be valid or operative until allowed by the Privy Council.

Ordinances

Ordinances may be made by the Board of Trustees for the regulation of all matters not required by this Our Charter to be dealt with by Statute.

11. The Court

Constitution of the Court

There shall be a Court whose Members shall be kept informed by the Board of Trustees on any matter relating to the University. The University's strategic aims, ambitions and initiatives and who will have the opportunity to provide comments, advice and other support to the Board of Trustees shall be required to report to the Annual Meeting of Court and to take into consideration any views expressed by the Court in accordance with the Statutes. The constitution of the Court shall be defined by Statute.

Except as herein provided and subject to the Statutes of the University, the Court may determine all matters relating to the appointment and election of Members of the Court and their respective periods or terms of office and all other matters relating to the constitution of the Court.

Statutes of the University shall regulate the election and continuation in office of the Members of the Court, the filling of vacancies among the Members and all other matters relative to the Court which it may be thought are proper to be so regulated.

Provided that Statutes for which this section provides shall be made or amended by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of the Court, except that, if the Court at two consecutive annual meetings withholds its consent to an identical proposal by the Board of Trustees to make or amend such a Statute, the Board of Trustees may at its next meeting make or amend the Statute accordingly notwithstanding that the Court shall have withheld its consent.

12. The Senate Powers of Senate

There shall be a Senate which shall subject to the Statutes and Ordinances of the University and the control and approval of the Board of Trustees have the regulation and control of the Curriculum and Education afforded by the University and such other powers as may
be conferred upon it by Statute or Ordinance.

Statutes of the University shall define the powers of the Senate.

13. The Faculties

13. Faculties

There shall be such Faculties as may from time to time be constituted by the University.

Board and Deans of Faculty

There shall be a Board and a Dean of each Faculty with such powers respectively as may be prescribed by Statute or Ordinance.

14. The Alumni Association (formerly known as Convocation)

Constitution of the Alumni Association

There shall be an Alumni Association of the University which shall consist of the Chancellor, the Honorary Fellows, the Graduates and Honorary Graduates of the University, together with all former students of the University who hold an academic award of the University that required at least nine months full-time study or an equivalent period of part-time study and Associate Members as may be determined from time to time.

The Chancellor if present shall preside at its meetings.

Ordinances may prescribe the conditions of registration and fix a fee if it shall be considered necessary.

With effect from 27 June 2018, the name “Convocation” was changed to “the Alumni Association” After this date, all references in the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and otherwise to “Convocation” shall be changed to, and shall be construed as, references to “the Alumni Association”.

15. Students Union

A Union of Students of the University may be constituted by Statute or Ordinance.

Representation of the Alumni Association and Union

Regulation thereof
The Alumni Association and the Union of Students shall have such and so many representatives on the Court and on such conditions as may be provided by the Statutes of the University. Ordinances of the University may subject to the provisions of this Charter and of the Statutes prescribe and regulate the constitution functions privileges and all other matters relating to the Alumni Association and to the Union of Students.

16. Statutes

Initiative in making statutes

The Board of Trustees shall have power to make Statutes.

Powers of statutes

All Statutes which are not repugnant to the provisions of this Charter or the Laws of the Realm shall be operative and have effect when allowed by the Privy Council and not before. Such allowance shall be conclusive evidence of the Statutes so allowed being authorised by the provisions of this Charter.

The Statutes of the University may direct that any of the matters by these Presents authorised or directed to be prescribed governed or regulated by Statutes of the University shall be prescribed governed or regulated by Ordinances of the University.

17. Ordinances

Initiative in making ordinances

Academic ordinances

Ordinances shall be made by the Board of Trustees of the University. Provided that in matters referring to Courses of Study Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates, other academic awards or distinctions affiliation of Colleges and recognition of teachers Ordinances shall be made by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of the Senate.

Amendment etc., of ordinances

Ordinances may add to amend alter or repeal Ordinances from time to time in force.

18. Examiners and Examinations

External examiners
All Examinations held by the University shall be conducted in such manner as the Statutes and Ordinances shall prescribe provided that at least one external and independent Examiner shall be appointed for each subject or group of subjects forming part of the course of studies required for University Degrees but this proviso shall not apply to Examinations for admission or entrance to the University.

19. **General Provisions Regulation of proceedings**

The Board of Trustees the Senate and the Faculties respectively may from time to time make regulations for governing subject to these Presents and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University the proceedings of those bodies respectively. The power to make regulations shall include the power to add to amend alter or repeal any theretofore made.

20. **Eligibility**

All posts and offices in the University, membership of any of its constituent bodies and all courses of study and academic awards in the University shall be open to any person, irrespective of gender, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, disability or age, subject to such conditions and regulations as may properly be prescribed or provided for by the University.

21. **Bar to Dividends**

The University shall not make any dividend gift division or bonus in money unto or between any of its members except by the way of prize reward or special grant.

22. **Power to hold Real Property**

In addition to the buildings lands and premises of the University used and occupied for the immediate purposes thereof the University shall have power to hold lands tenements and hereditaments.

23. **“Special Resolutions”**

The Board of Trustees may at any time alter amend or add to these Presents and their Provisions by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such alteration amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us Our Heirs or Successors by and with the advice of Our Privy Council become effectual so that these Presents shall thenceforward continue and operate as though they had been originally granted and made as so altered amended or added to as aforesaid. This Article of these Presents shall apply to this Charter as altered amended or added to in manner aforesaid. A “Special Resolution” means a Resolution passed at one meeting of the Board of Trustees and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former provided that the Resolution be passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the Trustees present and voting.
24. Definitions

In this Our Charter the “Statutes” mean the Statutes set forth in the Schedule hereto or any Statutes altering, adding to or repealing the same or any of them which may hereafter be made and may be allowed by the Privy Council.

“Ordinances” means Acts of the Board of Trustees made as provided for in this our Charter.

25. Construction

Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that these Presents shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourably to the University of Bristol and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.
Charter of Incorporation

PREAMBLE

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TO ALL TO WHOM these presents shall come, GREETING:

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And whereas We have taken the said Petitions into Our Royal consideration and are minded to accede thereto.

Now therefore Know Ye that We by Virtue of Our Royal Prerogative in that behalf and all other powers enabling Us so to do of Our special grace certain knowledge and mere motion by these Presents do for Us Our Heirs and Successors grant will direct and ordain as follows:

1. University of Bristol

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2. Visitor

We Our Heirs and Successors Kings and Queens of the Kingdom aforesaid shall be and remain the Visitor and Visitors of the University of Bristol through the President of Our Board of Trustees for the time being and in exercise of the Visitorial Authority We and Our Heirs and Successors shall have the right from time to time and in such manner as We or They shall think fit to direct an inspection of the University its buildings laboratories libraries and general equipment and also of the teaching examinations research and other work done by the University.
3. Powers

The University shall have the powers following:

(1) To grant and confer Degrees and other academic distinctions, including Degrees and other academic distinctions awarded jointly with other institutions, to and on persons who shall have pursued an approved course of study in or under the auspices of the University and shall have passed the examinations in or approved by the University under conditions laid down in its Statutes or Ordinances provided that degrees representing proficiency in technical subjects shall not be conferred without proper security for testing the scientific or general knowledge underlying technical attainments.

(2) To admit Graduates of other Universities to Degrees of equal or similar rank in the University.

(3) To confer Degrees of the University on any persons who hold office in the University as Professors Readers Lecturers or otherwise or who shall have carried on independent research therein.

(4) To grant Diplomas Certificates or other distinctions to persons who have pursued a course of study approved by the University under conditions laid down by the University.

(5) To confer Honorary Degrees or other distinctions on approved persons PROVIDED THAT all Degrees and other distinctions shall be conferred and held subject to any provisions which are or may be made in reference thereto by the Statutes Ordinances or Regulations of the University.

(6) On good cause shown to deprive persons of any Degrees Diplomas Certificates or Distinctions granted to or conferred upon them.

(7) To provide for instruction in such branches of learning as the University may think fit and also to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge.

(8) To examine and inspect schools and other educational institutions and grant Certificates of proficiency and to provide such lectures and instruction for persons not members of the University as the University may determine.

(9) To accept the examinations and periods of study passed by Students of the University at other Universities or places of learning as equivalent to such examinations and periods of study in the University as the University may determine and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.

(10) To affiliate other institutions or to admit the members thereof to any of its privileges and to accept attendance at courses of study in such institutions in place of such part of the attendance at courses of study in the University and upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as may from time to time be determined by the University or to recognise any members of the
teaching staff of any College or institution whether affiliated to the University or not as teachers of the University.

(11) To co-operate by means of Joint Boards or otherwise with other Universities and Authorities for the regulation and conduct of Matriculation and other Examinations for the examination and inspection of schools and other academic institutions and for the extension of University teaching and influence in academic matters and for such other purposes as the University may from time to time determine.

(12) To enter into any agreement with any other institution for the incorporation of that institution in the University and for taking over its property and liabilities and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.

(13) If necessary to promote a Bill or Bills in Parliament to confirm or carry out any such agreement as above referred to.

(14) To institute Professorships Readerships Lectureships Teacherships and any other offices required by the University and to appoint to such offices.

(15) To institute and award Fellowships Scholarships Exhibitions Bursaries and Prizes.

(16) To provide Halls for the residence of Students.

(17) To make provision for Research and to furnish Scientific Advice for public purposes and for these objects to enter into such arrangements with other institutions or with public bodies as may be thought desirable.

(18) To do all such other acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the University as a Teaching and Examining Body and to cultivate and promote Arts Science and Learning.

4. Authorities

The Authorities of the University shall be the Chancellor Pro-Chancellors Vice-Chancellor Pro-Vice-Chancellors the Court the Board of Trustees the Senate and the Alumni Association.

5. Chancellor

The Chancellor of the University shall be the President of the Court and Alumni Association and shall hold office for such period as shall be determined by Statute. The Chancellor shall be elected by the Court of the University on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

6. Pro-Chancellors

There shall be a Pro-Chancellor or Pro-Chancellors of the University who or any one of whom may, subject to the Statutes of the
University, in the absence of the Chancellor or pending a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, exercise the functions of the Chancellor except the conferring of Degrees, and who may preside at meetings of the Court.

The Pro-Chancellor or Pro-Chancellors shall be elected by the Court of the University on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

7. Vice-Chancellor

There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the principal Academic Officer of the University and ex officio Chairman of the Senate and who shall in the absence of the Chancellor confer degrees.

8. Pro-Vice-Chancellor

There shall be a Pro-Vice-Chancellor or Pro-Vice-Chancellors of the University who or any one of whom may subject to the Statutes of the University act for the Vice-Chancellor pending a vacancy in that office or during the absence or inability of the Vice-Chancellor or at the request of the Vice-Chancellor and may when so acting confer Degrees.

9. Treasurer and Other Officers

There shall be a Treasurer and other proper officers of the University.

10. The Board of Trustees

With effect from 1 January 2016, the name of the Governing Body of the University was changed from “Council” to “the Board of Trustees”. After this date, all references in the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and otherwise to “Council” shall be changed to, and shall be construed as, references to “the Board of Trustees”.

Powers of the Board of Trustees

There shall be a Board of Trustees which shall be the Governing Body of the University and have power to direct the use of the University Seal and subject to the Statutes of the University shall have the government and control of the finances of the University and of the affairs and property of the University. The Board of Trustees shall submit a report to each annual meeting of the Court, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances made in the preceding academic year.

The Trustees

Statutes of the University shall regulate the election and continuance in office of the Trustees the filling of vacancies among the Trustees and all other matters relative to the Board of Trustees which it may be thought are proper to be so regulated.
Statutes

The Board of Trustees may make Statutes and amend add to or repeal the Statutes for the time being but no such Statute and no such amendment addition or repeal shall be valid or operative until allowed by the Privy Council.

Ordinances

Ordinances may be made by the Board of Trustees for the regulation of all matters not required by this Our Charter to be dealt with by Statute.

11. The Court

There shall be a Court whose Members shall be kept informed by the Board of Trustees about the University's strategic aims, ambitions and initiatives and who will have the opportunity to provide comments, advice and other support to the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting of Court in accordance with the Statutes. The constitution of the Court shall be defined by Statute.

Except as herein provided and subject to the Statutes of the University, the Court may determine all matters relating to the appointment and election of Members of the Court and their respective periods or terms of office and all other matters relating to the constitution of the Court.

Statutes of the University shall regulate the election and continuation in office of the Members of the Court, the filling of vacancies among the Members and all other matters relative to the Court which it may be thought are proper to be so regulated.

Provided that Statutes for which this section provides shall be made or amended by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of the Court, except that, if the Court at two consecutive annual meetings withholds its consent to an identical proposal by the Board of Trustees to make or amend such a Statute, the Board of Trustees may at its next meeting make or amend the Statute accordingly notwithstanding that the Court shall have withheld its consent.

12. The Senate Powers of Senate

There shall be a Senate which shall subject to the Statutes and Ordinances of the University and the control and approval of the Board of Trustees have the regulation and control of the Curriculum and Education afforded by the University and such other powers as may be conferred upon it by Statute or Ordinance.

Statutes of the University shall define the powers of the Senate.

13. The Faculties
Faculties

There shall be such Faculties as may from time to time be constituted by the University.

Board and Deans of Faculty

There shall be a Board and a Dean of each Faculty with such powers respectively as may be prescribed by Statute or Ordinance.

14. The Alumni Association (formerly known as Convocation)

Constitution of the Alumni Association

There shall be an Alumni Association of the University which shall consist of the Chancellor, the Honorary Fellows, the Graduates and Honorary Graduates of the University, together with all former students of the University who hold an academic award of the University that required at least nine months full-time study or an equivalent period of part-time study and Associate Members as may be determined from time to time.

The Chancellor if present shall preside at its meetings.

Ordinances may prescribe the conditions of registration and fix a fee if it shall be considered necessary.

With effect from 1 January 2018, the name “Convocation” was changed to “the Alumni Association” After this date, all references in the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and otherwise to “Convocation” shall be changed to, and shall be construed as, references to “the Alumni Association”.

15. Students Union

A Union of Students of the University may be constituted by Statute or Ordinance.

Representation of the Alumni Association and Union

Regulation thereof

The Alumni Association and the Union of Students shall have such and so many representatives on the Court and on such conditions as may be provided by the Statutes of the University. Ordinances of the University may subject to the provisions of this Charter and of the Statutes prescribe and regulate the constitution functions privileges and all other matters relating to the Alumni Association and to the Union of Students.

16. Statutes
Initiative in making statutes

The Board of Trustees shall have power to make Statutes.

Powers of statutes

All Statutes which are not repugnant to the provisions of this Charter or the Laws of the Realm shall be operative and have effect when allowed by the Privy Council and not before. Such allowance shall be conclusive evidence of the Statutes so allowed being authorised by the provisions of this Charter.

The Statutes of the University may direct that any of the matters by these Presents authorised or directed to be prescribed governed or regulated by Statutes of the University shall be prescribed governed or regulated by Ordinances of the University.

17. Ordinances

Initiative in making ordinances

Academic ordinances
Ordinances shall be made by the Board of Trustees of the University. Provided that in matters referring to Courses of Study Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates, other academic awards or distinctions affiliation of Colleges and recognition of teachers Ordinances shall be made by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of the Senate.

Amendment etc., of ordinances
Ordinances may add to amend alter or repeal Ordinances from time to time in force.

18. Examiners and Examinations

External examiners
All Examinations held by the University shall be conducted in such manner as the Statutes and Ordinances shall prescribe provided that at least one external and independent Examiner shall be appointed for each subject or group of subjects forming part of the course of studies required for University Degrees but this proviso shall not apply to Examinations for admission or entrance to the University.

19. General Provisions Regulation of proceedings

The Board of Trustees the Senate and the Faculties respectively may from time to time make regulations for governing subject to
these Presents and the Statutes and Ordinances of the University the proceedings of those bodies respectively. The power to make regulations shall include the power to add to amend alter or repeal any theretofore made.

20. Eligibility

All posts and offices in the University, membership of any of its constituent bodies and all courses of study and academic awards in the University shall be open to any person, irrespective of gender, race, religion, belief, sexual orientation, disability or age, subject to such conditions and regulations as may properly be prescribed or provided for by the University.

21. Bar to Dividends

The University shall not make any dividend gift division or bonus in money unto or between any of its members except by the way of prize reward or special grant.

22. Power to hold Real Property

In addition to the buildings lands and premises of the University used and occupied for the immediate purposes thereof the University shall have power to hold lands tenements and hereditaments.

23. “Special Resolutions”

The Board of Trustees may at any time alter amend or add to these Presents and their Provisions by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such alteration amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us Our Heirs or Successors by and with the advice of Our Privy Council become effectual so that these Presents shall thenceforward continue and operate as though they had been originally granted and made as so altered amended or added to as aforesaid. This Article of these Presents shall apply to this Charter as altered amended or added to in manner aforesaid. A “Special Resolution” means a Resolution passed at one meeting of the Board of Trustees and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former provided that the Resolution be passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the Trustees present and voting.

24. Definitions

In this Our Charter the “Statutes” mean the Statutes set forth in the Schedule hereto or any Statutes altering adding to or repealing the same or any of them which may hereafter be made and may be allowed by the Privy Council.

“Ordinances” means Acts of the Board of Trustees made as provided for in this our Charter.
25. **Construction**

Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that these Presents shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourably to the University of Bristol and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.
Item 7.1
Statute 1

Preliminary

The Statutes shall be interpreted so as not to conflict with the Charter. Words defined in the Charter or the Statutes shall have the same meaning in the Ordinances and the Regulations unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Words in the singular shall include the plural, and words in the plural shall include the singular.

Statute 2

Members of the University

The following are Members of the University:

- The Chancellor and Pro-Chancellors
- The Treasurer
- The University staff
- The University students
- The Trustees
- The Members of Court
- The Members of the Alumni Association
- The Honorary Fellows
- The Emeritus and Honorary Professors
- The Emeritus Deans

Statute 3

The Chancellor

Role
1. The Chancellor shall be the President of Court and the Alumni Association and shall have the power to confer degrees.

Election
2. The Chancellor shall be elected by Court on the nomination of the Board of Trustees and shall hold office for a maximum period of ten years, unless Court by special resolution determines otherwise. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of Court and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Resignation
3. The Chancellor may resign at any time by a letter sent to Court through the Secretary.

Statute 4
The Pro-Chancellors

Role
1. The Pro-Chancellors may, in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, exercise the functions of the Chancellor, save for the conferring of degrees and the appointment of members of Court, and they, and may preside at meetings of Court.

Election
2. The Pro-Chancellors shall be elected by Court on the nomination of the Board of Trustees. The Pro-Chancellors shall hold office for three year terms, subject to a maximum of two such terms, unless Court by special resolution determines otherwise. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of Court and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Resignation
3. A Pro-Chancellor may resign at any time by a letter sent to Court through the Secretary.

Statute 5
The Vice-Chancellor

Role
1. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chief Officer of the University and the Chair of Senate.

Appointment
2. The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees after consultation with Senate, and shall hold office for such period and on such conditions as the Board of Trustees shall determine, subject to the provisions of Statutes and Ordinances.
Resignation
3. The Vice-Chancellor may resign by a letter sent to the Board of Trustees through the Secretary.

Statute 6

The Pro Vice-Chancellors

Role
1. A Pro Vice-Chancellor may exercise any of the functions of the Vice-Chancellor either at the request of the Vice-Chancellor, or in his or her absence, or during a vacancy in the office of Vice-Chancellor, and shall discharge such other responsibilities as may be conferred by ordinance.

Appointment
1. The Pro Vice-Chancellors shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees after consultation with Senate. The Pro Vice-Chancellors shall hold office for such period and on such conditions as the Board of Trustees shall determine, subject to the provisions of Statutes and Ordinances.

Statute 7

The Deans of the Faculties

Role
1. The dean of each faculty shall play a leading role in the formulation and implementation of University academic strategy and policy and shall be responsible for leading and managing the faculty. The dean shall be a member of all committees of the faculty. In the absence of the dean or during a vacancy in the office, a deputy dean or a senior member of staff chosen by the faculty board shall exercise the functions of the dean. There may be one or more deputy deans, who may exercise any of the functions of the dean either at the request of the dean or in the absence of the dean or during a vacancy in the office of the dean.

Appointment
2. The dean of each faculty shall be appointed in consultation with the faculty, as prescribed by ordinance. Deputy Deans shall be appointed from time to time by the dean, with the consent of the faculty board, from among the staff of the faculty. All the deputy deans in a faculty shall vacate office on the appointment of a new dean but shall be eligible for reappointment.

Statute 8

The Treasurer
Role
1. The Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Treasurer shall not be a member of the University's staff, neither shall the Treasurer have any executive authority other than that exercised within the context of membership of the Board of Trustees.

The Treasurer shall be appointed annually by the Board of Trustees, subject to a maximum period in office of ten years, unless the Board of Trustees by special resolution (as defined in Statute 17) determines otherwise.

Vacancy
3. If for any reason the office of Treasurer becomes vacant, the Board of Trustees shall forthwith appoint a Treasurer for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Resignation
4. The Treasurer may resign at any time by a letter sent to the Board of Trustees through the Secretary.

Statute 9

The University Officers

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the following officers of the University for such period and on such conditions as it shall determine, subject to the Statutes and Ordinances:

The Registrar
The Secretary
The Finance Director
The Librarian
Such other officers as the Board of Trustees may by Ordinance determine.

Statute 10

External Auditors

Appointment
1., The Board of Trustees shall annually appoint external auditors for a period of one year. The auditors shall be eligible for re-appointment. The auditors shall not be members of the Board of Trustees or Court.

Vacancy
2. Should the auditors resign or be removed from office by the Board of Trustees during the year, the Board of Trustees shall appoint auditors for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**Statute 11**

**Membership of Court**

**Core Members of Court**

The members of Court shall be as follows:

**Elected Members**

- Thirty Alumni Association Representatives elected by and from the Alumni Association, of whom five should be elected exclusively from the international alumni (but if no international members put themselves forward for election, then the full number of representatives can be appointed in such manner as the Alumni Association shall determine);
- Five Emeriti elected by and from the emeritus professors;

**Nominated Members**

- Twenty Members nominated by their organisations, drawn from civic, cultural and community organisations or bodies including (but not limited to) organisations or bodies located in or around the city of Bristol;
- Twenty Members nominated from unions, professional organisations, business community and industry or other knowledge-intensive organisations including (but not limited to) organisations or bodies located in or around the city of Bristol;
- Five representatives from amongst those formally elected to represent the people of the City of Bristol and its surrounding areas;

**Ex Officio**

- The Chancellor;
- The Pro-Chancellors;
- Honorary Fellows.

Subject to this Statute 11, the normal term of office for an Elected Member shall be four years and may be re-elected for a further four year term (in accordance with this Statute 11).

Subject to this Statute 11, the normal term of office for a Nominated Member shall normally be four years and may be re-appointed for one further four year term (in accordance with this Statute 11), provided that the individual remains connected to the nominating organisation or body and retains the nomination of the nominating organisation or body.

An individual may be appointed as an Elected Member or Nominated Members notwithstanding that he or she has previously held
office in any other category provided that he or she may only serve as a member of Court (in any category of membership) for a maximum period of ten consecutive years. In the event that an individual has served for ten consecutive years, he or she may be eligible for appointment as a Core Member only after a year has elapsed since he or she retired as a member of Court (in any category of membership).

All Category I — University
The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors, the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Treasurer, the Chair of the Board of Trustees and the Chair of the Alumni Association
The Honorary Fellows
The Trustees
The members of Senate
The Emeritus Professors
The Emeritus Deans
The Registrar, the Secretary, the Librarian and up to ten holders of such other offices as the Vice-Chancellor shall from time to time specify

For renewable three year terms: Fifteen elected members of the support staff, the method of election to be determined by Ordinance
For renewable four year terms: One hundred graduates of the University elected by the Alumni Association

Category II — Benefactors
a) As members for life:
   Individual donors to University funds nominated by the Board of Trustees
b) As members for five years:
   The representatives of each of such corporate donors to University funds as the Board of Trustees may nominate

c) The President of the Bristol Trades Union Council and ten persons appointed by the Bristol Trades Union Council for an initial term of up to three years with renewable three-year terms thereafter
d) One person appointed by the Bristol Area Members Committee of the Co-operative Group for an initial term of up to three years with renewable three-year terms thereafter
e) Eight representatives of the voluntary sector in Bristol nominated by such body or bodies as from time to time shall be approved by
Court for this purpose

Category IV — Local Authorities
Elected members or officers of local authorities in Bristol and the surrounding area appointed by the relevant local authority as follows:
Bristol City Council: Fifteen persons
Bath and North East Somerset Council, North Somerset Council, South Gloucestershire Council, Gloucestershire County Council,
Somerset County Council and Wiltshire County Council: Three persons each

Category V — Special Appointments
To be appointed for an initial term of up to three years with renewable three-year terms thereafter:
a) Three persons appointed by the President of the Privy Council
b) Three persons appointed by the Chancellor of the University

c) One person appointed by each of such universities and colleges, up to a maximum of twenty, as Court on the recommendation of
the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine
d) One person appointed by each of such learned bodies and national and international organisations, up to a maximum of forty-five, as
Court on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine
e) One person appointed by such of the institutions affiliated to or associated with the University, as listed in its Ordinances, as Court
on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine
f) One person appointed by each of such National Health Service bodies as Court on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees
may from time to time determine

Category VI — Institutions
To be appointed for an initial term of up to three years with renewable three-year terms thereafter:
a) One person appointed by each of such universities and colleges, up to a maximum of twenty, as Court on the recommendation of
the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine
b) One person appointed by such of the institutions affiliated to or associated with the University, as listed in its Ordinances, as Court
on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine
c) One person appointed by each of such National Health Service bodies as Court on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees
may from time to time determine

Category VII — House of Commons and European Parliament
The Members of Parliament elected for the parliamentary constituencies lying wholly or substantially within the City and County of
Bristol, the Districts of Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire and the Counties of Gloucestershire,
Somerset and Wiltshire
The Members of the European Parliament elected for the South West region

Category VIII — Holders of local offices
Such holders of local offices as Court on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees may from time to time determine, subject to a
limit of sixty, which may include:
Lord Lieutenants of Bristol and adjoining counties; Lord Mayors and Mayors of local cities and towns; head teachers of local schools
and principals of local colleges; local judges; the president, chief executive, head or leader or other officers of learned societies,
religious organisations, charities, museums, libraries, professional bodies, and other organisations involved in the arts, the law,
education, health and social services, trade and industry
Vacancies
Vacancies arising among the appointed members shall be filled as soon as possible by the appointing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

appointments will be overseen by the Nominations Committee of the Board of Trustees (The Nomination Committee) and approved by the Chancellor (for the avoidance of doubt, this shall include any variation to the normal term of office).

Additional Appointed Members of Court

The Chancellor may appoint up to twenty Additional Appointed Members from the body of honorary graduates or nominations put forward by civic, cultural and community, professional, industry and business organisations or bodies including (but not limited to) organisations or bodies located in or around the city of Bristol. The nomination process shall be conducted in such manner as the Nominations Committee considers appropriate from time to time.

The term of office of Additional Appointed Members shall be one year and all appointments will be made by the Chancellor on recommendation of the Nominations Committee.

In exercising his or her power to appoint Additional Appointed Members, the Chancellor shall consult and engage with a range of different organisations and bodies in order to ensure that there is appropriate diversity among the Appointed Members and that they include representatives of the City of Bristol and are able to reflect and support the strategic aims of the University and the interests of its current and future students.

Attendees of Court

The Attendees of Court will be invited to Court with the purpose of informing Members of Court as required. Attendees of Court will be as follows:

- Twenty individuals elected by and from employees of the University
- The elected Sabbatical Officers of the Union of Students
- The Board of Trustees (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer)
- The Vice-Chancellor
- Pro-Vice-Chancellors.
- Registrar
- Chief Operating Officer
- Deans of Faculty
- The University Secretary
Other members of the University's staff may be invited by Court to attend meetings of the Court as may be appropriate to the business of the meeting. For avoidance of doubt, Attendees will not be entitled to vote at meetings of Court.

Resignation

Any member of Court may resign by a letter sent to Court through the Secretary.

Statute 12

Meetings of Court

1. Place and Time

All meetings of Court shall be held in Bristol.

2. Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Court shall normally be held in November or December each year. The Board of Trustees shall determine the date and place for each Annual Meeting. The Chancellor shall determine the agenda for each Annual Meeting in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor and the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall present a report of its proceedings during the preceding academic year, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances that, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, relate directly to Court, the Alumni Association and / or the Union of Students, and an audited statement of accounts for the preceding financial year. A copy of the report and statement shall be sent to every member of Court at least seven days before the meeting.

3. Special Meetings

The Chancellor may call a meeting of Court at any time and shall call a meeting to be held within eight weeks of the receipt by him or her of a written request to do so from the Board of Trustees or from no fewer than twenty-five members of Court. The Chancellor shall determine the date and place of any meeting so called.
4. Notice

The Secretary shall send notice of every meeting of Court not less than thirty five days before the day fixed for such meeting. Any member of Court wishing to bring forward any business at a meeting shall give the Secretary written notice of it not less than twenty days before the day appointed for the meeting provided that such business shall not be included on the agenda unless no fewer than 9 other members of Court have indicated their support either by signing the notice or writing to the Secretary indicating their support for the business to be discussed. This shall not apply to business brought forward by the Board of Trustees. Not less than seven days before any meeting of Court the Secretary shall send every member of Court a statement of all business, and no business shall be considered at the meeting except that included in the statement. For the purposes of this Statute, any notice or written communication to the Secretary may be given by email.

5. Quorum

The quorum of Court shall be forty-twenty five. If there is not a quorum present at a meeting, the Chancellor shall adjourn the meeting to a time later the same day. If there is still no quorum present, the meeting may be adjourned to another day as the Chancellor thinks fit.

6. Procedure

The procedure at meetings of Court shall be in accordance with standing orders of Court.

Statute 13

Powers of Court

Court shall have the following powers:
1. Comment and Advice

At each Annual Meeting of Court, Court shall receive: a report from the Board of Trustees of its proceedings during the preceding academic year, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, that relate, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, directly to Court; a report from the Vice-Chancellor and an audited statement of accounts by the University's senior management on the execution of the University's strategy in the preceding year; and the financial statements for the preceding financial year.

Court may comment on the affairs of the University, may advise the Board of Trustees on any matter relating to the University, and may invite:

- a) pose questions to the Chair of the Board of Trustees to review a decision. The opinion of the Board of Trustees shall take into consideration any views expressed by Court. Court may require a point raised at a meeting of Court for circulation to members of Court and the University’s senior management on any aspect of the University’s business.
- b) pose questions to the Vice-Chancellor and the University’s senior management on the execution of the strategy of the University;
- c) pose questions to the Treasurer on the financial statements;
- d) offer advice and independent opinion on the activity of the University; and
- e) ask questions and offer comment to the Board of Trustees to send to the Chancellor, within three months, a written response to a point raised at a meeting of Court for circulation to members of Court and the University’s senior management on any aspect of the University’s business.

2. Appointment of Officers

Court shall appoint the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellors on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

3. The Board of Trustees Extension of Membership and Periods of Office

In accordance with Statute, Court shall elect fifteen Trustees in Class I from names put forward by the Nominations Committee of Court. Court shall have power to approve extensions to prescribed terms of office for the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellors, and to approve extensions to prescribed maximum periods of membership for Trustees.
4.4 Appointment of members of the Nominations Committee

Court shall elect two of its Members to serve on the Nominations Committee, established by the Board of Trustees in a manner as determined by Ordinance.

5. Removal of members of Court for Good Cause

Subject to the terms of this Statute 1(4), Court may remove members of Court or the Board of Trustees, other than those who are members by virtue of their office or members of the academic staff Ex Officio Members, for good cause, as determined by Statute 31.

Statute 14

Nominations Committee of Court

Members

1. The members of the Nominations Committee of Court shall be:

Class I – Chair
For renewable three year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms:
A Pro-Chancellor, who shall act as Chair, nominated by the Chancellor, who shall act as Chair, nominated by the Chancellor, considered (in his or her reasonable opinion) that a member of Court should be removed for good cause and the matter is urgent and it is not practicable to refer the matter to Court for a decision, the Chancellor.

Class II – (following consultation with the Ex Officio Members)
The Chair of the Board of Trustees
The Chair of the Alumni Association.

The Vice-Chancellor (or his/her nominee)

Class III – Trustees
For renewable three year terms, subject to a maximum of three) may remove such member, provided that such members:
Three Trustees, elected by the Board of Trustees from among its lay Trustees as determined by Ordinance.

Class IV – Members of decision shall be proposed for ratification by Court
For renewable three year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms:
Two members at the next meeting of Court, elected by Court, as determined by Ordinance, following such removal.

Statute 14 Members in Class IV must be members of Court, but may not be Trustees. If they become Trustees they must resign from.
Statute 14 (formerly, 'Nominations Committee of Court."

Right to attend
2. The University Secretary may attend meetings of the Nominations Committee of Court, but may not vote on any issue.

Selection of Trustees
3. The Nominations Committee of Court shall put to Court each year at its Annual Meeting names for election to membership of the Board of Trustees in Class I in Statute 15 for a three year term. The Committee shall search for suitable candidates and shall give careful consideration to all names recommended to it. The Committee shall have regard to the need to find Trustees with a balance of skills and experience and shall ensure compliance with the University's Equal Opportunities Policy.

Court shall consider separately each name put to it by its Nominations Committee, and shall either accept or reject it. If Court rejects any of the names, the Nominations Committee shall choose a replacement for consideration by Court at its next Annual Meeting, to serve for the remainder of the three year term. In the interim the vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Trustees on the nomination of Court's Nominations Committee. The Board of Trustees may not appoint the rejected candidate.

7 December 2018.

Statute 15

Membership of the Board of Trustees

1. Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall be composed as follows:

Class I – Lay Trustees

- The Treasurer, who shall be appointed and hold office in accordance with Statute 8.

For renewable - Up to 15 individuals appointed by the Board of Trustees following consideration of nominations made by the Nominations Committee of the Board (the Nominated Trustees).

The term of office for a Nominated Trustee shall be three-year terms, subject to a maximum of years. A Nominated Trustee may be re-appointed for further terms in office, provided that he or she has been nominated for re-appointment by the Nominations Committee. After a Nominated Trustee has served three such consecutive terms unless Court in office, he or she shall only be eligible for re-
nomination and re-appointment if the Nominations Committee recommends the Nominated Trustee for re-nomination and the Board of Trustees by special resolution determines otherwise, where after that it would be in the best interests of the University for the Nominated Trustee to be eligible for re-appointment on his or her retirement for such number of further three year terms as the Board of Trustees shall resolve. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of Court the Board of Trustees and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Up to fifteen persons elected by Court, on the nomination of the Nominations Committee of Court

- One member of the Alumni Association, appointed as determined by Ordinance (the Alumni Association Trustee).

The term of office for the Alumni Association Trustee shall be three years. After the Alumni Association Trustee has served three consecutive terms in office, he or she shall be eligible for re-appointment if the Board of Trustees by special resolution determines that it would be in the best interests of the University for the Alumni Association Trustee to be eligible for re-appointment on his or her retirement for such number of further three year terms as the Board of Trustees shall resolve. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of the Board of Trustees and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Lay Trustees in Class I may not be members of the University’s staff.

Class II – University Staff

- The Vice-Chancellor

- A Pro Vice-Chancellor, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor

For renewable three-year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms:

Three members of academic staff, appointed as determined by Ordinance (each an Academic Trustee)

Two members of the support staff, appointed as determined by Ordinance (each a Support Staff Trustee).

For the avoidance of doubt, the term of office of any Trustee in Class II shall end immediately if the appointed individual ceases to be a member of support staff or academic staff as appropriate.

Class III – Students

For renewable one-year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms:

Two students or Sabbatical Officers, appointed as determined by Ordinance (each a Student Trustee).

2. Right to attend

The Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors and Chair of the Alumni Association, if not Trustees, and the Registrar and Finance Director, shall have the right to receive papers and attend meetings, but shall not have the right to vote on any issue.

3. Vacancies

All vacancies arising among the appointed or elected members Appointed or Elected Members of the Board of Trustees shall be filled as soon as possible by the appointing or electing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Vacancies arising among the lay Nominated Trustees elected by Court shall be filled at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, on the nomination of Court’s Nominations Committee, and confirmed at the next Annual Meeting of the Board of Court Trustees.

4. Resignation

Any Trustee may resign by a letter sent to the Board of Trustees through the Secretary.

Statute 16

Meetings of the Board of Trustees

Frequency

1. The Board of Trustees shall meet at least five times in every University academic year. The Chair may call a meeting at any time, and shall call a meeting to be held within three weeks of the receipt of a written request to do so from no fewer than ten Trustees.

Chair and Vice-Chair

2. The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair from among its lay Trustees as determined by Ordinance. The detailed arrangements for the election of Chair and Vice-Chair are set out in Ordinance 3 and may in future be altered by the Board of Trustees by Special Resolution.

Procedure

3. The procedure at meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be determined by Ordinance.

Quorum
4. The quorum of the Board of Trustees shall be ten. If there is not a quorum present at a meeting, the Chair shall adjourn the meeting to a time later the same day. If there is still no quorum present, the meeting may be adjourned to another day as the Chair thinks fit. If there are at least ten members present but without a lay majority, a majority of the lay Trustees present may decide to defer business to the next meeting of the Board of Trustees, but business may be so deferred only once.

Reserved business
5. The Chair may require student Trustees to withdraw when matters are discussed relating to individual members of staff or individual students of the University and may withhold from student members papers relating to such matters.

Statute 17

Powers of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall be the governing body of the University, and shall have the following powers:

1. General

The Board of Trustees shall exercise all powers conferred on it by the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, and shall put the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations into effect. The Board of Trustees shall set the policy of the University, in consultation with Senate on matters of academic policy, and shall ensure that the Vice-Chancellor and the University officers act to further that policy.

2. Charter

The Board of Trustees may alter, amend or add to the Charter by a special resolution, passed at one meeting of the Board of Trustees and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held no less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former, provided that the resolution is passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-quarters of the members of the Board of Trustees present and voting. Any such changes made by the Board of Trustees shall not take effect unless and until they are allowed by the Queen in Council.

3. Statutes and Ordinances

The Board of Trustees may by special resolution make, amend, add to or repeal Statutes and Ordinances and, where, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, any amendments to the Statutes and Ordinances relate directly to Court, shall report them to Court at Court’s Annual Meeting. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item following a written report from the Secretary and either (i) passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting or (ii) passed by a simple majority of those present and voting and ratified at the next ordinary meeting. In matters relating to courses of study, degrees, certificates, diplomas and other academic awards or distinctions, affiliation of colleges and recognition of teachers, Ordinances shall be made by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of Senate. Statutes, and any amendments, additions or repeals, made by the Board of Trustees in
accordance with the above procedure shall not take effect unless and until they are allowed by the Privy Council.

4. Regulations

The Board of Trustees may, subject to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, make Regulations to govern its affairs and those of the University.

5. Lay Officers

The Board of Trustees shall nominate the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellors for appointment by Court. The Board of Trustees shall appoint the Treasurer in accordance with Statute 8.

6. Appointment of University Officers

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellors after consultation with Senate. The Board of Trustees shall appoint such other officers of the University as it thinks fit, in accordance with Statutes and Ordinances.

7. Academic Posts

The Board of Trustees may institute or abolish professorships, readerships, lecturerships and other academic posts, after consultation with Senate.

8. Academic Appointments

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the professors of the University after report from Senate. The Board of Trustees may either delegate to Senate the appointment of academic staff of the University other than professors, or may appoint them after report from Senate.

9. Honorary Degrees and Fellowships

The Board of Trustees may award honorary degrees on the recommendation of Senate, and may recommend to Court the award of honorary fellowships.

10. Contracts and Employment

The Board of Trustees may enter into, vary and cancel contracts on behalf of the University, including contracts of employment subject to the provisions of the Statute relating to academic staff. The Board of Trustees shall determine the terms and conditions on which
employment is offered.

11. Academic Review

The Board of Trustees shall review and promote the teaching and research of the University.

12. Senate

The Board of Trustees shall supervise and give directions to Senate, and may refer back, amend or disallow any act of Senate, subject to the rights of the Senate concerning academic Ordinances and to be consulted on all academic matters.

13. Finances

The Board of Trustees shall manage all the University’s financial and other affairs, and may appoint bankers and other agents as it thinks fit.

14. Investments

The Board of Trustees shall make investments on behalf of the University as it thinks fit, subject to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances.

15. Property

The Board of Trustees shall provide premises, furniture, apparatus and equipment needed for the work of the University. The Board of Trustees may sell, buy, exchange, lease and accept leases of real and personal property on behalf of the University.

16. Borrowing

The Board of Trustees may borrow money on behalf of the University and for the purpose may mortgage all or any part of the property of the University, whether real or personal, or give such other security upon such property as it thinks fit. The Board of Trustees shall set borrowing limits and report them each year to the Annual Meeting of Court, as part of the information provided to Court on the financial statements of the University (required by Statute 13(1)).

17. Seal, Arms and Mace

The Board of Trustees shall have the sole custody and use of the University seal, arms and mace.
18. Grievances

The Board of Trustees shall investigate and if appropriate redress any grievance brought by officers, staff or students of the University. The Board of Trustees may, at its discretion, appoint a committee to deal with a grievance.

Statute 18

Statute 18 (formerly, ‘Nominations Committee of Council’) was repealed on 28 June 2011. The procedure for appointment of members of Council committees is now set out in paragraph 11 of Ordinance 3.

Statute 19

Membership of Senate

1. Members

The members of Senate shall be as follows:

Class 1 – Ex officio

The Vice-Chancellor, the Pro Vice-Chancellors, the Deans, the Registrar, the Librarian, two Sabbatical Officers nominated by the University of Bristol Students’ Union.

Class 2 – Heads of school

The heads of the academic school or their nominees for any given academic year

Class 3 – Academic and other professional post-holders

Such holders of posts of academic and other professional responsibility, as shall with the consent of Senate be provided by Ordinance so as to ensure fair representation of all the faculties

Class 4 – Academic Staff

Such members of the academic staff, elected by such staff in each faculty from among their number, as shall with the consent of Senate be provided by Ordinance so as to ensure fair representation of all the faculties, for renewable three-year terms
Class 5 – Students

Such undergraduate and postgraduate students, elected or temporarily nominated as provided for in Standing Orders of Senate, as shall with the consent of Senate be provided by Ordinance.

2. Vacancies

All vacancies arising among the elected members shall be filled as soon as possible for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Statute 20

Meetings of Senate

Frequency
1. Senate shall meet at least once each term. The Vice-Chancellor may call a meeting at any time, and shall call a meeting on receipt of a written request to do so from no fewer than twenty members of Senate, within such period as shall be prescribed by standing orders of Senate.

Chair
2. The Vice-Chancellor shall preside at meetings of Senate. In the Vice-Chancellor’s absence, a Pro Vice-Chancellor may act as chair.

Procedure
3. The procedure at meetings of Senate shall be in accordance with standing orders made by Senate.

Reserved business
4. The Chair may require student members of Senate to withdraw when matters are discussed relating to individual members of staff or individual students of the University and may direct that papers relating to such matters shall be withheld from student members.

Statute 21

Powers of Senate

Senate shall have the following powers:
Education and Research and Enterprise

1. Senate shall be responsible to the Board of Trustees for education and examinations within the University, and shall promote and encourage research and enterprise. No new degree or other academic award or distinction shall be adopted by the University without Senate’s agreement.

Examiners

2. Senate shall appoint the internal and external examiners after report from the Boards of Faculty concerned, or may delegate this power to the appropriate Faculty Board. Senate may remove any examiner for negligence or misconduct and may appoint a substitute for the remainder of the examinations.

Academic ordinances and regulations

3. Senate shall report to the Board of Trustees, after report from the Boards of Faculties concerned, on proposed changes to Ordinances and Regulations. Ordinances relating to courses of study, degrees, certificates, diplomas and other academic awards or distinctions, affiliation of colleges and recognition of teachers may be made by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of Senate.

Faculties

4. Senate shall supervise and give directions to the Faculties, may refer back, amend or disallow any act of a Faculty, and shall assign to the Faculties their respective subjects and report to the Board of Trustees on the organisation of schools.

Academic posts

5. Senate may make recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to the institution or abolition of professorships, readerships, lectureships and other academic posts or offices, and as to the abolition of faculties and schools.

Academic appointments

6. Senate may make recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to the appointment or removal from office of the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellors, professors and other members of the teaching and research staff of the University.

Honorary appointments

7. Senate may provide for the appointment of honorary professors, emeritus professors and emeritus deans in accordance with policies approved by Senate from time to time.
Honorary fellowships and degrees

8. Senate shall recommend to the Board of Trustees the award of honorary fellowships and degrees.

Fellowships, scholarships and prizes

9. Senate shall award fellowships, scholarships and prizes, subject to conditions made by the founders and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

Admission of students

10. Senate shall regulate the admission of students to the University, subject to the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.

Student discipline

11. Senate shall make regulations to provide for the discipline of students of the University. Subject to the regulations, Senate may suspend or expel any student.

Referral and delegation

12. Senate shall report back on any matter referred to it by the Board of Trustees.

Opinion and advice

13. Senate may discuss and declare an opinion on any matter whatsoever relating to the University and the Board of Trustees shall take into consideration any observations expressed by Senate.

Statute 22

Faculties

1. Schools shall be allocated to Faculties as determined by Senate.

Faculty Boards
2. Each Faculty shall have a Faculty Board as determined by Ordinance.
Responsibilities of Faculty Boards
3. Faculty Boards are responsible to Senate for the academic activities carried out in the Faculty, including the education and assessment of students and the promotion and encouragement of research, and for such other matters as Senate may require.

Committees
4. Faculty Boards may establish committees to advise them on any matter, for such periods as they think fit, with such membership as they may approve. Faculties may establish committees jointly with another faculty or faculties.

Faculty Assemblies
5. Each Faculty shall have a Faculty Assembly as determined by Ordinance.

Remit of Faculty Assemblies
6. The remit of the Faculty Assembly is to discuss issues which merit consideration by the Faculty as a whole.

Statute 23

Membership of the Alumni Association

Members
1. The members of the Alumni Association shall be as follows:
   The Chancellor
   The Honorary Fellows
   The Graduates and Honorary Graduates of the University, together with all former students of the University who hold an academic award of the University that required at least nine months full-time study or an equivalent period of part-time study
   The Associate Members

Associate Membership
Categories of associate membership may be made by standing order.

Register
The Registrar shall keep a register containing the names of all members of the Alumni Association, which shall be conclusive as to the entitlement of any person to vote in an election relating to the Alumni Association.

Statute 24

Annual Alumni Forum

Frequency
1. The Alumni Forum shall be held at least once a year.

Chair
2. The Chancellor if present shall preside at the Alumni Forum. The Alumni Association shall elect a Chair who will preside in the absence of the Chancellor, and will be Chair of the Standing Committee of the Alumni Association.

The Secretary shall send notice of the meeting to all members of the Alumni Association.

Procedure
3. Procedural matters relating to the Alumni Forum shall be prescribed by the Chancellor.

Reports
4. At each Alumni Forum the Vice-Chancellor or nominee will report on the affairs of the University and the Alumni Association will receive an account of meetings of Court.

Statute 25

Powers of the Alumni Association

The Alumni Association shall have the following powers:

Court
1. The Alumni Association shall appoint by election one hundred thirty of its members (which must include the Chair of the Alumni Association Committee and the Alumni Association Trustee) as Elected Members of Court in accordance with Statute 11.

Advice
2. The Alumni Association may comment upon the development and policy of the University, through the Alumni Representatives its Elected Members on Court and the annual Alumni Forum, and will otherwise contribute to building an engaged and supportive alumni community appropriate to a world class university.

Statute 26

Congregations

Congregations of the whole University for the conferring of degrees or other purposes shall be held in a manner to be prescribed by Ordinances and shall be presided over by the Chancellor or in his or her absence by the Vice-Chancellor.
Statute 27

University of Bristol Union

Structure
1. There shall be a Union of students in the University, whose constitution and functions shall be prescribed by Ordinance. The Board of Trustees shall contribute annually to the Union such funds as it thinks fit.

Responsibility of the Board of Trustees
2. The Board of Trustees shall take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that the Union operates in a fair and democratic manner and is accountable for its finances. The Union shall each year submit to the Board of Trustees its audited accounts.

Statute 28

Examiners for Academic Awards

For all academic awards of the University there shall be at least two examiners. At least one must be external and independent and normally at least one must be a member of the academic staff of the University or otherwise eligible as having academic status.

Statute 29

Committees

Power to appoint committees
1. The Board of Trustees, Court, Senate, boards of Faculties, Alumni Association and the University of Bristol Union may appoint committees to deal with any matter, and such committees may include persons who are not members of the bodies appointing them. The Board of Trustees shall establish an Audit Committee, Nominations Committee, Staff Committee and Remuneration Committee.

Powers and duties
2. The powers and duties of such committees shall be such as the bodies appointing them direct, save that the Board of Trustees may not delegate its power to decide that it is desirable that there should be a reduction in the number of academic staff by way of redundancy.

Regulations
3. The Board of Trustees may make regulations governing the proceedings of committees, but subject to these every committee may regulate its own meetings and procedure.
Membership
4. The Chair of the Board of Trustees and the Vice-Chancellor shall be members of every committee of the Board of Trustees and Court and of their joint committees, save as otherwise provided by Statute or Ordinance. The Vice-Chancellor shall be a member of all committees of Senate and Faculties. The Deans shall be members of all committees of their Faculties.

Statute 30

Advisory Boards

The Board of Trustees
1. The Board of Trustees may appoint advisory boards on such terms as it thinks fit, subject to the Charter and Statutes and after consultation with Senate. Such boards may include members unconnected with the University. The Board of Trustees may refer to them for advice and report on any matter, and such advice and report shall be duly considered by bodies in the University as the Board of Trustees directs.

Senate
2. Senate at the instance of any faculty may approve the appointment of an advisory board, under conditions to be determined by Ordinance. Such boards will be subject to review by the Faculty. They may undertake matters delegated to them with regard to organisation, administration, or instruction in any subjects in the Faculty. Senate shall appoint the members on the nomination of the Faculty. Such boards shall include the examiners in the subjects concerned and may include members unconnected with the University.

Statute 31

Removal of Officers, Auditors and Members

Officers
1. The Chancellor and Pro Chancellors may be removed for good cause by the Visitor at the instance of Court. The Treasurer, Chair of the Board of Trustees and Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees may be removed for good cause by the Visitor at the instance of the Board of Trustees.

Auditors
2. The external auditors may be removed for good cause by the Board of Trustees.

Members of the Board of Trustees and Court
3. Any member of the Board of Trustees or Court, other than those who are members by virtue of their office or members of the academic staff, may be removed for good cause by Court.
4. ‘Good Cause’ in this Statute means one or more of the following:

conviction for an offence rendering the person convicted unfit for the execution of the duties of the office;

improper conduct, incompatible with the duties of the office;

conduct constituting persistent refusal, neglect or inability, including mental or physical inability, to perform the duties or comply with the conditions of office.

Statute 32 - Academic Staff: Dismissal, Discipline, Grievance Procedures and related matters

1. Application and Scope

1.1 This Statute relates to the conduct and discipline, performance, dismissal, suspension and grievances of employees and shall apply to all employees of the University except the Vice-Chancellor.

1.2 This Statute shall be construed to give effect to the following guiding principles:

1.2.1 to ensure that members of academic staff at the University have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges;

1.2.2 to enable the University to provide education, promote learning and engage in research efficiently and economically;

1.2.3 to apply the principles of justice and fairness and seek to advance the principles of equality and diversity.

1.3 In the case of conflict the provisions of this Statute shall prevail over those of any other Statute or of any Ordinance or procedure made under or to give effect to this Statute.

1.4 Nothing in any contract of employment entered into shall override or exclude the provisions of this Statute.

2. Procedures

2.1 The Board of Trustees shall by Ordinance prescribe the procedures for dismissing employees on the grounds of conduct, capability (performance and ill health), redundancy, illegality and some other substantial reason as defined by the Employment Rights Act 1996 as amended, extended or re-enacted from time to time.

2.2 Such Ordinances shall provide for:

(i) the right of employees to be accompanied at any formal meetings held under the Ordinances by a work colleague or trade union representative;

(ii) the University to have the power to suspend any employee to investigate alleged misconduct or for any other good or urgent reason;
(iii) appropriate penalties, which shall include warnings and dismissal;
(iv) the right of appeal against a notice of dismissal given to an employee;
(v) any dismissal made under such Ordinance to remain in force pending the outcome of any appeal;
(vi) employees to receive a reasoned decision in writing in respect of any formal action taken under the Ordinances.

2.3 The Board of Trustees shall ensure that there is a grievance procedure in place to consider complaints raised by employees concerning their employment, which relate to themselves as individuals or their personal dealings or relationships with other employees at the University. The grievance procedure will not apply:
   (i) in respect of the outcome of any matter dealt with under this Statute;
   (ii) where the Board of Trustees has prescribed or the University has in place other procedures.

2.4 The Board of Trustees shall be the body responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Ordinances and procedures prescribed by it under this Statute.

Statute 33

Validity of Acts of Court, the Board of Trustees and Senate

No act or resolution of the Board of Trustees, Court or Senate shall be invalid by reason only of a vacancy among its members, or lack of qualification or invalidity in the election or appointment of a member.

Statute 34

Contracts

The University may make the following binding contracts:

(a) Any contract which if made between private persons would be by law required to be in writing and under seal, provided the contract is in writing and signed by two persons acting under the express or implied authority of the Board of Trustees under the University Seal

(b) Any contract which if made between private persons would be by law required to be in writing and signed by the parties, provided it is in writing and signed by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the Board of Trustees.

(c) Any contract which if made between private persons would by law be valid even if made only verbally, provided it is made in writing or verbally on behalf of the University by any person acting under the express or implied authority of the Board of Trustees.
UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL STATUTES

Statute 1

Preliminary

The Statutes shall be interpreted so as not to conflict with the Charter. Words defined in the Charter or the Statutes shall have the same meaning in the Ordinances and the Regulations unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

Words in the singular shall include the plural, and words in the plural shall include the singular.

Statute 2

Members of the University

The following are Members of the University:

The Chancellor and Pro-Chancellors
The Treasurer
The University staff
The University students
The Trustees
The Members of Court
The Members of the Alumni Association
The Honorary Fellows
The Emeritus and Honorary Professors
The Emeritus Deans

Statute 3

The Chancellor

Role
1. The Chancellor shall be the President of Court and the Alumni Association and shall have the power to confer degrees.

Election
2. The Chancellor shall be elected by Court on the nomination of the Board of Trustees and shall hold office for a maximum period of
ten years, unless Court by special resolution determines otherwise. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of Court and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Resignation
3. The Chancellor may resign at any time by a letter sent to Court through the Secretary.

Statute 4

The Pro-Chancellors

Role
1. The Pro-Chancellors may, in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, exercise the functions of the Chancellor, save for the conferring of degrees, and may preside at meetings of Court.

Election
2. The Pro-Chancellors shall be elected by Court on the nomination of the Board of Trustees. The Pro-Chancellors shall hold office for three year terms, subject to a maximum of two such terms, unless Court by special resolution determines otherwise. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of Court and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Resignation
3. A Pro-Chancellor may resign at any time by a letter sent to Court through the Secretary.

Statute 5

The Vice-Chancellor

Role
1. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chief Officer of the University and the Chair of Senate.

Appointment
2. The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees after consultation with Senate, and shall hold office for such period and on such conditions as the Board of Trustees shall determine, subject to the provisions of Statutes and Ordinances.

Resignation
3. The Vice-Chancellor may resign by a letter sent to the Board of Trustees through the Secretary.
Statute 6

The Pro Vice-Chancellors

Role
1. A Pro Vice-Chancellor may exercise any of the functions of the Vice-Chancellor either at the request of the Vice-Chancellor, or in his or her absence, or during a vacancy in the office of Vice-Chancellor, and shall discharge such other responsibilities as may be conferred by ordinance.

Appointment
2. The Pro Vice-Chancellors shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees after consultation with Senate. The Pro Vice-Chancellors shall hold office for such period and on such conditions as the Board of Trustees shall determine, subject to the provisions of Statutes and Ordinances.

Statute 7

The Deans of the Faculties

1. Role
The dean of each faculty shall play a leading role in the formulation and implementation of University academic strategy and policy and shall be responsible for leading and managing the faculty. The dean shall be a member of all committees of the faculty. In the absence of the dean or during a vacancy in the office, a deputy dean or a senior member of staff chosen by the faculty board shall exercise the functions of the dean. There may be one or more deputy deans, who may exercise any of the functions of the dean either at the request of the dean or in the absence of the dean or during a vacancy in the office of the dean.

2. Appointment
The dean of each faculty shall be appointed in consultation with the faculty, as prescribed by ordinance. Deputy Deans shall be appointed from time to time by the dean, with the consent of the faculty board, from among the staff of the faculty. All the deputy deans in a faculty shall vacate office on the appointment of a new dean but shall be eligible for reappointment.

Statute 8

The Treasurer

Role
1. The Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Audit Committee of the Board of Trustees. The Treasurer shall not be a member of the University’s staff, neither shall the Treasurer have any executive authority other than that exercised within the context of membership of the Board of Trustees.
The Treasurer shall be appointed annually by the Board of Trustees, subject to a maximum period in office of ten years, unless the Board of Trustees by special resolution (as defined in Statute 17) determines otherwise.

Vacancy
3. If for any reason the office of Treasurer becomes vacant, the Board of Trustees shall forthwith appoint a Treasurer for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Resignation
4. The Treasurer may resign at any time by a letter sent to the Board of Trustees through the Secretary.

Statute 9

The University Officers

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the following officers of the University for such period and on such conditions as it shall determine, subject to the Statutes and Ordinances:

The Registrar
The Secretary
The Finance Director
The Librarian
Such other officers as the Board of Trustees may by Ordinance determine.

Statute 10

External Auditors

Appointment
1. The Board of Trustees shall annually appoint external auditors for a period of one year. The auditors shall be eligible for re-appointment. The auditors shall not be members of the Board of Trustees or Court.

Vacancy
2. Should the auditors resign or be removed from office by the Board of Trustees during the year, the Board of Trustees shall appoint auditors for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Statute 11
Membership of Court

Core Members of Court

The Core Members of Court shall be as follows:

Elected Members
- Thirty Alumni Association Representatives elected by and from the Alumni Association, of whom five should be elected exclusively from the international alumni (but if no international members put themselves forward for election, then the full number of representatives can be appointed in such manner as the Alumni Association shall determine);
- Five Emeriti elected by and from the emeritus professors;

Nominated Members
- Twenty Members nominated by their organisations, drawn from civic, cultural and community organisations or bodies including (but not limited to) organisations or bodies located in or around the city of Bristol;
- Twenty Members nominated from unions, professional organisations, business community and industry or other knowledge-intensive organisations including (but not limited to) organisations or bodies located in or around the city of Bristol;
- Five representatives from amongst those formally elected to represent the people of the City of Bristol and its surrounding areas;

Ex Officio
- The Chancellor;
- The Pro-Chancellors;
- Honorary Fellows.

Subject to this Statute 11, the normal term of office for an Elected Members shall be four years and may be re-elected for a further four year term (in accordance with this Statute 11).

Subject to this Statute 11, the normal term of office for a Nominated Member shall normally be four years and may be re-appointed for one further four year term (in accordance with this Statute 11), provided that the individual remains connected to the nominating organisation or body and retains the nomination of the nominating organisation or body.

An individual may be appointed as an Elected Member or Nominated Members notwithstanding that he or she has previously held office in any other category provided that he or she may only serve as a member of Court (in any category of membership) for a maximum period of ten consecutive years. In the event that an individual has served for ten consecutive years, he or she may be eligible for appointment as a Core Member only after a year has elapsed since he or she retired as a member of Court (in any category of membership).

All appointments will be overseen by the Nominations Committee of the Board of Trustees (The Nominations Committee) and approved
by the Chancellor (for the avoidance of doubt, this shall include any variation to the normal term of office).

**Additional Appointed Members of Court**

The Chancellor may appoint up to twenty Additional Appointed Members from the body of honorary graduates or nominations put forward by civic, cultural and community, professional, industry and business organisations or bodies including (but not limited to) organisations or bodies located in or around the city of Bristol. The nomination process shall be conducted in such manner as the Nominations Committee considers appropriate from time to time.

The term of office of Additional Appointed Members shall be one year and all appointments will be made by the Chancellor on recommendation of the Nominations Committee.

In exercising his or her power to appoint Additional Appointed Members, the Chancellor shall consult and engage with a range of different organisations and bodies in order to ensure that there is appropriate diversity among the Appointed Members and that they include representatives of the City of Bristol and are able to reflect and support the strategic aims of the University and the interests of its current and future students.

**Attendees of Court**

The Attendees of Court will be invited to Court with the purpose of informing Members of Court as required. Attendees of Court will be as follows:

- Twenty individuals elected by and from employees of the University
- The elected Sabbatical Officers of the Union of Students
- The Board of Trustees (including, for the avoidance of doubt, the Chair, Deputy Chair and Treasurer)
- The Vice-Chancellor
- Pro-Vice-Chancellors,
- Registrar
- Chief Operating Officer
- Deans of Faculty
- The University Secretary
- University Librarian
- The Bursar
- The Secretary & Clerk to Court
Other members of the University's staff may be invited by Court to attend meetings of the Court as may be appropriate to the business of the meeting. For avoidance of doubt, Attendees will not be entitled to vote at meetings of Court.

Resignation

Any member of Court may resign by a letter sent to Court through the Secretary.

Statute 12

Meetings of Court

1. Place and Time

All meetings of Court shall be held in Bristol.

2. Annual Meeting

An Annual Meeting of the Court shall be held each year. The Board of Trustees shall determine the date and venue for each Annual Meeting. The Chancellor shall determine the agenda for each Annual Meeting in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor and the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall present a report of its proceedings during the preceding academic year, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances that, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, relate directly to Court, the Alumni Association and / or the Union of Students, and an audited statement of accounts for the preceding financial year. A copy of the report and statement shall be sent to every member of Court at least seven days before the meeting.

3. Special Meetings

The Chancellor may call a meeting of Court at any time and shall call a meeting to be held within eight weeks of the receipt by him or her of a written request to do so from the Board of Trustees or from no fewer than twenty-five members of Court. The Chancellor shall determine the date and place of any meeting so called.

4. Notice

The Secretary shall send notice of every meeting of Court not less than thirty-five days before the day fixed for such meeting. Any member of Court wishing to bring forward any business at a meeting shall give the Secretary written notice of it not less than twenty days before the day appointed for the meeting provided that such business shall not be included on the agenda unless no fewer than 9 other members of Court have indicated their support either by signing the notice or writing to the Secretary indicating their support for the business to be discussed. This shall not apply to business brought forward by the Board of Trustees. Not less than seven days
before any meeting of Court the Secretary shall send every member of Court a statement of all business, and no business shall be considered at the meeting except that included in the statement. For the purposes of this Statute, any notice or written communication to the Secretary may be given by email.

5. Quorum

The quorum of Court shall be twenty five. If there is not a quorum present at a meeting, the Chancellor shall adjourn the meeting to a time later the same day. If there is still no quorum present, the meeting may be adjourned to another day as the Chancellor thinks fit.

6. Procedure

The procedure at meetings of Court shall be in accordance with standing orders of Court.

Statute 13

Powers of Court

Court shall have the following powers:

1. Comment and Advice

At each Annual Meeting of Court, Court shall receive: a report from the Board of Trustees of its proceedings during the preceding academic year, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances that relate, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, directly to Court; a report from the Vice-Chancellor and the University’s senior management on the execution of the University’s strategy in the preceding year; and the financial statements for the preceding financial year.

Court may comment and advise on any matter relating to the University and may:

a) pose questions to the Chair of the Board of Trustees on the activity of the Board in the preceding year and the plans for the year ahead;

b) pose questions to the Vice-Chancellor and the University’s senior management on the execution of the strategy of the University;

c) pose questions to the Treasurer on the financial statements;

d) offer advice and independent opinion on the activity of the University; and

e) ask questions and offer comment to the Board of Trustees and the University’s senior management on any aspect of the University’s business.
2. Appointment of Officers

Court shall appoint the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellors on the nomination of the Board of Trustees.

3. Extension of Periods of Office

Court shall have power to approve extensions to prescribed terms of office for the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellors.

4. Appointment of members of the Nominations Committee

Court shall elect two of its Members to serve on the Nominations Committee of the Board of Trustees, established by the Board of Trustees in a manner as determined by Ordinance.

5. Removal of members of Court for Good Cause

Subject to the terms of this Statute 1(4), Court may remove members of Court, other than those who are Ex Officio Members, for good cause, as determined by Statute 31.

If the Chancellor considers (in his or her reasonable opinion) that a member of Court should be removed for good cause and the matter is urgent and it is not practicable to refer the matter to Court for a decision, the Chancellor (following consultation with the Vice-Chancellor) may remove such member, provided that that such decision shall be proposed for ratification by Court at the next meeting of Court following such removal.

Statute 14

Statute 14 (formerly, ‘Nominations Committee of Court’) was repealed on 7 December 2018.

Statute 15

Membership of the Board of Trustees

1. Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall be composed as follows:

Class I – Lay Trustees
- The Treasurer, who shall be appointed and hold office in accordance with Statute 8.

- Up to 15 individuals appointed by the Board of Trustees following consideration of nominations made by the Nominations Committee of the Board (the Nominated Trustees).

The term of office for a Nominated Trustee shall be three years. A Nominated Trustee may be re-appointed for further terms in office, provided that he or she has been nominated for re-appointment by the Nominations Committee. After a Nominated Trustee has served three consecutive terms in office, he or she shall only be eligible for re-nomination and re-appointment if the Nominations Committee recommends the Nominated Trustee for re-nomination and the Board of Trustees by special resolution determines that it would be in the best interests of the University for the Nominated Trustee to be eligible for re-appointment on his or her retirement for such number of further three year terms as the Board of Trustees shall resolve. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of the Board of Trustees and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

- One member of the Alumni Association, appointed as determined by Ordinance (the Alumni Association Trustee).

The term of office for the Alumni Association Trustee shall be three years. After the Alumni Association Trustee has served three consecutive terms in office, he or she shall be eligible for re-appointment if the Board of Trustees by special resolution determines that it would be in the best interests of the University for the Alumni Association Trustee to be eligible for re-appointment on his or her retirement for such number of further three year terms as the Board of Trustees shall resolve. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item at a properly constituted meeting of the Board of Trustees and passed by a majority of those present and voting.

Lay Trustees in Class I may not be members of the University’s staff.

Class II – University Staff

- The Vice-Chancellor

- A Pro Vice-Chancellor, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor

For renewable three-year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms:

Three members of academic staff, appointed as determined by Ordinance (each an Academic Trustee)

Two members of the support staff, appointed as determined by Ordinance (each a Support Staff Trustee).

For the avoidance of doubt, the term of office of any Trustee in Class II shall end immediately if the appointed individual ceases to be a
member of support staff or academic staff as appropriate.

*Class III – Students*

For renewable one-year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms:

Two students or Sabbatical Officers, appointed as determined by Ordinance (each a Student Trustee).

2. **Right to attend**

The Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors and Chair of the Alumni Association, if not Trustees, and the Registrar and Finance Director, shall have the right to receive papers and attend meetings, but shall not have the right to vote on any issue.

3. **Vacancies**

All vacancies arising among the Appointed or Elected Members of the Board of Trustees shall be filled as soon as possible by the appointing or electing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Vacancies arising among the Nominated Trustees shall be filled as soon as reasonably practicable by the Board of Trustees following consideration of nominations made by the Nominations Committee of the Board of Trustees.

4. **Resignation**

Any Trustee may resign by a letter sent to the Board of Trustees through the Secretary.

**Statute 16**

**Meetings of the Board of Trustees**

**Frequency**

1. The Board of Trustees shall meet at least five times in every University academic year. The Chair may call a meeting at any time, and shall call a meeting to be held within three weeks of the receipt of a written request to do so from no fewer than ten Trustees.

**Chair and Vice-Chair**

2. The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair from among its lay Trustees as determined by Ordinance. The detailed arrangements for the election of Chair and Vice-Chair are set out in Ordinance 3 and may in future be altered by the Board of Trustees by Special Resolution.
Procedure
3. The procedure at meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be determined by Ordinance.

Quorum
4. The quorum of the Board of Trustees shall be ten. If there is not a quorum present at a meeting, the Chair shall adjourn the meeting to a time later the same day. If there is still no quorum present, the meeting may be adjourned to another day as the Chair thinks fit. If there are at least ten members present but without a lay majority, a majority of the lay Trustees present may decide to defer business to the next meeting of the Board of Trustees, but business may be so deferred only once.

Reserved business
5. The Chair may require student Trustees to withdraw when matters are discussed relating to individual members of staff or individual students of the University and may withhold from student members papers relating to such matters.

Statute 17

Powers of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall be the governing body of the University, and shall have the following powers:

1. General

The Board of Trustees shall exercise all powers conferred on it by the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, and shall put the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations into effect. The Board of Trustees shall set the policy of the University, in consultation with Senate on matters of academic policy, and shall ensure that the Vice-Chancellor and the University officers act to further that policy.

2. Charter

The Board of Trustees may alter, amend or add to the Charter by a special resolution, passed at one meeting of the Board of Trustees and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held no less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former, provided that the resolution is passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-quarters of the members of the Board of Trustees present and voting. Any such changes made by the Board of Trustees shall not take effect unless and until they are allowed by the Queen in Council.

3. Statutes and Ordinances

The Board of Trustees may by special resolution make, amend, add to or repeal Statutes and Ordinances and, where, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, any amendments to the Statutes and Ordinances relate directly to Court, shall report them to Court at Court’s
Annual Meeting. A special resolution for this purpose is a resolution considered as a separate agenda item following a written report from the Secretary and either (i) passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting or (ii) passed by a simple majority of those present and voting and ratified at the next ordinary meeting. In matters relating to courses of study, degrees, certificates, diplomas and other academic awards or distinctions, affiliation of colleges and recognition of teachers, Ordinances shall be made by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of Senate. Statutes, and any amendments, additions or repeals, made by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the above procedure shall not take effect unless and until they are allowed by the Privy Council.

4. Regulations

The Board of Trustees may, subject to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, make Regulations to govern its affairs and those of the University.

5. Lay Officers

The Board of Trustees shall nominate the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellors for appointment by Court. The Board of Trustees shall appoint the Treasurer in accordance with Statute 8.

6. Appointment of University Officers

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellors after consultation with Senate. The Board of Trustees shall appoint such other officers of the University as it thinks fit, in accordance with Statutes and Ordinances.

7. Academic Posts

The Board of Trustees may institute or abolish professorships, readerships, lectureships and other academic posts, after consultation with Senate.

8. Academic Appointments

The Board of Trustees shall appoint the professors of the University after report from Senate. The Board of Trustees may either delegate to Senate the appointment of academic staff of the University other than professors, or may appoint them after report from Senate.

9. Honorary Degrees and Fellowships

The Board of Trustees may award honorary degrees on the recommendation of Senate, and may recommend to Court the award of honorary fellowships.
10. Contracts and Employment

The Board of Trustees may enter into, vary and cancel contracts on behalf of the University, including contracts of employment subject to the provisions of the Statute relating to academic staff. The Board of Trustees shall determine the terms and conditions on which employment is offered.

11. Academic Review

The Board of Trustees shall review and promote the teaching and research of the University.

12. Senate

The Board of Trustees shall supervise and give directions to Senate, and may refer back, amend or disallow any act of Senate, subject to the rights of the Senate concerning academic Ordinances and to be consulted on all academic matters.

13. Finances

The Board of Trustees shall manage all the University’s financial and other affairs, and may appoint bankers and other agents as it thinks fit.

14. Investments

The Board of Trustees shall make investments on behalf of the University as it thinks fit, subject to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances.

15. Property

The Board of Trustees shall provide premises, furniture, apparatus and equipment needed for the work of the University. The Board of Trustees may sell, buy, exchange, lease and accept leases of real and personal property on behalf of the University.

16. Borrowing

The Board of Trustees may borrow money on behalf of the University and for the purpose may mortgage all or any part of the property of the University, whether real or personal, or give such other security upon such property as it thinks fit. The Board of Trustees shall set borrowing limits and report them each year to the Annual Meeting of Court as part of the information provided to Court on the financial statements of the University (required by Statute 13(1)).
17. Seal, Arms and Mace

The Board of Trustees shall have the sole custody and use of the University seal, arms and mace.

18. Grievances

The Board of Trustees shall investigate and if appropriate redress any grievance brought by officers, staff or students of the University. The Board of Trustees may, at its discretion, appoint a committee to deal with a grievance.

Statute 18

Statute 18 (formerly, 'Nominations Committee of Council') was repealed on 28 June 2011.

Statute 19

Membership of Senate

1. Members

The members of Senate shall be as follows:

Class 1 – Ex officio

The Vice-Chancellor, the Pro Vice-Chancellors, the Deans, the Registrar, the Librarian, two Sabbatical Officers nominated by the University of Bristol Students’ Union.

Class 2 – Heads of school

The heads of the academic school or their nominees for any given academic year

Class 3 – Academic and other professional post-holders

Such holders of posts of academic and other professional responsibility, as shall with the consent of Senate be provided by Ordinance so as to ensure fair representation of all the faculties

Class 4 – Academic Staff
Such members of the academic staff, elected by such staff in each faculty from among their number, as shall with the consent of Senate be provided by Ordinance so as to ensure fair representation of all the faculties, for renewable three-year terms

Class 5 – Students

Such undergraduate and postgraduate students, elected or temporarily nominated as provided for in Standing Orders of Senate, as shall with the consent of Senate be provided by Ordinance.

2. Vacancies

All vacancies arising among the elected members shall be filled as soon as possible for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Statute 20

Meetings of Senate

Frequency
1. Senate shall meet at least once each term. The Vice-Chancellor may call a meeting at any time, and shall call a meeting on receipt of a written request to do so from no fewer than twenty members of Senate, within such period as shall be prescribed by standing orders of Senate.

Chair
2. The Vice-Chancellor shall preside at meetings of Senate. In the Vice-Chancellor’s absence, a Pro Vice-Chancellor may act as chair.

Procedure
3. The procedure at meetings of Senate shall be in accordance with standing orders made by Senate.

Reserved business
4. The Chair may require student members of Senate to withdraw when matters are discussed relating to individual members of staff or individual students of the University and may direct that papers relating to such matters shall be withheld from student members.

Statute 21

Powers of Senate
Senate shall have the following powers:

**Education and Research and Enterprise**

1. Senate shall be responsible to the Board of Trustees for education and examinations within the University, and shall promote and encourage research and enterprise. No new degree or other academic award or distinction shall be adopted by the University without Senate’s agreement.

**Examiners**

2. Senate shall appoint the internal and external examiners after report from the Boards of Faculty concerned, or may delegate this power to the appropriate Faculty Board. Senate may remove any examiner for negligence or misconduct and may appoint a substitute for the remainder of the examinations.

**Academic ordinances and regulations**

3. Senate shall report to the Board of Trustees, after report from the Boards of Faculties concerned, on proposed changes to Ordinances and Regulations. Ordinances relating to courses of study, degrees, certificates, diplomas and other academic awards or distinctions, affiliation of colleges and recognition of teachers may be made by the Board of Trustees only with the consent of Senate.

**Faculties**

4. Senate shall supervise and give directions to the Faculties, may refer back, amend or disallow any act of a Faculty, and shall assign to the Faculties their respective subjects and report to the Board of Trustees on the organisation of schools.

**Academic posts**

5. Senate may make recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to the institution or abolition of professorships, readerships, lectureships and other academic posts or offices, and as to the abolition of faculties and schools.

**Academic appointments**

6. Senate may make recommendations to the Board of Trustees as to the appointment or removal from office of the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellors, professors and other members of the teaching and research staff of the University.
Honorary appointments
7. Senate may provide for the appointment of honorary professors, emeritus professors and emeritus deans in accordance with policies approved by Senate from time to time.

Honorary fellowships and degrees
8. Senate shall recommend to the Board of Trustees the award of honorary fellowships and degrees.

Fellowships, scholarships and prizes
9. Senate shall award fellowships, scholarships and prizes, subject to conditions made by the founders and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

Admission of students
10. Senate shall regulate the admission of students to the University, subject to the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.

Student discipline
11. Senate shall make regulations to provide for the discipline of students of the University. Subject to the regulations, Senate may suspend or expel any student.

Referral and delegation
12. Senate shall report back on any matter referred to it by the Board of Trustees.

Opinion and advice
13. Senate may discuss and declare an opinion on any matter whatsoever relating to the University and the Board of Trustees shall take into consideration any observations expressed by Senate.

Statute 22
Faculties
Faculties
1. Schools shall be allocated to Faculties as determined by Senate.

Faculty Boards
2. Each Faculty shall have a Faculty Board as determined by Ordinance.

Responsibilities of Faculty Boards
3. Faculty Boards are responsible to Senate for the academic activities carried out in the Faculty, including the education and assessment of students and the promotion and encouragement of research, and for such other matters as Senate may require.

Committees
4. Faculty Boards may establish committees to advise them on any matter, for such periods as they think fit, with such membership as they may approve. Faculties may establish committees jointly with another faculty or faculties.

Faculty Assemblies
5. Each Faculty shall have a Faculty Assembly as determined by Ordinance.

Remit of Faculty Assemblies
6. The remit of the Faculty Assembly is to discuss issues which merit consideration by the Faculty as a whole.

Statute 23

Membership of the Alumni Association

Members
1. The members of the Alumni Association shall be as follows:
   The Chancellor
   The Honorary Fellows
   The Graduates and Honorary Graduates of the University, together with all former students of the University who hold an academic award of the University that required at least nine months full-time study or an equivalent period of part-time study
   The Associate Members

Associate Membership
Categories of associate membership may be made by standing order.

Register
The Registrar shall keep a register containing the names of all members of the Alumni Association, which shall be conclusive as to the entitlement of any person to vote in an election relating to the Alumni Association.
Statute 24

Annual Alumni Forum

Frequency
1. The Alumni Forum shall be held at least once a year.

Chair
2. The Chancellor if present shall preside at the Alumni Forum. The Alumni Association shall elect a Chair who will preside in the absence of the Chancellor, and will be Chair of the Standing Committee of the Alumni Association.

The Secretary shall send notice of the meeting to all members of the Alumni Association.

Procedure
3. Procedural matters relating to the Alumni Forum shall be prescribed by the Chancellor.

Reports
4. At each Alumni Forum the Vice-Chancellor or nominee will report on the affairs of the University and the Alumni Association will receive an account of meetings of Court.

Statute 25

Powers of the Alumni Association

The Alumni Association shall have the following powers:

Court
1. The Alumni Association shall appoint by election thirty of its members (which must include the Chair of the Alumni Association Committee and the Alumni Association Trustee) as Elected Members of Court in accordance with Statute 11.

Advice
2. The Alumni Association may comment upon the development and policy of the University through its Elected Members on Court and the annual Alumni Forum, and will otherwise contribute to building an engaged and supportive alumni community appropriate to a world class university.

Statute 26
Congregations

Congregations of the whole University for the conferring of degrees or other purposes shall be held in a manner to be prescribed by Ordinances and shall be presided over by the Chancellor or in his or her absence by the Vice-Chancellor.

Statute 27

University of Bristol Union

Structure

1. There shall be a Union of students in the University, whose constitution and functions shall be prescribed by Ordinance. The Board of Trustees shall contribute annually to the Union such funds as it thinks fit.

Responsibility of the Board of Trustees

2. The Board of Trustees shall take such steps as are reasonably practicable to ensure that the Union operates in a fair and democratic manner and is accountable for its finances. The Union shall each year submit to the Board of Trustees its audited accounts.

Statute 28

Examiners for Academic Awards

For all academic awards of the University there shall be at least two examiners. At least one must be external and independent and normally at least one must be a member of the academic staff of the University or otherwise eligible as having academic status.

Statute 29

Committees

Power to appoint committees

1. The Board of Trustees, Court, Senate, boards of Faculties, Alumni Association and the University of Bristol Union may appoint committees to deal with any matter, and such committees may include persons who are not members of the bodies appointing them. The Board of Trustees shall establish an Audit Committee, Nominations Committee, Staff Committee and Remuneration Committee.

Powers and duties

2. The powers and duties of such committees shall be such as the bodies appointing them direct, save that the Board of Trustees may not delegate its power to decide that it is desirable that there should be a reduction in the number of academic staff by way of redundancy.
Regulations
3. The Board of Trustees may make regulations governing the proceedings of committees, but subject to these every committee may regulate its own meetings and procedure.

Membership
4. The Chair of the Board of Trustees and the Vice-Chancellor shall be members of every committee of the Board of Trustees, save as otherwise provided by Statute or Ordinance. The Vice-Chancellor shall be a member of all committees of Senate and Faculties. The Deans shall be members of all committees of their Faculties.

Statute 30

Advisory Boards

The Board of Trustees
1. The Board of Trustees may appoint advisory boards on such terms as it thinks fit, subject to the Charter and Statutes and after consultation with Senate. Such boards may include members unconnected with the University. The Board of Trustees may refer to them for advice and report on any matter, and such advice and report shall be duly considered by bodies in the University as the Board of Trustees directs.

Senate
2. Senate at the instance of any faculty may approve the appointment of an advisory board, under conditions to be determined by Ordinance. Such boards will be subject to review by the Faculty. They may undertake matters delegated to them with regard to organisation, administration, or instruction in any subjects in the Faculty. Senate shall appoint the members on the nomination of the Faculty. Such boards shall include the examiners in the subjects concerned and may include members unconnected with the University.

Statute 31

Removal of Officers, Auditors and Members

Officers
1. The Chancellor and Pro Chancellors may be removed for good cause by the Visitor at the instance of Court. The Treasurer, Chair of the Board of Trustees and Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees may be removed for good cause by the Visitor at the instance of the Board of Trustees.

Auditors
2. The external auditors may be removed for good cause by the Board of Trustees.
Members of the Board of Trustees
3. Any member of the Board of Trustees other than those who are members by virtue of their office or members of the academic staff, may be removed for good cause by the Board of Trustees.

Good cause
4. ‘Good Cause’ in this Statute means one or more of the following:

- conviction for an offence rendering the person convicted unfit for the execution of the duties of the office;
- improper conduct, incompatible with the duties of the office;
- conduct constituting persistent refusal, neglect or inability, including mental or physical inability, to perform the duties or comply with the conditions of office.

Statute 32 - Academic Staff: Dismissal, Discipline, Grievance Procedures and related matters

1. Application and Scope
1.1 This Statute relates to the conduct and discipline, performance, dismissal, suspension and grievances of employees and shall apply to all employees of the University except the Vice-Chancellor.

1.2 This Statute shall be construed to give effect to the following guiding principles:
1.2.1 to ensure that members of academic staff at the University have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges;
1.2.2 to enable the University to provide education, promote learning and engage in research efficiently and economically;
1.2.3 to apply the principles of justice and fairness and seek to advance the principles of equality and diversity.
1.3 In the case of conflict the provisions of this Statute shall prevail over those of any other Statute or of any Ordinance or procedure made under or to give effect to this Statute.
1.4 Nothing in any contract of employment entered into shall override or exclude the provisions of this Statute.

2. Procedures
2.1 The Board of Trustees shall by Ordinance prescribe the procedures for dismissing employees on the grounds of conduct, capability (performance and ill health), redundancy, illegality and some other substantial reason as defined by the Employment Rights Act 1996 as amended, extended or re-enacted from time to time.
2.2 Such Ordinances shall provide for:
   (i) the right of employees to be accompanied at any formal meetings held under the Ordinances by a work colleague or trade union representative;
the University to have the power to suspend any employee to investigate alleged misconduct or for any other good or urgent reason;

(iii) appropriate penalties, which shall include warnings and dismissal;

(iv) the right of appeal against a notice of dismissal given to an employee;

(v) any dismissal made under such Ordinance to remain in force pending the outcome of any appeal;

(vi) employees to receive a reasoned decision in writing in respect of any formal action taken under the Ordinances.

2.3 The Board of Trustees shall ensure that there is a grievance procedure in place to consider complaints raised by employees concerning their employment, which relate to themselves as individuals or their personal dealings or relationships with other employees at the University. The grievance procedure will not apply:

(i) in respect of the outcome of any matter dealt with under this Statute;

(ii) where the Board of Trustees has prescribed or the University has in place other procedures.

2.4 The Board of Trustees shall be the body responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of the Ordinances and procedures prescribed by it under this Statute.

Statute 33

Validity of Acts of Court, the Board of Trustees and Senate

No act or resolution of the Board of Trustees, Court or Senate shall be invalid by reason only of a vacancy among its members, or lack of qualification or invalidity in the election or appointment of a member.

Statute 34

Contracts

The University may make the following binding contracts:

(a) Any contract which if made between private persons would be by law required to be in writing and under seal, provided the contract is in writing and signed by two persons acting under the express or implied authority of the Board of Trustees under the University Seal

(b) Any contract which if made between private persons would be by law required to be in writing and signed by the parties, provided it is in writing and signed by a person acting under the express or implied authority of the Board of Trustees.

(c) Any contract which if made between private persons would by law be valid even if made only verbally, provided it is made in writing
or verbally on behalf of the University by any person acting under the express or implied authority of the Board of Trustees.