# 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.

15 March 2000

# 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 Members of Council The Members of Court The Members of Convocation The Honorary Fellows The Emeritus and Honorary Professors The Emeritus Deans

7 May 2010

# Statute 3

# The Chancellor

## Role

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

### Election

2. The Chancellor shall be elected by Court on the nomination of Council 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.

15 March 2000

# 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 may preside at meetings of Court.

## Election

2. The Pro-Chancellors shall be elected by Court on the nomination of Council. 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 Council after consultation with Senate, and shall hold office for such period and on such conditions as Council shall determine, subject to the provisions of Statutes and Ordinances.

Resignation

3. The Vice-Chancellor may resign by a letter sent to Council 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 Council after consultation with Senate. The Pro Vice-Chancellors shall hold office for

such period and on such conditions as Council shall determine, subject to the provisions of Statutes and Ordinances.

23 February 2004

# 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 or during a vacancy in the office of the dean or in the absence of the dean or during a vacancy in the office 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 Council. 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 Council.

Appointment

2. The Treasurer shall be appointed annually by Court on the nomination of Council, subject to a maximum period in office 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.

#### Vacancy

3. If for any reason the office of Treasurer becomes vacant, Council 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 Council through the Secretary.

15 March 2000

# Statute 9

#### **The University Officers**

Council 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 Council may by Ordinance determine.

15 March 2000

# Statute 10

# **External Auditors**

Appointment

1. At each Annual Meeting, Court shall appoint external auditors for a period of one year. The auditors shall be eligible for re-appointment. The auditors shall not be members of Council or Court.

Vacancy

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

15 March 2000

# Statute 11

# **Membership of Court**

Members The members of Court shall be as follows:

Category I – University The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors, the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Treasurer, the Chair of Council and the Chair of Convocation The Honorary Fellows The members of Council 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 Convocation

Category II – Benefactors

a) As members for life:

Individual donors to University funds nominated by Council

b) As members for five years:

The representatives of each of such corporate donors to University funds as Council may nominate

#### Category III – City of Bristol

a) The Master of the Society of Merchant Venturers of the City of Bristol and ten persons appointed by the Society for an initial term of up to three years with renewable three-year terms thereafter

b) The Chief Executive of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Initiative and ten persons appointed by the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and Initiative for an initial term of up to three years with renewable three-year terms thereafter

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

### 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 Council may from time to time determine

b) 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 Council may from time to time determine

c) 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 Council may from time to time determine

d) One person appointed by each of such National Health Service bodies as Court on the recommendation of Council 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 Council 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.

Resignation

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

2 July 2010

# 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 Court shall normally be held in November or December. Council shall determine the date and place. Council shall present a report of its proceedings during the preceding academic year, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, 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 Council 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 Council. 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-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.

21 March 2007

# 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 Council of its proceedings during the preceding academic year, including a report on changes to the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, and an audited statement of accounts for the preceding financial year. Court may comment on the affairs of the University, may advise Council on any matter relating to the University, and may invite Council to review a decision. Council shall take into consideration any views expressed by Court. Court may require Council 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.

## 2. Appointment of Officers

Court shall appoint the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors and Treasurer on the nomination of Council, and appoint annually the external auditors.

### 3. Council Membership and Periods of Office

In accordance with Statute, Court shall elect fifteen members of Council 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, Pro-Chancellors and Treasurer, and to approve extensions to prescribed maximum periods of membership for members of Council.

## 4. Removal for Good Cause

Court may remove members of Court or Council, other than those who are members by virtue of their office or members of the academic staff, for good cause, as determined by Statute.

7 May 2005

# 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.

*Class II - Ex Officio* The Chair of Council The Chair of Convocation.

The Vice-Chancellor (or his/her nominee)

## Class III - Members of Council

For renewable three year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms: Three members of Council, elected by Council from among its lay members as determined by Ordinance.

#### Class IV - Members of Court

For renewable three year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms: Two members of Court elected by Court, as determined by Ordinance.

Members in Class IV must be members of Court, but may not be members of Council. If they become members of Council they must resign from the 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 Members of Council

3. The Nominations Committee of Court shall put to Court each year at its Annual Meeting names for election to membership of Council 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 members of Council 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 Council on the nomination of Court's Nominations Committee. Council may not appoint the rejected candidate.

#### Audit Committee of Council

4. The Nominations Committee of Court shall, in consultation with the Treasurer, nominate members of the Audit Committee of Council for appointment by Council. If Council rejects a nominee, the Nominations Committee of Court shall produce an alternative candidate for consideration by Council. The Chair of Council and members of the University's staff may not be members of the Audit Committee.

#### Approved by the Privy Council on 28 March 2013

# Statute 15

# **Membership of Council**

### 1. Members

The members of Council shall be as follows:

Class I – Lay Members

The Treasurer

For renewable three-year terms, subject to a maximum of three such terms unless Court by special resolution determines otherwise, where 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:

One person appointed by Bristol City Council

One person appointed by the Society of Merchant Venturers

One person appointed by Convocation

Fifteen persons elected by Court, on the nomination of the Nominations Committee of Court

Lay members of Council in Class I may not be members of the University's staff.

Class II – University Staff

The Vice-Chancellor

Three Pro Vice-Chancellors, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor

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

Two professors, elected as determined by Ordinance

Two members of the non-professorial academic staff, elected as determined by Ordinance

Two members of the support staff, elected as determined by Ordinance

Class III – Students

The President of the University of Bristol Union

Two full-time Union-Elected Officers, nominated by the Union

# 2. Right to attend

The Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors and Chair of Convocation, if not members of Council, 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 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 members elected by Court shall be filled as soon as possible by Council, on the nomination of Court's Nominations Committee, until the next Annual Meeting of Court.

## 4. Resignation

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

2 July 2010

# Statute 16

### **Meetings of Council**

#### Frequency

1. Council 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 members of Council.

### **Chair and Vice-Chair**

2. Council shall each year appoint a Chair and Vice-Chair from among its lay members. The Chair and Vice-Chair should each normally serve for no more than six years in total.

#### Procedure

3. The procedure at meetings of Council shall be determined by Ordinance.

#### Quorum

4. The quorum of Council 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 members present may decide to defer business to the next meeting of Council, but business may be so deferred only once.

#### **Reserved business**

5. The Chair may require student members of Council 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.

19 November 2003

# Statute 17

# Powers of Council

Council shall be the governing body of the University, and shall have the following powers:

## 1. General

Council shall exercise all powers conferred on it by the Charter, Statutes and Ordinances, and shall put the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations into effect. Council 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

Council may alter, amend or add to the Charter by a special resolution, passed at one meeting of Council 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 that three-quarters of the members of Council present and voting. Any such changes made by Council shall not take effect unless and until they are allowed by the Queen in Council.

#### 3. Statutes and Ordinances

Council may by special resolution make, amend, add to or repeal Statutes and Ordinances and 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 Council only with the consent of Senate. Statutes, and any amendments, additions or repeals, made by Council in accordance with the above procedure shall not take effect unless and until they are allowed by the Privy Council.

## 4. Regulations

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

## 5. Nomination of Lay Officers

Council shall nominate the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors and Treasurer for appointment by Court.

### 6. Appointment of University Officers

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

### 7. Academic Posts

Council may institute or abolish professorships, readerships, lectureships and other academic posts, after consultation with Senate.

#### 8. Academic Appointments

Council shall appoint the professors of the University after report from Senate. Council 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 Appointments

Council may, on the recommendation of Senate, appoint honorary professors, confer the title of emeritus professor on any professor who has retired from office, and confer the title of emeritus dean on any dean who has retired from the University without having been awarded the title of professor.

#### **10. Honorary Degrees and Fellowships**

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

### **11. Contracts and Employment**

Council 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. Council shall determine the terms and conditions on which employment is offered.

#### 12. Academic Review

Council shall review and promote the teaching and research of the University.

#### 13. Senate

Council 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.

### 14. Finances

Council shall manage all the University's financial and other affairs, and may appoint bankers and other agents as it thinks fit.

#### 15. Investments

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

## 16. Property

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

## 17. Borrowing

Council 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.

Council shall set borrowing limits and report them each year to the Annual Meeting of Court.

### 18. Seal, Arms and Mace

Council shall have the sole custody and use of the University seal, arms and mace.

#### 19. Grievances

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

7 May 2010

# Statute 18

Statute 18 (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, the President of the Students' Union, the Vice-President (Education) of the 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

Up to six undergraduate students, elected as provided for in Senate's Standing Orders, and three postgraduate students also elected or temporarily nominated in accordance with Standing Orders of Senate. In all cases election will be renewable for one-year terms, subject to a maximum of three consecutive terms

## 2. Vacancies

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

2 July 2010

# 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.

2 July 2010

# Statute 21

#### **Powers of Senate**

Senate shall have the following powers:

#### **Education and Research and Enterprise**

1. Senate shall be responsible to Council 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 Council, 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 Council 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 Council on the organisation of schools.

#### Academic posts

5. Senate may make recommendations to Council 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 Council 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 shall recommend to Council the appointment of honorary professors and emeritus deans.

#### Honorary fellowships and degrees

8. Senate shall recommend to Council 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 Council.

#### 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 Council.

#### **Opinion and advice**

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

#### Approved by the Privy Council on 28 March 2013

# 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.

## Approved by the Privy Council on 28 March 2013

# Statute 23

## **Membership of Convocation**

#### Members

The members of Convocation shall be as follows:
The Chancellor
The Pro-Chancellors
The Vice-Chancellor
The Pro-Vice-Chancellors
The honorary fellows
The members of Senate
The professors, readers, lecturers and other members of the academic staff
The officers of the University
The graduates of the University, on such conditions as to fees as Council may prescribe
Such other former students of the University as Convocation may by
Standing Order determine, on such conditions as to fees as Council may prescribe

The honorary graduates of the University

#### **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 Convocation, which shall be conclusive as to the entitlement of any person to vote in Convocation.

# Statute 24

## **Meetings of Convocation**

#### Frequency

1. Convocation shall meet at least once a year. The Chair may call a meeting at any time, and shall call a meeting to be held within eight weeks of the receipt of a written request to do so from no fewer than fifty members.

#### Chair

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

#### Quorum

3. The quorum of Convocation shall be fifty. If there is not a quorum present, 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.

#### Notice of meetings

4. Not less than twenty-eight days before the day fixed for a meeting of Convocation, the Secretary shall send notice of the meeting to all members. Not less than twenty-one days before the day appointed for the meeting, any member of Convocation wishing to bring forward business at a meeting shall give the Secretary written notice of it. Not less than seven days before any meeting, the Secretary shall send members a statement of

all business, and no business shall be considered at the meeting except that included in the statement. Notice of meetings and elections shall be regarded as duly given if posted to a member's last advised address, but no notice need be sent by the University if it has evidence that the member no longer resides there.

#### Procedure

5. Procedural matters relating to meetings of Convocation shall be prescribed by standing orders of Convocation.

#### Reports

6. At each Annual General Meeting of Convocation the Vice-Chancellor will report on the affairs of the University and Convocation will receive an account of meetings of Court.

15 March 2000

# Statute 25

#### **Powers of Convocation**

Convocation shall have the following powers:

Court

1. Convocation shall appoint by election one hundred members of Court.

Council

2. Convocation shall appoint one member of Council.

#### Advice

3. Convocation may discuss and pronounce an opinion on any matter relating to the University and may enter into communication directly with Council, Court, or Senate on any such issue.

15 March 2000

# 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.

7 May 2005

# 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. Council shall contribute annually to the Union such funds as it thinks fit.

#### **Responsibility of Council**

2. Council 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 Council its audited accounts.

15 March 2000

# 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.

23 February 2004

# Statute 29

# Committees

#### Power to appoint committees

1. Council, Court, Senate, boards of Faculties, Convocation 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. Council 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 Council 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. Council 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 Council and the Vice-Chancellor shall be members of every committee of Council 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.

15 March 2000

# Statute 30

# **Advisory Boards**

### Council

1. Council 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. Council 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 Council 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.

15 March 2000

# 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 Council and Vice-Chair of Council may be removed for good cause by the Visitor at the instance of Council.

#### Auditors

2. The external auditors may be removed for good cause by Court.

Members of Council and Court

3. Any member of Council 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.

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.

15 March 2000

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

Part I: General

# 1. Application

(1) This Statute applies to the following:

i. the members of the academic staff (except for those excluded from Part II, which deals with redundancy, by clause 5(1) below);

ii. the Registrar, the University Secretary and the Librarian;

iii. such other members of staff or categories of staff of the University as are brought within its scope by Council;

and "member(s) of staff" in this Statute means those members of the staff to whom this Statute applies.

(2) This Statute will override any provision in any contract, term or condition of employment which is inconsistent with this Statute, whether dated before or after the commencement of this Statute, but -

i. it shall not affect the validity of any compromise agreement under section 203 of the Employment Rights Act 1996, or any similar agreement

permitted by law; and

ii. it shall not preclude any member of staff deciding or agreeing to terminate employment with the University, whether by voluntary severance, early retirement or otherwise, on whatever terms have been agreed.

(3) Parts II to VI of this Statute, dealing with dismissal, shall not apply to removal from an appointment as Pro Vice-Chancellor, Dean or Head of School, or such other posts as have been designated by Council, to which a member of staff has been elected or appointed and which is distinct from that individual's substantive post, where dismissal from the substantive post is not contemplated, but Council shall by Ordinance prescribe a procedure for handling such removals prior to the prescribed or normal termination date, which shall include a hearing panel, the right to representation and an appeal panel.

(4) Subject to sub-clause (5) below, this Statute shall not apply to the Vice-Chancellor, even if he or she is also the holder of an academic post.

(5) Part III, which deals with disciplinary procedures, shall, unless Council with the Vice-Chancellor's concurrence resolves otherwise, apply to the Vice-Chancellor in post at the time this Statute comes into effect, with such modifications and adaptations as Council, with the Vice-Chancellor's concurrence, may prescribe.

# 2. General principles of construction and application

(1) This Statute and any Ordinances or Regulations made under it shall be applied and construed in every case to give effect to the following guiding principles:

i. to ensure that members of staff 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;

ii. to enable the University to provide education, promote learning and engage in research efficiently and economically; and iii. to apply the principles of justice and fairness.

(2) Where, in any proceedings under this Statute, a member of staff invokes sub-clause (1) i above, that claim shall initially be considered by the Vice-Chancellor, who shall determine whether the member of staff has made out a prima facie case. If the Vice-Chancellor determines that there is

a prima facie case, the matter shall be considered as a preliminary issue by a panel of three appointed by the Vice-Chancellor. The panel shall comprise a Pro Vice-Chancellor and two academics, with no prior involvement in the case. One of the academics shall be a member of the academic staff of the University. The other, where practicable, shall be a member of the academic staff of another university. If it is found that any action has been taken against the member of staff because that member of staff within the law questioned or tested received wisdom or put forward new ideas or controversial opinions, the person or persons dealing with the matter shall cancel that action and it shall be treated as invalid.

(3) Where there is any issue as to the meaning of "academic freedom" in any proceedings under Parts II, III, IV, V, VI and VII of this Statute, regard shall be had to Sections VI and VII of the Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Paris on 11 November 1997.

(4) This Statute deals with the dismissal of staff, but the University shall ensure security and continuity of employment for as many of its staff as is reasonably practicable. Fixed term contracts will only be used in specifically defined circumstances. Every reasonable effort will be made to avoid redundancy situations arising and to avoid making individual members of staff redundant.

(5) Any reference in this Statute to a provision in an Act of Parliament shall be taken to be a reference to that provision as it may have been amended or superseded from time to time.

## 3. Dismissal

(1) For the purpose of this Statute, "dismissal" shall have the same meaning as in section 95 of the Employment Rights Act 1996.

(2) A member of staff may be dismissed if that dismissal is for a reason set out in section 98 of the Employment Rights Act 1996.

(3) A dismissal by reason of redundancy (other than the non-renewal of a fixed-term contract) shall be handled in accordance with Part II; a dismissal for disciplinary reasons shall be handled in accordance with Part III; a dismissal on grounds of capability or performance shall be handled in

accordance with Part IV; a dismissal on health grounds shall be handled in accordance with Part V; and a dismissal on any other grounds, including the non-renewal of a fixed-term contract, shall be handled in accordance with Part VI.

## 4. Hearing, appeal and grievance panels

(1) Any panel established pursuant to clauses 8(1) (appeal against dismissal for redundancy), 10(ii)(d) (hearing under disciplinary procedures) and (g) (appeal against a decision of a disciplinary panel), 16(iii)(c) (hearing under capability and performance procedures) and (e) (appeal against a decision of a capability or performance panel), 19(2) (hearing under ill-health procedures and appeal against a decision of an ill-health panel), 22(2) (hearing for dismissal on other grounds and appeal against a decision of such a panel) and 24 (5) (hearing of a grievance) of this Statute shall consist of at least three persons, none of whom shall previously have had any involvement with the case, at least one of whom shall be a lay member of Council and one a member drawn by the Vice-Chancellor from a list agreed from time to time by Senate. Such panels shall be balanced in their membership and in particular shall include at least one person of each sex.

(2) Ordinances may provide for any relevant National Health Service or other relevant body to be represented on any panel established under this Statute to deal with a member of staff falling within clause 23(1) (relating to clinical staff), below, and for the panel to be enlarged for this purpose.

(3) At any panel within sub-clause (1) above, the member of staff shall be entitled to be represented or assisted by any person.

(4) Any panel within sub-clause (1) above shall give a reasoned decision in writing, which shall be provided to the member of staff and reported to Council.

(5) Any dismissal under this Statute shall remain in force pending the outcome of an appeal.

### Part II: Redundancy

## 5. Application

(1) The power to dismiss, and the procedures prescribed, under this Part shall not apply to those staff defined in sub-sections (3) to (6) of section 204 of the Education Reform Act 1988 (staff appointed prior to, and not promoted after, 20 November 1987), who shall for this purpose continue to be subject to such powers, if any, as applied to them prior to the introduction of the Statute made by the University Commissioners in the exercise of their powers under sections 203 and 204 of the Education Reform Act 1988.

(2) This Part shall not apply to the non-renewal of a fixed-term contract, which shall be dealt with under clause 21 relating to non-renewal of fixed-term contracts, below.

# 6. Definition of "redundancy"

Subject to clause 5(2) above, dismissal by reason of redundancy for the purpose of this Part has the same meaning as in section 139 of the Employment Rights Act 1996.

## 7. Procedure for dismissal by reason of redundancy

(1) Council shall by Ordinance prescribe the procedures for dismissing members of staff on grounds of redundancy, which shall include the following:

i. a preliminary stage involving consultation with appropriate representatives in accordance with and to the extent required by section 188 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 and discussion with the staff concerned;

ii. a procedure which is fair and which allows each staff member concerned, having been informed of the selection criteria for redundancy to be employed, to make written and oral representations on his or her behalf;

iii. provision for informing any member of staff dismissed under this Part of the reasons for the dismissal and, where selection has taken place, why he or she was selected; and

iv. authorising the Vice-Chancellor, or an appropriate person nominated by the Vice-Chancellor to act with full authority on his or her behalf, to dismiss any member of staff selected for dismissal under this Part and requiring reports of dismissals to be submitted to Council.

(2) The procedures following the preliminary stage may be used at any particular time only after Council has first determined that the circumstances are such that the procedures should be instituted.

### 8. Appeal against dismissal by reason of redundancy

(1) The Ordinances shall include provision for an appeal to a panel by a member of staff who has been given notice of dismissal under this Part.

(2) The panel shall be entitled to review all aspects of the matter other than Council's determination under clause 7(2) above.

(3) The panel shall have the power to reach a final decision on the matter or to remit the matter for further consideration by the body whose decision is being appealed.

## Part III: Disciplinary Procedures

## 9. Grounds for disciplinary action

Disciplinary action under this Part may be taken, and where found to be appropriate a penalty imposed, in respect of the following:

i. conduct amounting to a criminal offence, whether or not there has been a prosecution and conviction, of a kind that is judged in all the circumstances to be relevant to the member of staff's employment by the University;

ii. failure, refusal or neglect to perform some or all of the duties or to comply with some or all of the conditions attaching to the post, or to perform those duties or comply with those conditions in a satisfactory or adequate manner;

iii. conduct of a kind judged to be inappropriate or unacceptable on the part of a holder of the post held by the member of staff, such as (but not confined to) the following:

(a) breach of any obligation or duty arising under any of the University's regulations regarding financial matters, harassment, equality and diversity, public interest disclosure, health and safety, data protection, computer misuse, conflict of interest or any other rules, regulations or codes binding on the member of staff;

(b) willful or negligent damage to or improper use of University facilities, premises, property or equipment;

(c) disruption of, or improper interference with, the activities of the University or of any employee, student, Council member or visitor (other than any lawful industrial action);

(d) violent, indecent, disorderly, threatening, abusive, insulting or harassing behaviour or language (whether written, spoken or in any other form);

(e) fraud, deceit, deception or dishonesty in relation to the University or any related activity, including research and examining;

(f) research misconduct;

(g) action likely to cause injury or impair safety;

(h) divulging information or material received in confidence (unless the disclosure is permitted under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 or in accordance with the University's Public Interest Disclosure Procedure).

#### 10. Disciplinary procedures

Council shall by Ordinance promulgate disciplinary procedures for members of staff, which shall provide:

i. for less serious matters to be dealt with by warnings following a fair and appropriate procedure and for a member of staff to be able to appeal against the imposition of a warning to a person designated by the Vice-Chancellor; and

ii. for more serious matters to be dealt with by a fair and appropriate procedure, which shall include provision for the following:

(a) fair and reasonable time limits for each stage;

(b) investigating complaints and dismissing those found to be without substance;

(c) suspension on full pay by the Vice-Chancellor pending an investigation or hearing, where this is necessary for the protection of persons or property, subject to regular reviews;

(d) a hearing by a panel, authorised by the Vice-Chancellor, at which the member of staff against whom the complaint has been made shall have been informed of the complaint, shall be entitled to be present, to hear the evidence, to call relevant witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine witnesses;

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

(f) designating a member of staff's conduct as constituting "gross misconduct" such as to merit summary dismissal without notice; and

(g) a right to appeal against the finding of, or penalty imposed by, the panel, including a finding under paragraph (f) above. An appeal shall not take the form of a re-hearing of the evidence and witnesses may be called only with the appeal panel's permission.

## **11. Code of Practice**

In drawing up the procedures, and in any regulations made or action taken thereunder, regard shall be had to Section 1 of the Code of Practice on Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures (as may be amended or replaced from time to time) issued in September 2000 by the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) and brought into effect by order of the Secretary of State under section 199 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consultation) Act 1992.

## 12. Dismissal

(1) The Human Resources Director or other appropriate officer designated by the Vice-Chancellor shall give effect to a decision of a panel that a member of staff should be dismissed:

i. where the panel has designated the conduct as "gross misconduct" such as to merit summary dismissal pursuant to clause 10(ii)(f), by dismissing

the member of staff forthwith; ii. in all other cases, by issuing the notice of dismissal.

(2) If an appeal panel decides that the member of staff should not be dismissed or should only be dismissed with notice, the Human Resources Director shall cancel or modify the dismissal accordingly.

## 13. Relationship with Part V

The Ordinances shall make provision for dealing with a case in progress under this Part or under Part IV where it emerges that the member of staff's conduct or performance may have been wholly or partly attributable to a medical condition.

# 14. Clinical staff

Action under this Part or under Part IV or Part V may be taken against a member of staff falling within clause 23(1) on clinical staff, below, in respect of conduct, performance or incapacity arising in connection with that member of staff's clinical work or activities as if the work or the activities were performed in and for the University.

## Part IV: Capability and Performance

## 15. Grounds for action

Action under this Part may be taken in respect of inability to perform some or all of the duties or to comply with some or all of the conditions attaching to the post, or inability to perform those duties or comply with those conditions in a satisfactory or adequate manner.

## **16. Capability and Performance Procedures**

Council shall by Ordinance promulgate procedures on capability and performance, which shall provide:

i. for additional support and training where appropriate;

ii. for less serious matters to be dealt with by notifications of concern or warnings following a fair and appropriate procedure, and for a member of

staff to be able to appeal against the imposition of a notification of concern or warning to a person designated by the Vice-Chancellor; and

iii. for more serious matters to be dealt with by a fair and appropriate procedure, which shall include provision for the following:

a) fair and reasonable time limits for each stage;

b) investigating allegations of lack of capability or poor performance and dismissing those found to be without substance;

c) a hearing by a panel, authorised by the Vice-Chancellor, at which the member of staff shall have been informed of the allegations of lack of capability or poor performance, shall be entitled to be present, to hear the evidence, to call relevant witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine witnesses;

d) appropriate sanctions, which shall include notifications of concern, warnings and dismissal; and

e) a right to appeal against the finding of, or outcome imposed by, the panel. An appeal shall not take the form of a re-hearing of the evidence and witnesses may be called only with the appeal panel's permission.

## 17. Code of Practice

In drawing up the procedures, and in any regulations made or action taken thereunder, regard shall be had to Section 1 of the Code of Practice on Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures (as may be amended or replaced from time to time) issued in September 2000 by the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) and brought into effect by order of the Secretary of State under section 199 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consultation) Act 1992.

#### 18. Dismissal

(1) The Human Resources Director or other appropriate officer designated by the Vice-Chancellor shall give effect to a decision of a panel that a member of staff should be dismissed by issuing a notice of dismissal.

(2) If an appeal panel decides that the member of staff should not be dismissed, the Human Resources Director shall cancel the dismissal accordingly.

## Part V: Incapacity on Health Grounds

## 19. Dismissal on health grounds

(1) Council shall by Ordinance prescribe a procedure for dealing with staff, including dismissal, because of incapacity on health grounds, whether physical or mental.

(2) The procedure shall include a hearing by a panel, with a right of appeal to another panel, and both panels shall contain an appropriately medically qualified person.

# Part VI: Other Dismissals

# 20. Non-renewal of a fixed-term contract

(1) The Vice-Chancellor, or other person or persons designated by the Vice-Chancellor, shall in every case where a fixed-term contract is due to terminate consider whether that contract should be renewed or extended or whether a permanent contract should be offered, having consulted the appropriate representatives in accordance with and to the extent required by section 188 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 and having given an opportunity to the member of staff to make representations.

(2) A decision not to renew or extend a fixed term contract or offer a permanent contract under the preceding paragraph must be justified on the basis of transparent, necessary and objective reasons, as set out by Ordinance.

(3) A member of staff whose fixed-term contract is not renewed or extended on termination or is not offered a permanent contract shall be given full reasons for the decision and shall be entitled to have the decision reviewed by a panel in accordance with a procedure to be prescribed by Ordinance.

(4) The panel, whose decision shall be final, shall consider whether the reasons advanced in support of the decision are reasonable and supportable.

### 21. Initial Service Review

(1) This clause shall apply to members of staff who have been appointed subject to initial service review.

(2) Council shall by Ordinance prescribe a procedure under which staff subject to an initial service review period shall be reviewed and shall include provision for non-confirmation in post during or at the end of the initial service review if their performance is found to be deficient or for any other substantial reason or reasons they are judged unsuitable to be confirmed in post.

(3) The review referred to in sub-clause (2) may encompass matters which, in other circumstances, would fail to be dealt with under Parts III, IV or V of this Statute.

(4) The substance of sub-clauses (3) and (4) of clause 20 shall apply to a member of staff who has not been confirmed in post under this clause.

#### 22. Dismissal on other grounds

(1) This clause covers dismissals on any ground falling within clause 3(2) other than those covered by Parts II, III, IV, V and VI and clauses 20, 21, 22 and 23 of Part VI of this Statute (i.e. "some other substantial reason of a kind such as to justify the dismissal of an employee holding the position which the employee held" (Employment Rights Act 1996, s. 98(1)(b); "the employee could not continue to work in the position which he held without contravention (either on his part or on that of his employer) of a duty or restriction imposed by or under an enactment" (s. 98 (2)(d)).

(2) Dismissals covered by sub-clause (1) above shall be handled in accordance with a procedure prescribed by Ordinance, which shall include the right to be heard by a panel and the right to appeal to a panel.

### 23. Clinical staff

(1) This clause applies to a member of the clinical academic staff who is required to engage in clinical work or activities and for that purpose to be registered with the General Medical or Dental Council or similar body and/or to have an honorary or substantive contract or status with a National Health Service trust or similar body, and may by Ordinance be extended to other groups of staff in a similar situation.

(2) Where the registration, contract or status referred to in sub-clause (1) above is terminated, withdrawn or revoked, the Vice-Chancellor, or an appropriate person nominated by the Vice-Chancellor to act with full authority on his or her behalf, may, having first afforded an opportunity to the member of staff concerned to make representations, dismiss the member of staff concerned; and where the registration, contract or status is suspended, the Vice-Chancellor, or an appropriate person nominated by the Vice-Chancellor to act with full authority on his or her behalf, may suspend the member of staff from employment for so long as the registration, contract or status is suspended, that suspension from employment to be without pay where the registration, contract or status has been suspended as a substantive disciplinary measure.

## Part VII: Grievance Procedure

## 24. Grievance Procedure

(1) Council shall by Ordinance promulgate a Grievance Procedure for members of staff and in doing so shall have regard to Section 2 of the ACAS Code of Practice (as may be amended or replaced from time to time) referred to in clause 11 above.

(2) Subject to sub-clause (3) the Procedure shall apply to grievances raised by members of staff concerning their employment, which relate to themselves as individuals or their personal dealings or relationships with other staff of the University.

(3) The Procedure shall not apply (a) to grievances for which provision is made elsewhere in this Statute or (b) in respect of the outcome of any matter dealt with under this Statute or (c) where Council has prescribed other procedures.

(4) The Procedure shall provide that consideration of a complaint under the Procedure may be deferred if other proceedings under this Statute concerning the individual and relevant to the application are pending or in progress.

(5) The Procedure shall provide for the fair and speedy resolution of complaints, informally wherever possible, and for the complainant to be entitled to be assisted by any other member of staff or by a trade union representative at any hearings prior to that under sub-clause (6) below.

(6) The Procedure shall make provision for a member of staff who is dissatisfied with the outcome of a complaint to be able to have the complaint heard by a Grievance Panel unless the complaint has been ruled frivolous, vexatious or invalid in accordance with the Procedure."

7 July 2011

# Statute 33

# Validity of Acts of Court, Council and Senate

No act or resolution of Council, 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.

15 March 2000

# 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 Council 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 Council.

(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 Council.

15 March 2000