

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

Minutes of the Ninety-Eighth Annual Meeting of the University Court

Friday, 7 December 2007

Present:

The Rt.Hon. The Baroness Hale of Richmond (Chancellor) presided:

Dr SR Clarke (Pro-Chancellor), Mr JS Foulds (Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council), Dr JM Woolley (Pro-Chancellor), Professor EJ Thomas (Vice-Chancellor), Professor MG Anderson (Pro Vice-Chancellor), Professor DN Clarke (Pro Vice-Chancellor), Professor SAR Knox (Pro Vice-Chancellor), Professor A Waterman-Pearson (Pro Vice-Chancellor), and Mr TR Thom (Treasurer).

Cllr PJ Abraham	Dr M J	Dr A G Hoare	Mr J Napier
Dr E Albone	Crossley Evans	Prof D Hook	Dr D Naysmith
Miss S Ali	Mr C Curling	Dr M Horton	Mr S R Neck
Ms AJ Allden	Mrs C Davies	Ms H Issacs	Mr W J Nicholas
Mr PJL Allen	Mr WGR	Mr M H Jeans	Mr T Noble
Mr G Ash	Davies	Mr F Jones	Prof N C Norman
Mr M Ashmead	Cllr C Davies	Dr M Kellaway-	Mr A A Palmer
Dr I Ashwell	Revd E Davis	Marriott	Mr J M Parry
Mrs M Avery	Mr A Davis	Cllr L J Kew	Mr EJC Parsons
Mr R Avery	Mr C Densham	Councillor B A	Ms S Paterson
Mr R Babington	Prof D Dineley	Knott	Cllr A Perkins
Prof D Bailey	Prof R Dixon	Dr D Langley	Mr B Perry
Cllr S Ball	Mr A Dixon	Dr M Latto	Mr J Phillips
Ms J Ballard	Dr H Donoghue	Councillor T	Cllr L Pilgrim
Dr D Balmer	Dr F Duckworth	Leimdorfer	Mr B C Pont
HH JP Batterbury	Mr R Durie	Prof N Lieven	Mrs P Price
Prof Sir John Beringer	Mr R Eachus	Mr W Liew	Prof K V
Dr D Birdsall	Mrs S Eachus	Dr J Littler	Ragnarsdottir
Mr S Biswas	Prof J F	Mr M	Mrs HF Ratcliffe
Cllr I Blair	Eastham	Liversidge	Professor H S Reiss
Mr K Bonham	Prof G Eglinton	Prof L Bernal	Mr J Richards
Dr F Bowie	Cllr S Emmett	Dr S Lyne	Dr A J Rivers
Mr J Bramhall	Prof M D	Prof D Martin	Ms L Robinson
Prof E Braun	Evans	Prof H Mason	Ross
Mr R Brawn	Mr W Evans	Mr R Massie	Mr R Rossington
Mr S Britton	Mr S Face	Dr P J	Prof A Scott
Mrs L Brown	Mr D Freda	Meadows	Mr I Scott
Dr G Brown	Ms H Galbraith	Mr L Menzies	Mr C Scowen
Mr P Burling	Lady Gass	Lady Merrison	Mr DM Selwyn
Mr D Burn	Mr P Golding	Mr A J Mezzetti	Prof F Shaw
Mr C Chapman	Dr S Goldsmith	Prof R Milne	Dr M Sinfield
Mr D Clarke	Mr C Green	Mr J Miotla	Mr F Smith
Prof D Clements	Mr G Gregory	Mr R Morgan	Dr V Smith
Mr D Cockerill	Prof B Gyorffy	Mrs S Morris	Mr D Snoxell
Dr L Colquhoun	Mr M Halani	Prof M Mott	Cllr D Speirs
Mr P Coombs	Prof L Hall	Mrs B Moul	Ms A Stephenson
Mr I Crawford	Dr R Hammond	Mr G Mullan	Prof FS Stone
Mr S Crew	Dr L	Dr J Mumford	Dr M Symes
	Henderson	OBE	Mr AD Tasker

Ms D Tetlow
Major JL Thompson
Professor EJ Thomas
Dr S Thorn
Dr J Tidmarsh
Mr M Timmins
Mr R Tucker
Mr B Ullman-Harwood

Mr P Van
Rossum
Mr JGH
Wadsworth
Mrs C Waithe
Mr K Walton
Prof P Warren

Dr BMQ
Weaver
Mr T Webb
Mr R Wedden
Prof C Willis
Mr BAJ Wilson
Mrs LJ Wilson
Mrs W Li Wong

Prof J Wragg
Mr E Wright
Mr Trevor Wright
Mr KFW Wong

The Chancellor welcomed members to the meeting and reported receipt of apologies for absence.

MINUTES

1. The minutes of the annual meeting held on 8 December 2006, which had been printed and circulated, were CONFIRMED.

MATTERS ARISING

(a) Minute 5 – Election of Lay Members of Council

Court, at its meeting on 8 December 2006, had approved Mr Jim Foulds' re-election as a lay member of Council for a further three-year term to 31 December 2009. Council's appointment of Mr Foulds to the Chair of Council was also announced at this meeting of Court. As Chair of Council, Mr Foulds would have to stand down as Chair of the Nominations Committee of Court. In view of this, the Chancellor had invited Dr Stella Clarke to take up the post of Chair of the Nominations Committee of Court in place of Mr Foulds and Dr Clarke had accepted.

Subsequent to the December 2006 meeting of Court it came to light that Dr Clarke's appointment as Pro-Chancellor had expired on 31 December 2005. Owing to an administrative oversight, the special resolution to reappoint Dr Clarke as Pro-Chancellor (in accordance with Statute 4.2) had not been moved at the December 2005 meeting of Court. As Statute 14 requires that the Chair of the Nominations Committee of Court be a Pro-Chancellor, the Chancellor had written to members of Court on 12 February 2007 to propose that the required resolution be moved at the December 2007 meeting of Court, when Court would be asked to retrospectively ratify Dr Clarke's appointment along with any action undertaken by Dr Clarke during the period December 2005 to December 2007. Within her letter of 12 February 2007, the Chancellor informed members of Court that if the required number of members (25) requested that she called a special meeting of Court (in accordance with Statute 12.3), she would be happy to make the necessary arrangements. No requests were received in response to this letter.

RESOLVED: *to ratify Dr Stella Clarke's appointment as Pro-Chancellor along with any action she had undertaken during the period December 2005 to December 2007.*

(b) Statute 12 - Notice of Business to be brought forward to Court

NOTED: that the Secretary had not received any requests from members for business to be brought forward to this meeting of Court.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

2. RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION: A list of changes in membership since 8 December 2006.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM COUNCIL TO COURT

3. RECEIVED: the Annual Report from Council to Court 2006/07.

The Chair of Council, Mr Jim Foulds, presented the Annual Report for the session 2006/07 and, having acknowledged the excellent work of his predecessor, Dr Moger Woolley, highlighted to

Court some of the principle initiatives taken by Council during the year. Specific areas of work highlighted were:

(a) Council Sub-Groups – Mapping The Future

The work undertaken by the five Council sub-groups on a number of major contextual issues including, for example:

(i) What will the political and economic landscape for Higher Education, and specifically the University of Bristol, look like in five to ten years' time?

(ii) What developments in the world of information technology should the University be planning for and how are they likely to impact on learning?

(iii) How might the sustainability agenda develop over the next decade?

(iv) What will be the expectations of our staff and students in terms of the type of society in which they will be living?

(v) What will be the developments in technology that will shape the world, and how will these influence our agenda on Enterprise?

Each sub-group had tackled one such question in depth and sought expert advice from both inside and outside the University before making a formal presentation to Council in October 2007. In March 2008, Council would receive the University Executive's response to the emerging challenges identified by the sub-groups.

(b) Review of the size of Council and the effectiveness of its committees

Council had debated in some depth whether or not the size of Council, which currently stood at 32 members, was still appropriate. The unanimous view, taking all matters into consideration, was that Council was operating efficiently and effectively and should, therefore, remain at its current size. Council considered that if it was challenged by a body such as the Higher Education Funding Council for England to defend this decision, it could set out a reasoned and justified case.

Council had also reviewed the number and effectiveness of its committees. Once again, Council was satisfied that its committees were operating effectively, although it was agreed a review of committees' terms of reference and key performance indicators was needed.

(c) Managing risks, opportunities and performance

Council's work in broadening and improving its management of risks, and monitoring and benchmarking performance had continued. While progress had been achieved, further efforts would be made to ensure that strategies and policies resulted in outstanding outcomes.

Council had devoted a considerable amount of time and energy to understanding the aims, objectives, achievements and concerns of academic departments and the support services within the University. One particular challenge being tackled by Council was the need to generate a sufficient surplus each year to support the financing of the University's ambitious plans. Council was mindful of the need for an ongoing drive to increase income whilst controlling costs.

(d) Executive Reorganisation

During the year, Council had agreed a reorganisation of the University's top executive structure. This was largely in response to growing concern about what Council had perceived to be an excessive workload being carried out by the Vice-Chancellor. Council felt that this workload would in future be increased by a growing need for the Vice-Chancellor to be personally

involved in influencing the external environment within which the University worked, and in the process of raising philanthropic funds. A key component of the reorganisation was the establishment of the new post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Mr Foulds informed Court that following a rigorous selection process, the joint Senate and Council appointment panel had unanimously decided to appoint Professor David Clarke (currently a Pro Vice-Chancellor) as Deputy Vice-Chancellor with effect from September 2008. Mr Foulds asked Court to join with him in congratulating Professor Clarke on this appointment.

(e) Payment of Council Members

Mr Foulds reminded Court that Council members currently fulfilled their role on an entirely voluntary basis and that, although no proposal was being made at this time to change this arrangement, the question of whether or not Council members (and holders of certain office, such as Chair and Treasurer) should be paid, was one that had emerged on the national agenda. A view had been put forward within the sector that the present system, adopted by virtually all UK universities, might not satisfy the modern perception of diversity and inclusion. In response to this, Council had agreed to establish a small sub-committee of the University's Remuneration Committee, chaired by Dr Moger Woolley (a Pro-Chancellor who was not on Council), and comprising members who were entirely independent of Council, to deliberate this matter. The sub-committee's view would be shared with Court in 2008 before Council arrived at a final decision on the issue.

(f) Tributes

Mr Foulds expressed gratitude to Mr Tim Thom, University Treasurer, who would be retiring at the end of the year after giving the University some 17 years of dedicated voluntary service in various capacities. Mr Foulds thanked Mr Thom for his huge contribution to the University.

In closing, Mr Foulds paid tribute to the remarkable people who led the University and to the thousands of truly outstanding academic and support staff across the University. Mr Foulds expressed particular thanks to the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Eric Thomas, who had continued to set a standard and tone that had set Bristol apart from its peers.

RESOLVED: *that the Annual Report be received.*

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

4. RECEIVED: The University's audited Financial Statements for the session 2006/07.

The Treasurer, Mr Tim Thom, presented the University's audited Financial Statements for the session 2006/07 and the Finance Director, Mr Ian Crawford, gave a presentation on the University's finances.

The Finance Director advised that the University's income had increased by £29 million in comparison with an increase of £24 million in the previous year. Income from tuition fees had increased by £9 million to £51 million. This was the result of an increase to the home undergraduate fee and a general rise in overseas fee income. Income from research grants and contracts had increased by £5 million in the year to a total of £81 million; income from Research Councils UK had increased by £3 million to £32 million; and European contracts had increased by £1.3 million to £6 million.

Expenditure had increased by £29 million. This included a 9% (£15 million) increase in staff costs (which constituted 63% of the University's total spend), and which was considered to be largely due to: absorption of the costs of implementing phase 1 of the Reward Programme (a programme of harmonising staff terms and conditions and assimilating the University's nine pay and grading systems into one); a reflection of the University's commitment to investment in high quality academic and support staff; and the pension costs of the University of Bristol Pension and Assurance Scheme.

The University had achieved a £5 million surplus for the year and thus generated cash inflow to support the capital investment programme.

The Finance Director drew members' attention to the University's pension liability, which had increased by £7 million to £30 million. This pension liability, which was a feature of the balance sheet following implementation of Financial Reporting Standard 17, showed an imbalance between a snapshot of the asset values at the balance sheet date and the long-term assumptions applied to the level of liabilities. A recovery plan to address this had been agreed by the Pension Scheme Trustees and the University as part of the triennial actuarial valuation.

The University's net worth was reported to be £531 million (including the £30 million pension liability), a £35 million increase on the previous year. The 2007 Balance Sheet showed that the total University gross borrowings were £76 million. A new loan facility of £250 million had been negotiated and the first part of £150 million had been drawn down in October 2007. The Finance Director reported that the final £100 million was in the form of a sterling fixed facility to be drawn down over three years. The University's authorised net debt level (gross debt less cash) was £150 million.

The Finance Director expressed thanks to Mr Tim Thom, outgoing Treasurer, for the excellent advice and support that he had provided to the Finance Division and the University more widely over many years.

The Treasurer thanked the Finance Director for a very informative presentation. He then highlighted to members the narrative relating to 'capital financing, borrowings and cash flow' within the Financial Statements. In October 2007, the University had drawn down £150 million of a new credit facility of £250 million, to replace its existing sterling loans and to part-finance its substantial capital investment programme over the next five to ten years. The Treasurer assured members that this credit facility had been obtained on a fixed interest rate basis which had been achieved at a very competitive rate. Members of Court noted that the University regularly monitored its long-term borrowing requirement and capacity and was confident that it had access to sufficient funding and undrawn facilities to meet its foreseeable borrowing needs.

In response to a question, the Finance Director apprised Court about the University's performance so far in the current financial year. He confirmed that it was expected that the University would once again generate a surplus, although this was not expected to be as high as the surplus generated in 2006/07. Overall financial performance was, at the present time, consistent with the previous year. The University maintained a high level of liquidity and had a strong counter-exposure policy in place. The level of surplus had been agreed for the next three years.

A query was raised in relation to the University's decision not to refer specifically to philanthropic donations, and, in particular, the Centenary Fund, within its Financial Statements. Members were informed that as the Centenary Fund was still in the planning phase, it was felt that it would be too early to draw attention to it at this stage. The University would, however, consider the appropriateness of including a note in the accounts to outline philanthropic activity in future.

In response to a question, the Finance Director estimated that the increased staff costs of 9% (£15 million) could roughly be split into increased costs resulting from increased staff salaries and pensions costs at approximately 6%, and increased costs resulting from an increase in the overall volume of staff at approximately 3%.

RESOLVED: *that the Financial Statements be formally received.*

ELECTION OF FIVE LAY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

5. RECEIVED: brief background information about the five people nominated by the Nominations Committee of Court (Mr John Bramhall, Mr Chris Curling, Ms Dinah Moore, Mr David Ord and Mr Tim Ross.)

The Chair of the Nominations Committee of Court, Dr Stella Clarke, presented this item, advising that the committee had formed the view that, at this particular point, Council's interests would be best served by re-appointing existing members rather than appointing new ones, especially as the candidates concerned held key Council positions where continuity was important. The Nominations Committee of Court had concluded that all five existing members had worked extremely hard and with a high degree of professionalism for the University. All five candidates had made a significant and valuable contribution to the work of the University through their membership of Council and of various committees, panels and sub-groups.

Court noted that there was likely to be a vacancy for a further lay member of Council in place of Mr James Wadsworth, should he be appointed as University Treasurer by Court later in the meeting (in place of Mr Tim Thom who would retire on 31 December 2007). The University would, in this event, initiate a formal recruitment process to fill this vacancy (and any others that arose during the year). However, as this was likely to take a number of months to complete, Council would consider co-opting an appropriately experienced candidate to serve in the meantime.

Dr Clarke reminded Court that the Nominations Committee of Court was the body responsible for finding people with skills and experience that were required by Council and its committees. Once a decision had been made about which skills and experience were needed by Council, an advertisement setting out the desired skills would be placed. This would invite candidates to formally apply for membership of Council. Court also noted that the Nominations Committee of Court was keen to increase the diversity profile of Council, and would be mindful of this throughout the recruitment process.

Dr Clarke urged members of Court who were interested in joining Council to forward their names to the Clerk to Court, who would direct them to the advert as soon as it had been placed.

Mr Tim Thom proposed the collective motion that all five candidates be re-elected. Mr Keith Bonham seconded the motion. The individual names of nominees were put to the vote and it was RESOLVED *that all five candidates should be invited to serve a further three year term of office until December 2010.*

It was noted that Dr Clarke would stand down as Pro-Chancellor at the end of that meeting of Court and that her place as Chair of the Nominations Committee would need to be filled by another Pro-Chancellor. The Chancellor would take this matter forward.

The Chancellor expressed thanks on behalf of Court to Dr Clarke for her valuable work as Chair of the Nominations Committee of Court.

ELECTION OF TREASURER

6. RECEIVED: brief background information about Mr James Wadsworth, Council's nominee for University Treasurer.

Mr Jim Foulds proposed Council's nomination of Mr James Wadsworth as Treasurer. The Vice-Chancellor seconded the motion.

It was RESOLVED: *that Mr James Wadsworth be appointed Treasurer for a period of one year to 31 December 2008, in accordance with Statute 8.*

The Chancellor expressed thanks on behalf of Court to Mr Tim Thom, the outgoing Treasurer, for his valued contribution to the University both in his capacity as Treasurer and as a member of Council. The Chancellor informed Court that the University wished to confer an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree upon Mr Tim Thom in recognition of his significant contribution to the University over many years. The Chancellor congratulated Mr Thom on this well-deserved award and wished him an enjoyable retirement.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

7. Council's nomination of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Auditors for the current year was proposed by Mr Keith Bonham and seconded by the Vice-Chancellor.

It was RESOLVED: *that Messrs PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP be reappointed as Auditors to the University for the current year.*

GOVERNANCE ISSUES

8. **Changes to Statutes and Ordinances made during the year ending 31 July 2007**
RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION: a report of Statute and Ordinance changes made in the period 1 August 2006 to 31 July 2007.

The report outlined in detail amendments that had been made to the following Statutes and Ordinances:

(i) Statute 12 – Meetings of Court.

Following Privy Council approval (on 24 March 2007), the notice of meetings of Court has been increased from 28 days to 35 days. Court members wishing to bring business to Court would be required to give the Secretary 20 (rather than 21) days notice of this. Members who wished to bring business to a meeting of Court would need to gain the written support of nine other members for the item to be tabled (although written notice could be given by email).

(ii) Statute 32 – Academic Staff: Dismissal, Discipline, Grievance Procedures and Related Matters.

Following implementation of the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations on 1 October 2006, a sixth potentially fair reason for dismissal (retirement) was created which must be provided for by Statute as with the other forms of dismissal. Amendments to Statute 32 (together with consequential amendments to Ordinances 35) were drafted by the University Secretary's Office. These amendments were approved by the Privy Council on 1 August 2006.

(iii) Ordinance 35 – Termination of Employment of Members of Staff on Grounds of Retirement.

(see minute 8(ii) above).

(iv) Ordinance 19 – Summary of Academic Awards.

- (a) Deletion of the title "Diploma in Dental Hygiene" from the list of undergraduate awards available within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (approved by Council in February 2007).
- (b) Addition of the title "Diploma in Dental Hygiene and Therapy" to the list of undergraduate awards available within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry (approved by Council in February 2007).
- (c) Addition of the title "Engineering Management Research (MSc/Diploma only)" to the list of MSc programmes available within the Faculty of Engineering (approved by Council in February 2007).
- (d) Amendment of the title of the "Postgraduate Certificate in Education" to "Professional Graduate Certificate in Education" within the list of

Postgraduate Taught Awards within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, following national policy changes (approved by Council in July 2007).

- (e) Inclusion of a Foundation Degree (Science) as one of the undergraduate awards within the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, following Council's approval of a stage 1 proposal for a Foundation Degree in Counselling, to be offered in partnership with the City of Bristol College (approved by Council in July 2007).

(v) Ordinance 23 – Affiliated Institutions.

In light of the decision to offer the above Foundation Degree in Counselling in partnership with the City of Bristol College, the inclusion of the City of Bristol College as an affiliated institution. This amendment had been approved by Council in July 2007.

(vi) Ordinance 24 – University of Bristol Union (UBU).

In March 2007, members of the UBU voted overwhelmingly in favour of a proposal to split the role of the current UBU Treasurer Sabbatical into two new positions: The Finance & Commercial Services Officer (Treasurer); and the Societies & Development Officer. The new positions would be open for election from March 2008. This amendment had been approved by a special Council resolution in May 2007.

(vii) Ordinance 11 (temporary amendment) – Pro Vice-Chancellors.

Following Council's approval of the appointment of a Deputy Vice-Chancellor, it was agreed that although the Deputy Vice-Chancellor would be a Pro Vice-Chancellor (by Statute), a slightly different process of appointment to that currently set out in Ordinance 11 would be appropriate.

The amendment provided that the post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor would be appointed in accordance with the general provisions of Ordinance 11, save that at the discretion of the Vice-Chancellor, the post could be advertised externally at the same time as it was advertised internally. The amendment also provided for the Vice-Chancellor to use executive search consultants to assist in the handling of applications.

The Ordinance amendment was temporary and consideration would be given in due course as to whether a separate Ordinance should be written specifically to cover the post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

The temporary amendment to Ordinance 11 had been approved by Council in July 2007.

(viii) Ordinance 10 – Heads of Academic Departments and Ordinance 12 – The Deans of Faculties

In order to better reflect modern practice, and to respond to feedback in relation to diversity issues, it had been proposed that the appointment process for Heads of Academic Department and Deans of Faculties should be reviewed. Following a thorough consultation in the autumn of 2006, a number of amendments to Ordinance 10 had been proposed. The key changes were:

- (a) To permit the term of office of the Dean or Head of Department/School to be extended by the Vice-Chancellor with the consent of the office holder for any period of up to twelve months.
- (b) To permit reappointment for a full further period of four years.
- (c) To bring the method of remuneration in line with the University's Reward Scheme principles.
- (d) To streamline and modernise the appointment process for Heads of Academic Departments to make the process more inclusive and transparent.

These amendments were approved by Council in July 2007.

A question was raised about whether provision for the role of Deputy Vice-Chancellor should be included in the University Charter and/or Statutes as well as Ordinance 11. It was agreed that the University's Executive team would investigate this matter and report back to the member of Court who had raised the query in due course.

It was noted that there were a small number of minor drafting errors within Ordinance 10. These would be examined and rectified by the University Secretary's Office as quickly as possible.

In response to a query regarding the purpose of the amendments that had been made to Ordinance 10, the Vice-Chancellor explained that the University's intention had been to make the appointment process for Heads of Department more equitable and transparent.

APPOINTMENT OF PRO-CHANCELLOR

9. It was noted that, as previously stated, Dr Stella Clarke would be retiring as Pro-Chancellor in December 2007. The Chancellor informed Court that the Nominations Committee of Court and Council had considered that, in view of Dr Clarke's impending retirement and also of Mr Jim Foulds' existing time commitments in his capacity as Chair of Council, it would be appropriate to appoint two new Pro-Chancellors.

(i) Dr James Tidmarsh

RECEIVED: A paper setting out details of Council's nomination of a new Pro-Chancellor, Dr James Tidmarsh. The paper set out brief biographical details for Dr Tidmarsh, which included:

Dr James N Tidmarsh received the MBE for services to export in 1989. He became Lord Lieutenant of Bristol in 1996, having been the High Sheriff of Avon in the preceding year. He was a founder Director of GWR Radio plc and is a Director of the Chamber of Commerce (Business West). He had served as Chairman of the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committees for Bristol and Avon in connection with the appointment of Magistrates, and Chairman of the Avon Advisory Committee on the General Commissioners for Income Tax.

Dr Tidmarsh was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws by the University of Bristol in 2002. The degree was awarded in recognition of Dr Tidmarsh's exceptional service to Bristol and his social concern reflected in his promotion of civic partnerships and prison and youth work. The University of the West of England awarded Dr Tidmarsh an honorary Doctor of Laws in 2003.

Dr Tidmarsh had previously served on the University of Bristol Council and is currently a member of the University's Nominations Committee of Court.

(ii) Professor Dame Carol Black

It had not been possible to circulate biographical details of Professor Dame Carol Black to members of Court in advance of the meeting. The Chancellor, therefore, presented an oral report to Court which outlined the following biography for Professor Dame Carol Black:

Dame Carol Black came to Bristol to study History in 1959 and graduated with a BA in 1962, prior to taking a Diploma in Social Studies in 1963. In 1965 she began her medical studies at Bristol, taking her MB ChB in 1970 and her MD in 1976. She was actively involved in the life of the University community during this time, serving as President of the Junior Common Room of Manor Hall between 1961 and 1962, and as Lady President of the Students' Union in 1962-3.

She was successively a tutor and Sub-Warden of Manor Hall, and served as a Convocation representative on Court between 1962 and 1970.

In 1994 she became Professor of Rheumatology, and in 2000 was appointed as Medical Director of the Royal Free Hospital NHS Trust.

She served as the President of the Royal College of Physicians between 2002 and 2006, and numbers amongst her many honours, fellowship of 15 other medical Royal Colleges and Faculties.

She had been awarded an honorary DSc by the University of Bristol in 2003 and an honorary MD from the University of Nottingham. She is a Fellow of University College, London, and Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge and is a member of the governing bodies of Goodenough College, London, and the Health Foundation.

Her unit at the Royal Free Hospital had become the major centre for clinical research in Europe and is internationally renowned. Her clinical work was recognised by the award of a CBE in 2002 and a DBE in 2005. The latter recognised her services to Medicine.

Dr Stella Clarke proposed Council's nomination of Dr James Tidmarsh to serve as Pro-Chancellor for a three year term to December 2010. The motion was seconded by Dr Moger Woolley.

Dr Stella Clarke proposed Council's nomination of Professor Dame Carol Black to serve as Pro-Chancellor for a three year term to December 2010. The motion was seconded by Dr Moger Woolley.

It was RESOLVED: *that Dr James Tidmarsh and Professor Dame Carol Black be appointed as Pro-Chancellors until December 2010.*

Honorary Fellowship

The Chancellor informed members that Council, at its meeting on 23 November 2007, and Senate, at its meeting on 3 December 2007, had agreed to recommend to Court that, in accordance with Ordinance 16, it confer an Honorary Fellowship upon Dr Stella Clarke, outgoing Pro-Chancellor, in recognition of her sustained and outstanding contribution to the life of the University over many years.

It was RESOLVED: that Dr Stella Clarke, Pro-Chancellor, be awarded an Honorary Fellowship from the University in recognition of her sustained and outstanding contribution to the life of the University over many years.

The Chancellor thanked Dr Clarke for her exceptional contribution to the University as both a Pro-Chancellor and as Chair of Council and wished her a very happy retirement.

DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

10. It was noted that the most likely date for the next annual meeting would be Friday 12 December 2008. Details would be confirmed in the meeting notice to be issued to members in November 2008.