1. Purpose

The Court and its powers are established under Paragraph 16 of the University’s Royal Charter of 4 October 2010:

“The Court of the University (“the Court”) shall have such powers and functions are as delegated to it by the Council.”

Ordinance 9.4 provides that there will be an Annual General Meeting of the Court:

“Annual General Meeting of the Court shall be held once in every academic year within fifteen months of the preceding meeting and at such yearly meeting an annual review of the University and the Annual Accounts shall be presented.”

2. Membership

Ordinance 9.2 defines the membership:

“9.2 The Court shall consist of the following persons:

9.2.1 The Chancellor;

9.2.2 Members of the Council;

9.2.3 Members of the Senate;

9.2.4 The Professors and Emeritus Professors;

9.2.5 Up to 6 heads of professional services as determined by the Vice-Chancellor;

9.2.6 Masters of the Colleges;

9.2.7 Her Majesty’s Lieutenant of and in The County of Kent;

9.2.8 Members of the Commons House of Parliament who have any part of their constituency in the County of Kent or Medway Unitary Authority;

9.2.9 The High Sheriff of The County of Kent;

9.2.10 The Lord Mayor of The City of Canterbury;

9.2.11 The Mayor of Medway;

9.2.12 The Chief Executive, the Leader and the Chair of Kent County Council;

9.2.13 The Chief Executive, the Leader and the Chair of Medway Council;

9.2.14 The Chief Executive, the Leader and the Chair of Canterbury City Council;

9.2.15 The Sabbatical Officers of the Students’ Union;
9.2.16 The Presidents of the Student Committees of the Colleges of the University;

9.2.17 Members of the European Parliament for the Constituencies in the County of Kent and the Medway unitary authority

9.2.18 The Dean of Canterbury;

9.2.19 The Dean of Rochester;

9.2.20 One representative of each of such learned or professional societies or bodies as the Court on the recommendation of the Chancellor may from time-to-time determine, but so that the total of such representatives shall not exceed six;

9.2.21 Such other persons, not exceeding six in all, as may be co-opted by the Court to represent business, the arts, healthcare and sports;

9.2.22 Such other persons, not exceeding twelve in all, six of which may be appointed by the Council and six may be appointed by the Senate;

9.2.23 Up to six alumni of the University as determined by the Vice-Chancellor;

9.2.24 Members of the Court as at 1 August 2009 until the end of their prescribed appointment.”

Ordinance 9.3 states that:

“9.3 Members of the Court shall continue as members as long as they occupy the positions in respect of which they became members.”

And Ordinance 9.6 relates to resignation:

“The Chancellor and members of the Court may resign by writing addressed to the Secretary of the Court.”

Ordinance 10 provides for the removal of officers and members of Council and Court:

“10.1 The Chair of the Council, the Chancellor and any other member of the Council or of the Court may be removed from their position on Council or Court for good cause by the Council. No person shall be removed by the Council unless s/he shall have been given a reasonable opportunity to have been heard by the Council.

10.2 “Good cause” means:

10.2.1 conviction for an offence which may be deemed by the Council to be such as to render the person convicted unfit for the execution of the duties of the office; or

10.2.2 conduct which is, in the opinion of the Council, incompatible with the duties of the office; or

10.2.3 conduct constituting failure or persistent refusal or neglect or inability to perform the duties or comply with the conditions of office.”

3. Chair

Ordinance 9 states that the “Chancellor shall preside over meetings of the Court.”

Statute 4.3 provides that:
“In the absence of the Chancellor, or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, the Chair of Council shall exercise all of the functions of the Chancellor, except the conferring of Degrees.”

Ordinance 9.5 provides that:

“The Council may designate a Lay Member to, in the absence of the Chancellor and the Chair of Council, preside over meetings of Court.”

4. Secretary

Statute 1.3 states that:

“The Council shall, on the recommendation of the Chair of the Council and the Vice-Chancellor, appoint a Secretary of the Council and the Court.”

KJL
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