ELIZABETH THE SECOND By the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS an humble Petition has been presented unto us by the Interim Committee of the Sponsors of the University of Kent at Canterbury, praying that We should constitute and found a University within our City of Canterbury in Our County of Kent for the advancement of knowledge, the diffusion and extension of arts, sciences and learning, and the provision of liberal, professional and technological education and to grant a Charter with such provisions in that behalf as shall seem to Us right and suitable:

AND WHEREAS We have taken the said Petition into Our Royal Consideration and are minded to accede thereto:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion have willed and ordained and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors will and ordain as follows:

1. The members for the time being of the Court, the Council, and the Senate, the Graduates of the University, the Graduate and Undergraduate Students of the University, the Chancellor, the Chair of the Council, the Vice-Chancellor, the Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University for the time being and all others who shall pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University for the time being be Members of the University are hereby constituted and from henceforth for ever shall be one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal by the name and style of "The University of Kent" (hereinafter called "the University").

2. The objects of the University shall be to advance science and learning by teaching and research and by the example and influence of its corporate life.

3. The University shall be both a teaching and an examining body and shall subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes have the following powers:

   (a) To prescribe the conditions under which persons shall be admitted to the University or to any particular course of study therein.

   (b) To confer and to grant under conditions laid down in its Statutes or Ordinances Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions to and on persons who shall have pursued a course of study approved by the University and shall have passed the examinations or other tests prescribed by the University.
(c) To admit Graduates of other Universities to Degrees of equal or similar rank in the University.

(d) To confer Degrees of the University on any persons who hold office in the University as Professors, Readers, Lecturers, or otherwise, or who shall have carried on research therein under conditions laid down in its Statutes or Ordinances.

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

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

(g) For what the University shall deem to be good cause to deprive persons of any Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates or other distinctions conferred on or granted to them by the University.

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

(i) To affiliate other institutions or branches or departments thereof, and to recognise selected members of the staff thereof as teachers of the University, and to admit the members thereof to any of the privileges of the University, and to accept attendance at courses of study in such institutions or branches or departments thereof in place of such part of the attendance at courses of study in the University and upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as may from time to time be determined by the University.

(j) To co-operate by means of Joint Boards or otherwise with other University authorities for the conduct of examinations and for such other purposes as the University may from time to time determine.

(k) To enter into any agreement for the incorporation within the University of any other institution, and for taking over its rights, property, and liabilities, and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.

(l) To institute Professorships, Readerships, Senior Lectureships, Lectureships, and any other such offices required by the University, and to appoint to such offices.

(m) To institute and award Fellowships, Scholarships, Studentships, Exhibitions, Bursaries and Prizes.
To establish and maintain and to administer and govern institutions for the residence of the students of the University whether Colleges, Halls, or Houses, and to license and supervise such institutions and other places of residence whether maintained by the University or not so maintained.

To make provision for research and advisory services and with these objects to enter into such arrangements with other institutions or with public bodies as may be thought desirable.

To provide for the printing and publication of research and other works which may be issued by the University.

To demand and receive fees.

To act as trustees or managers of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest, or gift for purposes of education or research, or otherwise in furtherance of the work and welfare of the University, and to invest any funds representing the same in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes annexed to this our Charter.

To obtain through our College of Arms a grant of armorial bearings, which shall be duly recorded in Our said College.

To do all such other acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the University as a place of education and of learning and of research.

4. There shall be a Visitor of the University who shall be the person who shall be for the time being the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury.

5. There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be the Chief Officer of the University and shall preside over meetings of its Court.

6. The Chair of the Council shall preside over meetings of the Council. In the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the Office of Chancellor the Chair of the Council shall, subject to the Statutes, exercise all the functions of the Chancellor except the conferring of Degrees.

7. There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the Principal Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and ex-officio Chair of the Senate, and who shall in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor confer Degrees.

8. The Council may designate a lay member of the Council to, in the absence of the Chair of the Council, preside over meetings of the Council and, in the absence of the Chancellor and the Chair of the Council, preside over meetings of the Court.

9. The Council may designate a lay member of the Council to preside over meetings of the Finance and Resources Committee.
10. There shall be such numbers of Pro-Vice-Chancellors as may from time to time be appointed.

11. There shall be such Faculties and Schools of the University as may from time to time be established subject to its Statutes and Ordinances. There shall also be a Dean of each Faculty.

12. There shall be a Court of the University (hereinafter called "the Court"), which shall have the constitution, powers and duties conferred on it by the Statutes.

13. There shall be a Council of the University (hereinafter called "the Council"), which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University, shall be the executive governing body of the University and shall have the custody and use of the Common Seal, the management and administration of the revenue and property of the University, the conduct of the affairs of the University and all such other powers and duties as may be conferred upon it by University Statute or Ordinance.

14. There shall be a Senate of the University (hereinafter called "the Senate"), which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University and to the general control and approval of the Council, shall be responsible for the academic work of the University, both in teaching and in research, and for the superintendence of the education and discipline of the Students of the University.

15. (i) There shall be a Convocation of the University. This Convocation shall be represented on the Court as the Statutes of the University prescribe.

(ii) The constitution, functions, privileges and all other matters concerned with the Convocation requiring to be prescribed, shall be as provided by the Ordinances.

16. (i) There shall be an Organisation of the Students of the University. This Students’ Union shall have such and so many representatives on the Court and on such conditions as may be provided by the Statutes.

(ii) The constitution, functions, privileges and all other matters concerned with the said Students Union requiring to be prescribed, shall be as provided by the Ordinances.

17. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes of the University may prescribe:

(i) The status, appointment and continuance in office of the Chancellor, Chair of the Council, Vice-Chancellor, Chair of the Finance and Resources Committee, Pro-Vice-Chancellors and other officers of the University.

(ii) The constitution, powers and business of the Court, the appointment and continuance in office of the members of the Court, the filling of vacancies among the members and all other matters relative to the Court.
(iii) The constitution, powers and duties of the Council, the appointment and continuation in office of the members of the Council, the filling of vacancies among the members and all other matters relative to the Council.

(iv) The constitution, powers and duties of the Senate and all other matters relative to the Senate.

(v) Such other provisions as the Court may deem fit and meet with respect to the governing of the University, its Members and constituent parts, or otherwise for the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

18. The Statutes of the University (hereinafter referred to as "the Statutes") set out in the Schedule to this Our Charter shall remain in force until they have been added to, amended or repealed in the manner therein prescribed.

The Council may make Statutes for the University which may add to, amend or repeal the Statutes for the time being in force, provided that no change to the Statutes shall be approved by the Council until the Senate shall have had an opportunity of considering the proposal and of reporting thereon to the Council.

Statutes shall not have effect until approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.

19. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and Statutes, the Council may make such Ordinances as it considers necessary or desirable for the purpose of furthering the objects of the University or for the good order and government of the University.

The Ordinances shall remain in force until they have been added to, amended or repealed in the manner herein prescribed. The Council may make Ordinances of the University which may add to, amend or repeal the Ordinances for the time being in force, provided that no change to the Ordinances shall be approved by the Council until the Senate shall have had an opportunity of considering the proposal and reporting thereon to the Council.

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

20. Subject to the provisions of this our Charter, the Statutes and the Ordinances, the Council may make such Regulations as it considers necessary or desirable provided that:

(i) No Regulation shall be made by the Council until the Senate shall have had the opportunity of considering the proposed Regulations and of reporting thereon to the Council.

(ii) No Regulation which deals with matters that are the responsibility of the Senate as defined in Article 14 of this our Charter shall be made by the Council except upon the recommendation of or with the concurrence of the Senate.

Regulations may add to, amend, or repeal Regulations from time to time in force.
21. Subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, the Court, the Council and the Senate respectively may from time to time make Standing Orders for governing the proceedings of those prospective bodies, and the power to make Standing Orders shall include the power to amend or repeal any Standing Orders theretofore made.

22. It shall be the duty of the Court from time to time to bring before the Council any matters which in its opinion should be dealt with by the Council. It shall be the duty of the Council from time to time to bring before the Court and the Senate any matters which in its opinion should be dealt with by these bodies respectively.

It shall be the duty of the Senate from time to time to bring before the Council any matters which in its opinion affect the teaching, research or general well-being of the University.

23. No religious, racial or political test shall be imposed on any person in order to entitle a person to be admitted as a Member, Professor, Teacher, or Student of the University, or to hold office therein, or to graduate thereat, or to hold any advantage or privilege thereof.

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

25. The Council may at any time amend, add to, or repeal this Our Charter by a Special Resolution in that behalf, and such amendment, addition or repeal shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council have effect so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so amended, added to or repealed. This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended, added to or repealed in manner aforesaid.

26. For the purposes of Article 25 of this Our Charter, a "Special Resolution" means:

(i) that no Resolution to change the Charter shall be approved by the Council until the Senate shall have had an opportunity of considering the proposal and of reporting thereon to the Council.

(ii) that the Resolution be passed at the Council’s meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of those present and voting.

Amendments to this Our Charter shall not have effect until approved by the Queen in Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.

27. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourably to the University and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.
IN WITNESS whereof we have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourself at Westminster the fourth day of January in the thirteenth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL

Great Seal

01.08.2006