



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

Electronic Senate

E-Senate will commence on Wednesday 10 January 2024 and close at noon on Wednesday 24 January 2024

AGENDA

ITEMS FOR NOTING OR FORMAL APPROVAL

- | | | |
|-----------|--|----------------------|
| 1. | Conferment of the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita
To approve | e-S 23/24 2 A |
| 2. | Court Resolutions
To comment | e-S 23/24 2 B |
| 3. | Communications from the University Court
To note | e-S 23/24 2 C |
| 4. | Report from Knowledge Strategy Committee
To note | e-S 22/23 2 D |

Electronic Senate

10 – 24 January 2024

Conferment of the Title of Emeritus / Emerita Professor

Description of paper

1. The Senate is invited to confer the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita upon those professors who recently retired or whose retirement is imminent.

Action requested / recommendation

2. For approval.
3. In approval of the award of Emeritus/Emerita Professor via e-Senate, a nil response is regarded as assent. Members are invited to submit any comments, observations or reservations via completion of a Microsoft Form available on the [Senate Members Portal](#) (Senate member access only). These comments will be added verbatim to the Senate Members Portal e-Senate page where comments can be viewed by other Senate members. The comments will also be published on the EASE-protected e-Senate comments webpage at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>

Discussion

4. This Senate is invited to confer the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita upon those professors listed below:

Professor Jochen Clasen, School of Social and Political Science
Professor Lesley Forrester, Deanery of Clinical Sciences
Professor David Gray, School of Biological Sciences
Professor Susan Hardman Moore, School of Divinity
Professor Chris Haslett, Deanery of Clinical Sciences
Professor Caroline Hayward, Deanery of Molecular, Genetic and Population Health Sciences
Professor Robert Logie, School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences
Professor Gordon Masterton, School of Engineering
Professor Helen Sang, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies
Professor Jonathan Spencer, School of Social and Political Science
Professor Liz Stanley, School of Social and Political Science
Professor Janette Webb, School of Social and Political Science
Professor Rose Zamoyska, School of Biological Sciences

5. The Special Minutes are attached as an appendix.
6. Senate previously received a Special Minute for Professor Jonathan Spencer, School of Social and Political Science, at its 13-27 September meeting of e-Senate. Following the conclusion of e-Senate and in relaying the approval of Emeritus status to Professor Spencer, it became clear that the incorrect Special Minute had been submitted and presented to e-Senate. Senate Support have liaised with the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences who have submitted the correct Special Minute and this is being presented to Senate for approval. This will form the formal record of Professor Spencer's Emeritus Professor title and sincere apologies are extended to Professor Spencer for any distress caused by the previously inaccurate record.

Resource implications

7. None.

Risk management

8. Not applicable.

Equality & diversity

9. Not applicable.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

10. Those Professors who have been conferred with the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita will be contacted by Senate Secretariat in due course.

Author

Senate Secretariat, January 2024

Freedom of Information

Open paper

Special Minute
Professor Jochen Clasen BA, PhD
Emeritus Professor of Comparative Social Policy

Professor Jochen Clasen retires from the established Chair of Comparative Social Policy in the School of Social and Political Science on 1st October 2023, having held this position since January 2007. He is world renowned scholar on comparative social policy, and has shaped his field and positioned of the University of Edinburgh as an international centre of excellence within his discipline.

Since his appointment at the University of Edinburgh Professor Clasen has published about 40 articles in academic journals or chapters in edited collections and made more than 50 presentations at conferences or seminars in 16 countries. Major research grants, from the ESRC, the European Commission and the Anglo-German Foundation, underpinned Professor Clasen's research activity which is mainly comparative and cross-national in nature.

One of Professor Clasen's main interests has been the expansion and closer cooperation of social policy research across Europe. Jointly with Professor Traute Meyer (Southampton University), he was editor of the most eminent journal in the field, the *Journal of European Social Policy*, for nine years (until 2017). He was one of the founding members of ESPAnet (The Network for European Social Policy Analysis) and chaired the network (jointly with Professor Wim van Oorschot, Tilburg University) for ten years until 2011. At the University of Edinburgh he and colleagues hosted the annual ESPAnet conference in 2012, as well as the annual conference of the British SPA (Social Policy Association) in 2008 and 2009. His international scholarly profile is underlined by numerous invitations to join advisory boards for major research projects and initiatives, evaluating project applications for the European Commission and various national research councils in Europe, as well as serving on appointment panels for professorial chairs in Oxford, Dublin, Stockholm, Helsinki, Berlin and Copenhagen. He examined doctoral dissertations in ten countries and followed invitations as visiting professor in Germany, Denmark and Austria.

Professor Clasen has always been keen on advancing the training of early career researchers in the field of comparative social policy. Prior to joining the University of Edinburgh he won an award from the European Commission for directing a Marie Curie Training Site for comparative doctoral projects in research on social exclusion (2002 – 2005). Subsequently he was a member of the executive committee of RECOWE ('Reconciling Work and Welfare in Europe'; an international research network funded by the European Commission, 2006-2011), which brought together 30 universities and research organisations across Europe. Professor Clasen was responsible for the network's Training Activities Centre throughout and in 2007 hosted the RECOWE International Summer School at the University of Edinburgh.

Since his appointment Professor Clasen has made several other contributions to the University of Edinburgh at UK level. He represented the University as a member of the sub-panel 'Social Work & Social Policy and Administration' for the RAE 2008. Subsequently he coordinated the UoE submission to the same panel of REF 2014, covering more than 60 staff working within different Subject Areas, Schools and Colleges. He served as external examiner at the University of Glasgow, University College Dublin and the University of Oxford and acted as external expert to the Promotions Committee of the London School of Economics until 2012. Last but not least, at the University of Edinburgh Professor Clasen was Head of Social Policy (2009-2012), followed by two further interim periods in the same role.

Special Minute
Lesley Forrester BSc (Hons) PhD
Emeritus Professor of Stem Cell Differentiation

Professor Lesley Forrester has held the Chair of Stem Cell Differentiation at the University of Edinburgh for 12 years and has been employed by the University of Edinburgh since 1993. She obtained a BSc (Hons) in Zoology (1981) and a PhD (1986) from the University of Edinburgh. She was awarded a prestigious international fellowship from the European Molecular Biology Organisation to carry out postdoctoral research at the Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute at the Mount Sinai hospital in Toronto, Canada. Following the award of an MRC Senior Fellowship she returned to the University of Edinburgh in 1993 to set up a research group to study the production of blood cell lineages from pluripotent stem cells. She has contributed extensively to that field, particularly in the generation of haematopoietic stem cells, red blood cells and macrophages for use in disease modelling and cell therapies.

Her research has been continuously funded for over 30 years with around £14million worth of programme and project grant funding from the Leukaemia Research Fund (now Blood Cancer UK), MRC, BBSRC, British Heart Foundation, Association for International Cancer Research as well as industrial sponsors. She has been an integral member of collaborative projects funded by the European Union (Framework6), and multi-disciplinary translational projects funded by the Wellcome Trust and the Scottish Funding Council. She has shared her resources and expertise in stem cell differentiation with over 30 academic research groups world-wide and start-up companies including Resolution Therapeutics and Macomics. Professor Forrester has trained over 30 undergraduate and MScR project students, has been primary supervisor to 20 PhD students and many postdoctoral fellows who have gone on to establish their own independent research groups. She has provided mentorship to 6 Early Career Researchers as part of the University's "Women in Science" mentoring scheme. To date, Lesley has published 80 original research articles, 20 book chapters and 3 patent applications and has been invited to present her work at numerous national and international events.

Lesley has also promoted her research to the wider public by giving public lectures, visiting schools and career fairs and participating in science festival events including leading a exhibition on "Stem Cells for Blood Transfusion" at the 350th Anniversary Royal Society's Summer Science Festival in London for two weeks that attracted thousands of visitors.

Lesley has acted as external examiner for MSc programmes at University of Newcastle and University of Strathclyde and for 20 PhD theses at Universities within the UK, Netherlands and Australia. She has been committed to Postgraduate training throughout her career and has held many senior roles in Postgraduate Training including Director of Postgraduate Studies at the Centre of Regenerative Medicine (2012-2023); Co-Director of MScR Programme in Regenerative Medicine and Tissue Repair (2020-2023); Depute Director of Martin Lee PhD Programme (2021-2023); Deputy Director Postgraduate studies, Deanery of Clinical Sciences (2014-2018), chair of the Deanery of Clinical Sciences Staff/Student Liaison committee and Academic Misconduct Officer for the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine (2018-2023). She has been a member of professional societies including International Society for Stem Cell Research, International Society for Experimental Hematology, Society of Developmental Biology and Royal Society of Biology.

Following retirement, Professor Forrester will continue to be active in research associated with the production of blood cells from pluripotent stem cells including the sharing of her expertise and resources with both internal and external collaborators. She will continue to write research articles for publication, to review research articles and grant applications and to provide mentorship to early career researchers. Lesley will continue her involvement in public engagement as well as the mentoring activities at Castlebrae High School that are organised by the communications team at the Institute for Regeneration and Repair.

Special Minute
Professor David Gray BSc, MSc, PhD, FRSB, FRSE
Emeritus Professor of Immunology

David Gray graduated with a joint Honours degree in Zoology and Microbiology from the University of Swansea in 1979, and then moved to the University of Birmingham to undertake a Masters training in Immunology. Staying in one of the first Immunology departments in the UK, he embarked on a PhD under the supervision of Professor Ian MacLennan. This set him on a career-long track to understand the cellular dynamics of immune responses, with particular reference to the interactions between B and T lymphocytes in the formation of immune memory. During his PhD, David identified a novel population of splenic B lymphocytes (the marginal zone) that were critical for protection from bacterial infections. After a short postdoc working in the MacLennan lab, where he began to define the function of germinal centres, he moved to the world-renowned Basel Institute for Immunology, Switzerland. This Institute with its non-hierarchical structure and science innovation (it won 3 Nobel prizes in its 25-year existence) inspired David's future scientific and academic life. He was given complete independence at an early stage of his career and as a result made field changing discoveries on the antigen-dependence of immune memory (his first *Nature* paper) and of germinal centres in mutational diversification of the antibody response.

After 7 years in the Basel Institute, David moved to the Royal Postgraduate Medical (subsequently merged with the Imperial College Medical School), where he gained a prestigious Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellowship that was twice renewed. Eventually this fellowship enabled a move to Edinburgh in 1999, initially as Reader and then subsequently becoming Professor of Immunology in 2002. His science during this time continued its focus on B-T cell interactions, defining the molecular components, eg. CD40 ligation, role of TLRs and also B cell-derived cytokines in regulating T cell responses. The last of these led to the description of a population of what became known as regulatory B cells (or B regs) that are important in protection from autoimmunity. More recently he has produced seminal studies on the population dynamics of plasma cells (antibody-secreting cells) and how their longevity is influenced by environmental (tissue) survival niches. His personal grant income was over £6M and he has published 120 papers over his career. David Gray served from 2008-2013 as Head of the Institute of Immunology (one of 6 constituent Institutes in the School of Biological Sciences). Concurrently (2009-2013) David was the President of the British Society for Immunology, which ran 2 journals and an Annual Congress of more than 1500 delegates. During this time, he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, he was also awarded a life-long membership of the BSI, in recognition of his contribution to immunology nationally.

In January 2014 David was appointed as Head of the School of Biological Sciences. He served on the University Executive (2017-2021) and several of its implementation sub-committees (staff development and student experience). During his time as HoS he led the project to develop a New Biology Curriculum that was fit for the 21st Century, with concepts, skills and student experiential learning (research) at its core. He championed a research strategy that saw inward infrastructure investment to SBS of more than £25M in the field of 'Engineering Biology' and grant awards of £53M in 2020-21, a strategy validated by an excellent (world-leading) outcome for the School in REF2021. He is particularly proud to have overseen the rise in women professors in his School to 33%, way above the national average. He also led the Building a New Biology Project, raising £25M in external funding for a new building for Biology, that has been stymied by COVID and by University indecision. David has also led a partnership with the Government of Gujarat to develop and launch the Gujarat Biotechnology University (GBU).

David stepped down as HoS in August 2022. After nearly 9 years in the role, and despite a particularly turbulent time, he handed over to the new HoS a vibrant School with great ambition. Since stepping down he continued as the University Academic Lead for GBU and spends a lot of his time there. As Emeritus, the School and University will continue to benefit from David's vast knowledge of the GBU collaboration and the Darwin project, thus providing important continuity within these two flagship projects.

In retirement David looks forward to travelling to places not visited and then creating a new garden.

Special Minute
Susan Hardman Moore (MA MAR PhD FRHistS)
Emeritus Professor of Early Modern Religion

Susan Hardman Moore worked at the University of Edinburgh for 28 years of her 42-year academic career, first in the 1980s and then again from 2000. The University granted her a Personal Chair in 2013, as Professor of Early Modern Religion. The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland appointed her as Principal of New College in 2018.

She has published three books and has two more in progress that she is working on in retirement. She has a distinguished record as a PhD supervisor (31 students as first supervisor, leading to 16 books). She intends to continue to engage with colleagues and students in the History of Christianity research seminar, and to provide informal mentoring to postgraduates as appropriate.

As an academic, she played an innovative role in the School. She pioneered the long-lasting Masters programme, Theology in History, which has generated many PhD students. She pioneered the School's engagement with Athena Swan, securing a Bronze Award in 2012 (the first TRS department in the UK to gain this). She provided leadership as Director of Postgraduate Studies in 2007-8 and 2014-17. She acted as New College Librarian during the recent upheaval of the Fire Asset Protection works. She enriched the student experience by starting up (and for many years organising) the School Awaydays that have become part of the School's welcoming culture.

As Principal of New College – a historic role that reflects the School's traditional ties with the Church of Scotland – she oversaw the academic training of ministry candidates and worked to conserve the shared heritage of School and Church e.g. in New College Library and the New College buildings. She played a key role in the New College 175th celebrations, especially in commissioning and seeing through anniversary projects: the New College clock and bell, the Rainy Hall tapestry. She engaged deeply with the recent Fire Asset Protection project, to secure the best outcome for New College Library (locating the water-tank in the New College garden). She led negotiations between the Church of Scotland and the University for a new Memorandum of Agreement on New College Library, signed 2019. She introduced New College's 'Short Courses' to provide open access Level 7 classes for the wider community.

She would like to continue her commitment to the School, and to the Church-related work of New College, in retirement. This semester she is acting as course manager and co-teacher of 'Church, Sacraments and Ministry', a compulsory course for Church candidates.

Special Minute
Chris Haslett CBE FRSE FMedSci FRCP MBChB (hons) BSc (hons)
Emeritus Professor of Translational Medicine

In 2014, Chris Haslett was awarded the Senior Prize for Life Sciences of the Royal Society of Edinburgh ('Sir James Black Medal') "*...for his outstanding contribution to inflammation research, the establishment of Scotland's first large-scale interdisciplinary translational medicine research institute and the development of a novel system for optical imaging of inflammatory processes in human diseases.*" He was awarded the Gilston Medal of the Intensive Care Society in 1998, an OBE in 2004 and a CBE in 2016 (services to medical research).

Professor Haslett's association with Edinburgh University began as a medical student in 1971. In 1977 he was awarded the Ettles Scholarship and Leslie Gold Medal as the most distinguished MBChB graduate. After junior hospital jobs in Edinburgh, he became a medical registrar at London's Royal Postgraduate Medical School (RPMS; 1980-82). There, he embarked on a clinical career in respiratory medicine and was inspired to become a clinician scientist.

Professor Haslett spent the following three years as an MRC Travelling Fellow in Denver Colorado, where his discovery of neutrophil apoptosis, his work on lung injury and the non-invasive imaging of inflammatory processes would provide him a career-long research foundation. He returned to the RPMS in 1985, as an honorary consultant and MRC Senior Clinical Fellow, where he built a group of scientists and clinician-scientists to study the mechanisms and biological significance of granulocyte apoptosis and where he carried out novel research on the use of positron-emission-tomography to measure real-time inflammatory cell activity *in vivo*. At the RPMS, he developed a longstanding interest in the mentoring and research training of young clinicians, and has since trained and sponsored more than 25 clinician scientists, many of whom now hold prestigious chairs.

Appointed to the Chair of Respiratory Medicine at Edinburgh in 1990, Professor Haslett led the respiratory clinical service at the City Hospital, combining the two units and, later, moving the combined unit to the 'old' Royal Infirmary. After the further move to the New Royal Infirmary at BioQuarter, he continued to lead the unit's research and teaching activities until stepping down from clinical duties in 2018, after 28 years' continuous front-line service as a respiratory clinical consultant and teacher. He has since held a Personal Chair of Translational Medicine.

He was the inaugural Head of the then new Division (subsequently "School", and later "Deanery") of Clinical Medicine and Community Health (latterly, Clinical Sciences). As College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine (CMVM) Director of Research (1995-2006), Professor Haslett introduced new "effective-mass" cross-disciplinary research groupings: interdisciplinary centres, and later Institutes. He led the UoA 1 submissions in the 1996 and 2001 RAE, with progression to a large-volume "5*", as a result of expansion of interdisciplinary strategy, "*de facto*" research centres and a plan for new interdisciplinary research institutes.

Professor Haslett has played a central role in the University Estates at Edinburgh BioQuarter, and was the Principal's representative for BioQuarter from its first "green field" planning stages. One of the King's Fund "gang of twenty", he helped plan the new Royal Infirmary, was Academic Lead for the Chancellor's Building and the Queen's Medical Research Institute (QMRI) and was Sponsor for the new Institute for Regeneration and Repair (IRR) expansion building ("IRR South") and QMRI refurbishment projects.

He has attracted circa £40m of personal research grant funding since 1990, including 5 consecutive MRC programme grants, and has generated more than 200 original publications since then (~43,000 total citations; *h-index* = 98). He envisioned, created and was the Director of the Queen's Medical Research Institute (1996 – 2021). Commissioned in 2006, QMRI is a 1000-person interdisciplinary research “engine” driven by the MRC/UoE Centre for Inflammation Research (CIR), the Centre for Reproductive Biology (incorporating the MRC Reproductive Biology Unit and University Obstetrics and Gynaecology - the later MRC Centre for Reproductive Health, CRH) and the WT Centre for Cardiovascular Science. He created the £20m Clinical Research Imaging Centre in QMRI basement and was Director of the UoE/MRC Centre for Inflammation Research from 2002-2009. He was co-founder and inaugural Director of the Translational Healthcare Technologies (THT) Group and created the Developmental Imaging Technologies Hub in QMRI to support it and to provide a base for scientists visiting from other universities.

The College fully supports Professor Haslett being offered emeritus status

Special Minute
Caroline Hayward BA, PhD
Emeritus Professor of Quantitative Trait Genetics

Professor Caroline Hayward has announced her decision to retire at the end of March 2023, after 45 years of service between the University and the MRC Human Genetics Unit. Caroline Hayward graduated with a BA in Biochemistry from the University of Stirling in 1975. After graduation she spent 3 years as a Scientific Officer in the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Unit at Law Hospital. In 1978 she moved to Edinburgh to join the Human Genetics Department at the University of Edinburgh, led by Professor Alan Emery, in David Brock's laboratory, initially, to work on prenatal diagnostics of foetal abnormalities such as Spina Bifida and Anencephaly. Subsequently, in collaboration with Veronica van Heyningen, the focus of the laboratory moved onto the study of Cystic Fibrosis and Caroline selected this as her main research interest which led to her graduating with a PhD ("Biochemical Studies of Cystic Fibrosis Antigen") from the university in 1987.

After a 4 year postdoctoral fellowship continuing her work on Cystic Fibrosis the opportunity arose to redirect her research from protein-based analyses to molecular studies of both Mendelian and complex diseases including Marfan Syndrome, Motor Neuron Disease and Pre-Eclampsia. In 2000 she moved to the MRC Human Genetics Unit to launch the newly core funded programme "Quantitative Traits in Health and Disease" led by Professor Alan Wright and Professor Nick Hastie. This involved overseeing and organizing the setting up and design of several population cohort collections in Croatia and Scotland. She played a major role in the "10001 Dalmations" project which included isolate populations from the islands of Vis and Korcula in Croatia. In collaboration with Professor Harry Campbell, Professor Igor Rudan and Professor Ozren Polasek she was responsible for setting up the field clinic and laboratory facilities on the Island of Korcula and has subsequently led the analysis of many phenotypes in the resulting dataset.

In parallel with this she also investigated the genetics of the rare Mendelian disorder Late-onset Retinal Degeneration and successfully identified the gene and the main causative genetic mutation which is now being investigated as a potential gene-therapy target.

Since 2012 she has been a Principal Investigator and Programme Coordinator of the MRC funded QTL in Health and Disease Research Programme alongside Professor Jim Wilson, Professor Chris Haley and Dr Veronique Vitart. She has contributed to many UK and international collaborations and consortia including SPIROMETA, CKDGen, CHARGE consortia, ORCADES and Viking Health Study and Generation Scotland. She was a member of the Steering Committee for several international projects involving the data already generated by these studies, including two European FP7 research programs (MIMomics and High Glycans) as well as Co-I on several other projects. In 2017 she was awarded a personal chair in Quantitative Trait Genetics. She currently is a co-PI for NextGenScot and leads the Quantitative Trait Working Group for Generation Scotland. She has published over 500 papers and has an H-index of 113.

In her retirement she plans to continue her involvement with NextGenScot and Generation Scotland. She hopes that she will be able to spend a lot more time gardening and pursuing all her other interests and hobbies that have had to take a back seat for many years.

Special Minute
Robert H Logie BSc PhD FRSE FBPsS
Emeritus Professor of Human Cognitive Neuroscience

Robert H Logie obtained a BSc in Psychology, University of Aberdeen, in 1976, and a PhD, University College London, in 1981. He was a research assistant in Aberdeen (1979-1980), and then a postdoctoral researcher at Medical Research Council Applied Psychology Research Unit in Cambridge (1980-1986). He returned to Aberdeen as a lecturer in 1987, becoming Anderson Professor and Head of Psychology Department (1997-2002). From 1995-2006, he was also adjunct Professor of Cognitive Psychology at University of Bergen, Norway. He joined University of Edinburgh in 2004 as Professor of Human Cognitive Neuroscience. He has had continuous external grant funding since 1987 and attracted grants from UKRI councils, Leverhulme, Alzheimer's Trust, European Commission, Chief Scientist Office, British Academy, Royal Society of Edinburgh, Carnegie Trust, Psychonomic Society, and Japanese Society for Promotion of Science. He is a Fellow of Royal Society of Edinburgh and British Psychological Society.

His teaching and research focus on human memory in healthy, ageing, and damaged brains. His approach is theoretical and applied, ranging from working memory in healthy adults, through cognitive decline as sequelae of healthy ageing, focal brain damage, and neurodegenerative disease, to the design of computerized patient monitoring in intensive care, and digital memory systems. He teaches the application of human memory research to enhance student study practices. He has been external examiner for Psychology undergraduate degrees at five universities. He has supervised 29 PhDs and supervised/mentored 45 post-docs. He has been external examiner for 28 PhD vivas. He has been active teaching and supervising at undergraduate/MSc, and has been nominated for university teaching awards. In 2004, with Professor Della Sala, he established Human Cognitive Neuropsychology and Neuroscience, now a major research and teaching activity in Psychology, including a popular MSc programme. He was PPLS Director of Research (2005-2013), and coordinated Psychology submissions for RAE 2008 and REF 2014. During that period, Psychology moved from 28th in RAE 2001, to top 10 in RAE 2008, to top 5 in REF 2014. He was a member of the 2021/22 REF Panel for Psychology, Psychiatry, and Neuroscience.

He has over 300 publications (Google Scholar, h=87, >32,000 citations), given invited and keynote talks worldwide and organised seven international conferences. He is regularly approached as an expert consultant on human memory by print/broadcast media. In 2015, he was chair of European Research Council Advanced Grants panel SH4 and the first non-North-American elected chair of the Governing Board of USA-based Psychonomic Society. He has been/is on multiple national and international research funding and evaluation panels. In 2022, he was awarded the Bartlett Prize by the Experimental Psychology Society for lifetime contributions to experimental psychology.

Following retirement, Professor Logie will remain active in research, academic paper writing, and on international funding panels. He will continue co-supervision of two PhD students completing in 2024 and 2025, and co-supervise a new PhD student starting September 2023, leading to joint publications with the students and Psychology colleagues. He has offered ad-hoc teaching and will apply for external research funding for formally retired academic researchers.

Special Minute
Gordon Masterton OBE DL HonDEng HonDTech BA MSc DIC
FREng FRSE PPICE FIPStructE PPIES MCIWEM
Emeritus Professor of Future Infrastructure

Gordon Masterton graduated from the University's Civil Engineering programme in 1976 and pursued a distinguished career serving the international civil engineering community. After retirement he joined the School of Engineering's academic faculty as Professor of Future Infrastructure. But his contribution to the university began earlier.

Since graduation (where he took the majority of prizes) he has maintained significant contact with Civil Engineering. He lectured to staff and students during his Institution of Civil Engineers Presidential year in 2005. He subsequently joined the Civil Engineering Industrial Advisory Board; becoming chair in 2013, until he joined the School. Gordon is also a generous benefactor – endowing the *Masterton Access Bursary* for undergraduate students since 2010, as well as providing fee scholarships for the Postgraduate Certificate students on the inaugural cohort of the *Leading Major Programmes MSc*.

In 2015 Gordon was appointed to the *Chair of Future Infrastructure*. These eight years have been remarkably productive in terms of contributions to the university. He has provided contributions to teaching, research and consultancy through lectures, PhD supervision, undergraduate supervision, Innovate UK consultancy awards as well as a significant volume of external engagement.

He became part of the executive team in the development of the *Edinburgh Futures Institute*, working alongside the institute's first director Prof. Paolo Quattrone and later Prof. Lesley McCara. This development work led to the acceptance that transformational change requires effective leaders. Gordon and Paolo led the development of one of the first EFI teaching programmes, the *MSc in Leading Major Programmes*, subsequently led by the School of Engineering with its first cohort successfully completing in 2023. To ensure relevance and to tap in to the very best expertise and knowledge available, this programme was designed around the combination of internal and external expertise – Gordon was very instrumental in bringing on board high profile leading experts as external contributors, many of which refused a fee. The EFI also houses the *Centre for Future Infrastructure*, conceived and initially led by Gordon, until he recruited Professor Sean Smith to be the centre's first Director.

The EFI work led to being invited to help the bid team for the *Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal*. Signed in 2018, the success and significance of this to the University and the city cannot be overstated. He helped shape the joint PhD programme between Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, an initiative conceived by its two principals, and led its *Future Cities* cohort with the first students joining in 2019.

In 2015 the *UK Collaboratorium for Research in Infrastructure and Cities* was started with fourteen universities – all English. No Scottish university was invited, something that Gordon successfully managed to change, with University of Edinburgh now involved, and Gordon becoming UKCRIC's Deputy Convenor in 2018. And finally, Gordon chaired the Engineering 150 planning group to celebrate the School's 150 year milestone. Gordon was a key curator of its accompanying permanent exhibition in the School's Sanderson Building.

After retirement Gordon intends to continue his external activities, eg as Director of the MacRobert Trust and a judge of the MacRobert Award. But he hopes to spend time with his family and friends and sailing his cherished yacht *Beau Soleil* around the coast of Scotland.

Special Minute
Helen Sang, BA, PhD
Emeritus Professor of Vertebrate Molecular Development

Professor Helen Sang graduated from, and was awarded her BA and subsequently PhD by Cambridge University in 1975 and 1978 respectively. She was awarded a SERC Fellowship to work at Harvard University (1978-1980) followed by award of an MRC Training Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh (1981-1983). Helen was then appointed as a Group Leader at the Poultry Research Centre, a predecessor of the Roslin Institute. Shortly after the Roslin Institute joined the University of Edinburgh (2007) Helen was awarded a Personal Chair of Vertebrate Molecular Development (2009), where she continued as a Research Group Leader, retiring in 2022.

Professor Sang's research has involved the development and application of techniques for genetic modification of the chicken, in a wide range of areas, from basic developmental biology, through avian immunology to resistance to avian influenza. This has resulted in seminal publications demonstrating the value of these technologies in increasing our understanding of the developmental mechanisms involved in vertebrate embryology, increasing knowledge of the immune system of chickens relevant to vaccine development and the potential of using genetic modification technologies in poultry breeding, particularly for traits to which conventional genetics cannot easily be applied, such as disease resistance. Her research has been funded by grants from the BBSRC, MRC, Wellcome Trust and industry.

Professor Sang has made many citizenship contributions both internally to the University and externally to the UK bioscience community. Professor Sang led the Institute Athena SWAN activities, achieving the Gold Award in 2017. She chaired the University Athena SWAN Network for several years and was a member of the University Gender Equality Subcommittee. This success was recognised with the award of the Principal's medal in 2019. Professor Sang also led the Institute Strategic Programme Grant from the BBSRC (2012-2017) and was the Head of Division Functional Genetics and Development (2017-2022).

Professor Sang has made many contributions to UKRI-BBSRC, on the response mode committees and on strategic panels for two decades. These include the Genes and Developmental Biology, Tools and Technologies Research Fund, Committee on Studentships and Fellowships, Bioscience for Industry Panel and Appointments Board (from 1999-2022), including as a member of BBSRC Council (2014-2018). She was a member of the Genetics Society Executive Committee (1999-2008). Professor Sang has also held advisory roles including the Friedrich Loeffler Institute SAB (2012-2018) and The Pirbright Institute SAB (from 2020). Professor Sang was elected to the Royal Society of Edinburgh and made a fellow of the Royal Society of Biology (2008). She was awarded an OBE for services to bioscience for health and food security in 2020.

After her retirement Professor Sang has continued involvement in research to complete collaborative projects. She has contributed to public understanding of science activities, including U3A lectures, and this has led to increasing involvement in policy advice and development, through for example the Royal Society Genetic Technologies Action Group and with DEFRA, representing the Roslin Institute's interest in application of GE technologies in animal breeding. Professor Sang will continue to represent and advise on our interests in this area.

Special Minute
Jonathan Spencer MA, AM, DPhil, FBA, FacSS, FRSE
Emeritus Professor of the South Asian Language, Culture and Society

Jonathan Spencer graduated with an MA in Social Anthropology from Edinburgh in 1977, followed by a Masters from Chicago, before completing his DPhil at Oxford in 1986. He taught at Sussex and the LSE before his return to Edinburgh as a Lecturer in 1990. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1994, and then to a Personal Chair in the Anthropology of South Asia in 1999. In 2014 he was appointed to the (revived and renamed) Regius Chair of South Asian Language, Culture and Society.

The influence of Professor Spencer in global political anthropology can be traced through three themes in particular. The first is his ethnographically inflected conceptualisation of political violence and statecraft based on work in South Asia. Spencer's studies of political violence in Sri Lanka gave shape to important thinking about nationalism and social change. Secondly, Spencer is a driving force in sustaining scholarship within and from South Asia as a place from which thinking about politics and statehood is spearheaded. Not only is Spencer himself a leader in this field; generations of his students continue as scholars doing agenda-setting research, many of whom now inhabit tenured posts in globally esteemed research universities. Thirdly, Spencer's research offers an empirically grounded conceptualisation of how to think about religion and politics together, always rooted in ethnographic detail of the places he has done fieldwork.

Institutionally, Professor Spencer has driven the building of a unique Honours Programme in Social Anthropology, having convened, and taught on most core courses in the subject area. In addition, Spencer has led initiatives to enhance postgraduate training, including the Scottish Training for Anthropological Research project (STAR) and developing policy guidelines for post graduate training for the ESRC. In terms of UoE leadership, Spencer has served as Head of School, Head of Subject Area and Director of the Graduate School of Social and Political Studies. Beyond Edinburgh, Professor Spencer has been a panellist for the 2008 RAE and the 2014 REF, and his expertise has been a notable support to local SPS REF coordinators for REF2021, too. Professor Spencer has been elected as Fellow of the Academy of Social Science, the British Academy and the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and has served on various ESRC committees where his guidance has shaped the UK research landscape.

Professor Spencer has supervised over 30 PhD students to completion, some of whom are now colleagues in Edinburgh. Yet his mentorship goes beyond the singular PhD degree; in the wake of the 2004 tsunami in Sri Lanka, Spencer embarked on the task of building up local research capacity in Sri Lanka to nurture a generation of scholars to help understand and address the devastation caused by the tsunami in an already war-torn Sri Lanka. His effort epitomizes his way of being a scholar; it was never only about personal ambition but about building up research environments in the places he cares about.

Professor Spencer's retirement will mark an important moment in Social Anthropology in Edinburgh, yet based on his scholarly path so far it will include continuous research and collaboration, mentorship too alongside making the time for his family and friendships and his non-academic interests of cooking, literature, and travel.

Special Minute
Liz Stanley, BA, PhD
Emerita Professor of Sociology

In the nearly 20 years that Liz Stanley has held the established chair of sociology at The University of Edinburgh she has been awarded a succession of major research awards, including an ESRC Professorial Research Fellowship. She has been a prolific researcher, publishing almost twenty books (mostly single authored) and more than 100 refereed articles. She has supervised more than 25 PhD students at Edinburgh and nearly 100 over the course of her career. She has acted as Head of Subject and carried out other senior leadership and administrative roles, both within and outwith the University in a succession of RAE/REF exercises, acting as deputy chair of the sociology panel in the most recent REF. She has held Extraordinary Professorial positions at the Universities of Pretoria, Johannesburg and the Free State, through which she contributed to capacity-building in South African higher education.

In recognition of her work, Professor Stanley was awarded the *Distinguished Service to British Sociology Award* by the British Sociology Association in 2020. In making the award, Louise Ryan, Professor of Sociology, University of Sheffield and BSA vice-chair of trustees, said: "It is difficult to imagine anyone more worthy of this award than Prof Liz Stanley. For over 40 years, she has been at the cutting edge of sociological research. From her early work, with Sue Wise, in the late 1970s, through to her most recent work on memory and commemoration in South Africa, Liz has made invaluable contributions to our sociological toolkit. Her pioneering work on feminism, narratives, autobiography and archival methods have pushed the boundaries of sociological research." As suggested here, Professor Stanley's work has been hugely influential across a range of different fields.

Her recent research has had a significant degree of public outreach and engagement, including the internationally renowned research websites - the Olive Schreiner Letters Online, Whites Writing Whiteness, and South African Memorials – which have made key resources and materials more widely available. This speaks to her longstanding emphasis on mentorship of, and support for, research. In both her supervision and project curation, Professor Stanley has facilitated the research of others by creating research environments that enable colleagues to thrive. An illustration of this came during the pandemic when she worked with Prof Angus Bancroft to establish the *Edinburgh Decameron*, which published analytical commentary on the covid pandemic. She also set-up *The Armchair Sociologist*, a YouTube channel which published interviews with major commentators on the pandemic.

As Emerita professor, Liz proposes to continue her association with the University in several significant ways. Firstly, she will continue to supervise a number of PhD students to completion. Secondly, she will aid efforts to increase successful research grant funding by mentoring a number of sociology staff. Finally, she will continue to be research active, and intends to publish a number of research articles and another monograph. She has embarked on a new research project, *Sociological Lives*, which will showcase the professional identity and work of sociologists both in and out of Edinburgh, with a dedicated blog/website and a YouTube channel presenting interviews. In sum, Prof Stanley will continue to be a source of mentorship, cutting edge research and inspiration for future generations of Sociologists.

Special Minute
Janette Webb MBE, FRSE, FEI
Emerita Professor of the Sociology of Organisations

Janette Webb has made significant contributions to the University's international reputation and research profile since her 1986 appointment as Lecturer in Business Studies. She was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1992; transferred to Sociology in 1993; was promoted to Reader in 1999 and to personal Chair in Sociology of Organisations in 2007. Her contributions to knowledge and to public service have been recognised in the award of a Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (2023) and an MBE for services to the UK energy transition (2020).

Her empirical research has advanced the economic sociology of modern societies, focusing on inter-connected changes in political economy, organisations and identities. Latterly she developed these themes in relation to global climate consequences of societal dependence on fossil fuels, with a particular focus on sustainable energy for cities. This work has demonstrated the socio-technical value of integrated local and regional energy systems for affordability, resilience and sustainability of the whole system. She has led integration of social science into technical-economic research on energy, with significant impacts on policy, practice and (as member of UKRI Energy Programme Scientific Advisory Committee) research funding.

Her recent inter-disciplinary research, as Co-Director of UK Energy Research Centre, Principal Investigator of Evaluation of Energy Efficient Scotland, and Co-Investigator of the Centre for Research on Energy Demand Solutions and the EnergyREV Research Consortium, has been integral to grant income of over £50 million. Her energy and society research has resulted in 38 peer-reviewed papers in international academic journals and numerous policy reports, with major impacts on public policy and legislation.

Janette Webb's earlier work combined psychology, management studies and sociology in analyses of social stratification, conflict and authority in organisations (2006 monograph *Organisations, Identities and the Self*). She also analysed gender divisions in higher education (1980s), with funding from Equal Opportunities Commission to develop a programme for equality, diversity and inclusion.

She has made continuing contributions to graduate and early career researcher development, including training and mentoring colleagues into post-doctoral fellowships, lectureships, public and business appointments. She served as 2006-2009 Director of Graduate School in Social and Political Science, with responsibility for circa 450 MSc and PhD students. In this capacity, she led development of internationally leading ESRC-recognised social science research training, PhD supervision quality assurance and progress review. She was Sociology post-graduate adviser for many years, supervising circa 20 PhD students to completion and numerous MSc and MBA dissertations.

Public service contributions include numerous advisory appointments relating to Low Carbon Infrastructure; energy efficiency of buildings; review of the Scottish Definition of Fuel Poverty; and Heat in Buildings Strategy. In Scotland, her advice informed legislation: [Heat Networks Scotland Act 2021](#); [Fuel Poverty \(Targets, Definition and Strategy\) \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#). In UK Government, her work informed the Heat Networks Delivery Unit and Investment Programme (England and Wales), and she is DESNZ expert reviewer for energy policy and regulation research. She was co-opted social science expert [Scottish Science Advisory Council](#) (SSAC) (2021-22) and continues as member of the energy sub-group. In an earlier period, she was Non-Executive Director, NHS Health Scotland, appointed by

Minister for Health and Community Care and founder member of Scottish Sustainability and Health Network, NHS Scotland (2003-2011).

She intends to continue social research on energy with continuing public service and advisory roles.

Special Minute
Professor Rose Zamoyska BSc PhD FMedSci
Emerita Professor of Immune Cell Biology

Rose Zamoyska graduated from University College London (UCL) with a BSc in Zoology and Genetics and then with a PhD at the University of Cambridge in Immunology. She subsequently undertook periods of postdoctoral study first in Cambridge and subsequently in Stanford Medical School, California USA. She returned to UCL 1987 to establish her own lab in the Tumour Immunology Unit as an ICRF (now CRUK) funded fellow. In 1991 she was recruited to a permanent role as a senior staff scientist to the National Institute for Medical Research in Mill Hill. In 2007 Rose moved to the University of Edinburgh to take up the role of Professor of Immune Cell Biology at the Institute for Immunology and Infection Research in the School of Biological Sciences.

Professor Zamoyska is an outstanding molecular immunologist who has made critical contributions to our understanding of T cell receptor signaling and the regulation of T cell immune responses. Throughout her career she has used elegant genetic strategies to define the importance of key signaling molecules for T lymphocyte function. The way she combined genetic manipulation of T cells with meticulous biochemistry and cell biology has answered basic questions about T cell biology, which have crucial implications for our understanding of T cell mediated immune responses to pathogens and T cell mediated autoimmunity. Her research focus has been to understand how the T cell antigen receptor signals into the cell to promote the differentiation of T cell progenitors in the thymus and controls responses of peripheral T cells to both self-antigens and pathogens. Recent contributions from the Zamoyska lab have been to our understanding of how an intracellular tyrosine phosphatase, PTPN22, impacts on T cell function. PTPN22 has a frequent polymorphism that is highly associated with susceptibility to autoimmune diseases such as SLE, type I diabetes and rheumatoid arthritis and understanding how it regulates T cell signaling is important for gaining a better insight into the triggers that precipitate human autoimmunity. She established that PTPN22 limits T cell receptor signaling to weak agonists and self-peptides, while not restraining responses to strong agonists. This work explains how loss of function PTPN22 alleles could lead to the expansion of effector cells and a predisposition to autoimmunity. More broadly this work on tyrosine phosphatase signaling pathways has revealed a strategy to manipulate T cell activation and differentiation that could be used to augment T cell immune responses, for example, to optimize adoptive T cell therapy in the treatment of cancer. In summary, throughout her research career Professor Zamoyska has developed sophisticated mouse models to answer fundamental questions in T cell biology with wide-ranging applications for understanding of T cell homeostasis, development of autoimmunity and manipulation of T cell immunity to cancer.

Professor Zamoyska has published more than 100 primary research papers and scholarly review articles in leading scientific journals many of which have been highly cited. Her esteem has been acknowledged by being invited speaker at a wide range of international scientific conferences during her career. For 5 years she served as an editor for *Immunity*, a leading international journal in the field, as well as reviewing for all the major scientific journals. In addition, she has served as panel member on grant panels for many of the major UK (MRC, BBSRC, Wellcome Trust) and European funding councils including as Chair of the ERC starter grant panel for 8 years. Recently she was elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. She acted as Head of Institute for the Institute for Immunology and Infection Research in the School of Biological Sciences for 5 years until December 2021.

As Emerita, Professor Zamoyska will continue to co-supervise PhD students, mentor early career scientists in the Institute of Immunology and Infection research, advise researchers applying for grant funding and maintain her role as Scientific adviser to the Babraham Research institute.

Electronic Senate

10 – 24 January 2024

Resolutions

Description of paper

1. This paper is presented to Senate for consultation in accordance with the procedures for the creation of Resolutions as set out in the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966.

Action requested / Recommendation

2. Senate is invited to make observations on the following attached draft Resolutions:
 - No. 1/2024 Alteration of the title of Personal Chair of Sociology of Emotions and Relationships
 - No. 2/2024 Alteration of the title of Personal Chair of European Politics
3. Members are invited to submit any comments, observations or reservations via completion of a Microsoft Form available on the [Senate Members Portal](#) (Senate member access only). These comments will be added verbatim to the Senate Members Portal e-Senate page where comments can be viewed by other Senate members. The comments will also be published on the EASE-protected e-Senate comments webpage at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>

Background and context

4. Universities (Scotland) Act 1966 enabled the University Court to exercise by Resolution a wide range of powers, including the creation of Chairs. The Act sets out the procedure for making Resolutions and stipulates that Senatus Academicus, the General Council and any other body or person having an interest require to be consulted on draft Resolutions throughout the period of one month, with the months of August and September not taken into account when calculating the consultation period.

Discussion

- 5 The draft Resolutions are attached to this paper.

Resource implications

6. There are no resource implications in altering these Chair titles.

Risk Management

7. There are reputational considerations in establishing and altering the title of Chairs which are considered as part of the University's approval processes.

Responding to the Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development Goals

8. N/A.

Equality and Diversity

9. Equality and diversity best practice and agreed procedures are adopted in appointing individuals to chairs.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

10. Via Senate's report to University Court.

Consultation

11. The statutory process for the creation and renaming of Chairs requires consultation with Senate and the General Council prior to approval by the University Court.

Further information

Author(s)

Kirstie Graham
Deputy Head of Court Services
December 2023

Presenter(s) (if required)

Freedom of information

Open paper

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Draft Resolution of the University Court No. 1/2024

Alteration of the title of Personal Chair of Sociology of Emotions and Relationships

At Edinburgh, the Twenty sixth day of February, Two thousand and twenty four.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to alter the title of the Personal Chair of Sociology of Emotions and Relationships founded by Resolution 21/2022;

AND WHEREAS paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, provides that the University Court may, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and with the consent of the incumbent and patrons, if any, alter the title of existing professorships;

AND WHEREAS the Chair dealt with in this Resolution is in the patronage of the University Court itself:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Personal Chair of Sociology of Emotions and Relationships shall hereafter be designated the Personal Chair of Sociology.
2. This Resolution shall come into with effect from 1 January 2024.

For and on behalf of the University Court

LEIGH CHALMERS

University Secretary

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Draft Resolution of the University Court No. 2/2024

Alteration of the title of Personal Chair of European Politics

At Edinburgh, the Twenty sixth day of February, Two thousand and twenty four.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it expedient to alter the title of the Personal Chair of European Politics founded by Resolution 27/2022;

AND WHEREAS paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, provides that the University Court may, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and with the consent of the incumbent and patrons, if any, alter the title of existing professorships;

AND WHEREAS the Chair dealt with in this Resolution is in the patronage of the University Court itself:

THEREFORE the University Court, after consultation with the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraph 5 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Personal Chair of European Politics shall hereafter be designated the Personal Chair of Neuropolitics.
2. This Resolution shall come into with effect from 1 January 2024.

For and on behalf of the University Court

LEIGH CHALMERS

University Secretary

Electronic Senate

10 – 24 January 2024

Communications from the University Court

Description of paper

1. To update Senate on certain matters considered by the University Court at its meetings held on 19 June 2023 and 9 October 2023.

Action requested / recommendation

2. Senate is invited to note the report.
3. Members are invited to submit any comments, observations or reservations via completion of a Microsoft Form available on the [Senate Members Portal](#) (Senate member access only). These comments will be added verbatim to the Senate Members Portal e-Senate page where comments can be viewed by other Senate members. The comments will also be published on the EASE-protected e-Senate comments webpage at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>

Resource implications

4. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Risk management

5. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Equality and diversity

6. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

7. Regular reports on the Court's work of interest to Senate will continue to be submitted.

Author

Dr Lewis Allan
Governance & Court Services
5 January 2024

Freedom of Information

Open Paper

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY COURT

19 June 2023

1 Presentation: Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Shannon Vallor, Baillie Gifford Chair of the Ethics of Data and Artificial Intelligence and chair of the University's AI & Data Ethics Advisory Board, delivered a presentation on University priorities and challenges in ethical AI and data practice. It was noted that the University has been a leader in AI for over 60 years, with an interdisciplinary culture of collaboration unique in the UK.

Globally, interest in AI has intensified with the development of generative AI models such as ChatGPT, and these appear to be following the early stages of a 'hype cycle' pattern seen with many technological developments. While a claim that AI presents an existential risk has been raised by some and received much attention in the media, less attention has been given to more immediate risks that may arise in organisations that do not understand the nature of generative AI, such as its invention of 'facts', and might adopt generative AI in high-risk areas such as automating safety procedures or replacing trust-critical labour. Effective regulation can help mitigate these risks and the United States and the EU have signalled a commitment to regulate in this area.

Within the University, Professor Vallor advocated for training in the responsible use of AI, signalling that AI will be used responsibly to support the University's core mission, greater visibility for the principles developed by the AI & Data Ethics Advisory Board and advisory offerings to Research Ethics Committees across the University amongst other points.

Professor Vallor was thanked for an illuminating presentation, with the following topics raised in a subsequent question and answer session:

- Generative AI inventing 'facts' as an in-built feature of the technology is not well known and not well covered in media reporting – while there is great media interest in AI, distorted views abound and Professor Vallor and others are working to address this where possible, including in the media and with policymakers and within higher education;
- The need for more education on AI within the University and taking an integrated approach – guidance for students and staff on AI has now been developed and, with such a rapidly changing subject and in a decentralised and diverse community, education on the principles developed by the Advisory Board with relevant examples to be used in a local context might be the most suitable next steps;
- The extent to which AI may pose an existential risk, a point raised by a number of globally recognised experts. There is a spectrum of risks with AI and more immediate risks in safety and governance that might occur with misguided use of AI have attracted less attention and have been highlighted by Professor Vallor in this presentation, with climate change seen as a potential existential risk of greater concern than AI in Professor Vallor's view.

2 Principal's Report

The Principal's report was noted and, in discussion, a number of members expressed their concern that the rescheduled screening of the film 'Adult Human Female' had not taken place as access to the venue had been restricted by protestors. The importance of ensuring that the University upholds the right to express views was emphasised by some members and that the film should be able to be screened by the organisers at a future date. The Principal reiterated

the University's commitment to the freedom of speech and academic freedom and, with the University Secretary, briefed members on operational planning for a future screening.

3 Student Experience Reviews with Schools/Deaneries 2022-23

A summary of findings from student experience review meetings held with Schools and Deaneries during 2022-23 was presented. It was noted that the new student support model has generally been received positively, with full implementation and refinement work to follow. Other common themes raised by Schools and Deaneries included: improving assessment and feedback practices; a more agile and student-focus to capital works to improve community building and a sense of place; and, improving student and applicant communications, including advance sharing of messages with Schools to better enable local follow-up communications. The following points were raised in discussion:

- Accountability for improving student experience at all levels and obligations to students – the review meetings held are part of a process of developing an understanding of shared accountability and will develop towards mutually agreed plans for each area; and,
- The importance of adequately prioritising and resourcing work on improving timetabling given its potential impact on student and staff experience – the criticality of timetabling is recognised, with a two to three year programme of work to improve matters, which will begin with smaller, incremental improvements. This extends to policy, process, system and culture changes.

4 UCU Marking and Assessment Boycott

• Report on the UCU Marking and Assessment Boycott

An update on the University & College Union's Marking and Assessment Boycott was reviewed. It was noted that structural factors, including the University's typical degree structure and assessment model, as well as participation levels in the boycott and impacts on some examination boards, will mean that a significant minority of the final year undergraduate cohort will not yet receive a degree classification at the usual time. The institutional priority in ensuring that all students receive a final degree classification as promptly as possible was emphasised, as well as the obligation to both completing and continuing students to have their academic work marked and assessed, and that this will be central in any workload planning for staff returning from the boycott. It was noted that, while the Marking and Assessment Boycott is part of a national dispute, an offer has been made locally to staff that salary deductions will not take place if those participating in the boycott agree to mark and assess the work of graduating and final year students.

• Representation Regarding Approval of Academic Exceptions

A representation from 24 Senate members seeking Court's review and potential nullification of decisions made by the Senate Academic Policy and Regulations Committee to make a number of temporary variations to academic policies and regulations to mitigate against the potential impact to students given the University & College Union's Marking and Assessment Boycott was considered. Responses from the Convener of the Academic Policy & Regulations Committee and colleagues providing clerical and governance support to the committee to points made in the representation were noted. The outcome of a vote held at the Senate meeting on 24 May was noted, where a majority voted against a motion to require industrial action-related measures that might otherwise be agreed by a Senate committee to instead be presented to Senate as a whole for approval, alongside advice provided on the scope of Court's powers in this area. Confidence was expressed in the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee and regarding whether Court should review the decisions made by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee, it was noted that Court would need to be

satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist and that Senate did not opt to review the decisions of the Committee. Court agreed that it would not review the decisions made by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee.

5 Students' Association and Sports Union Reports

Regular reports from the Students' Association and Sports Union were received, with matters highlighted including the Students' Association Teaching Awards and findings from a student cost of living survey.

6 Senate Report

The report was noted and the following points were raised in discussion:

- The externally facilitated review of Senate is progressing, with a final report expected shortly;
- Informing Court on staff experience matters as well as student experience matters and links between the two – noting that Policy & Resources Committee receives a regular People Report, referenced in the Committee's reports to Court, with the Director of HR agreeing to consider further a separate report to Court; and,
- Developing connections between Court and Senate – with the report from the externally facilitated review of Senate an opportunity to review and discuss this when it is submitted to Court.

7 Resolutions

• Resolutions: Degree Programme Regulations

The following Resolutions containing annual updates for the degree programme regulations were approved:

No. 8/2023: Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations

No. 9/2023: Postgraduate Degree Programme Regulations

• Resolutions: Chairs

The following Resolutions to establish Chairs or alter the title of existing Chairs were approved:

No. 10/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Human Robot Interaction

No. 11/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Architectural History and Theory

No. 12/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Buddhist Studies and Indian Religions

No. 13/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Landscape and Wellbeing

No. 14/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Comparative Public Policy

No. 15/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Innovation in Food Systems

No. 16/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of the Sociology of Health and Illness

No. 17/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Bilingualism and Language Development

No. 18/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Comparative Social Policy

No. 19/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Documentary Film

No. 20/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Public Policy and Democratic Innovation

No. 21/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Practical Philosophy

No. 22/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Coastal and Marine Archaeology

No. 23/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Cultural Anthropology

No. 24/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Contemporary Jewish Cultural History

No. 25/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Art History

No. 26/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Gender and Politics

No. 27/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Behavioural Genetics
No. 28/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Interpersonal Relationships in Education
No. 29/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Cognitive Neuropsychology
No. 30/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Social Research on Inequality
No. 31/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Interdisciplinary Design Studies
No. 32/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Political Theory
No. 33/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Science, Technology and Innovation Studies
No. 34/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of International Security
No. 35/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Biblical Criticism and Biblical Antiquities
No. 36/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Music Psychology
No. 37/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Medieval Art
No. 38/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Pragmatics
No. 39/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Archaeology of the Roman Empire
No. 40/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of South Asia and International Development
No. 41/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of U.S. History
No. 42/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Epistemology
No. 43/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Anthropology and Health
No. 44/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Translation Studies
No. 45/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Seventeenth-Century Literature
No. 46/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Syntax and Semantics
No. 47/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Research Collaboration
No. 48/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Neurophilosophy of Agency and Free Will
No. 49/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
No. 50/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Brain Imaging
No. 51/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Veterinary Anatomy
No. 52/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Forensic Pathology
No. 53/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Glial Cell Biology
No. 54/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Veterinary Anatomic Pathology
No. 55/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Nephrology
No. 56/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Bowel Cancer UK/Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh Chair of Colorectal Cancer Research
No. 57/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Student Learning in Primary Care
No. 58/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Regenerative Nephrology
No. 59/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Rheumatology
No. 60/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Medical Oncology (Cancer Informatics)
No. 61/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Vertebrate Developmental Biology
No. 62/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Educational Development and Student Learning
No. 63/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Genetic Engineering
No. 64/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Palliative and Supportive Care
No. 65/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Integrative Endocrinology
No. 66/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Critical Care and Epidemiology
No. 67/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Digital Biomarkers and Precision Medicine
No. 68/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Computational Protein Biology
No. 69/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Veterinary Dermatology
No. 70/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Neurodegenerative Disorders and Clinical Trials
No. 71/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Bioinformatics
No. 72/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Experimental Hepatology
No. 73/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Small Animal Gastroenterology
No. 74/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Veterinary Public Health Education
No. 75/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Healthcare for Older People
No. 76/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Neuroscience and Mental Health
No. 77/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Neurology and Epidemiology
No. 78/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Autophagy and Cellular Homeostasis

No. 79/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Cardiovascular Imaging
 No. 80/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Behavioural Neuroscience
 No. 81/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Geomorphology
 No. 82/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Speech Technology
 No. 83/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Observational Cosmology
 No. 84/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Experimental Planetary Science
 No. 85/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Land System Science
 No. 86/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Sustainable Energy Systems
 No. 87/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Rock Physics
 No. 88/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Ecology and Disease
 No. 89/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Statistics and Data Science
 No. 90/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Earth Observation
 No. 91/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Computer Systems and Architecture
 No. 92/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Computational Neuroscience
 No. 93/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Statistical Signal Processing
 No. 94/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Renewable Energy Technology and Policy Innovation
 No. 95/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Fluid and Suspension Dynamics
 No. 96/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Electronics and Information Engineering
 No. 97/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Geography & Interaction
 No. 98/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Mineral Physics
 No. 99/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Flavour Physics
 No. 100/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Communications Engineering
 No. 101/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Theoretical Astrophysics
 No. 102/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Optical and Wireless Communications
 No. 103/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Biomedical Informatics
 No. 104/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Neutron Spectroscopy
 No. 105/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Impulsive Dynamics
 No. 106/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Chronobiology
 No. 107/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Chemical Biotechnology
 No. 108/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Mechanistic Cell Biology
 No. 109/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Mathematics of Data Science
 No. 110/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Future Governance, Public Policy and Technology
 No. 111/2023: Alteration of the title of the Chair of Geometry and Physics

8 Other Items

Regular reports from Court's committees, the Development & Alumni Office and from the Director of Finance were reviewed. The University Group-level budget for 2023-24 was approved. Updates on the People and Money system, the commissioning of an external review on the implementation of the People & Money system and the procurement of a private sector partner to join the existing partnership between the University, Scottish Enterprise and the City of Edinburgh Council to create a health innovation district at the Edinburgh BioQuarter site were all reviewed. Annual reports on the Data-Driven Innovation initiative within the Edinburgh and South-East Scotland City Region Deal, the implementation of the Prevent Duty and the Students Association's compliance with the Education Act 1994 were noted.

9 October 2023

1 New Members and Attendees; Matters Arising

New members and attendees present at their first meeting were welcomed: Rushad Abadan, Co-opted Member; Mark Patrizio, Trade Union Professional Services Member; Louise Kelso, General Counsel & Director of Legal Services (attendee); and, Dan Wedgwood, Head of Court Services (attendee).

It was noted that the external effectiveness review of Senate has concluded and the review and its recommendations will be considered at the first Senate meeting of the new academic year, with Court to be updated subsequently.

2 Principal's Report

Peter Mathieson, Principal & Vice-Chancellor, commented on:

- Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) 2023 valuation: a recent joint statement from Universities UK and the University & College Union on collaboration towards scheme stability, USS benefit improvements and reduced contribution rates was welcomed. It was noted that an employer consultation and a member consultation will follow, with the intention to implement changes early in the new calendar year;
- Exascale supercomputer: the University has been selected as the preferred location to host the UK government-funded next generation Exascale supercomputer, part of a £900m investment in the UK's computing capacity;
- Major change projects: the final phase of the new student support model and the new virtual learning environment Learn Ultra were both implemented successfully at the start of the new semester;
- Economic impact report: a link to a [video](#) summarising the findings of an independent economic impact report on the University has been circulated for members to view. A reception was also held to publicise and celebrate the economic and social impact of the University in the local community.
- Philanthropic activity: the regular update on philanthropic activity was highlighted, including the Insights Programme, which provides work placements and career support for widening participation students from alumni hosts.

3 Student Survey Results 2023

Findings from the National Student Survey (NSS), Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES) and Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) 2023 and actions to improve student experience were reviewed. It was commented that, while there were positive elements in the surveys, the overall findings were disappointing and there is a collective determination to improve the student experience to match the University's recognised excellence in research, as referenced in Strategy 2030. Actions to improve student experience have been prioritised as:

- Three major initiatives: student support; assessment and feedback; curriculum transformation;
- Continuous improvement work to address known "pain-points" raised by students; and,
- Greater alignment, prioritisation, co-ordination, resource planning, and communication and engagement to enable the delivery of the above.

The three Heads of College were invited to comment, with topics raised including recognition of the critical importance of improving student experience of assessment and feedback, an area where survey results consistently show relatively low levels of satisfaction at the University in comparison to peers but where there are areas of good practice that can be

learned from. Setting clear expectations on the timeliness of feedback for the benefit of students and monitoring this to achieve greater consistency was highlighted, along with building a culture of parity of esteem between teaching and research.

The following points were raised in open discussion:

- Work to ensure consistency of expectations and experience was welcomed, including considering the volume and type of assessment, with over-assessment in some areas raised;
- The typical model utilised at the University of large scale undergraduate teaching in the initial years and the reliance on written rather than verbal feedback are likely to lead to lower student satisfaction levels;
- Examples of good practice and positive changes made should be well communicated;
- Work in train, such as on minimum standards of training for PhD students who assist with teaching, should be completed and publicised;
- The risk of well-intentioned work bureaucratising student experience rather enhancing it and in taking approaches that have been tried previously but without measurably improving student satisfaction;
- Students and staff may vary greatly in their expectations and understanding of assessment and feedback and clearly explaining the approaches used at the University and reasons for this can help better align these;
- Given the importance of the subject those in leadership positions should be able to monitor progress throughout the year;
- The commitment of senior staff across the University to work in tandem and demonstrate accountable leadership has been articulated by the three Heads of College and the Vice-Principal Students;
- The importance of building a sense of community amongst students and staff can help improve understanding and reception of feedback and strengthen a feeling of student voice and agency.

Members and presenters were thanked for their contributions and the importance the Court places on improving student experience noted.

4 Student Recruitment 2023/24 entry

An overview of the expected outturn of the 2023/24 entry undergraduate and postgraduate student recruitment cycle was presented. Overall, while the census date has yet to be reached, it was noted that intake levels are likely to be broadly on or near target, including for Widening Participation students. Intake targets have been aligned to the Size and Shape exercise, with the intention to meet rather than exceed targets to assist with providing a high quality student experience, including ensuring availability of University student accommodation for those eligible. Some sector-wide trends in the current cycle were highlighted.

5 Students' Association and Sports Union Reports

The Students' Association President and the Sports Union President presented reports, with matters highlighted including:

- Student sabbatical officer objectives, including building a sense of community and belonging, particularly for Widening Participation students, the cost of living, and managing the temporary closure of Teviot Row House for renovation work and its impact on collaborative and social space for students;
- The employment of a Chinese native speaking student to assist with communications and engagement with Chinese students during Welcome Week;

- University student accommodation has been available to all those eligible under the accommodation guarantee scheme and more beyond;
- The success of student athletes in elite competitions held over the summer period was congratulated;
- Priorities for the Sports Union include supporting the physical and mental health of students, along with advocating for improved and expanded facilities to better cater for increased demand from students to participate in sport at all levels; and,
- Encouraging continuing undergraduate and postgraduate students to consider engaging in clubs and societies that they may not have initially joined as first year undergraduates.

6 New Darwin Estates Project

A project update, including a revised anticipated budget for the New Darwin project to deliver the final phase of the 'Building a New Biology' project to create a new hub for the School of Biological Sciences, was presented. The context of the School's strong performance and potential to further strengthen in areas such as engineering biology as a result of a new building that would better allow for collaborative and interdisciplinary research and teaching was highlighted. It was noted that the request is for an updated provision within the Capital Plan to reflect the revised budget along with funding for professional fees to further develop the design in preparation for a full business case. It was confirmed that the project is aligned with Size and Shape plans.

Court:

- Noted the approval of an outline business case by Estates Committee on 6 September 2023;
- Approved an amendment to the budget allocated in the prioritised Capital Plan for the project
- Approved funding for fees in order to develop the design to RIBA Stage 3 (Developed Design) in support of preparation of a Full Business Case; and,
- Noted that feasibility study fees have been spent on the project to date against 'Building a New Biology' funding.

7 Staff Engagement Survey

Key themes from the University-level results of the 2023 Staff Engagement Survey and lessons learned and planned next steps for future staff surveys were reviewed. It was noted that other people-related work is ongoing, including the Grade Scale Review, a review of the contribution award policy and a project on academic promotions, amongst others and Human Resources colleagues are engaging with staff trade unions on this work as appropriate. On the staff engagement survey, the low response rate was raised as a particular concern, along with a low proportion of those who did respond believing that action will be taken in response to the survey. The impact of the low response rate on the reliability of the findings was raised and it was proposed that, given the limited time available for discussion at this meeting, follow-up to the survey be returned to within a future People Report to Court.

8 People and Money External Review Update

An update on the Court-commissioned external review of the implementation of the People & Money System was considered. It was noted that PA Consulting have been appointed to conduct the review and will present a final report to the next meeting, which will be accompanied by a management response for review by Court.

9 Rectorial Election Regulations

Draft regulations and related documents relevant for the Rectorial election expected in February/March 2024 were presented. Communications of the regulations were discussed and it was noted that the draft regulations had been circulated in advance to the Edinburgh University Students' Association and the Joint Unions Liaison Committee (and a paper on the proposed election dates had been reviewed by Senate and comments received summarised in the paper) and would be published on the University website when the call for nominations is opened and publicised through usual communication channels to students and staff. It was queried how potential breaches of University policies should be reported and in response it was confirmed that during the election period this should be reported to the Deputy Returning Officer in the first instance and, if relating to a Rector after an election has concluded, through the usual process of raising a complaint.

The election regulations were approved and have been published at: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/about/mission-governance/elect-your-rector/rules-and-regulations>, along with a role description for the Rector and a statement on the role of the Rector and the Senior Lay Member, both published at: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/about/mission-governance/elect-your-rector/the-role-of-rector>.

10 Outcome Agreement 2023-24

A near final Outcome Agreement 2023-24 and associated annexes was reviewed and approved. Authority was delegated to the Deputy Secretary Governance & Strategic Planning to make any minor revisions and to submit the documentation to the Scottish Funding Council by 31 October.

11 Annual Report to the Scottish Funding Council on Institution-led Review and Enhancement Activity

The annual report was approved and the Senior Lay Member authorised to sign the supporting statement.

12 Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression: update on progress and plans

An update on the work of the Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression Working Group in academic year 2022/23 and plans for academic year 2023/24 was noted.

13 Other Items

Regular reports from Court's committees, the Development & Alumni Office and from the Director of Finance were reviewed. The annual internal review of Court's effectiveness for the 2022/23 academic year was reviewed and approved. An amendment to the governing deed of the Development Trust in order to establish an additional independent trustee position and the appointment of Perdita Fraser to this position for a three year term of office in the first instance was approved.

Electronic Senate

10 – 24 January 2024

Knowledge Strategy Committee Report

Description of paper

1. The paper reports on the Knowledge Strategy Committee meeting held on a hybrid basis on 24 October 2023.

Action requested / recommendation

2. Senate is invited to note the report.
3. Members are invited to submit any comments, observations, or reservations via completion of a Microsoft Form available on the [Senate Members Portal](#) (Senate member access only). These comments will be added verbatim to the Senate Members Portal e-Senate page where comments can be viewed by other Senate members. The comments will also be published on the EASE-protected e-Senate comments webpage at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>

Resource implications

4. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Risk management

5. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Equality & diversity

6. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

7. Regular reports on aspects of the Committee's work of interest to Senate will continue to be submitted.

Author

Jamie Tait
Clerk to Knowledge Strategy Committee
December 2023

Freedom of Information

Open paper

REPORT FROM THE KNOWLEDGE STRATEGY COMMITTEE

24 October 2023

1 **Presentation: University Priorities and Challenges in Ethical AI and Data Practice; AI and Data Ethics Advisory Board (AIDE)**

Professor Shannon Vallor, Baillie Gifford Chair in the Ethics of Data and Artificial Intelligence, gave a presentation on University priorities and challenges in ethical artificial intelligence and data practice. It was noted that the University has been a leader in AI for over 60 years, with an interdisciplinary culture of collaboration unique in the UK. The following was covered:

- An overview of the AI and Data Ethics Advisory Board (AIDE), formed in 2019 by the University Executive and comprising of subject matter experts with academic, professional services and student representation.
- Opportunities for the University with AI developments, as well as emerging and urgent issues.
- Key University community needs and ambitions for responsible AI at the University.

The Committee welcomed the detailed presentation, and discussed the issue of how online training for all staff and students on responsible AI dimensions could be taken forward, as well as how the embedding of generative AI and associated governance and oversight are being approached.

The Convener thanked Professor Vallor for her presentation and noted it would be helpful for KSC to receive a further update from the AIDE Board at a future meeting.

2 **Presentation: Digital Strategy, Digital Estate Update**

Gavin McLachlan, Vice-Principal and Chief Information Officer, and Librarian to the University, Stephen Roy, Digital Transformation Programme Manager, and Gail Redford, Project Manager, gave a presentation on the University Digital Strategy. A background to the digital estate was provided, followed by a summary of the Digital Estate Prioritisation (DEP) Group, who are responsible for prioritising the major digital estate investments (over £2m total project costs capital and revenue) in the digital estate over the next 5-10 years. Three subgroups have met to carry out detailed discussions on possible priority areas, with the DEP Group now having agreed 6 areas to be taken forward to full business case: MyEd personalised student portal; Sports and Exercise platform replacement; Estates Facilities Management; SMART campus; Hardware and Software Asset Management; and Hotel Platform. These will all progress through appropriate standing governance committees for consideration and approval. An update on the Digital Strategy implementation was also noted.

Post meeting note: The Hotel Management system has been descoped from this list at this time, however work is underway to consider a larger business case for the ACE accommodation and catering system that would include the hotel functionality.

The Committee welcomed the update and discussed the ethical implications of the SMART campus proposal, which aims to deliver more effective and efficient operation of both the physical and digital estate through the use of Internet of Things (IoT) sensors and Wi-Fi data capture, analytics and visualisation techniques. It was confirmed any proposals would be submitted to the AIDE Board for approval, with any subsequent changes also requiring Board approval. It was also confirmed that there were strict standards to adhere to, for

example in occupancy management with data being anonymised. It was also noted this had links to SeatEd, the University's study space management mobile app, and although this was not going to full business case, a number of pilot areas were currently in use, including the main library.

3 Chief Information Officer Update

- **University-wide IT community event.** It was noted that half of the IT spend across the University was in ISG, with the other half in Colleges and Schools. In order to bring staff across the IT community together, the first of a planned quarterly event was scheduled to take place in November 2023, with the IT community invited to contribute to the agenda.
- **Information Governance Review Group.** This group, co-chaired with the Vice-Principal and University Secretary, has been tasked with looking at overall information governance at the University. The outputs of this Group will be shared with KSC amongst others in due course.
- **Wider IT sector issues:**
 - Global supply chain disruptions reported at previous meetings have now improved, although shortages for some specialised equipment still remain.
 - Primarily a result of the impact of Covid, it was noted that some software manufacturers have implemented increases in annual charges at rates and in ways which required continued scrutiny and negotiation, including on a sector-wide basis through the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC).
- **Artificial Intelligence:**
 - ISG was currently working on two AI products for general use across the University, including a Chatbot for use on EdHelp. These will be submitted to the AIDE Board for approval.
 - Acceleration of software development through AI was noted, with the cost of making educational technology substantially reduced. This has resulted in application proliferation and software of varying quality.
- **Challenges facing the digital estate.** In addition to the 6 areas that the DEP have agreed to be taken forward to full business case, it was noted there are three further areas to highlight:
 - Future updates to the student record (EUCLID), which will be key to the curriculum transformation project. A presentation on this will come to a future KSC meeting.
 - Data centre space will be a major consideration going forward. The Committee also welcomed the recent announcement that the UK Government announced the University was the preferred location for the exascale supercomputer, which will be housed in the EPCC's Advanced Computing Facility.

4 Data Centre Capacity

An update describing the ongoing work on the University's data centre capacity planning was presented. In discussion, it was noted that through negotiations by EPCC (part of the University of Edinburgh and the UK's leading centre of supercomputing and data science expertise), there was a national carbon efficiency saving as a result of hosting national facilities. It was also confirmed that carbon accounting for external cloud services was not currently accounted for, but the Sustainable Information Technology Group was looking into this issue.

It was noted that discussions with Colleges and Schools on their data centre requirements would continue, with a potential paper submitted to the December Estates Committee on plans should investment be identified as being required.

5 Proposed Amendments to Information Technology Committee Terms of Reference

The Committee discussed a proposed amendment to the Information Technology Committee's (ITC) terms of reference, primarily to bring it in line with the Delegated Authority Schedule (DAS). The governance approval routes were noted, and it was agreed it would be helpful if a more detailed report from the ITC could be provided to KSC in future, given the proposed approval level be raised from £500k to £1m (where the budget holder has confirmed the funds are available). Subject to the more detailed reports, the Committee approved the amendment to the ITC terms of reference.

6 Digital Research Services Programme 23/24 Approval

The Committee discussed a paper noting the initial 2023/24 Digital Research Services (DRS) programme investment, and the budget allocations for the DRS programme were subsequently approved.

7 Other items

The Committee noted updates on information security; the planned development and rollout of Windows 11; the Information Services Group capital envelope 2022-2028; the network replacement programme; the IT & Library National Student Survey results for 2023; a Finance Helpline and People & Money support overview; People and Money; and the timetabling and exams replacement project. Regular reports were received from the IT Committee, Library Committee, Digital Research Services Steering Group and Estates Committee.