



General Council Meeting of 12 February 2011: Annex to Billet

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

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Papers for the General Council Meeting on 12 February 2011

1 Formal communications from the University Court

The following Draft Resolutions have been received:

51/2010	Degree of Doctor of Psychotherapy and Counselling
52/2010	Postgraduate Programme Regulations
53/2010	Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations
54/2010	Amendment of Examination and Assessment Regulations and Regulations for the Award of Degrees
55/2010	Appeals against Dismissal
56/2010	Alteration of the title of the Personal Chair of Quantitative Criminology
57/2010	Foundation of the Jeanne Marchig Chair of Animal Welfare Education
58/2010	Foundation of a Chair of Pregnancy Research
59/2010	Foundation of a Chair of Health in Social Science
60/2010	Foundation of a Personal Chair of Distributed Wireless Computation
1/2011	Foundation of a Chair of Adult Respiratory Medicine
2/2011	Foundation of a Personal Chair of Biological Physics

2 Report of the Academic Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 12 February 2011

Convener of the Academic Standing Committee: Professor Ian Sutherland

Since its report to the General Council in June 2010, the Committee has met twice. In May 2010, it met with Mrs. Sheila Cannell, Director of Library Services and Mr. Richard Battersby, College Librarian – Science and Engineering. Mrs. Cannell described the present state of the Main Library and gave an account of the stage of its redevelopment. The Main Library houses the Special Collections and current work aims at making these more accessible. It also houses Journals and books in addition to electronic resources together with working space for staff and students, all heavily used. Among the challenges are the expectation of students that material is available on line and although this is free to users, the University has to pay increasing sums for these. Each use costs approximately 35p. Electronic resources have also changed the nature of readers' usage, tending to spend a short time on each resource rather than extensive reading of a book.

The new facilities in the Library have proved popular with users and the newly opened floors are mainly utilised by Undergraduates and taught Post Graduates, less so by Academic staff. Since the new floors were opened, use has increased by 50-70%. 24-Hour opening is being considered. The Ground floor of the Main Library now houses the 'Forum', help desk and HUB collection as well as study spaces, a café and an exhibition room. The HUB collection of 50,000 items mainly serves first and second year undergraduate courses. The Wolfson Reading room is housed within the Centre for Research Collections.

The space in the Library has been zoned to provide different working environments, each with signs indicating what is and is not allowed. There are traditional quiet areas in addition to study 'pods' which provide space for small groups to study together. The café provides incidental study space and is open to the public as well as members of the University. Comments have been favourable but at exam times there is great pressure on all the available space.

Mr. Battersby talked about the planned redevelopment of the library facilities at Kings Buildings. Since the early period when each Department had its own library, the system had evolved into the three main libraries

which are now on the site, namely Darwin (Biological Sciences), Robertson (Engineering) and James Clerk Maxwell (Maths. and Physical Sciences). Over the last ten years, demand has grown for longer opening hours and new types of study space but there has been little scope to make significant improvements. A new Library, Learning and Resource Centre (LLRC) has been planned on the site of the existing Robertson Library. It will provide 2000 square metres over 4 levels. This will include study space and catered space as well as group space and traditional type of library space. The LLRC will be linked to the adjacent KB Centre and will only house the main book collection. The Journal Collection will be housed in the Darwin Library. The aim is to complete the project by summer 2012. (**Can we check on current status please). As with the Main Library, there has been increased use of online Journals and e-learning. The current buildings do not lend themselves to redevelopment which also creates problems and as a result some facilities are being developed in the JCMB building to give teaching and learning facilities etc. It is hoped that improved facilities at Kings Buildings will make the site more attractive to students and encourage them to make use of it in the evenings and at weekends.

At its meeting in November, the Committee planned its agenda for the coming session, aiming to continue examining aspects of the 'Student Experience'; it will meet with officers of EUSA to learn from the students at first hand. Later sessions will cover both student and teaching accommodation and provisions for student welfare.

3 Report of the Constitutional Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 12 February 2011

Convener of the Constitutional Standing Committee: Mr Ralph V Parkinson

The Committee has held four meetings since the last half-yearly meeting of the General Council. The topics, which have been under consideration for more than a year, include the following:

- (i) The introduction of on-line elections
- (ii) The standardization of periods of office of the members of Assessor Members, members of the Business Committee and the Convener and Vice-Convener of the Business Committee.
- (iii) The simplification of the University Ordinance dealing with the appointment of the Chancellor and the election of Assessor members.

The reason for the revised, simplified ordinance became clear after discussions with the Privy Council about on-line elections and proposed amendments to the periods of office of the Assessor members. A proposed revised simplified Ordinance was prepared and submitted to the Privy Council and the Scottish Government for comment.

The General Council will be invited to approve a number of motions which are the culmination of all the discussions which have taken place. It is the intention of the Committee to keep the detail of the procedures which were in the original Ordinance by incorporating them in the Constitutional Arrangements and Regulations of the General Council. Preliminary consideration has already been given to the revisions necessary to the Constitutional Arrangements, should the proposed new Ordinance be approved.

Other items that have been under discussion are the revision of the document which was prepared to cover General Council documentation under the freedom of Information Act, the preparation of an information sheet which would be circulated to all members who were proposing to stand for election to the Business Committee. The University is to prepare a similar sheet for anyone proposing to stand for election as an Assessor Member.

4 Report of the Finance and Services Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 12 February 2011

Convener of the Finance and Services Standing Committee: Ms Doreen Davidson

5 Report of the Public Affairs Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 12 February 2011

Convener of the Public Affairs Standing Committee: Mr Neil Hynd

The Public Affairs Standing Committee has met three times since the previous report to the General Council on 12 June 2010.

At the invitation of the Standing Committee Professor Mary Bownes, Vice-Principal with Strategic Responsibility for Community Relations, and Mr Rob Tomlinson, Head of Media and Communications, addressed the Committee on the University's wider links with the City of Edinburgh, and its continuing engagement within the City and its institutions. Their presentation explained how, through the University's 'Community Strategy', many initiatives were active within the city including the University's ongoing contributions to the various festivals in the city, especially the Science and Book Festivals. Various events and lecture series throughout the year were also open to the public. The University's strong economic position in the city was emphasised, especially its position as a major employer in the City.

The Festival Reception for Members of the General Council was held in the Talbot Rice Gallery on 26 August 2010. For the first time this event was arranged jointly with the University of Edinburgh Graduates' Association. This helped to boost the number of attendees and was generally considered to be a beneficial development which should be nurtured for future events. The Principal Curator, Ms Pat Fisher, gave an introductory talk on the current displays by Julie Roberts and Graigie Aitchison which were both very thought provoking.

The Committee, working closely with Development & Alumni, has been evaluating the General Council's meeting in Hong Kong last June. The feedback has been very positive. The whole occasion was very enjoyable for the participants and it was felt that much was gained for the international profile of the University, as well as cementing relations with China and other countries in the region. The occasion was also the impetus for the setting up of a local Alumnus Association in Hong Kong.

The Committee has continued to monitor the work of its Media Group which has been looking into new forms of electronic communication which could help bring the work of the General Council to its wider membership. It has also reviewed the development of live question taking via the University website at the General Council meeting in Hong Kong. The arrangements worked well and were appreciated by those who participated. It is proposed that similar arrangements be continued at future General Council meetings.

The Committee has also been working on the arrangements for future meetings of the General Council. In June 2011 the meeting will be held in King's Buildings with the intention of showing members some of the recent developments on that campus. In February 2012 the meeting will again be in Old College. Preliminary discussions have also taken place with interested parties about a venue for the June 2012 meeting. A recommendation to the Business Committee was made that the meeting be held in Brussels.

I would like to close with an appreciation of the work of Dr Mike Mitchell, my predecessor as Convener of the Public Affairs Standing Committee.

6 Meetings of the Business Committee

The Committee has met four times since its last Report was printed, viz. 15 July 2010, 7 October 2010, 2 December 2010 and 27 January 2011.

7 Deaths of Members of the General Council

The deaths of the following members of the General Council have been reported during the year from January 2010 to January 2011. Names have been listed by year of first graduation from the University of Edinburgh.

Struthers, Robert, BSc of 1928, died 2010

Cartner, Winifred Margaret, (né **Wood**), MA of 1929, died 2010

Harper, Robert Alexander Kemp, MB ChB of 1929, MD of 1952, died 2009

Sturrock, Alexander Monro, MA of 1929, LLB of 1931, died 06/07/2010

Lund, Catherine Menzies, (né **Wilson**), MA of 1930, died 18/08/2009

Weir, Minni, Augusta Mullo, MA of 1930, died 20/07/2010

Barclay, John Bruce, MA of 1931, PhD of 1960, died 2010

Harvey, John, BL of 1931, died 2010

Vincent-Rudzka, Doris, (né **Kyd**), MA of 1931, died 2009

Fortune, Fergus Watkin, BSc of 1933, died 01/03/2010

Hamilton, Robert, MA of 1933, BD of 1937, died 2010

Davidson, Nigel George Rupert, MA of 1934, died 2010

Milne, Ina McKenzie, (né **Macgregor**), MA of 1934, died 01/08/2009

Taylor, Charles James, BSc of 1934, PhD of 1953, died 09/01/2010

Waterston, John MacLaren, BSc of 1934, died 06/07/2009

Barclay, Patrick Melvin, MB ChB of 1935, died 04/11/2010

Dodgson, Kenneth, BSc of 1935, died 2010

Marshall, James Scott, MA of 1935, died 08/01/2010

Haselgrove, Evelyn Hope, (né **Johnston**), MA of 1936, died 17/09/2009

Kerr, Isabella Gay, MA of 1936, died 2009

Rawsthorne, Charlotte May, (né **Wood**), MA of 1936, died 2010

Storrar, Alastair, BSc of 1936, died 17/01/2010

Erskine, Jean Meriel, (né **Boyd**), MA of 1937, died 2009

Innes, James, MBChB of 1937, died 2010

Mathieson, James Christopher, MA of 1937, died 05/02/2010

Middleton, Arthur Pierce, MA of 1937, died 18/10/2009

Smith, Alexander Thomson, MA of 1937, BCom of 1939, died 07/03/2010

Campbell, Jane, Bell, (né **Rettie**), MA of 1938, died 08/09/2010

Fraser, Alexander, MA of 1938, died 06/04/2010

Martin, James Watson, MBChB of 1938, died 25/04/2010

Strath, John Alexander Wiseman, MA of 1938, died 26/02/2009

Beveridge, Ian Storrie, MA of 1939, LLB of 1949, died 06/05/2010

Borland, Nessa Claire, (né **Helwig**), BMus of 1939, died 2009

Calder, Muriel Jessie Dale, (né **Black**), MA of 1939, died 2010

Hickie, Alice Patterson, (né **Weatherhead**), PhD of 1939, died 16/09/2009

Macpherson, Elizabeth Taylor, (né **Wilson**), MA of 1939, died 01/08/2010

Wilson, Robert McLachlan, MA of 1939, BD of 1942, died 27/07/2010

Christie, Alastair Malcolm, MBChB of 1940, died 2010

Lundy, Dorothy Margaret, (né **Cownie**), BMus of 1940, died 2010

Minnis, John Wilson, BSc of 1940, PhD of 1943, died 01/03/2009

Reid, Mary Christine, BSc of 1940, died 26/04/2010

Sexton, John Patrick, MBChB of 1940, died 2010
Stevenson, James Edward Mackenzie, MA of 1940, LLB of 1947, died 2010
Turnbull, Thomas Alfred, BCom of 1940, died 04/01/2010
Whiteford, David Hutchison, MA of 1940, BD of 1946, died 21/02/2010

Atkinson, Mary Kerr, (né **Davidson**), MA of 1941, LLB of 1943, died 16/02/2010
Bruce-Lockhart, Patrick, MB ChB of 1941, died 05/08/2009
Cadman, Hester Margaret, (né **Rain** MA of 1941, died 08/10/2010

Crampton Smith, Alexander, MB ChB of 1941, died 20/03/2010
Fraser, Ellis Mary, (né **Matthew**), MB ChB of 1941, died 2010
Kerr, Peter Murray, MB ChB of 1941, died 07/02/2010
Laing, William, BSc of 1941, died 2010
MacQueen, Lilian Edith Cochrane, MA of 1941, PhD of 1957, died 2010
Mercer, James Campbell Gibson, MB ChB of 1941, died 10/05/2010
Millar, John, MA of 1941, died 01/06/2009
Paul, Bettie Bryden, MA of 1941, died 26/01/2010
Slessor, Betty Vivian, (né **Slessor Chatterton**), MB ChB of 1941, died 2010
Walls, Ronald James, MA of 1941, died 02/01/2010
Willison, Jean Campbell, MB ChB of 1941, died 2010

Dinwiddie, John Alexander, MA of 1942, died 2010
Fraser, Mark Stewart, MB ChB of 1942, died 24/11/2010
Lyon, David Henry Scott, MA of 1942, died 28/11/2010
Rarity, Thomas, MA of 1942, died 2010
Wallace, Robert James Stuart, MA of 1942, died 12/05/2009

Clark, David Hazell, MB ChB of 1943, MD of 1967, died 2010
Elliot, Rowland, MB ChB of 1943, died 2010
Gillie, Isla Margaret Sinclair, (né **Jamieson**), MB ChB of 1943, Dip OK? of 1963, died 01/05/2010
Illingworth, David Gordon, MB ChB of 1943, MD of 1963, died 01/09/2009
Maclachlan, Gordon Keith, BSc of 1943, died 2010
Matheson, Thomas Swan, MB ChB of 1943, died 01/11/2009
Wilson, Olive, MB ChB of 1943, died 05/12/2010

Clarkson, Margaret Agnes, (né **Wilson**), BSc of 1944, died 08/10/2009
Dow, John Kenneth Dealtrey, BSc of 1944, died 2010
Gordon, Beatrice Anne, (né **Middleton**), BSc of 1944, died 02/07/2010
Lim, Chong-Eu, (né **Lim**), MB ChB of 1944, Dr hc of 1991, died 24/11/2010
Paterson, James Alexander, MB ChB of 1944, died 2010
Richardson, Ian Milne, MB ChB of 1944, died 16/12/2010
Robertson, David George, MA of 1944, LLB of 1951, died 30/05/2010
Scott, James Henry Shielswood, MB ChB of 1944, died 02/11/2010
Smith, Catherine Margaret Lees, (né **Harrison**), MA of 1944, died 2010

Dodds, Mary Agnes Esslemont, MA of 1945, died 04/10/2009
Hill, Hilary Frances Hoyte, (né **Hamilton**), MB ChB of 1945, died 12/04/2010
Keighley, Geoffrey Dex, BSc of 1945, died 2010
Maitland, Donald James Dundas, MA of 1945, died 22/08/2010
McIntyre, Donald Bertram, BSc of 1945, died 21/10/2009
Robson, James Scott, MB ChB of 1945, died 14/03/2010
Sharman, George Alistair Miller, BSc of 1945, died 03/03/2010
Skinner, Joyce Isobel, MA of 1945, died 07/07/2010
Young, Helen Wardrop, MA of 1945, died 2010

Armour, Agnes Elizabeth, (né **Seager**), MA of 1946, Dip OK? of 1947, died 2010

Fenton, Isobel Stewart, (né **Mowat**), MB ChB of 1946, died 01/11/2009
Gilbert, Robert Angus Fletcher, MB ChB of 1946, died 28/03/2010
Martin, Mollie, (né **Taylor**), MA of 1946, died 2010
Randell, Sheila, (né **Fairgrieve**), MA of 1946, died 17/01/2010
Smith, Jean Hamilton, (né **Roger**), MA of 1946, died 2010
Snow, Henry, MA of 1946, died 2010
Williamson, Alister John Peter, BSc of 1946, died 2010

Anderson, Helen Smith Rae, MA of 1947, died 2010
Buchanan, James Glen Stewart, MB ChB of 1947, died 21/01/2009
Chu, Shuan Jen, PhD of 1947, died 2010
Currie, Ian Stanley, MA of 1947, MLitt of 1970, died 2010

Goodfellow, Mary Ellen, (né **Turnbull**), MA of 1947, died 20/01/2010
Hastings, Andrew Young, MA of 1947, died 2009
Kerr, Ralph Bruce, BCom of 1947, died 19/05/2009
Macalister-Hall, Margaret Sheila, (né **Brooks**), MB ChB of 1947, died 13/05/2010
McKenzie Johnston, Marian Allardyce, (né **Middleton**), MA of 1947, died 23/10/2009
Murray, Colin William Angless, MB ChB of 1947, died 20/01/2009
Pendreich, Kenneth, Watt, BL of 1947, died 2010

Aungle, Jean Clare, (né **Horwill**), MB ChB of 1948, died 2010
Currie, Irene Rose Bruce, (né **Muir**), MB ChB of 1948, died 2010
Dodds, Alistair William Hastie, BSc of 1948, died 20/06/2010
Downie, Campbell George Balfour, BSc of 1948, MBChB of 1950, died 24/10/2009
Grimson, John Alexander, MA of 1948, died 02/08/2010
Inglis, Lorraine Mary, (né **Paterson**), MB ChB of 1948, died 2009
Jamison, Wallace Newlin, PhD of 1948, died 01/01/2011
Jenkins, Agnes Kathleen, (né **Mieras**), BSc of 1948, died 04/03/2010
Law, James Turner Hamish, BSc of 1948, PhD of 1971, died 2010
Nord, Harry Fraser, BSc of 1948, died 12/01/2010
Rowe, Kathleen Hunter, MA of 1948, died 03/12/2009
Runciman, William Allan, BSc of 1948, DSc of 1960, died 01/11/2009
Rutherford, Elizabeth Russell, MA of 1948, 1963, died 2010
Stedman, Iain Ferguson Blair, MA of 1948, died 2009
Walker, Colin Cecil Russell, MB ChB of 1948, died 2010

Batho, Walter James Scott, MA of 1949, died 2010
Dutton, Geoffrey John, BSc of 1949, PhD of 1954, died 01/06/2010
Knox, James David Edgar, MB ChB of 1949, MD of 1967, died 14/08/2010
Lunn, Walter Oliver, BL of 1949, died 2009
Miller, Edward Garson, BSc of 1949, died 2010
Redfern, John, BCom of 1949, died 2009
Robertson, James Taylor, BSc of 1949, died 03/06/2010
Rodger, John Basil Alexander, BSc of 1949, died 19/04/2010
Smith, James Alexander Wemyss, MA of 1949, died 17/02/2009
Walker, Marguerite Patricia, MA of 1949, LDS of 1953, died 2009
Whiteford, Patricia Marie, MA of 1949, died 2009

Dean, Thomas Stephen, BSc of 1950, died 2010
Green, George John, MB ChB of 1950, died 2010
Gunn, Alexander Anton, MB ChB of 1950, ChM of 1966, died 09/04/2010
Lawley, Margery Anne, (né **Macpherson**), MB ChB of 1950, died 2010
Lucey, Eric Charles Armine, BSc of 1950, died 26/08/2010
Mackie, Steven Gabriel, MA of 1950, BD of 1954, died 2010
McLaughlin, John BSc of 1950, died 06/02/2010

McVie, Duncan Hunter, MB ChB of 1950, died 07/07/2010
Morris, Margaret, (né **Jackson**), MB ChB of 1950, died 26/08/2010
Nimmo-Smith, Andrew James, BL of 1950, died 04/07/2009
Phillips, Patrick Noble Stowell, MA of 1950, died 02/08/2009
Rodger, Allan Charles MacGregor, MA of 1950, Dip of 1951, died 2009
Smith, Samuel McCall, MB ChB of 1950, died 2010
Smythe, John William, BL of 1950, died 27/07/2010
Stewart, Fiona Wilma, MA of 1950, died 10/07/2009
Vaughan, David Hughes, MB ChB of 1950, died 2010
Wright, Alan Charlton, MB ChB of 1950, died 2010

Barr, Hugh Cooper, MB ChB of 1951, died 2010
Beachey, Raymond Wendell, PhD of 1951, died 10/07/2010
Belford, Frederick Dennis Rhind, BSc of 1951, died 2010
Cromarty, James Irvine, MB ChB of 1951, Dip of 1962, died 2010
Dow, Anne Brunton, (né **McArthur**), MB ChB of 1951, died 2010

Dunlop, William Gilbert Adam, MA of 1951, died 04/06/2010
Greenwood, James Thomson, MA of 1951, died 12/09/2010
Hepburn, John Henderson, BSc of 1951, died 2009
Irvine, Geoffrey Christopher, MB ChB of 1951, DTM&H of 1959, died 2010
Jamieson, Margaret Forbes, MB ChB of 1951, BSc of 1954, died 08/12/2009
Riddell, William Douglas, MB ChB of 1951, died 2010
Souter, Jean Helen, MA of 1951, died 2009
Sutherland, John Hugh, MB ChB of 1951, died 2010
Whitton, Jessie Marjory, (né **Moir**), MA of 1951, Dip of 1952, died 13/10/2009

Aitken, John Alexander, MB ChB of 1952, died 2010
Alexander, Barbara Elizabeth, (né **Swinburn**), MA of 1952, died 2010
Campbell, Hamish Argyll, MB ChB of 1952, died 18/12/2009
Carrie, Margaret, (né **Hope**), MB ChB of 1952, died 06/12/2009
Denholm, Robert Kerr, MA of 1952, died 2010
French, Arthur Harper, MB ChB of 1952, died 23/10/2008
Hills, Joseph William, MA of 1952, died 18/06/2009
Home, George, BL of 1952, died 2010
Laidlaw, John Patrick, MB ChB of 1952, died 2009
Paintal, Autur Singh, PhD of 1952, DSc of 1960, died 2010
Partridge, Alan Bernard, MB ChB of 1952, died 08/04/2010
Paterson, James Veitch, LLB of 1952, died 07/05/2010
Philip, Gordon Clark, MA of 1952, died 2009
Scott, Esme, (né **Burnett**), MA of 1952, LLB of 1954, died 2010
Sinclair, Susan Archer, (né **Cameron**), MA of 1952, died 21/05/2010

Barnes, Jack Alfred Ernest, BCom of 1953, died 02/02/2010
Fairlie, Alan Robert, BL of 1953, died 2009
Glennie, Wemyss Buyers, LLB of 1953, died 2010
Watson, George Vance, BSc of 1953, died 01/08/2009

Bisset, William Hugh, MB ChB of 1954, died 2009
Christie, William James, BL of 1954, died 08/08/2010

Boxer, Neil Campbell Gordon, MA of 1955, died 15/11/2009
Ellis, Edward Earle, PhD of 1955, died 02/03/2010
Hendry, Derek Paul, MA of 1955, 1956, died 01/01/2011
Imlah, Norman William, MB ChB of 1955, died 2009
Levack, Alexander, MA of 1955, died 2009

Manktelow, David Brian Saxby, BSc of 1955, died 2010
More, Andrew, BSc of 1955, died 17/11/2009
Paterson-Brown, June, (né **Garden**), MB ChB of 1955, died 06/12/2009
Pattie, James Alexander Allan, BSc of 1955, died 04/01/2010
Ross, Colin Malcolm Douglas, MB ChB of 1955, died 31/07/2009
Simpson, Gordon McDonald, MA of 1955, BD of 1959, died 2010

Gasson, Patrick William, MB ChB of 1956, died 18/11/2009
Sinha, Harendra Prasad, PhD of 1956, died 28/04/2010

Gunn, Margaret Henrietta, (né **Gunn**), MA of 1957, died 2009
Lusman, Philip, BSc of 1957, died 2009
McCulloch, John Hutton, MA of 1957, died 20/11/2010
Morrow, William Terence, BVMS of 1957, died 2009
Whyte, Ian Archibald Campbell, BL of 1957, died 2009

Adamson, Duncan, MA of 1958, died 2009
Cameron, John Campbell, MA of 1958, died 15/12/2009
Heywood, Ralph, BVMS of 1958, died 04/07/2010
Kinch, David Alan, BVMS of 1958, died 14/02/2010
Orr, George MB ChB of 1958, died 12/06/2010
Will, David Houston, BL of 1958, died 24/09/2009

Brydon, Roderick George Paterson, BMus of 1959, 1960, died 23/06/2010
Heath, Bernice, (né **Lewis**), MA of 1959, died 06/11/2009
Malone, Charles Michael, MB ChB of 1959, died 04/10/2009
Wahler, Saw, BVMS of 1959, died 14/06/2010
Watt, John Godsman, BVMS of 1959, died 2010
Johnston, Cecil Anderson, MA of 1960, LLB of 1962, died 2010

Morris, John James, BSc of 1960, died 13/08/2009
Robson, Richard Peter, BVMS of 1960, died 2010
Smith, Valerie Graeme, BEd of 1960, MEd of 1966, died 10/03/2010
Wilson, Kathleen Jean Wallace, BSc of 1960, PhD of 1971, died 02/03/2010

Bay, Rolf Egil, BDS of 1961, died 2009
Davison, Nigel St John, DMus of 1961, died 26/10/2009
Ertz, Celia Mary, (né **Bowstead**), MA of 1961, died 2010
Ertz, Miklos Imre, MA of 1961, died 2010
Jenkinson, Edith Ann Robina, MA of 1961, died 2009
McArthur, Stuart, MA of 1961, died 2009
Pearson, Michael Valentine Milton, BVMS of 1961, died 2009
Poncia, John, MB ChB of 1961, died 01/01/2011
Reid, Helen Margaret Jennifer, MA of 1961, died 09/08/2010
Rodger, John Owen Kelvin, BVMS of 1961, died 2009
Sargeant, John Pilkington, BVMS of 1961, died 2009
Ure, Nancy Macleod, BDS of 1961, died 2009

Bailey, Ronald Ayton, MB ChB of 1962, died 27/07/2010
Easton, John Dalglish, MA of 1962, died 10/10/2009

Clapham, Caroline Margaret, (né **Tutton**), MA of 1963, died 14/12/2009
Dobson, Keith Burns, BVMS of 1963, died 2010
Jamieson, Ian, MA of 1963, died 26/02/2010
Wilson, Francis Alexander, MA of 1963, died 2010

Auld, James Gillies, BDS of 1964, died 28/10/2009
Gardner, Ronald Ellis, BVMS of 1964, died 2010
Hicks, Carola Margaret, (néé **Brown**), MA of 1964, PhD of 1968, died 23/06/2010

Barclay, Ann Patricia Katherine, (néé **Barnard**), MA of 1965, died 2009
Beattie, Agnes Meek McKee, MA of 1965, died 2010
Frerichs, Graham Nicolas, BVMS of 1965, died 2010
Jennings, David Swanton, BVMS of 1965, died 2010
Jones, Richard Wynn, BSc of 1965, MB ChB of 1968, died 2010
Perrygrove Ronald, BDS of 1965, died 2010

Browning, Alister James, MA of 1966, died 18/03/2010
Firn, Richard David, BSc of 1966, died 2010
Gordon, Alan Fordyce, MA of 1966, died 18/01/2010
McKenna, Roseanna Mary Magdalene, LLB of 1966, died 2010
Penman, Alistair, BSc of 1966, died 03/08/2010
Taylor, John Alistair, MA of 1966, PhD of 1973, died 23/01/2010
Wright, Anne Rose Mary, (néé **MacKenzie**), MBChB of 1966, died 2010

Arthur, Derek William, BSc of 1967, died 2010
Duchart, Brian Swanson, BSc of 1967, PhD of 1971, died 2010
Fredericks, Roland Stanley, PhD of 1967, died 31/12/2009
Hill, Peter Graham, BSc of 1967, PhD of 1974, died 2010
Hope, Joseph, BSc of 1967, MBChB of 1970, died 03/02/2009
Macpherson, George Alastair, MA of 1967, died 21/10/2009

Pryde, Ian Johnston, BSc of 1967, PhD of 1971, died 15/12/2009

Bray, Nicholas Anthony Christopher, MA of 1968, died 2010
Brown, Sandra Mary Knight, BMus of 1968, died 2010
Buchanan, James, BVMS of 1968, died 2010
Newlands, Alexander Graham, PhD of 1968, died 2009

Chilton, Ronald Michael Leeman, BD of 1969, died 2010
Gunn, Marion Ballantyne, (néé **Tait**), MA of 1969, died 2010
Pert, Morris David Brough, BMus of 1969, died 27/04/2010
Shah, Devendra Virchand, BSc of 1969, died 2010

Beales, Philip Martin, LLB of 1970, died 11/07/2010
Bertie, Shirley, BEd of 1970, died 2010
McLaren, Kathryn Mary, BSc of 1970, BSc of 1972, MB ChB of 1974, died 30/07/2009

Bradfield, Sheila Mary, (néé **Jamieson**), MA of 1971, died 2010
Bruce, George Ian Alfred Tilney, BVMS of 1971, died 2010
Neill, William Wilson, MA of 1971, died 05/04/2010

Orr, John Mackinney, PhD of 1972, died 01/09/2010
Robertson, John Wylie, BSc of 1972, died 2010
Steele, Margaret Filshie, (néé **Strang**), MA of 1972, died 2010
Thomson, Williamina Walker, BSc of 1972, Dip of 1973, died 03/05/2010
Webb, Louis Alfred, BVMS of 1972, died 2010
White, Iain Harvey, BSc of 1972, MB ChB of 1975, died 2010

Anderson, Ray Sherman, PhD of 1973, died 2009
Hutchinson, Mary Orchard, MA of 1973, died 04/02/2010
Hyvonen, Pekka Markus, BDS of 1973, died 2009

Auld, Margaret Gibson, MPhil of 1974, died 12/09/2010
Badger, Thomas Reginald, MB ChB of 1974, died 07/08/2010
Cowe, Sheila, (né **McPherson**), BA of 1974, died 09/07/2009
McAndrew, Alan James, LLB of 1974, died 01/12/2010

Cottrell, David Frederick, MSc of 1975, PhD of 1981, died 2010
Dorward, John Alexander, MB ChB of 1975, died 22/03/2010
Howe, Jonathan Geoffrey, BDS of 1975, died 2009
Laing-Reilly, Thomas William, BMus of 1975, died 21/04/2010
McKenzie, Ronald, BSc of 1975, died 2010
Russell, Joseph, BSc of 1975, died 2010
Weir, Rosemary Isobel, BSc of 1975, MPhil of 1988, died 05/12/2009

Campbell, Elizabeth Anne, MA of 1976, MPhil of 1978, died 2010
Chisholm, Alastair Graham, BSc of 1976, died 2010
Patterson, Edmund William, BSc of 1976, PhD of 1982, died 2010
Whyte, Hugh, BSc of 1976, MB ChB of 1979, died 09/11/2009

Maccabe, Hilary Jane, BA of 1977, died 14/04/2009
Masson, Elspeth Agnes, (né **Fisher**), MA of 1977, died 2010
Tyre, Elaine Patricia, (né **Carlin**), BA of 1977, LLB of 1979, died 2010

Cooney, Kevin John, MA of 1978, died 2009
Crampton, Colin Peter, PhD of 1978, died 2010
Fears, Michael Richard, PhD of 1978, died 2010
McNairn, Caroline Elizabeth, MA of 1978, died 29/09/2010

McMillan, Heather Lang, MA of 1979, died 2009

Denyer, Peter Brian, PhD of 1980, died 22/04/2010
Herd, Douglas Stevens, BDS of 1980, died 06/02/2010
Monelle, Raymond John, PhD of 1980, died 2009
Richardson, Margaret Winifred, (né **Richardson**), MA of 1980, died 2010

Haughton, Gillies, MSc of 1981, died 2010
McFeat, Anna, BA of 1981, died 2010
Seskus, Jura Maria, MSc of 1981, died 01/10/2009

Callin, Rosemary Jean, BSc of 1982, died 2010

Anderson, Alan Alexander, MA of 1983, died 2010
Harrison, Ernest Thomas, Dr hc of 1983, died 16/02/2010
Wemyss and March, Francis David, Dr hc of 1983, died 2010

Fricker, Deborah Lynn, MA of 1984, died 2009

Bradley, Jill, (né **Wright**), BVMS of 1985, died 04/05/2010
Graham, Lesley Grace, (né **Tomlinson**), BSc of 1985, died 2010
Long, Miranda Louise, (né **Beard**), MA of 1985, died 2010

McSeveney, Angela, MA of 1986, died 23/08/2010
Posk, Sarah Jane, (né **Duckworth**), BSc of 1986, died 2010

Nehmzow, Ulrich Dieter Friedrich, NGU OK? of 1987, PhD of 1992, died 15/04/2010

Bristow, Irene Anne, BD of 1988, died 13/06/2010

Black, James Whyte, Hon MD of 1989, died 2010

Henderson, William, MA of 1989, died 10/03/2010

Simpson, Jennifer Margaret, BSc of 1989, died 06/08/2010

Laing, William Kirby, Dr hc of 1991, died 2010

Madden, Peter Neil, PhD of 1991, died 2009

Parker, Tom William Nathaniel, MA of 1991, died 17/04/2009

Simpson, Craig James, PhD of 1991, died 2009

Taylor, Thomas Benedict, MA of 1991, died 2010

Bayar, Monia, PhD of 1992, died 2010

Hosie, Alastair Marshall, BSc of 1992, died 01/03/2010

Simpson, John Alexander, DSc of 1992, died 2010

Magana-Rueda, Sergio Javier, MSc of 1993, died 2010

McVinnie, Margo Jean, MA of 1993, died 2009

Broughton, Eileen Janet Margaret, **NGU** of 1994, MA of 1996, died 14/01/2010

Reith, Fiona Alexandra, MA of 1994, **NGU** of 1995, died 2010

Tourlas, Konstantinos, **NGU** of 1994, MSc of 1996, PhD of 2001, died 12/06/2010

Bolton, Richard Douglas, BSc(H) of 1996, died 01/10/2010

Reid, Dickon Felix, MA(H) of 1996, died 2010

Townsend, Peter, Brereton, Hon DSocSc of 1996, died 2009

Wolfson of Marylebone, Lord, Dr hc of 1996, died 20/05/2010

Rammell, Tracey Ireland, BEng(H) of 1997, died 19/06/2010

Wright, Ernest Frederick, MA(H) of 1999, died 2010

Bryce, Edward, MA of 2000, died 2010

Gregory, Richard L, Hon DSc of 2000, died 17/05/2010

Chapman, Jennifer Anne, MA(H) of 2001, died 2010

Tranter, John Charles Bartlett, BSc(H) of 2001, died 2010

Young, Megan Frances, BVMS of 2001, died 2010

Rodger, Charles Alexander Macdonald, MA(H) of 2002, died 2010

Peat, Doreen, (née **Blyth**), MSc of 2003, died 10/03/2010

Mann, John Lyall, MSc of 2005, died 2010

Barsby, Amy Victoria, MA(H) of 2007, died 08/08/2010

Freeman, Clair, BSc(H) of 2008, died 20/12/2009

Hessey, Sally Louise, BVMS of 2009, died 2010

Brown, Gavin, Hon DSc of 2010, died 25/12/2010

Gillingham, Francis John, died 2010

McMillan, James F, died 22/02/2010

Salmon, Vivian, died 05/11/2010

[degrees of these three?]

Papers from the General Council Meeting on 12 June 2010

A Presentation by Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, Principal and Vice-Chancellor

at the General Council Meeting on 12 June 2010

Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea

Lord Cameron, Members of the General Council: it is a tremendous pleasure to address you and I would like to just start by expressing the University's appreciation of the work of the General Council. We get really good support and advice and I think that the General Council Scholarship initiative is really to be commended. For this presentation I thought I would give the General Council a personal recent history of the University. I will focus on the last decade, looking especially at internationalization because we are meeting in Hong Kong. I will list some of the key new developments and then look forward briefly to some of the challenges and opportunities for the University in the next ten years. If we look at the University exactly ten years ago in 2000, we find one that had just been through a period of very considerable growth: from 1980 to 2000 student numbers doubled reaching 20,000 in 2000. At the same time, state support for students had been steadily eroded and over that twenty year period had come to be worth 60% of what it was. So the University had worked very hard and very successfully to increase its student numbers at a time of steady state reduction of support. In 2000 the University had developed ambitious targets for increasing international student numbers; it had developed a really quite radical plan for restructuring into three Colleges and twenty Schools, replacing a much larger number of academic structures; it was working on an ambitious move of the Medical School to Little France; and it was two years in to the very successful integration of Moray House from 1998.

I will now give you some highlights for each year and then I shall pull them together. In 2000 the Scottish Microelectronics Centre opened at King's Buildings, a joint venture with Scottish Enterprise focusing on semi-conductors. In 2001 there was a Research Assessment Exercise. The University of Edinburgh did very well, twenty-eight subjects in the top two categories and Computer Science unambiguously the strongest in the United Kingdom. In 2002 the plans to open a new Medical School out at Little France came to fruition and they opened in August. There was a new Centre for Infectious Diseases at King's Buildings, a National Centre for e-Science in George Square, an Arts and Humanities Research Council Centre for Studies in Intellectual Property and Technology Law in Old College, and Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal opened the Edinburgh Cancer Research Centre at the Western General Hospital. The Edinburgh-Stanford Link, with the support of Scottish Enterprise, focusing on Informatics and Speech Technology opened with funding of £5.3m. The Economic and Social Research Council Innogen Centre focusing on genomics and its interaction with core science, but also with medicine, opened; and we successfully secured the UK's high performance computer for universities. There was also the successful 'spin out' of Wolfson Microelectronics, which was a record for the time; it floated in 2003 with an initial value of £240m, a great success. Professor Stephen Salter was made an MBE in 2004 for a rain-making machine. He had started working on wave power in the 1970s. And 2004 saw the University's first Chancellor's Awards to Professor Ian Deary for his wonderful cognitive work on ageing; and to Professor Peter Ghazal for his work on genomics. There was a successful reception at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, where Katherine Grainger and Chris Hoy were there with their medals. Edinburgh became the first Scottish university to receive Fair Trade Centre status. Lord Sainsbury opened the Centre for Science at Extreme Conditions; and plans began for a £200m research park now called the Edinburgh BioQuarter alongside the hospital and the University's Medical School at Little France. It also saw the first time the General Council crossed the border and met very successfully in London in that year.

2005 saw the G8 Summit in Gleneagles in Scotland; it saw the 160,000-person 'Make Poverty History' demonstration. The University really behaved in quite an exemplary way in that many of us, including

myself, supported the 'Make Poverty History' march, but we also provided academic debates and such, while at the same time working very well with the civil authorities to ensure that the disruption of the city centre was of an absolute minimum. It saw research pooling being introduced in Chemistry and in Physics, with the University of Edinburgh in the lead. And it saw the ESRC Genomics Forum, where it was decided that there would be a single UK centre where the much wider issues related to genomics that relate to society, that relate to ethics, that relate to commercialisation would be discussed. It was our successful work in Innogen that meant that Edinburgh secured that Centre too, ending up with two of the four major ESRC centres in the area. 2005 saw MTM, a company which started with a £10,000 investment from the University, being sold to a Norwegian company for £138m, but with the company happily staying based in Edinburgh and providing many high quality jobs. Of the 50 companies that were formed in the five years up 2005, MTM was the most successful. 2005 also saw the opening of the University's Beijing Office, and I am delighted that Dr Nini Yang who leads it so successfully is in the audience here today. It also saw the donation of the Roger Mirrey collection of twenty-six very fine early keyboard instruments, clavichords and harpsichords joining the Wallace Collection at St Cecilia's Hall. 2005 also saw the announcement of the plans for the Confucius Institute for Scotland and that was the point at which we recruited the very dynamic Professor Natascha Gentz to the University.

In 2006 for the first time the University filled all the places in all 600 programmes at the first point of asking, very important for our planning and for our reputation. The same year saw the launch of the Campaign 'Enlightenment in the 21st Century' Campaign led by Vice-Principal Young Dawkins. The University won the Queen's Anniversary Prize for its wonderful work on veterinary e-learning which includes a virtual farm with virtual sheep. In 2006 we had a very successful General Council Meeting in Paris; the opening of the Queen's Medical Research Institute (QMRI); Professor Sir Ian Wilmut, who cloned Dolly the Sheep, moved from Roslin to the Chair of Reproductive Medicine in the University; Professor Keith Fox undertook very important work on improving coronary care by early assessment before treatment; and we were really pleased to get J K Rowling's donation for the Multiple Sclerosis Research Centre. 2006 also saw the launch of SAGES (The Scottish Association of GeoSciences Environment and Society), a science pool; and a very nice partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons to offer electronically around the world degrees in surgical science.

2007 saw our securing of HECToR, still ranked as one of fastest civil computers in the world. It saw the Tercentenary of the Law School, with wonderful graduations, including the President of Ireland getting an Honorary Degree; the formation of the Euan MacDonald Centre for Motor Neurone Disease; and it saw wonderful bequests, the Shackleton bequest of 800 clarinets, a bequest, again, like the Mirrey Bequest, which was accompanied by the resources for us properly to curate and look after them. 2007 also saw the wonderful new University tartan. Professor Keith Fox moved on to publish GRACE (The Global Registry of Acute Coronary Events). 2007 also saw the launch of the Medical Research Council's Centre for Regenerative Medicine, and the recruitment of Professor Sir Ian Wilmut. It saw the University in leadership with 'Second Life': it is a virtual environment which we use for an e-learning course about e-learning and for more serious purposes. Professor Austin Tate is a world-leader in doing simulations of disasters and disaster-recovery techniques, so a very important application of a system like 'Second Life' is if you are trying to understand what you should be doing in the middle of an earthquake or in the middle of a tsunami, or in the middle of an avalanche.

2007 saw the University being designated the UK Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab World. It was a competition between all UK universities and it was very important that we secured that. It saw our Fringe ticket sales, tickets for University events, hit 400,000. It also saw a big celebration of Chinese academic success in Beijing, a wonderful event, and it also saw the official opening of the Confucius Institute in Scotland. One of the points I am trying to underline is that in the world of universities and our interaction with government, many of our important developments require taking a strategic fix and then they require being persistent for two, three, four, five years, so clearly we would not have had the successful event in Beijing and the successful opening in Scotland if two years before we had not been positioning ourselves through Dr Yang and through Professor Gentz and other steps. And it saw the University receive a National Energy Efficiency Award for its combined heat and power plant, which was particularly satisfying because it had been designed by a student as part of her work out at King's Buildings. We had a wonderful series of

lectures on Scotland and the Union organised by Professor Tom Devine, who spoke at the last one, and it was a great privilege to hear him then and a great privilege to hear him speaking earlier today.

In 2008 we had a wonderful General Council Meeting in Washington DC where we awarded an Honorary Degree to the astronaut Neil Armstrong. We saw the opening of the £40m Informatics Forum where six of our world-class groupings came together with 600 very happy researchers in an iconic building (on what was a desolate car park opposite the McEwan Hall) which has attracted lots and lots of very well-deserved architectural awards. In 2008 the Research Assessment Exercise had come round again, and the University had a 23% increase in the number of academics which submitted, so we had recruited a lot of academic stars. Informatics was still top, but now Clinical Medicine was unambiguously top in the UK, as well as Linguistics and Veterinary Medicine. A joint submission in Architecture with Edinburgh College of Art had moved to be third in the UK in a very strong field. A joint submission with St Andrews in Chemistry did very well indeed and had us ranked jointly by *Nature* as second in the United Kingdom, second only to Oxford. We saw lots of other successes, and I would particularly highlight English Literature, which again, as one would expect showed itself as a major force. We had a wonderful gift which the Chancellor received for us in the Balcony Room of Buckingham Palace from Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal of £8m for the Centre for the Study of Islam in the Modern World. Again, it is unlikely that massive success would have happened without the hard work that had previously gone into securing the UK Centre for the Advanced Study of the Arab World. We saw the Roslin Institute uniting with the Vet School, uniting its researchers, and we saw now plans for a combined centre for a new Vet School and for a research institute at Easter Bush, with strong links to the researchers in the Scottish Agricultural College in Moredun. There was important work from one of the companies spun out from the University, Artemis Intelligent Power, working on a hybrid car. And since four years had passed, we were back with the Olympics, having a University of Edinburgh party at the Athens Olympics to celebrate success with the great support of George David, one of the University's great philanthropists, and the University of Edinburgh Hall of Fame for Sporting Achievement became established at the same time and received a lot of press recognition. There was also work on stem cells in relation to medicine, with important results with regard to liver regeneration, bone regeneration and cartilage regeneration. And the University was awarded the Carbon Trust Standard.

Coming to 2009, we have the very innovative Students' Association Teaching Awards with their first winners. We were ranked 20th in the world, a very similar position to the University we are in at the moment, the University of Hong Kong, which is ranked 24th: we were ranked 20th in the world in the Times Higher QS (Quality & Success) World Rankings. Ian Ranken opened the very successful Library refurbishment. And again, something which I think demonstrates the idealism in the University, we had a leading role in the foundation of UAEM (Universities Allied for Essential Medicine). This is an attempt by the Medical Research community at the University of Edinburgh and in other leading medical universities to ensure that as drugs are developed based on our research that they are made available in developing countries at affordable prices. I think it is the idealism that is in our medical community and the desire to ensure that the fruits of the research are readily available in sub-Saharan Africa and other important areas is really admirable. We saw the opening of the Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies, funded by Mr Alan McFarlane, and we saw a wonderful new international strategy particularly focusing on Global Academies led by Vice-Principal Professor Hillier. The work on the Global Academies has really provided the banner for the University's work on problems that transcend national boundaries, but also the University's work in partnership with other major world universities. We saw a very important breakthrough in understanding avalanches: people hadn't really understood how avalanches worked and then there was the release of research from the University of Edinburgh which showed that one important source of avalanches is lightly packed snow falling, becoming much more compact very quickly and the energy caused by that downward fall being the thing that actually prompts the avalanche. That gives one a completely different view of what you should be looking for if you are worried about avalanches, because you will start looking for this loosely packed snow rather than starting to look for as it were shear lines. We have the Orkney complex disease study moving along, and Scotland is quite a good medical laboratory in the sense that it has got good public records and a fairly stable population if you are looking for the genetic basis for diseases. Orkney is even better, at that point we had 2,000 volunteers who were helping University of Edinburgh researchers look at the genetic basis for various diseases, and about 200 genes have been identified through that study as having some contribution to some important disease. Our researchers really have good data on who was married to who, who their predecessors were, and what their genes were. We saw a breakthrough £2m gift from the Bill

and Melinda Gates Foundation for Childhood pneumonia in Africa, and we saw a very welcome increase in support from Santander who gave us 20 Latin American scholarships a year to go on with a previously very good support. And we saw what I will describe as the 'Roslin Bounce'. We were not sure what would happen when Roslin left the control and direct governance of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and moved into the University. There was hope that like the avalanche it would release creative energy and there was anxiety that might not work, but we have seen massive scientific output and we have also seen a massive growth in research grants. Last year the University received an all-time record of £250m of grants awarded and £35m of that was due directly to Roslin having come into the University.

Coming on to the current year, we had the official opening of the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre, and that was a very good event. We will be opening the £17m refurbishment of the Business School, now facing onto Buccleuch Place, and if you have an opportunity to look at that you should. We have got an extension to the Centre for Sports and Exercise at the Pleasance: it is booming, and I have to say that colleagues there are breaking all records in terms that we have more than 14,000 students who use the facilities regularly, and I am looking very much forward to the Commonwealth Games in India where a large part of the Scottish team has a very direct University of Edinburgh connection. And following the great success of our office in Beijing we are also in the process of opening an office in Mumbai in India. We had a very nice visit to Little France from Sir Philip Hampton, the new Chair of the Royal Bank of Scotland, who came to look at the very powerful scanner now installed there to which the Royal Bank of Scotland provided £4m. The University, as I said earlier moved out of clearing in 2006, has stayed out of clearing and now in 2010 we are very, very firmly out of clearing. Obviously we have to be a bit concerned for the very large number of applicants who failed to get into the University of Edinburgh, but in terms of the security of the reputation and the stability of our undergraduate programmes, being out of clearing is very important for us. The portents for postgraduate teaching and international recruitment are good. For the future we see that research funding could become a challenge, and we certainly see that public funding in the UK is bound to be a major challenge and will be the major challenge facing me and the senior management team. Before I go on any more into the future, let me just give you some statistics over the last seven years. They are very positive, and I must acknowledge that I have been supported by an absolutely superb senior management team. We have a wonderful set of Vice-Principals and Assistant Principals, a wonderful set of Heads of School, and I must particular acknowledge Melvyn Cornish, University Secretary. He and I have worked tremendously together and a University Secretary is vital for a successful University, all sorts of service, including twelve attendances at General Council Meetings, supporting and advising, and so again could we applaud Melvyn. So seven years back our income was £314m, last financial year we recorded our income as £591m, and when you subtract inflation, you see that our income has grown in real terms over the last seven years by 70%, so that is very substantial growth. So what happened to our support from the Funding Council in the same period? That is the core money that we get for teaching and research. Well, it grew to £184m, so, allowing for inflation, that is a growth of 42%. So the first thing you notice straight away is that the University is growing in a very strong way. Some of that growth is obviously coming from the Funding Council, but about half of it isn't. Where is the growth coming from? Well, it is coming from a growth in research grants which in that period grew by 80% to £175m, and it is coming from our growth in tuition fees, that is the tuition fees for postgraduate and international students, which in real terms grew by 95%, so we can see that over the last seven years the University has been in really robust financial health, a very solid pattern of growth. When we look to the future we obviously say to ourselves we have to be very anxious about that core funding that we get from the Funding Council. At the same time with a strong management team and with a history of growing our other sources of income at a much higher rate than the Funding Council income grows, we must also be fairly confident and to put things into perspective. That part that we see as vulnerable represents 29% of our income, which has been growing at a slower rate than our average growth. What has happened to our student numbers? Well, in that period they have grown from 20,000 to 27,000, and you will immediately interpolate and will see we are not growing quite as fast as the University was in the 80s and 90s in student numbers, so we are certainly not at current rates going to double in the next 20 years. We are not going to move from 20,000 to 40,000; we are steadily increasing but it's a slow rate. In fact, what is happening is that the number of undergraduates is growing very, very slowly; PhD numbers are hardly growing, which is a matter of great concern; and what are buoyant are the Masters courses. The great growth has been there, and that is what has been driving the growth in tuition fees, and that is not from the UK but from the European Union and internationally. If you look over the seven year period UK numbers went up 6%, European Union numbers went up 54%, but our non-EU numbers went up 77%. So when you are thinking about the

University, the things that are striking are that we are growing in a very healthy way and the drivers for our growth are our research and our international activity. If you look at the pattern of research grants, one of the things that you will notice is that we are getting more money from outside of the UK, we are getting more money particularly from Brussels, from European Union programmes, but we are also getting money from US foundations, which 20 years ago would not have considered the University as eligible or appropriate, but now we are getting it, and I think that the great work of Development & Alumni and colleagues in getting money from the Gates Foundation is an important marker, but there is other work in terms of the National Institute of Health in the US, the National Science Foundation, also supports our University. So you can see I have got some grounds here for optimism. If you look at the big overseas areas, what are the University's top ten? Well the top ten in order, at the present time, are the US, China, Canada, India, Japan, Malaysia, Taiwan, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore. And just to give you a rough sense of numbers, about 1,500 students from the US, makes us very unusual. It is partly because of historic reputation, it is partly, if I can put it this way, because people in the US have a very strong sense of University brand, and we are very well placed there, there have been articles in the United States in *Newsweek* and *Time Magazine* about students not going to places like Harvard and Yale, but going to places like Edinburgh and Cambridge, and both those articles explicitly mentioned us. So 1,500 from the United States, 800 from China, if you put that together with students from Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan, we have about 1,200 students in our community for whom Chinese, mostly Mandarin, but some Cantonese, is the first language. If you are looking over a seven year period, where is the biggest growth? The absolute biggest growth has been in India, with 400% growth; from Australia and China a very healthy growth of about 300% over the period; from Canada and from Hong Kong growth of 150%; and from the US and from Singapore growth of 100%. So we are in a healthy pattern, and we are particularly in a healthy pattern to the two most important places in the world from this point of view, and the two most important places in the world are India and China, which make up more than one third of the world in terms of population. One thing that is very, very important for us is the concept of area studies. The reason for our historical strengths, one of the reasons why we were successful at attracting Chinese and Japanese students in the 19th century is because we had a professor of Oriental Studies who could speak Chinese and Japanese. One has to look at areas in the whole sense, and I think of it as a triangle: I think of the academic expertise in an area, that is the language, obviously, whether it is Arabic or Mandarin, or Cantonese or Hindi, but also the history, the culture, the scientific developments there; and that then relates to students exchanging, students from Edinburgh going to those countries, students from those countries coming to us, and it relates to other leading institutions. So for us the University of Hong Kong is very important, the University of Peking is very important, the University of Delhi is very important, we have partnerships with those. Some of our colleagues in the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences have raised a very interesting flag, a challenging flag, which I will repeat, and they have said they wish the University of Edinburgh to become the SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) of the north. If you go to England and you look at Oxford, Cambridge, UCL or Imperial they do not have our advantages, because right in the middle of London the School of Oriental and African Studies, it dominates the African languages, it dominates Chinese, it dominates Arabic, but we successfully beat SOAS to be the UK Centre for Arab Studies, we are zooming along in Chinese, I think as a concept, to become the SOAS of the north and to become really strong in the area of studies, it is an inspiring one and I would really hope that we can go there. If we look at commercialisation over the period, seven years ago we were creating about eight companies a year, last year we created twenty-five companies. This year we know that we are going to exceed that because on the nine month mark we have already created thirty. So our record in creating companies is exemplary and we are treated very seriously by the Scottish Government because of that. We also did very well in patents. The growth in patents over the period was 320%, going to 90 patents. The growth in disclosures was up to 215, that is 160% growth, and also a very healthy growth of almost a 100% in licences. So in the different types of commercialisation we don't just create companies or get patents, we do all the types of commercialisation, so we are doing very well, and Edinburgh Research and Innovation is very successful.

In terms of the future for the University, we do have to maintain long-term strategies. As part of those longer-term strategies high value partnerships are vital, so research pooling, where we have a leadership role working with Scottish Universities; long-term relationships with companies (our relationship with Merck and Pfizer very important for Medicine, our relationship with both IBM and Cray Inc. very important for high performance computing, our relationship with Santander and the Royal Bank of Scotland really are very important across a wide range); and formal partnerships (Universitas 21 and the League of European

Research Universities and our very close and positive relationship with Scottish Enterprise and with the Scottish Government) are all important. The internationalisation of the student body, the staff body is vital, tackling problems that transcend national boundaries. I am very disappointed that I will not be able to work with Melvyn in the autumn, but extremely pleased that we have appointed Professor Kim Waldron, Secretary of Colgate University in the US, as his successor. I am very keen to see internationalisation of all staff categories in the University and working on these big problems that transcend national boundaries such as climate change, the credit crunch and zoonotic diseases. In terms of area studies the score I would give the University at the moment is about four out of eight; I can give us a strong tick for Europe, the Arab world and China; and a fairly strong tick for Africa, although not as strong as we should be there. I would really like to add India, Latin America, Russia and the one we never really think about and ought to, North America, and to be much more systematic about considering North America as an area. And beside all that, always Scotland, the Scottish languages, music and then obviously dress and cuisine also. In terms of new subjects, we have created new subjects, Literature, the study of Literature as a notion, that came from Professor Blair who was the Professor of Rhetoric in the University, who was the person who first came up with the idea that you could study a novel as an object. We claim the creation of geology through Hutton; and we claim the creation of epigenetics through Waddington. And for me that means the University having large multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary teams working in areas like genomics, regenerative medicine, synthetic biology, medical genetics, digital design (our relationship with Edinburgh College of Art is absolutely vital there) and carbon sequestration, and being prepared to have the confidence to say that there need to be new academic areas where the University is strong enough and powerful enough to create them. Then, what is our tremendous strength, our students. It has been really striking to me that we are working more and more in partnership with the students, working with them in very good partnership on improving the quality of teaching, working with them in great partnership on sports, working in partnership, because many of them using modern facilities are not just learners, there are also researchers. Many of our final year undergraduates are also members of world-class research teams, and their undergraduate projects are supporting research at the leading edge. Our students show a great example through the work they do through altruistic societies. We have all sorts of societies focused on an international or UK or Scottish level. Some focus on social problems, some focus on disease conditions.

So what is my conclusion? My conclusion is that despite the financial challenges we will complete the Scottish Centre for Regenerative Medicine out at Little France, the £60m project there. We will complete the £100m Vet School and Roslin out at Easter Bush, we will complete the vital refurbishment of the Library and we will complete a range of planned enhancements to George Square and King's Buildings. We will continue to recruit even stronger academic colleagues and even stronger students: many of them will come to us because they want to be part of or associated with international inter-disciplinary teams; and we will continue to benefit from the really thriving student community contributing as partners in educational enhancement, as learning researchers and as philanthropists in their own right. Thank you very much.

Lord Cameron: Thank you very much indeed for the very comprehensive report on the University, and also can I pay tribute on behalf of all here and in the General Council generally to the invigorating and compulsive leadership that you have shown over the years since 2002, it seems no time at all, and indeed also that of the academic and management staff of the University, which has placed us where we are today, thank you very much indeed.

This is now the time and opportunity to ask questions or to make comments and I will ask for the live questions to be put. Mr Alan Johnston, a former Convener of the Business Committee, is going to deal with the live questions. May I ask for the first.

Mr Alan Johnston: Thank you, Lord Cameron, I have a number of live questions. The first question is from Professor Walter Nimmo, who has BSc, MB ChB, MD and Honorary MD degrees from Edinburgh.

Will the University reassure its graduates that it keeps an open mind on the subject of climate change and accepts that there is no proof of a relationship between CO₂ concentrations and global temperature?

Principal: I thank Professor Nimmo for that question, a very important one. My answer is in two parts; the first part is I need to clarify the position of the University: the University is not a corporate scientific body of

any sort. The University Court would never be asked to adopt a scientific position, or for that matter a religious or a political position, so there is no sense in which the University as a corporate body could have a view, we are not the Royal Society or the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Control. Then in relation to the second point, I did have advance notice, Walter, of your question, and I consulted Professor Martin Siegert, who is Head of the School of GeoSciences, and I should report to you that Professor Siegert, and I know that he is expressing the view of the great majority of colleagues in the School of GeoSciences, they do take a strong view that there is a relationship between carbon dioxide concentrations and global temperatures, and that view is based on the work that they and other people around the world have done on the measurement of CO₂ levels, and the measure of global temperature via oxygen isotope analysis and the measurement of carbon dioxide from ancient calcium carbonate deposits, and they also point out to me that the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change has assessed and scrutinized those results and has confidence in those findings. So the two points to my answer are that it would not be appropriate for the University to have a view, but I would have to say that we have geoscientists in the University like Professor Siegert who do have worldwide reputations, and of course Professor Siegert has led important work in Antarctica on the ice sheets there and they certainly would take that view and I know that Professor Siegert would be really happy to provide (he sent me quite a long email which I am not going to read out to you) but it might be appropriate, if through Lord Cameron I could address the Convener of the Business Committee, it might be appropriate if we were to ask Professor Siegert to post his view on the General Council website to be available to Professor Nimmo and anyone else who is interested. [To read Professor Siegert's further information, please see page 24 *infra*.]

Mr Alan Johnston: The next question is grouped and from more than one person; Robbie Scott, BSc 2001, currently at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Oxfordshire, and Lt Kevin Holligan, who is on active service in Afghanistan.

With financial restrictions currently facing further education and the need to reduce carbon emissions, what is the justification for holding a General Council Meeting in Hong Kong, how has the trip been funded, have there been measures to off-set carbon emissions and when will the next opportunity locally be for a General Council Meeting?

Chairman: Perhaps I might suggest that the Convener of the Business Committee might like to answer that, assisted by Professor Steve Hillier.

Dr Alan Brown: Yes Mr Chairman. I mentioned in my report that we have 145,000 members around the world, many thousands of whom are in this region. The General Council took a decision some years ago, because we have more members out of Scotland than in it that we should travel, thus we have had meetings as the Principal has said in London, Paris and in Washington in 2008. This gives General Council members in these areas an opportunity to meet office-bearers of the General Council, senior members of the University staff and to hear the Principal give his address, a first-hand account, as he has done this afternoon, and the fact that as I have mentioned we have at this meeting attendees from Asia, North America, the Antipodes, Continental Europe and the United Kingdom, this is good justification for these meetings.

Chairman: Thank you very much. Perhaps Professor Hillier might wish to add a few words.

Professor Steve Hillier: Thank you Lord Cameron. I would only add to that simply it is a strategic objective of the University to grow its presence in particular parts of the world and this particular area is very much a primary objective for us. It is a stated responsibility of the General Council to reach out and communicate with the graduates, and as we have heard this morning, today's students are tomorrow's graduates and right now over a quarter, nearly one third, of our current student body are from overseas, many of them from this part of the world; so I would see us as fulfilling a duty by being here.

Chairman: Thank you very much Professor Hillier. Perhaps as a passing comment I might just simply say that our respondent of course was able to make contact with the General Council from Afghanistan, which merely shows the proof of being able to have live questions incorporated within a meeting of the General Council. Now perhaps there is a further question for us.

Mr Alan Johnston: Thank you Lord Cameron: a question from Catherine Smith, an MBA graduate. How would the University cope with prospective funding cuts whilst sustaining the number of UK student and are there implications for prioritising local applicants?'

Principal: Thank you for that question. I addressed the funding cuts a bit in my presentation, in terms of student numbers, when we are talking about the funded undergraduates. If the Funding Council was to cut the numbers of funded UK students then we would have to reduce the places, we wouldn't have enough freedom of movement; if the Funding Council makes as it were a dramatic cut in the amount of money it gives us per funded place then we obviously have to remonstrate with them and try to debate the issue. Certainly, over the next couple of years it would be extremely unlikely for us to be cutting student numbers. More possible, and one doesn't know the future, but we have seen for example in England a cut of 10,000 places, and of course, if that happens, then that just happens. As I indicated the core funding from the Scottish Funding Council for us is about 29% and I have discussed some of the other sources of income. In terms of prioritising local applicants, there has been some external press criticism of University policy in regard to limited weighting for students from south-east Scotland and then from wider Scotland and the north of England, and the University is very carefully exploring that criticism to see where we should go.

Lord Cameron: Thank you very much. Before I seek whether there are further live questions, I would perhaps open up to the floor again.

Dr Judith Longstaff Mackay: Thank you. I am Judith Longstaff Mackay, I am an MB ChB of 1966. I would really like, following the last comment on the financial status of the University, to propose and encourage that alumni support and further this situation by becoming donors, including bequests. I think many of us had a wonderful time at University, undergraduate days, it launched many of us on really interesting careers, and I think that by becoming financial benefactors to the University is in fact a very right and proper way of showing the appreciation that many of us feel. Thank you.

Principal: Obviously those are wonderful sentiments and the University is tremendously appreciative of the support it gets from yourself and others. It is vital to us. If you look at our ability to help students who have outstanding talent but limited resources, we are currently moving from a position where we have been supporting about one in eight of our students in some way to supporting one in four of them and I think the leadership of individuals, and for that matter the General Council, has shown there is wonderful. It is also very clear that if you want to do something new and important then resource which doesn't come from the mechanical funding stream is what is required. We would not have a Centre for the Study of Multiple Sclerosis without the gift of J K Rowling; we would not have a centre for working on motor neurone disease without the far-sighted vision of the MacDonald family; and we would not have a Centre for Diaspora Studies without the vision of Alan McFarlane and his wife. It is absolutely key and I think if you look at our University's history, we wouldn't have an Old College but for the vision in the 18th century; and we wouldn't have a McEwan Hall but for vision and a lot of success in selling beer. So I think it is for a university of our type, it is not a new thing: it is interwoven with our history and I think we see that particularly at this point in time. If the University is to do important new things, or if it is to support deserving students who should be there, then it is the philanthropy of the University community.

Lord Cameron: Before I return to the live questions are there any further members present who wish to raise anything?

Mr Alan Powrie: You mention China and the success of new graduates. I am aware in the UK a lot of the universities have been filling up a lot of their programmes with Chinese students, particularly at undergraduate level to the extent that on those programmes they become a significant part of the class size, therefore they end up little 'mini Chinas', Chinese being the language of choice. Are you having this problem in Edinburgh and what are you doing to try to mitigate this if there is a concentration particularly at a postgraduate level?'

Principal: It is an issue that we are very aware of and we feel a strong responsibility to students from different parts of the world to ensure that when they come to Edinburgh they get the international experience they are coming for. There are some courses in some engineering and business areas which can attract a lot

of overseas applicants from particular countries and we work very hard to ensure that the students, whether they are coming from China or Malaysia or elsewhere, get the international experience they want. And certainly, in terms of the student experience at Edinburgh it is definitely not a problem, but in terms of thinking about our recruitment it is an issue but I can think of two Schools within the University that are actively engaged with the issue to ensure that it doesn't become a problem, but a very good question Alan.

Lord Cameron: I turn back to Alan, and have you any further live questions for us?

Mr Alan Johnston: Thank you, another group of international questions regarding the University's position in league tables, Weston Aldridge from Atlanta, cites a drop in Edinburgh's standing in the MBA and asks what is being done to bolster the reputation of the Business School; and Andrew-Neal Farrugia, writing from Malta, talks about the British press and Edinburgh University not appearing consistently in the top five UK universities, asking what is being done to ensure improvement.

Principal: Very good questions. I would just make a couple of remarks about rankings first of all. Obviously we like being number 20 in the Times Higher QS (Quality & Success), and that is obviously a world-ranking, which translated to a UK ranking, makes us number five, but we are aware that there are various idiosyncracies in the different rankings and the one that ranks us as number 20 is not perfect either. The night before my interview for Principal I sat with a blank piece of paper and thought to myself are we going to talk about top 50 or top 100, because at that point the league tables were just coming in, but as I correctly predicted a member of the panel would ask me the question, so I sat there saying to myself 'Shall I say top 50 in the world or shall I say top 100?' and I took a deep breath and said 'top 50' so I am pretty pleased when we see 20, but at the same time I was extremely aware, because I used to teach statistics, that the survey base on which these things are established is not particularly solid, once you look at the absolute numbers of people and I warn the General Council now that the Times Higher has fallen out with QS, which used to be their partners, so we will end up with two world league tables. I am quite confident that we will not end up in the same position on the two, because they will use different methodologies. I would be very surprised, given some of the things that have been talked about if we don't fall in the Times Higher one, because it has been biased in favour of very small institutions. So it is a tricky sort of thing. At the moment the other world league table, the Shanghai Jiao Tong has us about 57, I think, in the world. It is based basically on medals and Nobel Prizes and I have got various colleagues who I believe quite sincerely deserve a Nobel Prize, if any of them achieve a Nobel Prize, then we will shoot up some startling number of places, so these are slightly odd. If you come to the UK ones, one has to be aware that there is considerable variation between the press, and I am not surprised because they do construct the tables in different ways, always using relatively small amounts of data and certainly much smaller amounts of data than is used for the world league tables. So the expectation is to see Edinburgh fairly high; sometimes we are in the top ten, sometimes we are not. I think in terms of the overall reputation of the University, things that reflect our research power are the most important for us, much more important if we are thinking about rankings that *Nature* when it looked at the Research Assessment Exercise of 2008 looked at Edinburgh Environment and Earth Sciences and rated it top in the UK on the basis of those areas and rated Chemistry and Biology second in the UK and sadly rated Physics only seventh in the UK, but when one understood the methodology that *Nature* had used based on a very large amount of Research Assessment Exercise data that seems very strong. Likewise if we look at Clinical Medicine it is totally secure in being ranked as number one in the UK. As far as the Business School goes, the Business Schools are in an incredibly competitive world and Business Schools are extremely adept in doing quite startling things in order to position themselves where they want to be on the MBA league tables. Our Business School is in the top 100 on any league table I have ever seen, there are movements around, I would like it to be in the top 50 and I think it is reasonable to hope that in a few years time it might be, but one has to be very cautious about the tables used for business schools because there are some interesting ways of manipulating them. In particular some of them are run very much on the earnings of MBA graduates, so if you let us say are in a part of the world where people earn a lot and then you train and select into your MBA people who are going to go into professions that pay a lot then you will charge up those rankings. If you are in a part of the world where a lot of people do MBAs prior to going into the public service and look for promotion in the public service and where average pay is low then your business school is going to be ranked low, so it's not surprising to find a Swiss business school doing better than a Scottish business school, for example. I would like us to be on a nice prime number smaller than 50 and we have been something like that for the last few years, but we must not over-interpret the rankings, and I think in the

long run the views of people, where are we in clinical medicine, or where are we in environment and earth sciences, those views, particularly which are supported by a lot of data and a lot of bibliographic information, are probably the most important ones for us.

Lord Cameron: I think we have got time for one more question from the floor.

Mr Edwin Fulner: My name is Edwin Fulner from Washington DC, PhD 1981. I just want to say on behalf of those of us who are here in person or watching via webcast a sincere word of thank you to everyone in the General Council, because I know how many countless hours all of you put in on our behalf from all around the world, thank you all very much and thank you particularly for giving our extraordinary Principal this opportunity to share this magnificent statement not only of his tenure but of the past decade with us all here today. It has been really wonderful, thank you, and I am very happy to be here.

Lord Cameron: We will take one more from the floor.

Mr Alan Reid: You mentioned the internationalisation of staff and students, this isn't a problem within the European Union or European Economic Area, but have you checked this out as regards the rest of the world with UK Borders Agency?

Principal: That is an extremely good question. The UK Borders Agency does represent a very serious challenge for the University. We have had to make representations with regard to the position of both international staff and international students. I was with a small group of Vice-Chancellors who went to see the Prime Minister and after that we saw some really quite helpful changes. We are in a position where there is continuous dialogue with the Borders Agency and we are strongly of the view that with our own administration and our own procedures the University of Edinburgh can be given really quite a high degree of trust by the Borders Agency in terms of which staff we vouch for and which students we vouch for; and I have to say, to be fair to the UK Borders Agency which I must be, to date all our representations have been responded to appropriately. So while we have had some difficulty and some delays, to date I must say we have always been successful in securing appropriate visas for our staff and students who of course who are all appropriately qualified, but clearly there is an ongoing debate there.

Lord Cameron: Thank you very much Principal. Having regard to the passage of time, are there any further live questions?

Mr Alan Johnston: We have a note of thanks from Jordan Diaz in London, MA 2007, thanking us for streaming this over the internet and on the subject of borders, Principal, he asks about the recent press speculation suggesting a perceived anti-English policy in admissions.

Principal: The University does not have an anti-English or a pro-English policy, it does not discriminate in those sorts of terms at all. I cannot pretend not to be slightly puzzled by the fact that there are commentators in the press who are indignant that there are successful school students who get offered places in Oxford and who don't get offered places in Edinburgh. There are quite a number of subjects where Edinburgh is much stronger than Oxford and the overall pattern of applications is very much higher than the pattern of applications at Oxford, but there are parts of the British press that seem confused by that and they are in the habit of taking up individual cases. I think if you look at the statistics you will see that Edinburgh has, as it always has had, a very substantial group of students from England, always has had for a couple of hundred years a very substantial group of students from the United States, so I suppose the thing to observe, which is like a sort of thank you, is that after there has been this rather strange press commentary my office has had a disproportionate number of positive comments from General Council members, so they have been extremely supportive in the context of this rather strange press commentary.

Lord Cameron: Thank you very much indeed Principal. We must bring this particular session to a close and thank all those who have taken part, whether from here or from elsewhere, it has obviously been an experiment which is well worth actually forming part of future General Council Meetings.

B Presentation of the Report of the Business Committee

at the General Council Meeting on 12 June 2010

Convener of the Business Committee: Dr Alan Brown

Chairman, Principal, Members of the General Council, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a special privilege for me to give this report at the fourth out-of-Edinburgh meeting of the General Council. My wife and I visited this magnificent city over 20 years ago. We were thrilled at the prospect of returning and we have not been disappointed. It is also a pleasure to see here this gathering of members of the General Council and friends of the University. I am delighted to note that for the first time at a Half-Yearly event we have attendees from Asia, the Antipodes, North America, Continental Europe and the United Kingdom. This is a further justification for holding these away from Edinburgh meetings. Judging from the success of our two previous live webcasts, I welcome many members who cannot be with us this afternoon, but are watching the proceedings online.

The Business Committee has many functions and an important one is to explore ideas which enable us to engage better with our members. There are currently around 145,000 worldwide and many thousands of these are in this region. Thus a few years ago it was agreed that concerning the two Statutory Half-Yearly Meetings of the Council, which were always held in Edinburgh every fourth one should be held elsewhere so that General Council Members who live in different parts of the world have the opportunity to meet their office-bearers, senior University staff and hear from the Principal at first hand. It is also an opportunity for meeting other Council Members who have travelled from Scotland and around the world. This meeting is therefore achieving the success which we had at previous gatherings in London, Paris and in Washington DC in 2008. To improve communication further a live webcast was first set up at the meeting in June 2009 in Edinburgh and many members worldwide and across the UK logged on. As a result this is now standard practice and it has been enhanced, as you have heard, by the ability to receive live email questions. Later, video extracts of the main addresses may be viewed on the General Council's website which contains a wealth of detail about all our activities and I commend it to you. Another important Business Committee plan to connect with membership is the setting up of an electronic voting system for annual elections to the Business Committee, as well as for General Council Court Assessors, which will commence in 2012. There will still be the option to request a postal vote. It is anticipated that many more members will be involved in voting and also hopefully with the activities of the General Council. I encourage all members who have not already done so to register on the Portal, details of which you will find in *Billet* within *Edit* and on our website. Another vital role we have is to support the University and the student body in every way possible; the most important recent initiative has been the establishment of the General Council Scholarships which aim to provide support for students who would not otherwise be able to come to our University. The goal is to build an endowment substantial enough to support these scholarships in perpetuity. Many members of the Business Committee are giving a lead by contributing to the fund and we have learned that very soon it is hoped to award the very first scholarship, which will be an exciting landmark. I strongly encourage members to consider contributing to this most worthwhile scheme; details of how to do so can be found on the General Council website and in *Billet* within *Edit*.

In 2008 the General Councils of the four Ancient Scottish Universities, Glasgow, St Andrews, Aberdeen and Edinburgh, reached their 150th Anniversary. To mark this in Edinburgh, we presented the University with a sculpture 'The Unknown' by one of Scotland's most distinguished artists, Kenny Hunter. The work now has a permanent home at the Queens Medical Research Institute (QMRI), adjacent to the New Royal Infirmary, where it is much admired. Principal O'Shea, on behalf of the University, also marked this Anniversary by presenting ceremonial robes to the General Council and I have great pleasure in wearing the Convener's robe today. A sad note is that Mr Melvyn Cornish, Secretary to the University and Registrar of the General Council, is retiring later this year, so this is the last Half-Yearly Meeting he will attend in an official capacity. He has been a very good friend to the Council and always given us wise advice, and on behalf of us all I thank him most sincerely and wish him well in retirement. The arrangements for this very informative and enjoyable weekend result from hard work from many people behind the scenes. On behalf of the Business Committee I thank them all for their professional skills and dedication. I would like to mention in particular, Mrs Mary Scott, Assistant to the Secretary of the General Council, who very sadly cannot be here because of a family bereavement; and also thanks to Miss Mariana West, of the Development Office, who is

here and has given us so much assistance in preparing for this meeting. Also our sincere thanks go to the University of Hong Kong for hosting us in this most impressive campus and to Ms Monica Wong and Mr Wai-kay Pang for their special help. Finally Professor Kam-Fai Wong who has been a most accomplished Mace-bearer.

As we all know that there are difficult financial times ahead in the United Kingdom which will significantly affect higher education funding and the universities. I can assure you that this General Council will continue to support the University in every way and we will do what we can to meet the undoubted challenges which lie ahead. Thank you.

C Live Questions and Answers

at the General Council Meeting on 12 June 2010

Full details of all Questions and Answers at the General Council Meeting on 12 June 2010 can be found on the General Council website (www.general-council.ed.ac.uk) at:

<http://www.general-council.ed.ac.uk/livequestions12June2010.htm>

Any member who does not have web access may request a copy from the General Council Office (email: general.council@ed.ac.uk)

[Further information provided by Professor Martin Siegert, June 2010]

The UoE always retains an open mind of matters of science. It is not true to say that there is 'no proof of a relationship between carbon dioxide concentrations and global temperatures', however. Glaciologists studying ice cores from Greenland and Antarctica are able to use air bubbles in ancient ice to directly measure the ancient air. The measurements unequivocally reveal the level of CO₂ in the past, from both hemispheres. The measurements extend to 100,000 years ago in the case of Greenland, and 800,000 years in the case of Antarctica. The results are 100% consistent, and show that global temperature (measured by oxygen isotope analysis, independent of other measurements) and CO₂ are coupled. Moreover, the results are entirely consistent with measurements of CO₂ from speleothems (stalagmites) throughout the world (CO₂ from ancient calcium carbonate deposits being measured in this case). The international science community, via the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, has assessed and scrutinised these results, and has confidence in the findings.

That there is a demonstrable link between temperature and CO₂ is hardly a surprise, however. The undisputed facts are as follows:

CO₂ is a greenhouse gas.

CO₂ varies between 190 and 300 part per mil over 'natural' glacial cycles.

CO₂ started to exceed 300 ppm at the time of the industrial revolution.

CO₂ now stands at 390 ppm, ~25% in excess of its natural maxima for the last 800,000 years.

Global temperatures have also exhibited rise since this time, albeit with explainable oscillation about a general trend upwards.

To climate scientists, the case is clear, and international consensus is established.

The real issue is not whether CO₂ is linked to temperature, but rather what are the consequences of the current excess? The risk of significant (>2C) warming as a consequence of current and future increased CO₂ levels is significant, and requires action. Part of this action necessarily needs Universities, and the UoE has demonstrated leadership here.

By setting up the Edinburgh Centre on Climate Change, the UoE is showing how geoscience, law, business, engineering and many other disciplines can integrate to address the major climate and environmental

challenges facing our society. The work is research led, is necessarily international and, importantly, involves students in our newly configured masters programmes (such as carbon management).

Whereas some will continue to refute climate change, such a position is based against available evidence and, as importantly, encourages us to lose focus on this most important of issues. Our focus should remain on delivering a low carbon economy, which incidentally was the focus of yesterday's conference. In delivering such an economy what will we achieve?

1. better and sustainable use of resources
2. less pollution
3. lower fuel consumption (and reduction in fuel bills)
4. preservation of our environment for future generations.

Who would not want us to do this, regardless of their position on climate change? This is the real challenge for us.

June 2010