



General Council Meeting of 9 February 2013: Annex to Billet

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

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Papers for the General Council Meeting on 9 February 2013

1 Formal communications from the University Court

The following Draft Resolutions have been received:

- 59/2012 Foundation of a Chair of History of Art
- 60/2012 Foundation of a Chair of Geochemistry
- 61/2012 Alteration of the title of the Chair of Child Protection
- 62/2012 Alteration of the title of the Personal Chair of Children's Social Inclusion
- 63/2012 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Strategy
- 64/2012 Foundation of a NES Personal Chair of Clinical Ophthalmology
- 65/2012 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Chromatin Biology
- 66/2012 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Political Science
- 67/2012 Foundation of a Higgs Chair of Theoretical Physics
- 68/2012 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Health and Social Science
- 69/2012 Institution of a new postgraduate Degree: Doctor of Clinical Psychology by Research
- 1/2013 Degree of Master of Divinity
- 2/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Accountancy and Popular Culture
- 3/2013 Foundation of a Personal Senior Research Chair of Automated Reason
- 4/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Government
- 5/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of RNA and Gene Expression
- 6/2013 Alteration of the title of the Anne Rowling Chair of Tissue Regeneration
- 7/2013 Alteration of the title of the Chair of Dental Primary Care
- 8/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of European Politics
- 9/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Veterinary Clinical Pathology
- 10/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Genetic Endocrinology
- 11/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Gene Regulation and RNA Systems
- 12/2013 Alteration of the title of the Personal Chair of Electrical Generation Systems
- 13/2013 Alteration of the title of the Chair of Translational Imaging
- 14/2013 Alteration of the title of the Chair of Livestock Immunology
- 15/2013 Foundation of an Arup Personal Chair of Structure and Fire
- 16/2013 Foundation of a Personal Chair of Synthetic Biological Engineering

2 Report of the Academic Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 9 February 2013

Convener of the Academic Standing Committee: Dr Bruce Ritson

The Committee has met twice since it last reported to the General Council.

Meeting held on 31 May 2012

The main topic was a report from Vice Principal Professor Chris Breward, Principal of Edinburgh College of Art. He provided a snapshot of the current position on progress with the integration of Edinburgh College of Art (ECA) into the University following the merger less than a year ago. Considerable progress had been made in overcoming the challenges and concerns about the merger. A positive interim report had been received from the Scottish Funding Council on the merger and the Royal Institute of British Architects had commended the courses in the School of Architecture. The Animation and film departments had won a large number of awards and this year five fashion students would be going to the Royal College of Art, which was the highest number so far. The College was now situated within the College of Humanities and Social Science and covered five disciplines; Music, History of Art, Architecture and Landscape, Art and Design.

The music school had been renamed "The Reid School of Music" after its founder. New accommodation would be found for the School of Music close by at the Lauriston Place site, where all the other departments within the College are located. The focus of the department was on both contemporary and traditional music, with an emphasis on composition and performance. They were undertaking research in collaboration with other disciplines such as psychology, informatics, sociology, education, physics/acoustics, philosophy and medicine. One great asset of the Music Department was its magnificent collection, and Professor Breward would like to bring the various collections together and was working closely with the senior curator at the Talbot Rice Gallery on this.

The History of Art department was the oldest in the UK, having been established in 1879 and had been collaborating with the ECA since 1946. The Edinburgh School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture was well established. It was one of the largest architecture schools in the UK, increasingly competing with its European counterparts. It had already established a good reputation in research. Interestingly, the school had been involved at Little Sparta in the Pentland Hills, which was the former home of Scottish poet and artist Ian Hamilton Finlay. It was hoped to create a new programme using this and helping to preserve what was one of the most important spaces in the world.

The School of Art was restructured just before the merger and had very flexible space and excellent studios. Photography seemed to have an increasingly important part to play, not only with digital and new media but also using older techniques. Overseas students were particularly keen to experiment with old technologies.

In the field of Design there had been some great successes. Professor Breward said that he had been stunned by the work of the students. Lord Puttnam had spent time with them recently and the presentations from the students had been outstanding. Animation was one of the great strengths of the UK creative economy. There was also a strong film and television school. Film also existed within the College of Humanities & Social Science and Professor Breward hoped to look at programmes that made the best use of both. They hoped to pull the two together the following year. They had very skilled technical and workshop staff.

In concluding Professor Breward explained that this year had been about embedding the merger, but now they felt confident in moving forward. There were challenges with the estates and how it all fitted together, but he was thinking in terms of communication between the five areas, creating five interdisciplinary research themes. He envisaged further development of postgraduate areas and international partnerships.

In discussion he stressed that the aim was to retain individual identity while integrating its work with other departments and schools within the University. He was keen to consolidate around the old Lauriston campus buildings as they formed an iconic part of the original College of Art. The merger opened up a range of exciting opportunities for collaboration with the University's other Schools and Colleges. The committee was pleased to see the huge progress made in such a short space of time.

Meeting held on 1 November 2012

This meeting agreed the programme of future meetings for the 2012 to 2013 session. One priority was to consider the extent to which problems identified in the Assessment and Feedback section of the National Students Survey were being addressed. Other topics of particular interest included admissions policy, the taught postgraduate experience and international students, including how they fitted in with 'Global Academies'.

The following programme was adopted:

1. Dr. Sue Rigby as Vice-Principal, Learning and Teaching, would give an update on the situation regarding student assessment and feedback and on the introduction of the new personal tutor system.
2. The EUSA sabbatical officers would give a presentation on their activities with particular focus on the international students' experience, and the current post-graduate officer would provide observations on the post-graduate experience.
3. Mr Alan Mackay, Deputy Vice Principal International would give a presentation on the situation regarding international students at the University and Professor Jeff Haywood, Vice Principal Knowledge Management and Chief Information Officer, on distance learning initiatives.

3 Report of the Constitutional Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 9 February 2013

Convener of the Constitutional Standing Committee: Mr Gordon Cairns

The Committee has met on two occasions since the last Half-Yearly meeting in June 2012 and I would like to extend my personal thanks to my predecessor, Mr Bruce Rae, for his hard work and dedication during his term of office, as both a Member and Convenor of the Committee.

The Committee has been concentrating in the last few months on both considering the recommendations of the Effectiveness Review Group led by Dr Frances Dow and then assisting in their implementation.

In October, a final draft of the document outlining guidelines for future consultations between the General Council and the University was approved for consideration of the Business Committee at its meeting in December 2012.

The Committee is now in the process of drafting updated information for prospective candidates wishing to become Members of the Business Committee and also for those interested in becoming General Council Assessors to the University Court.

Final drafts of these documents are to be placed before the Business Committee for consideration by the end of March 2013.

It is then proposed to consider refreshing the "induction pack" made available to newly elected Members of the Business Committee in the future.

4 Report of the Finance and Services Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 9 February 2013

Convener of the Finance and Services Standing Committee: Ms Kirsty MacGregor

The Finance and Services Standing Committee has met twice since the previous report to the General Council on 16 June 2012

At the meeting on the 21 June 2012 the committee met with Dr Kim Waldron, University Secretary.

Dr Waldron described the main roles of the University Secretary. There was considerable focus on human resources matters, communications and planning with a key responsibility being to secure sufficient resources for the activities of the Student & Academic Services Group (SASG). Considerable time was involved in managing both internal and external issues and events. Dr Waldron then described the work of SASG. This was a large and diverse group of services and support functions.

Dr Waldron was asked about key themes that SASG faced in the context of the next Strategic Plan. These included:

- The challenges of devolved versus centralised services. These were sometimes very complicated.
- Avoiding a “silo” mentality. Both across various groups and across Schools and Colleges it could sometimes be a challenge to take a wider perspective.
- Resources. The University has significantly increased its financial support for SASG recently and further increases may be necessary to respond to increasing student demand for high quality services.
- Meeting continually rising demand & expectations from the students.
- The increasing number and complexity of Freedom of Information requirements.

Dr Waldron stated that the key priorities for the future were

- Monitoring & Meeting Student Demands (for example the demand for Counselling had increased by 40% since the move to the Main Library)
- Making sure the functions of SASG are properly understood and their services are available to all Schools & Colleges
- Risk Management (for example compliance with UKBA regulations and other government policies & statutes)

The main tasks of the meeting on the 12 November 2012 were to approve the General Council budget for 2012-2013, to decide on the programme for the year and to welcome the two new members to the FFSC.

To help inform the themes to be covered in the coming session members were then invited to take it in turn to give a short synopsis of their background, previous experience and personal strengths. Given members’ particular interests in business, commercialisation and spin-offs, heritage and knowledge management, it was decided to invite the following members of staff to speak:

- Mr Phil McNaull, Director of Finance, to present the Report and Financial Statements to July 2012 when they are published in January 2013.

- Mr Derek Waddell, Chief Executive Officer of Edinburgh Research and Innovation Limited (ERI), to talk about research commercialisation, spin-offs and the University's interface with the business world.
- Mr Nigel Paul, Vice Principal and Director of Corporate Services, to give an over-view of the University's use of its tangible assets, such as Estates and Buildings, for commercial purposes and income generation .
- Dr John Scally, new Director of Library & Collections, to cover Library provision and his plans for future development of libraries and the various collections.

The Committee were also interested in recent developments at the Centre for Sports and Exercise at the Pleasance and it was agreed to recommend the arrangement of a visit by the Business Committee.

Following clarifications by the Secretary the committee approved the General Council Budget for 2012-2013.

5 Report of the Public Affairs Standing Committee

for the General Council Meeting on 9 February 2013

Convener of the Public Affairs Standing Committee: Mr Neil Hynd

The Public Affairs Standing Committee has met three times since my last report to the General Council.

As mentioned in my last report, the Committee has taken forward the proposal to redesign the General Council website to improve communications with General Council members. A specification was prepared, comparative prices obtained and the contract for the work is now well advanced. It is expected that the new website will be in general use before the next Half-Yearly Meeting. In addition to improving the appearance and usefulness of the website it is intended to add some new features which should increase interest and hence usage.

The Committee has also reviewed comments received from Members about the arrangements for the Council's bi-annual away Half-Yearly Meeting held in Berlin last June. The comments were generally very favourable, and the Committee felt that it had been both an enjoyable and useful event, bringing the work of the General Council Business Committee to the attention of a wider range of Members.

After taking council with those involved, the Committee proposed to the Business Committee that the next "away" meeting of the General Council would be held in Montreal at McGill University in June 2014. This proposal has now been adopted.

The Committee has also set itself new goals as a result of the Effectiveness Review carried out last year. The Committee will concentrate on efforts to improve its outreach to Members, and has been studying how other organisations undertake this aspect.

Finally, the Committee has welcomed the new Director of Development & Alumni, Ms Kirsty MacDonald, and Jane Denholm, Deputy Director, to its meetings and is looking forward to continuing to expand its close working relationship with D&A, in particular in the area of Alumni Engagement.

6 Meetings of the Business Committee

The Committee has met four times since its last Report was printed, viz. 12 July 2012, 18 October 2012, 13 December 2012 and 24 January 2013.

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 2012 to January 2013. Names have been listed by year of first graduation from the University of Edinburgh.

Roberts, Janet Sheed (née Gordon), MA of 1923, LLB of 1927, died 06/04/2012

Brown, George Stewart, BSc of 1933, died 2012

McKillop, Sybil Laurie, MA of 1934, died 27/11/2012

Biggar, Walter Andrew, BSc of 1935, died 16/11/2012

Grant, Peter, John Tolmie, MA of 1935, died 2012

Urquhart, Mary Helen Mack, MA of 1935, died 2012

Cayton, Henry Rymer, MBChB of 1936, died 2012

Crawford, Ainslie Sanderson, MBChB of 1936, MD of 1948, died 2012

Dixon, Ernest Ewart, BSc of 1936, died 2012

Bramwell, Stephen Oliver, MBChB of 1937, died 2012

Fleming, Ian Johnston, BSc of 1937, died 01/10/2012

Greig, Jeanie Peden, MA of 1937, died 24/02/2012

Herd, John Albert, BSc of 1937, died 29/03/2012

Negus, Emily Madelina (née Lawrie), MA of 1937, died 2012

Sargeant, Alison Roy (née Macbain), MA of 1937, died 2012

Bruce, Robert Richard Fernie, BMus of 1938, died 13/08/2012

Ferguson, Sarah Irwin (née Elkin), MA of 1938, died 2012

Allan, James Robertson, MBChB of 1939, died 2012

Cook, Henry Martyn, MA of 1939, died 09/07/2012

Higgins, John Henry, MBChB of 1939, died 15/02/2012

Hughes, Beatrice Margaret (née Bartlet), MBChB of 1939, died 2012

Mercer, Margaret Landale (née Forsyth), MA of 1939, died 23/09/2012

Ward Dyer, Margaret Elizabeth Hay (née Hinman), MA of 1939, BEd of 1943, died 2012

Ballingall, Davi Andrew Forrester, LLB of 1940, died 14/02/2012

Burgess, Kathleen Anne (née Scott), MBChB of 1940, died 19/09/2012

Cowan, Veronica Mary St Lo, MA of 1940, died 15/02/2012

Gordon, Douglas Stuart, BSc of 1940, died 09/05/2012

Salter, Isabella Stuart (née Murchie), MA of 1940, died 2012

Biggar, Jean Ogilvie (née Gourlay), MA of 1941, died 18/10/2012

Macfarlane, John Alan, MBChB of 1941, died 2012

Maciver, Mary (née Brown), MA of 1941, died 13/10/2012

Park, Mary Irene, MA of 1941, died 26/05/2012

Watkins, Maria Ludwika (née Ziff), BSc of 1941, died 2012

Wilson, John Anthony Clark, MBChB of 1941, died 2012

Abbas, Tariq Munir, MBChB of 1943, died 2012
Bryson, Charles Randolph, BSc of 1943, died 06/07/2012
Cruikshank, Eleanor Gardner (née Brodie), MA of 1943, died 01/12/2012
Guy, Ralph Dunstan, MBChB of 1943, died 2012
Hamilton, James Arnot, BSc of 1943, died 24/05/2012
Newton, Margaret (née MacDonald), MBChB of 1943, died 2012
Romanis, Lewis Lawson, MA of 1943, died 2012

Cowie, John William, MBChB of 1944, died 15/06/2012
Blackwood, Elizabeth Scott (née Bolton), MA of 1945, died 2012
Forrester, Doroth Laidlaw, MA of 1945, died 31/05/2012
Heneghan, Patricia Mary, MA of 1945, died 2012
Nisbet, John Donald, MA of 1945, Hon DEd of 2004, died 05/10/2012
Owen, Anne Hyslop (née Gemmell), MA of 1945, died 01/11/2012
Woodham, Anthony Arthur, BSc of 1945, died 07/02/2012

Batchelor, May Butler (née Jamieson), MA of 1946, died 2012
Campbell, Moira Baskerville (née Hughes), MBChB of 1946, died 2012
Canaris, Hanna Helena, MBChB of 1946, died 18/06/2012
Halliday, Kenneth Charles Robertson, MBChB of 1946, died 2012
Henderson, Janet Taylor Young (née Forrest), MBChB of 1946, died 24/08/2012
Irvine, Gordon, MBChB of 1946, died 2012
Mackay, Annie Murray (née Macintosh), MA of 1946, died 2012
Maconochie, Christina Hobson (née Jeffrey), MA of 1946, died 2012
Matthews, Mary Thomson (née Hope), MA of 1946, died 2012
McVie, Mary Walker (née Moss), BSc of 1946, MBChB of 1950, died 2012
Steven, Henry John, BSc of 1946, died 16/11/2012
Strachan, Isles, BSc of 1946, died 05/02/2012

Atkinson, Iris Margaret Lempriere (née Bowman), MBChB of 1947, died 2012
Gibb, Stuart Kennedy, MA of 1947, died 01/06/2012
Hutchings, Douglas Gilbert, MBChB of 1947, died 16/02/2012
Kitchin, Arthur Henderson, MBChB of 1947, died 15/05/2012
Korwaser, Mieczyslaw, BCom of 1947, died 02/07/2012
Lambert, Kenneth Henderson, BSc of 1947, died 2012
Marr, Alfred, BSc of 1947, died 13/02/2012
Nicoll, Douglas Ross, BSc of 1947, died 2012
Stewart, George Robert Gordon, MA of 1947, LLB of 1949, died 02/02/2012
Walker, Peter James, MBChB of 1947, died 10/06/2012

Caldwell, Margaret Green Stacey (née Macdonald), BSc of 1948, died 2012
Campbell, Nancy Mary Merson (née Davies), BSc of 1948, died 2012
Cassie, Alistair Baxter, MBChB of 1948, died 2012
Coull, Sheila Gilmore, MA of 1948, died 08/05/2012
Dick-Smith, William Leslie, BL of 1948, died 2012
Glen, Elizabeth Mary, MA of 1948, died 2012
Gray, George Allan, MBChB of 1948, died 2012
Hick, John Harwood, MA of 1948, DLt of 1974, died 09/02/2012

Hood, Margaret, (néé Murphy), MA of 1948, died 2012
Lawrence, Monty Harold, MBChB of 1948, died 2012
Ledley, Christian Salvesen (née Elliot), UGCert of 1948, died 2012
Peterson, Angus Macandrew, BSc of 1948, died 02/04/2012
Reay, Hubert Alan John, MBChB of 1948, died 2012
Silk, Frederick Fendley, MBChB of 1948, died 2012
Weaver, Catherine Beattie (née Douglas), MA of 1948, died 2012
Weaver, Harold Robert, MA of 1948, died 2012

Birtwistle, Dorothy, BSc of 1949, died 07/05/2012
Brown, Alexander Gow, MA of 1949, died 2012
Brown, Raymond Kenneth, BMus of 1949, died 2012
Compton, John Cole, BSc of 1949, died 2012
Fotheringham, Eileen McInroy (née Scott), MA of 1949, died 17/06/2012
Gray, Leonard Scott, BSc of 1949, died 2012
Johnstone, Ian Mackenzie, MBChB of 1949, died 2012
Krawiecki, Jurand Alexander, MBChB of 1949, died 2012
Leburn, Michael Wemyss Flockhart, BSc of 1949, died 2012
Lyon, James Doughty, BL of 1949, died 13/02/2012
McLeod, Ian, MA of 1949, died 27/03/2012
Miller, William Ronald Crawford, LLB of 1949, died 13/02/2012
Moodie, Alan Rome, BSc of 1949, died 2012
Morris-Mancor, Charles John, MBChB of 1949, died 2012
Munro, Megan Catherine, MA of 1949, died 26/06/2012
Philip, David Stuart, MA of 1949, died 2012
Robertson, Vernon Colin, BSc of 1949, died 27/03/2012
Rylands, John Mcivivray, BSc of 1949, died 2012
Scott, Moyra Carrie Robertson, MA of 1949, died 03/08/2012
Winton, Alexander Hendrie Ferguson, MA of 1949, Dip of 1950, died 2012
Winton, Vera Helen Rosemary (née Roberts), MA of 1949, Dip of 1950, died 2012

Allan, James Leslie, MA of 1950, died 2012
Arthur, Rasjid Arthur James, MA of 1950, died 2012
Burgess, Mary Christina Margaret (née Smith), MA of 1950, died 2012
Dobbie, Gordon Macgregor, MBChB of 1950, died 2012
Greig, David Charles, MBChB of 1950, died 2012
Hill, John Watson, BSc of 1950, died 2012
Horsfall, Alistair Clement, MA of 1950, LLB of 1951, died 2012
Mackenzie, Mary Edith, MA of 1950, died 17/10/2012
Martin, Catherine Begg, MA of 1950, died 2012
Monard, Patrick Terence, MBChB of 1950, died 2012
Parker, Robert Jesse, MA of 1950, died 2012
Renton, Robert, MBChB of 1950, died 2012
Scott, Murray Garson, MA of 1950, died 02/11/2012
Smith, Rosemary Anne (née Kemp), MBChB of 1950, died 2012
Walker, William Clark, MBChB of 1950, MD of 1966, died 2012

Adamson, Conrad Falconer Patterson, BCom of 1951, died 2012
Baillie, Bruce Eoin, MA of 1951, died 2012

Bell, Alistair Watson, MA of 1951, died 2012
Cartwright James, BSc of 1951, died 2012
Climie, Ian Ernest, BSc of 1951, PhD of 1956, died 2012
Cross, Arthur Percival, MBChB of 1951, died 13/03/2012
Duthie, Alison Ann Macpherson (née Kittermaster), MA of 1951, died 2012
Fiddes, Dorothy Odette, MEd of 1951, 1966, died 21/01/2012
Garvie, Ian Graham Donaldson, MA of 1951, died 01/03/2012
Gibb, James Sneddon Hamilton, BSc of 1951, died 30/07/2012
Grant, Alexander Macpherson Buchanan, BCom of 1951, died 2012
Keay, Alexander John, MBChB of 1951, died 13/12/2012
Macewan, Margaret Corstorphine (née Hay), MA of 1951, died 2012
Mann, Gavin Thoms, MA of 1951, died 2012
Marshall, Donald Mackenzie, MA of 1951, died 10/06/2012
Monteith, John Lennox, BSc of 1951, Hon DSc of 1989, died 20/07/2012
Roylance, Thomas William, BSc of 1951, died 2012
Ryrie, William Sinclair, MA of 1951, died 06/07/2012
Sutherland, Ian Hutchison, BSc of 1951, MRCVS of 1955, died 06/11/2012
Sutherland, Robert, MA of 1951, LLB of 1953, died 05/07/2012
Wedderspoon, John Robertson, BSc of 1951, died 2012
Wood, William Wallace, MA of 1951, died 2012

Bain, Sheila Margaret, MA of 1952, died 07/06/2012
Broadbent, John Barclay, MA of 1952, died 03/12/2012
Cleat, Anne Patricia (née Roberts), BSc of 1952, died 2012
Cottam, Ronald James, MA of 1952, LLB of 1954, died 2012
Davison, Peter Sinclair, BSc of 1952, PhD of 1957, died 2012
Frewin, Michael Leslie, MA of 1952, died 2012
Henderson, Jeanette Buchanan (née Hogg), MA of 1952, died 2012
Hodges, David McIndoe, PhD of 1952, died 2012
Lyall, Goldie, (néé Aronson), MA of 1952, died 27/09/2012
Mackenzie Ross, Ian Alexander Bruce, MBChB of 1952, died 2012
Macqueen, Alfred William Carol, BSc of 1952, died 01/02/2012
Paterson, David Neil, BSc of 1952, died 30/10/2012

Blair, Leo Charles Lynton, BL of 1953, PhD of 1959, died 16/11/2012
Broomberg, Louis Bertram, BL of 1953, died 2012
Martin, Margaret Macnab (née Sidey), MA of 1953, died 2012
Maxwell, John Muir, BL of 1953, died 2012
McKenzie, Peter Rutherford, PhD of 1953, died 2012
Rae, Jacqueline Lydie Yvonne (née Hendry), MA of 1953, Dip Ed of 1954, died 2012
Stanners, Andrew Hamilton, BSc of 1953, PhD of 1956, died 2012
Thomson, Nigel Ernest Drummond, LLB of 1953, died 2012
Thomson, Robert Leslie, MA of 1953, died 2012

Cattle, Margaret Forbes (née Topp), MA of 1954, died 2012
Coleman, John Bruce, PhD of 1954, died 2012
Dougall, Ian Cunningham, MA of 1954, BD of 1957, died 04/04/2012
Fraser, Joseph Athol, BSc of 1954, died 2012
Glover, Iris, (néé Smith), MA of 1954, died 2012

James, Wilson Barrie, MBChB of 1954, died 2012
Lyall, Ronald James, MA of 1954, died 2012
Maciver, Kathleen Margaret, PhD of 1954, died 2012
Meador, Richard James, BSc of 1954, died 2012
Phin, Charles William, BSc of 1954, died 2012
Sawyer, Ruth Madeleine (née Howard), MA of 1954, died 2012
Siller, Walter George, BSc of 1954, PhD of 1962, died 2012
Smith, John Lister, MBChB of 1954, died 2012
Stokoe, William Milne, BSc of 1954, PhD of 1958, died 2012
Whitelaw, Robert Andrew Peattie, MBChB of 1954, died 2012
Wood, Caroll Andrew, PhD of 1954, died 2012
Wood, John, MBChB of 1954, died 2012

Bottomley, Irene Jean (née Allan), MA of 1955, died 25/04/2012
Casey, Thomas, MA of 1955, died 2012
Fairbairn, David, BSc of 1955, died 2012
Gold, Andrew Vick, BSc of 1955, died 04/06/2012
Philp, George, MBChB of 1955, BSc of 1959, died 03/11/2012
Robertson, Forbes William, DSc of 1955, died 01/06/2012
Turvey, John William, MA of 1955, died 2012
Williams, Robert Fraser, MBChB of 1955, died 2012

Fotherby, Kenneth, PhD of 1956, died 2012
McCoy, Wayne Livingston, PhD of 1956, died 2012
McPhee, Ann Hutchison Langlands (née McGlashan), MA of 1956, died 12/11/2012
Paterson, Robert, BSc of 1956, died 2012
Stewart, Alasdair McIntosh, MA of 1956, died 2012

Child, Dorothy, MBChB of 1957, died 26/01/2012
Murdoch, Ian Galbraith, BSc of 1957, died 12/07/2012
Murray, Donald, MBChB of 1957, died 2012
Thomson, Alexander, MA of 1957, LLB of 1958, died 2012
Wheeldon, Mary Macdonald (née Roberts), MBChB of 1957, died 2012

Burton, David, BSc of 1958, died 17/08/2012
MacArthur, John, MA of 1958, died 2012
Macnab, Peter Jeffrey, BVMS of 1958, died 2012
Olive, David Ian, MA of 1958, died 13/12/2012
Taylor, Patricia (née Harris), BSc of 1958, died 2012

MacLean, Thomas Stewart Mackenzie, PhD of 1959, died 2012
Mellor, Michael James, MBChB of 1959, died 15/04/2012

Aitchison, Charles Ingram, MBChB of 1960, died 15/08/2012
Anderson, Norman James, BSc of 1960, MSc of 1963, died 2012
Brown, John, MA of 1960, died 2012
Robertson, Michael Alexander Hynd, MBChB of 1960, died 2012
Sagman, Maurice, MA of 1960, LLB of 1962, died 2012
Small, Colin McGregor, MBChB of 1960, died 2012

Aubrey, Keith, MBChB of 1961, died 2012
Burns, David Norman Miller, MBChB of 1961, died 2012
Dickson, Ian William Dalzel, MA of 1961, died 2012
Guldberg, Ann Mary Rathie (née Black), BSc of 1961, MBChB of 1963, died 2012
Harper, Alistair Fraser, MBChB of 1961, died 2012
Irvine, John Maxwell, BSc of 1961, Hon Dr of 1995, died 2012
Paton, Anne Gahan (née Johnstone), MA of 1961, died 2012

Allen, Alice Mary Kathleen (née Eddell), MA of 1962, died 2012
Brookes, Jean Frances, MA of 1962, died 08/02/2012
Hart, Philip Ray, PhD of 1962, died 2012
Hutton, Sandra Smith (née Reid), MA of 1962, died 2012
Watson, William Anderson Ferrier, BSc of 1962, PhD of 1965, died 2012

Bain, Alexander William McNab, MBChB of 1963, died 2012
Chan, Carlos Mario, MBChB of 1963, died 2012
Christman, William James, BD of 1963, died 2012
Cundall, Richard Leslie, MBChB of 1963, MSc of 1972, died 2012
Iggo, Ainsley, DSc of 1963, Hon DVM&S of 1993, died 25/03/2012
Jayaraj, Madasu David, MBChB of 1963, died 2012
Murray, Donald Kenneth, MBChB of 1963, died 2012
Oswald, Ian, DSc of 1963, died 25/04/2012
Rose, Peter Gerard, MBChB of 1963, died 2012
Strachan, Charles Gordon, BD of 1963, PhD of 1973, died 2012

Hargreaves, Carol, BSc of 1964, died 2012
Maclean, Catherine Margaret Una, Dip of 1964, MBChB of 1949, died 01/09/2012

Gordon, Roger, BVMS of 1965, died 2012
Hardie, David Alan, MBChB of 1965, died 30/07/2012
Jones, Philip Iain Piers, MA of 1965, died 2012

Bastow, Elspeth Mary Loudon (née Mears), MBChB of 1966, died 2012
Bell, Andrew Steven Woodhouse, BVMS of 1966, died 13/05/2012
Booker-Milburn, Donald, LLB of 1966, died 29/05/2012
Wain, Ernest Brian, BVMS of 1966, died 2012
Walton, Henry John, PhD of 1966, died 21/07/2012
Watson, Duncan Steuart, PhD of 1966, died 2012
White, Eric Walter, BSc of 1966, died 2012

Bladen, Christopher John, BSc of 1967, died 2012
Bonthron, Henry Wilson, BSc of 1967, died 2012
Ndon, Efiong Asuquo, BD of 1967, died 2012
Robertson, Ian Douglas, MA of 1967, LLB of 1969, died 2012
Sloss, John Andrew May, BSc of 1967, PhD of 1970, died 29/09/2012
Summers, Ronald McRae, MA of 1967, died 2012

Black, William, BD of 1968, died 2012

Ferguson, Thomas, BSc of 1968, MBChB of 1970, died 2012

Cackette, Erica, MA of 1969, died 2012

Evans, George Stuart, BSc of 1969, MBChB of 1972, died 2012

Fowler, Fiona Margaret (née Spence), BSc of 1969, died 11/05/2012

Hannah, William Martin, BD of 1969, died 2012

Lai Fat Fur, Yunkee, BSc of 1969, MBChB of 1972, died 2012

Sansbury, Michael Arthur, BSc of 1969, MBChB of 1972, died 2012

Stewart, Sheena Patricia (née Ritchie), BSc of 1969, died 2012

Triseliotis, John Paul, PhD of 1969, died 24/11/2012

Ziupa, Johann, BSc of 1969, MBChB of 1972, died 2012

Dale, Philip Alan Robertson, BSc of 1970, died 2012

Livingstone, Daniel Brown, BSc of 1970, PhD of 1974, died 2012

Thompson, Christine Elisabeth (née Haggart), BSc of 1970, died 26/06/2012

Alexander, David, BSc of 1971, MBChB of 1974, died 2012

Brown, John Leonard Russell, Dip of 1971, MA of 1970, died 2012

Dolan, Thomas Timothy, DTVM of 1971, PhD of 1975, died 2012

Gibson, Franziska Maria, MA of 1971, died 2012

Patterson, John Wellington, PhD of 1971, died 28/02/2012

Ward, Elizabeth Margaret (née Melville), MA of 1971, died 04/05/2012

Cargill, Kenneth George, LLB of 1972, died 03/07/2012

Fraser-Smith, Timothy John, LLB of 1972, died 25/10/2012

Savage, Gordon Matthew Alexander, MA of 1972, BD of 1975, died 23/05/2012

Walker, Elizabeth Sheila (née Scott), MA of 1972, died 2012

Brotherston, Kenneth George, BSc of 1973, MBChB of 1976, died 2012

Carrick, Thomas, MA of 1973, died 2012

Hardie, Ian James, LLB of 1973, died 16/10/2012

Reid, George Arthur, PhD of 1973, died 2012

Russell, Derek Henry George, BCom of 1973, died 2012

Tinston, Robert Sydney, BSc of 1973, died 2012

Wynne-Davies, Ruth, PhD of 1973, died 2012

Armstrong, Gordon Daiches, BSc of 1974, died 2012

Methven, Linda Elizabeth (née Meldrum), BA of 1974, died 2012

Dick, Sheila, (née Hunter), BA of 1975, died 2012

Ford, William, MA of 1975, died 2012

Hoy, John Derek, BSc of 1975, MSc of 1985, died 10/11/2012

Nicol, James, BSc of 1975, died 02/02/2012

Potter, Kathleen Veronica (née White), BA of 1975, died 05/04/2012

Preston, Tom, BD of 1975, died 2012

Clark, Eric Gerrard, BSc of 1976, died 20/05/2012

Hall, Christopher Scott, MA of 1976, died 07/11/2012

Maude, Nicholas John Eustace, BSc of 1976, died 2012

Robertson, John Barr, BEd of 1976, died 2012

Wallace, John Sim, BSc of 1976, died 2012

Day, Patricia, BSc of 1977, died 2012

Griffiths, Patrick David, PhD of 1977, died 2012

Herd, Ian Forbes, BDS of 1977, died 2012

Macleod, Colin Malcolm, LLB of 1977, died 12/09/2012

Shepherd, Jennifer Ann (née Keddie), BA of 1977, BCom of 1979, died 2012

Stirling, Peter, BSc of 1977, died 2012

Wilsher, Leroy Allen, MEd of 1977, died 2012

Chapman, Brian John, BSc of 1978, MBChB of 1981, died 09/02/2012

Bourn, James, MA of 1979, died 2012

Gooding, Katharine Angela (née Massiah), BA of 1979, died 2012

Stiven, Iain Kay, MEd of 1979, died 2012

Paton, Carol Ann, BSc of 1980, died 14/03/2012

Fenton, Alexander, DLt of 1981, died 21/09/2012

Hay, Andrew James, BSc of 1982, MBChB of 1984, died 29/01/2012

Njagi, Germano Dennis Ernest, PhD of 1982, died 2012

Chapman, Paul Andrew, BSc of 1984, died 2012

Tse, Eileen Yuen Yee, MBChB of 1984, died 2012

Costello, Kevin Francis, BSc of 1985, PhD of 1991, died 2012

Metzstein, Isi, MA of 1985, died 2012

Onzi, Michael, MSc of 1985, died 2012

Barrie, Louise Catriona (née Rutherford), MA of 1986, died 11/05/2012

Fairley, Janet Christine, PhD of 1987, died 09/06/2012

Maccalman, Colin, Donald, BSc of 1988, MSc of 1989, died 2012

Murray, Dorothy Evelyn, MA of 1988, died 2012

Hampson, Norman, Hon DLetters of 1989, died 2012

McKay, John Henderson, Hon Dr of 1989, died 2012

Millar, Heather Anne, MSc of 1989, died 2012

Sampson, William James, MBA of 1990, PhD of 1988, died 11/03/2012

Cudworth, Sarah Jane, LLB of 1992, Dip of 1993, died 2012

Canning, Roma Marion, MBA of 1993, died 2012

Brown, Angus Richard, PhD of 1995, died 2012

Corder, Thomas Aylward, BNG(H) of 1995, died 2012

Stanners, David Lawrence, MA(H) of 1997, died 2012

Culshaw, Nicola Marie, BSC(H) of 1998, died 2012

Fleming, John Matthew, MSc of 1999, died 2012

Mclean, Robert, PhD of 1999, died 14/07/2012

Taylor, James Philip, BSC(H) of 1999, died 2012

Hernandez-Daumas, Salvador, PhD of 2000, died 2012

Smith, Francis Anthony, MA(H) of 2000, died 2012

Crow, James F, Hon DSc of 2001, died 2012

Rodger, Alan Ferguson, Hon LLD of 2001, died 10/02/2012

Sarma, Rajshankar Tony, BVMS of 2001, died 04/08/2012

Holliday, Damian Mark, MA of 2002, died 2012

Stuart, Alasdair Patrick Graham, BVMS of 2004, NGR of 2010, died 11/03/2012

Gilby, Christopher James, MA of 2006, died 2012

Thomson, Nicola Frances, MBA of 2008, died 2012

Abouelfath, Amin, MBA of 2009, died 2012

Daniells, Jaime, JYA of 2009, MA(H) of 2012, died 2012

Bishop, Antony Kieran, BSC(H) of 2010, died 2012

Burgoyne, Trelawney, MBA of 2011, died 2012

Douglas, Alison, died 2012

Zachary, Caroline M (née Grieve), died 2012

Papers from the General Council Meeting on 16 June 2012

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

at the General Council Meeting on 16 June 2012

Principal: Guten Morgen, willkommen in Berlin. I would like to start by thanking the General Council for inviting me to speak. Thanking them very much for having a meeting in the country in which I was born. And I would like to really express my appreciation for the work of the General Council, we have three very hard working Assessors on the University Court, Margaret Tait, Ann Smyth and Alan Johnston. They give us a tremendous amount of donated work which helps the University move forward. From Alan Brown we have had eight years of service for the Business Committee, the last four years as Convener. He has been tremendously assiduous and hard-working and with his wife Elizabeth he has also been tremendously hospitable. He is the life and soul of the party, as well as being incredibly hard-working, so please join with me in applauding Alan and Elizabeth.

I thought, as I had given you a general report in February, at this meeting I would respond to your kind invitation by turning again to international strategy. I presented on that topic a number of years ago, to the General Council, but things have gone tremendously well, and very dynamic. I will be using a number of PowerPoint slides taken in large part from Vice Principal International, Professor Steve Hillier, who is doing an absolutely wonderful job setting University strategy, which gets the most sincere complements. One of the things I do in Germany and I have been doing in France, is help the higher education systems there improve their universities, and a couple of times I have found myself leading a visit to a university where the international website and the strategy has looked strangely familiar, and I have said to them, 'Where did it come from?', and they said 'We copied it, from Edinburgh'. So it is much admired externally, but he does a great job; and Alan Mackay, the Director of the International Office, who is here, also does a tremendous job. I would also like to thank Norval Scott, who delivers our international press. I am thanking them and at the same time signalling to you that any difficult questions on my presentation I have got a team of three who are keen and willing to answer. Our University always was international. When we were founded at the end of the sixteenth century we took our curriculum from Paris, not from Oxford or Cambridge, and we have very strong commitment to the teaching of Philosophy in the Paris style. Our ostensible founder, James VI, promised us money, did not give us any, but happily James VII gave us resources for four regents, four senior posts, and he gave those resources with an extremely nice instruction, which is, that we had to appoint the best possible regents, which meant that looking at England, or even in Scotland, was not to be done, we had to go to the major universities of the time. We had to go to Paris, Leiden, to Utrecht, again, the University looking very internationally, and particularly in the connection with Holland. Our world famous, world leading medical school is in turn built on Leiden, and for a period of almost a hundred years it was impossible to get serious advancement in Medicine at Edinburgh unless you had done your training with Boerhaave or others at Leiden, so a very strong orientation there. Another thing that has helped us to be international is, as a post-Reformation university, we never applied religious tests, and in the seventeenth century we appointed our first professor of Oriental Languages; interesting for two reasons, one the commitment to study languages and the other reason it was interesting is that the professor was Jewish, and for the University of Edinburgh this represented no issue, provided of course that he was willing to 'not oppose the Church of Scotland in public'.

When we come to the Enlightenment period we obviously talk about Edinburgh and the role of Edinburgh in the Enlightenment, but if you look at the record of the time, what you see is Edinburgh academics charging around to Paris, Boston, London and Dublin and you see connections with people like Benjamin

Franklin and Voltaire, so very enmeshed in a world model, that is what the professors of two hundred years ago were like. I was visiting McGill recently which celebrates the fact that it was founded with a bit of Glaswegian money and the first full faculty all came from Edinburgh, they were all Edinburgh medics, and they just established what they still call the Edinburgh curriculum. If we look around at the four year degree in United States and Canada we see the powerful influence that we had. But just as I mentioned Paris and Leiden, I am really, really pleased to be with you here at the Humboldt, because the PhD degree, as we have it in Edinburgh, was created here. This was the university at the beginning of the nineteenth century that, if I can put it that way, 'professionalised' research, so just as we owe this historical debt to Paris for the way that Philosophy suffuses parts of our teaching we owe an historical debt to Leiden and Utrecht for Medicine, we owe a particular and definite debt to the Humboldt, so very, very good to be here.

I shall go through the slides about the past; we have this lovely quote from our former Chancellor *"...Many of our students are from across the Border, they come from every civilised land; and it is our proudest compliment, for it means that they think they get something here which is not to be got elsewhere..."* (JM Barrie was Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh 1930-1937), it's a nice sentiment, slightly patronising, Edinburgh 'civilising the rest of the world', but a very attractive sentiment and a deep part of the University. Now here are some very interesting numbers, we go back to between the wars and we have about 20% international students. You then go back ten years ago and we have slightly less than 20% international students, and now we have 36%. What the figures show us is that the University is growing in terms of its student body at a great rate, now more than 30,000 students, and the proportion of international students amongst those is growing even faster, and that for us is a tremendous strength. A world university needs to recruit the best students from around the world, and we have been doing that. So these are very powerful figures and they are real testimony to the work of Vice Principal Hillier, to the work of Alan Mackay, we are doing so extraordinarily well. The history; I gave you one fix on it, but we taught Arabic in the eighteenth century, very strong Russian links, in my little list I should have mentioned St Petersburg as well. We have Prince Dashkov, son of Princess Dashkova (on our list of alumni), we have educated a lot of heads of state. We mention the Canadian one there (Sir Charles Tupper who went on to be the sixth Prime Minister of Canada), but if you go into Wikipedia you will find ten heads of state who got their degrees from the University of Edinburgh. There is an argument whether Huang Kuan was the first graduate coming from China in Europe or leaving China all together, there is a pretty good argument for it being leaving China all together, and we had our first black African student in the mid-nineteenth century and our first Indian graduate. So we have been very outward looking in recruiting. I think one of the very important things about our strategy is that having an international staff and a staff who can speak a wide range of languages goes hand in hand with having students coming from all over the world. In the nineteenth century we recruited, ahead of other universities around the world, from China and Japan, particularly for Medicine and Engineering. One of the reasons why Edinburgh was a comfortable place was because you knew and you were told by other students, that if you came to the University of Edinburgh there were people, professors, who could speak Mandarin, Cantonese or Japanese, so it is a very important part of what we do. I really commend Professor Hillier's strategy, Edinburgh Global, and I have to say, it's not just the detail, Steve has a great way with words too, some of the best phrases in the University's Strategic Plan have been taken from him. We won't argue, we will just pay each other compliments, that is very comfortable. But this concept of being a place of first choice in the minds of the world, is very important and that is one of the reasons why being here at one of the most important universities in the world is very important for us.

A very good internationalisation strategy summarised here, a key part of it is communication, a key part of it is getting people to understand what the University is doing. That is why the work of Norval Scott and the work of Communications & Marketing is so important. We are now routinely written about in the Frankfurter Allgemeine, in the China Daily, in the Wall Street Journal, and that is very important. Clearly attracting the very best students here and clearly ensuring that for our research we consistently address a world audience.

We have a very good implementation plan that Steve has instigated. A particularly important part of that is the postgraduate programme and the teaching generally, and the use of professional updating courses and e-learning courses, addressing a wider audience there. If you look at the Masters degree as one of the tools

for internationalisation you can see it is doing very well, and particularly doing very well electronically. One of my jobs is, as well as being Principal and Vice Chancellor, the Accounting Officer for the University, which means I have to worry about the money, and the online courses are very important, because it means that as well as many international students coming to us, we have a way of going to them. It means that if there is some sort of financial crisis that makes it impossible for students from abroad to afford physically come to Edinburgh, they can come to us electronically, or if we have strange changes in visa regulations, again so it is a key part of our strategy. One of the things, and I think it really has to represent a model for us, is the ESSQ (The Edinburgh Surgical Sciences Qualification). This is a wonderful partnership between the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh and the University of Edinburgh. This is an electronically delivered qualification, it allows trained surgeons to update their skills and they get two wonderful things from that; they get academic recognition from the University of Edinburgh, but they also get the necessary professional recognition, as it were the licence to practice these skills, from the Royal College of Surgeons. It is I think a model that can be taken outside of Medicine, it can be taken into Accountancy, it can be taken into Law, a lot of professional domains, and it is something I know that other universities that have Medical Schools are deeply jealous of. So it is a very important partnership. It is a wonderful course, it does well in its own right, but it really is a model for the sort of thing we should be doing. Steve and I had a tussle about some of the words and rhetoric, there is not any question though who owns the most powerful organising idea we have had recently; Steve owns the idea of the Global Academy. It is an absolutely brilliant idea. Steve is a very inclusive person, there was lots of brain storming and this idea of putting together different academic factions from across the University, putting together a ladder of postgraduate courses and having them as one of the organisers, this is again much admired and so far, although I know some other universities want to copy it, perhaps their internal politics is more demanding than ours, but I have not seen anybody succeed in copying it. I have heard university presidents say they had noticed it, particularly the Global Health Academy, but I have not seen anybody successfully do that yet. These were the original brain storming ideas of what the Academies might be called, and what they have ended up actually being called, which we will come to later in the talk, is pretty close. What they do is, they basically empower colleagues in different parts of the University to work together to reach out, to reach out to an international audience, while offering the highest quality interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary postgraduate courses.

So here are some numbers, this is the last ten years, given what I showed you before, University student numbers are growing rapidly but at the same time the percentage of international students has grown from 19% to 36%, you would be very surprised if these curves were not like that. You can see doing very well on undergraduate, doing very well on postgraduate taught. We are not doing quite as well as I would like us to on postgraduate research. It is a demanding area to recruit in, PhD students are tremendously valuable so all universities compete to get them, all universities offer different attractions, different resources. The other thing to note in the modern environment, if you do an undergraduate course in most parts of the world at the end of it you will be in debt. If you then do a one year postgraduate taught course you will be in more debt, so that means that across the world it is becoming harder to recruit students to masters courses and much, much harder to recruit students to PhD courses, and that is a natural consequence of the unfortunate way that the costs over time have been passed more and more on to the students. But you can see all three curves are very healthy and even with the PhD students with a rise of 84%, we have almost doubled our numbers there over the ten year period. For me a slight surprise, if I am honest, is just how immensely successful we are in terms of international undergraduate numbers. Most of the effort, if I can put it that way, in recruitment terms, focuses on the one year Masters degree, where there is a clear understanding that worldwide one has a competitive advantage but our four year undergraduate degree is tremendously popular. It is very popular in the United States. This year we are currently estimating that we will in September have at least 1,200 new undergraduates from outside the European Union, so very strong figures there and obviously very, very important for the health, vitality and future of the University.

It is interesting how the countries change. What you have got there; the middle column tells you the current number of students from these different countries and we have ordered the left-hand column by the countries, and you can see that this is quite a volatile area. The thing that is consistent about the University of Edinburgh, which is also extremely unusual, is the number of students from the United States

that we have. The United States has, by any measure, the best in terms of quality and quantity of universities, best higher education system in the world, so generally universities that are not in the United States do not expect to recruit very many from there because there are more than 4,000 degree-awarding institutions in the United States, and if you look at the top end, once you start saying to yourself Harvard, Stamford, Yale, MIT, Berkley and John Hopkins, Chicago, the list of good universities is enormous, so we are in a particularly good place, because we are so popular with students from the United States, that then says to students from other countries, like Germany, China, that this is a particularly good university. We benefit from the US students in two ways; one because they are wonderful students of very high quality, but secondly because they come to us, and these are students who could be going to Harvard, Chicago or Princeton, because they come to us that gives students from other countries the confidence. You should notice the changes; I will make one prediction, the number of students we get from Greece will go up. If you just look at what is happening the number of students we get from Spain will probably increase too, but you see there, suddenly some countries send us more. What is also very interesting is how many high quality students we get from Germany. You can see, very solid and perhaps a little surprising, certainly surprising for me, particularly strong concentration in the School of Law. A lot of German Law students would not go to England, for the obvious reason that it is a legal system that is quite different from the German system, but there is in the German perception sufficient commonality, because of the shared historic heritage, in terms of Roman law, there is an attraction. There is also a great attraction because the University of Edinburgh is particularly strong at international law and the Germans have an aspiration, so again we are very pleased, because Germany has very good universities, we are in a very good university here, you can say to yourself, Heidelberg, Göttingen, Ludwig-Maximilians in München and such, so that is a good position. I would draw your attention to the fact that there are quite dramatic changes here, and yet if we look down the list and we suddenly see Lithuania, that is a very, very big change, likewise, Bulgaria, a big change. It will be very interesting to see how it develops, and in terms of cohorts, the two really big cohorts are North America, as a whole, if you look at the US and Canada, and then students whose first language is Mandarin or Cantonese; the Peoples' Republic of China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore.

The University belongs to different clubs; the most elite club we belong to is the league of European Research Universities, these are the top research universities in Europe and particularly because German colleagues are involved in constructing the metrics tremendous care has been taken in terms of the statistics, to be quite clear, which the top universities are, and you will notice quickly I am sure that we are the only Scottish university in the League of European Research Universities, and you will notice that there are not that many English ones. The obvious suspects are there and you will also notice that there are a number of European countries which are totally missing from this, and they turn out of course to be some of the countries where we get a lot of students, because they do not have a single university of the calibre of Edinburgh. This is an important club to be in, and also a club that I learn a lot from. We belong to Universitas 21, that works very well for us. In Universitas 21 the notion is very much to get the best university in each part of the world, so simply being in the top fifty of the universities in the world would not get you here. It includes Techa Monteret, a big private university in Mexico, it includes the Pontifical University in Chile. By the way, I want at least one person to give me an intelligent admonition at the end of this, last time I talked to the General Council on this theme, somebody said, 'Well that is all very well young man, but what about Latin America?' and I thought for a minute and I said 'Well you are exactly right', so I am on the nominations committee for Universitas 21, that is the group that decides membership and one of the things I was very keen to do was to get Mexico and Chile in there, so you can take that as a consequence of my being admonished by the General Council. Again we have got Korea University and Fudan, Fudan is that extremely odd thing, a big, successful private university in Shanghai in the Peoples' Republic of China and a very good partner of ours, helps us run our Confucius Institute, so these are very useful for us, they are very useful for student exchanges, very useful for learning things. For example from the University of British Columbia, they do wonderful work for their international postgraduates, and when we finally have our development for 1,150 international postgraduate students to live in down by Holyrood, if you wonder where did that come from, where did the idea come from, it is pretty much a straight copy of what the University of British Columbia has done. So we learn different things from our partners and obviously we meet in different parts of the world.

The Coimbra Group is an interesting one. To get into this club you need to have a very nice charter, and it is basically a club dominated by universities with beautiful charters. There is a wonderful book with the charters in it and you will find that we have got the smallest charter. We have got a very, very odd charter. If you look at for example the charter that St Andrews, which was given to it of course by Pope Benedict, who was an imprisoned, ex-communicated anti-Pope, but never-the-less was capable of signing his name to a charter, or probably more sensibly if you look at the excellent charter of the University of Glasgow, you will see that in the charter the Pope lays out what the purpose of the University is, what the faculties will be. Our charter is not anything like that at all. It is an enabling charter and basically says 'Carry on as you are chaps'. So there are some interesting questions about what was it that was to carry on that you did not actually need to explain? Certainly by 1556, which truly pre-dates our foundation date, our founders' grandmother was paying for lecturers in cannon law and in divinity, and so on. But an interesting club to be in.

European research income, again I am accounting officer, I am very bothered about these things. In the first part of the last decade we did quite well, and certainly compared to any other European university we have got more than 7m Euros from the European Research Council. What is fabulous is in the following years we have got almost 40m Euros. We are one of the best performing universities in Europe in terms of getting money from Brussels. Again, just as it is nice to have students from different sources, it is good to get money from the Scottish Government, and they treat us very well, I have to say that, it is good to get money from the UK Research Councils and we do well there, the money is not increasing and it is competitive. By the way, overall this year we are doing absolutely brilliantly, nine months in we have secured £190m of competitive research grants and it is perfectly possible in the remaining months, despite how competitive things are, I should not say things like this, because it probably it will not happen now, but the best this University did was immediately before the financial crash when we got £240 in competitive grants, it is not inconceivable that we could get very close to that again. One of the reasons is we have such a successful profile in Europe. Brussels trusts us to do high quality research in partnership, but also, in terms of these European Research Council Grants that are summarised here it is deeply impressed in the quality of the staff we are appointing. Each of these grants represents at least one stunningly good young individual or one stunningly good senior member of staff, one would not get them without that, so very, very good.

International press coverage; I am expecting you really to look at the curve of press coverage altogether. It is very, very important for us, and I think you should just interpret the right-hand bar. If I got close enough I would see the names of lots and lots of important foreign newspapers. The thing about the list on the right, and it is just tremendous credit to Norval and others, is those are the names of important foreign newspapers that we were in last week, not last year, the figures on the left are the annual figures, but the names of the ones on the right are the newspapers that we appeared in last week, so tremendously successful.

The other thing I should point to is our Students' Association is excellent. It has been excellent in aligning itself with the University's work on supporting learning and it has got this wonderful teaching award scheme that is very motivating for staff. It has also been excellent in helping us with internationalisation, in particular putting on a range of support services and events which do not cut across the work of the International Office, they augment it. So the 11,000 odd international students that we have, apart from the absolutely exemplary work that Alan's colleagues do from greeting them as they arrive at Edinburgh airport onwards, they also get a lot of support from the students; electronic support, practical support and EUSA themselves use some of their resources. They have an extremely successful International Officer, so very pleased about that and that is a new development. The Global Academies, as I said, going very, very well, really allowing us to engage in parts of the world where there are serious environmental, health and sustainability and development issues, allows us to work in partnership, internal partnerships and also strong external partnerships. Here are some statistics from the Global Development Academy, and again lots and lots of access through the website to important information, not just about what we are doing but about what other agencies are doing in development, and also routes into our postgraduate programmes. We have got three Global Academies; Health, Environment and Society, and Development. The

Development Academy is associated with administering a single grant in the order of £40m, which gives an idea, we have Imperial and Oxford as sub-contractors for big chunks of that, but it gives you an idea. The Global Academies are just tremendously powerful concepts and if you are running an international organisation or leading an important university in some other part of the world you may see Edinburgh through the Environment & Society Academy or the Development Academy, or the Health Academy. Vice Principal Hillier has been very cautious on these, he has not created lots and lots of them, there is tremendous internal demand but he has been wanting to be quite sure that these are areas where there is a major world challenge to be addressed, where we have major capability that can be put to use across the University and I think I am probably a slightly more impulsive person than Steve, so if I was in charge of this I would probably be doing it a bit faster, but Steve is doing it I have to say exactly right. First we had the idea, then we had the general topics, now we have three very successful ones and a lot of careful thought about whether there should be a fourth one. One of the things that has come out of this is; it is important for a world university to address world challenges, it is important for a University to educate for world challenges, we have a wonderful open first year course in the undergraduate programme which addresses world issues, and now we have this wonderful set of courses on the global challenges which draw in from all of the three academies, so that is a super development, and I am delighted to see it.

I have been talking about the Global Academies and I have been talking a bit about our history and about how important it is for people from different parts of the world to feel at home and the jargon term for this is 'Area Studies'. The university that is most strong in area studies is the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. I had the privilege of being on their governing body a few years ago, and one slogan that you hear in Humanities and Social Sciences, which I find a very attractive slogan, is that the University of Edinburgh should aim to be the SOAS of the North, and what is meant by that slogan is that we should be very strong in area studies and we should be very strong in languages, and I am very much a defender of teaching a very, very wide range of languages, and if you go in to southeast England the African, Arabian and Asian languages are in SOAS, and the other European languages are in UCL. We have a real advantage because SOAS is four hundred miles south of us, so we can actually, in UK terms, do a very broad range of languages. And even though I am the accounting officer, when somebody says this or that language is in difficulty, can we not just quietly stop doing it, my reaction is always the same, I always say no, because in the long run having the widest possible capability in languages is vital for the University's future.

The Centre for African Studies, that is just celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, very strong pattern of engagement with Africa, and that is a centre that deals with history, deals with anthropology, particularly with economics, covers a wide range and is an important reference point for African students, who may be studying Medicine, who may not be engaged with the Centre in terms of the courses it supports at all, but it is a very comfortable environment where African music can be heard, contemporary African writers are discussed.

Asian studies; we have Chinese, we have Japanese, we have Sanskrit. Again I will say to the General Council, although I think I would have done this any way, but I was told off about Sanskrit. Sanskrit needed to be looked after. Sanskrit has been looked after, and recently the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, which is the Indian equivalent of the British Council, has chosen to invest in the University of Edinburgh in terms of Indian Studies and a key reason was when the Director General of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations visited us in Edinburgh, we were able to show him Sanskrit treasures in the University Library, and he was able to talk to Sanskrit scholars. For him the reaction was immediate, this is a university that takes India really seriously, therefore it is an appropriate university for the Indian Government to invest in.

In Japanese Studies, again, a particularly powerful thing is the Handa Centre of Japanese Chinese Relations. We are the only place in the world that has such a centre. Actually, if you think about it a little bit, it is slightly easier to have that centre in Edinburgh than it would be to have it further south, because Japanese Chinese relations is a very sensitive issue, but very important that we were identified as the appropriate place for that scholarship and that support.

Probably the most visible thing we have is the Confucius Institute for Scotland. It is located in Abden House. Last week it was the host to 350 guests, basically the colleagues who run all the Confucius Institutes in Europe came, plus a group of about ten university presidents from China and about twenty government officials from Beijing, so 350 colleagues. A very, very successful event. The bagpipes playing went well, the ceilidh dancing went extremely well. The only slight difficulty was the transport. It was decided, because we had quite a lot of extremely important visitors and we were not just in the Playfair Library, and in the Raeburn Room, we were also in Abden House, we were in the Signet Library, in the Hub, so a lot of transport was laid on and it was decided it was very important to have Mandarin-speaking drivers. So we were successful, or the Government agency was successful, in recruiting a large number of Mandarin-speaking drivers. Most of them seemed to have a limited understanding of the difference between the Cowgate and the South Bridge, and for a Mandarin-speaking person with the best satnav in the world it is still quite difficult to get from the Cowgate to Abden House, so there was an awful lot of explanation all conducted in Mandarin, obviously in translation for people like myself, but it was a very successful event. For three years in a row at the big conference in Beijing in December, and actually it is very, very cold in Beijing in December, we were awarded the title 'Confucius Institute of the Year', and so I said to the Director General, this is getting a little bit embarrassing, actually the Germans were moaning because they want their Confucius Institute to do well. I was given a lot of nods and 'we understand entirely Professor O'Shea', and 'yes, if you win it three times you get to keep the cup and somebody else can play', and so of course, what happened subsequently? Well of course what happened subsequently, and of course people say that the Chinese do not have a sense of humour, they made us Confucius Institute of the Year again and they gave me a great big gold medal, which turned out to be real gold so obviously I have presented it to the University and it is currently in the safe at Old College, as a way of harmonising Scottish German relations. But it is nice that we are so well regarded. Again, if you are a student from China, you may be studying Nanotechnology, but there is a place where you can go and help make dumplings, you can celebrate the Spring Festival and eat Moon Cakes, you can listen to the *chen* being played, we have some very nice ancient Chinese instruments, you can do calligraphy, and such. So it is very important for us.

We have got one of the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centres for the Study of Islam in the Contemporary World. We are in very good company, there is another one in Cambridge, another one in Harvard, another one in Georgetown University, and that is a very important place. In fact we teach more students Arabic than any other British university. We have very big programme of our students learning Arabic. We are also a major centre for students to come to us from the Middle East to study difficult topics related to the history and politics of the Middle East. The centre has worked very well indeed.

We have the Princess Dashkova Russian Centre. A wonderful centre paid for by Russkiy Mir, which is the Russian equivalent of the British Council. It is the only Russkiy Mir Centre located in a university, so we are very proud that we have got it, there isn't one for example in London, quite important for us. We had a very nice opening ceremony which was attended by the Russkiy Mir Head of European Programs, Alexei Gromyko (Gromyko's son) and the overall Director of Russkiy Mir, who is Molotov's grandson. I have to say, the Chinese banquets can be a little bit heavy-duty, towards the end. When they start, they give you spirits to drink in very, very small glasses and you think it is going to be all right, but then you suddenly notice that you are on to the tenth toast. The Russians are very similar, except that they do not use small glasses, and you suddenly start counting the litre bottles of vodka arriving at the dinner table, and realise that this is going to be a serious evening.

We have got a Centre for Canadian Studies, very well regarded, and again very important. A place for Canadian students to feel at home, but also a way that the Canadian Government can channel its support into the University. So we have seen real growth in Area Studies, but it is very important. We will be aiming when Ana Botin, the Chief Executive of Santander, visits us in the autumn, to formally launch an Institute of Latin American Studies. For all practical purposes we have one of those.

What is for the future? Well, four key areas to concentrate on; student experience, partnering, outreach, staff experience. It is very important to try to be symmetric, and a key objective for us is to ensure that as students and staff from around the world come to us, our students and staff go round the world. We have a

quite explicit objective. We are immensely attractive to students for things like Year Abroad programmes, they want to come to us, and we see it as absolutely vital that we get as many of our students as possible to get those same sorts of benefits from studying at other universities, likewise with staff. Partnering is also very important. The strategy that we have is consistently to partner with the very best universities. We are very selective, just as Vice Principal Hillier is very selective about what areas we have Global Academies in, we are also very, very selective about what universities we partner with. They have to be of extremely high status and they have to have research that is complementary to ours. Places like Peking University, where, if somebody graduates from Peking University and then wants to come and do a Masters degree with us, we know the quality. Our university is not wandering around big student fairs giving out balloons or Biro's, what we are doing is very much saying, for all the different countries we work with, which are the best universities, how we are going to make ourselves visible through working with those universities. When you look at our three Liaison Offices, we have a very successful one in China, we would not have got the Confucius Institute, we would not have got the very many important links we have with the Ministry of Science & Technology, with the Ministry of Education in China, without Dr Nini Yang who you can see there, who has done an absolutely wonderful job. They can be thought of as embassies for the University, these are not student recruitment agencies, they help facilitate research partnerships, they support the staff who are visiting, hold important events. In Beijing we had a wonderful ceremony of University of Edinburgh Chinese success, where we were able to celebrate our Chinese alumni.

The Mumbai Office is going very well indeed. Again the General Council should take credit for this, we will be opening an office in Sao Paulo, that is moving along, Brazil particularly important for us. There was a strange debate, which I found unintelligible where some colleagues who quite fancied Rio. I am the accounting officer, if you look at the numbers there is no question, the bulk of the economic activity is clearly in Sao Paulo, so why anybody would want to be in Rio is beyond me! But I have been told that there will be a little out-station in Rio just to allow people, once they are in Sao Paulo, to go there. So there is a map of the world. There are our four main locations and as you can see we are reaching out to the world, but not by setting up branch campuses. Our alternative to the branch campus is the partnership with the very high quality university where the student spends a couple of years in Shanghai at Fudan University and then spends a couple of years with us. Or spends a couple of years in Bangalore doing their Doctorate at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, and then spends a couple of years with us. That is the pattern we are engaged with. I think I should have convinced you that the Internationalisation Strategy of the University is very successful. When you look at the high quality students that are coming in from around the world, that is great. You look at the research partnerships, that is great. You look at the international research funding that is increasingly coming in, that is good. And one of the reasons why this university is ranked twentieth in the world is because there are a lot of people in the rest of the world who know about us, understand about us and that is because in addition to writing very important articles that are read by academics around the world, we also have a very efficient communications machine that ensures that when University of Edinburgh staff, as they have recently, work on the male pill, work on the genetic basis of strokes, that these important research findings get a worldwide audience. So it has been a pleasure to address you and Vice Principal Hillier, Alan Mackay and Norval Scott will be happy to answer any detailed questions you wish to pose. Thank you.

Can I suggest that we start with questions focussed on international aspects of the University. I am aware that there are other questions that have been posed electronically. I would be very happy to move to those, but given that we have got enough time, I think to start with questions that arise from the presentation, or that arise from thinking about the international position of the University.

Chairman: Ladies and Gentlemen, I am aware that there are a number of questions which have been received in advance of the meeting electronically and there may even be more that have come in the course of it, Mr Johnston is in charge of that, but I would certainly like to start with any questions from the floor and those related to the topic that the Principal has suggested at least at the outset. Could you use the microphone and adhere to the practice of giving your name first?

Professor John Smyth, Emeritus Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Edinburgh: I would be very surprised if there were not questions electronically about this, but the undergraduate situation and striking a balance between how we devote resources to home-grown people and overseas, and I know from discussion and debate this is not just about money. I completely resonate with the need for excellence and we want to be global and we want to have the best, but can you explain Principal at what level in the University the debate is held if it is, about allocating a proportion of resource to the overseas agenda, as opposed to home-grown, in the undergraduate sphere.

Principal: This is debated particularly in the context of the Central Management Group and the papers that then go forward to Finance and General Purposes. We are in a demanding situation where we have in the undergraduate programme students that are supported by the Scottish Government. Things may change, but the figures are really firming up in terms of the offers we have made and the acceptances. We are expecting, with Scottish Government support, to have 2,200 students coming in the Autumn. We are expecting with support, either from themselves, or support from the fact that we have got the most generous bursaries of any British university, about 1,500 students to come in from England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and as I said earlier we are expecting about 1,200 students to come from abroad or internationally. These things can change, particularly the number of students from outside the EU could still continue to rise, because that is not controlled by the UCAS admissions scheme. Also, because we are in a volatile position in the United Kingdom, it is possible that in August other English universities will make financially attractive offers where some students who might in a previous year have come to us might not. Contrary-wise, because what we are doing is very financially attractive for different categories of students, and we have greatly improved the bursary support for all our undergraduates actually, it may be that we do better than the numbers I was indicating. You will have noticed perhaps that for months now on the front page of our website, one of the things that has been consistently there is the bursary scheme. We did that quite deliberately because it became clear to us in the autumn that the bursary schemes that we were offering were not being understood. So that is the pattern that we are headed towards. Those 2,200, that number if the Scottish Government were to give us more support could go up, and I do not imagine it will go down in 2013 or 2014. That depends on financial circumstances and budgets, but we have a fairly secure budget as a university, quite a lot of the elements from the Scottish Government up to the next election, and it would require some other Scottish universities to really under-recruit and places to be transferred to us for that number to go up very much. The Scottish Government is investing well, I do not think they are going to increase that, that is where we are. But we really are constrained by, if I can put it this way, our contract with the Scottish Government, that for us is a fixed point and obviously if we were to recruit more students than the Scottish Government is paying for in those categories then we would be asking students generally to subsidise those because there would not be income.

Colin Munro: The news in the German papers today is that this University has just joined the Freie Universität as one of the elite universities in Germany and I think the city of Berlin is quite proud of this, because up to now it only had one elite university, where as Munich, our partner city had two, and I was just wondering if you have any plans for a partnership relationship with this university?

Principal: We do have a number of relationships with the Humboldt already, and a very good university to work with. Yes, I think we should minute our congratulations to the Humboldt, they are one of eleven universities that yesterday were designated officially excellent by the German Government. I am on the strategy commission that does these determinations, so I have just come here from Bonn in fact, and the situation in Germany in terms of research excellence is a bit more brutal than the British system. In Britain you are assessed on each subject, so we have the best Clinical Medicine in the United Kingdom and that is compared to all the other Clinical Medics, we have one of the best Computer Science, one of the best Chemistry, but in the United Kingdom it is done subject by subject and you get a composite grade, which you can say is a 3.5 average, or a 3.7 average, and with that grade comes formulaic money. For the University of Edinburgh you can look at all the different subjects and find out what their grade is compared to the rest of Britain. It is an area we do very well in indeed. If you looked at them collectively we would rank fifth in the United Kingdom. In Germany there is an awful lot of evaluation work that is done, then the

entire university is either labelled excellent, as Humboldt has been, and gets many millions of Euros, or is not. So I think for the people in the Reichstag this is a very demanding enterprise.

Professor Charles Swainson: Thank you very much for a very illuminating talk. I had not realised the growth in undergraduate numbers. People always talk about the postgraduate international students. I wonder if you could say something about the enhanced student experience that has been developed over the last few years, because I know this was a topic of great interest to the General Council a couple of years ago, so both for home and international students, what progress has been made in improving the student experience.

Principal: That is a very good question. At the school level there is lots of work being done in terms of support in the different subjects, and providing contextual support. There has been a particular emphasis on improving the quality of feedback and the speed with which it has been given. At the University level we are engaged on very, very big initiatives for 2012, under the leadership of Vice Principal Dai Hounsell, who is the Vice Principal for Academic Enhancement, and who is supported by some extremely good Assistant Principals. We are introducing across the University a Personal Tutor system and that will be where all undergraduates will know who their Personal Tutor is, they will all have automatically timetabled time with the Personal Tutor, both in a group and as an individual. The other thing we have just approved is a real investment across the system in student support, both in electronic student support, so that students can easily see exactly where they are in their course of studies, what progress they are making, but also in human student support. So that there will be fairly hefty investment in Student Support Officers, who will work alongside the teaching academics and I am very hopeful that those two initiatives will have a big impact.

Mrs Margaret Tait: General Council Assessor on Court: We are absolutely delighted about the influx of international students, and we want to support the University in this, but equally we are very much aware that the international students have very high aspirations and could we hear more about how the University is responding to this in the way of facilities, new buildings, refurbishments, libraries, and so on, to encourage us in this.

Principal: Yes you are right, the students do have very high aspirations and as you will be aware through Estates & Buildings we are investing very heavily in infrastructure. The biggest project has of course been the Library in George Square, which has been quite transformed into a modern library with tremendous facilities to support the student learning experience. As you are also aware new library facilities at the King's Buildings; lots of work on refurbishment. Obviously it has to be done piece by piece, but if you go into the refurbished buildings inhabited by the Business School, by the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, by the School of Political and Social Sciences, you can see that we are doing very well and will continue to do. I think one of the very encouraging things about the University's financial position is we have been investing of the order of £75m a year in the estate in recent years. We are really set to continue to invest at that level. I was very pleased, before we gave the honorary degree to the Minister President of Lower Saxony yesterday, he was talking about various European initiatives, including the European Investment Bank, which because of the security of the University and the convincingness of the mission, they have given us a £50m loan, on a very acceptable basis. So we have a big list, but I think the thing that is encouraging is where we have done new buildings like Informatics, or where we have done refurbishments like History, Business or Political Science, they have all been done to immensely high quality, we have been doing that at a great rate of knots and our financial position is such that over the next few years we will continue, and obviously we appreciate the work of the members of Court like yourself who donate lots of time to the different projects that Estates & Buildings set up, because putting together a teaching building for all the Vets, or a research building for the Computer Scientists and so on is a non-trivial enterprise, but one that the University is doing well, and as you implicitly say, there is more work to be done, but we will do it.

There is one other answer to your question, which I should have mentioned. Something that is extremely important for these students who come to us from around the world is their future employment, and the

fact that we have such exemplary statistics; 95% of our students, our undergraduate class, are doing something appropriate within 18 months of leaving us. If you look at the QS World League Table we are ranked 20th in the world as a university, if you look at us from an employer's point of view in those rankings, we are ranked 16th. What is done is they go round all the international employers and say which universities would you most like to recruit from and we labelled 16th in the world, and that is very, very important. So the student who is coming to us from Shanghai or Los Angeles knows that their chance of high quality employment is very good and I have nothing but praise for our Careers Office. I think Sheila Green and her colleagues are doing a wonderful job there. Obviously we are doing a wonderful job in educating the students too, and we have extremely high completion rates in all our courses, but the fact that a degree from the University of Edinburgh is a passport to high quality international employment is very important to these students.

C Presentation of the Report of the Business Committee

at the General Council Meeting on 16 June 2012

Convener of the Business Committee: Dr Alan Brown

Convener: Chairman, Principal, Members of the General Council, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is a great pleasure for the General Council to be meeting in this magnificent and unified city, and particularly today in the superb surroundings of the Senate Hall in the Humboldt University, whose past alumni and staff include Marx, Engels, The Brothers Grimm, Bismarck and Nobel Prize winners Ehrlich, Krebs and Einstein. For many years our twice yearly meetings were in Edinburgh, but it was decided to reach out, and along with the Principal and senior University staff meet more of the 170,000 graduates worldwide, who are predominately our General Council membership. This is our fifth away venture, with visits to London, Paris, Washington DC and Hong Kong, and already this weekend is living up to the memorable occasions of previous years. The prime purpose of these events is for our graduates and friends living outside Scotland to meet fellow alumni and academic colleagues, to learn more about the University and how to be involved in whichever way suits them. I welcome alumni who are watching through our live webcast. Please email your questions and comments to be included in our discussions later. Many of you know that the Business Committee is the elected committee of the General Council whose statutory role is to consider matters affecting the wellbeing of the University, thus a recent issue of concern was the Scottish Government's Higher Education Governance Review. The report was published in January. Our response focussed on the benefits of having an independent body like the General Council which reflects the interests of graduates and academic staff. While many of the recommendations are already in place at Edinburgh we found that other proposals were counter-productive. We will continue our involvement in this matter.

Following a presentation to the Business Committee on the University's draft Strategic Plan for 2012-2016, we were invited to comment, which we did favourably, as its contents are impressive. We expressed the hope and confidence that the key performance indicators to be set would be challenging.

Our four Standing Committees, Academic, Constitutional, Finance & Services and Public Affairs keep members busy. We are regularly updated by senior University staff and EUSA, the Students' Association. For example we had a recent presentation on the complexities of the admission procedures, particularly in the light of important changes to higher education funding and student fees. We meet senior officers of the Students' Association to discuss such common interests as the student experience and ways in which we may contribute to that experience. The most recent talk to the Academic Standing Committee was from Professor Chris Breward who gave an encouraging overview concerning the progress of the integration of the College of Art and bringing it together with other schools in the University. Also we look forward to increasing our links with alumni engagement and supporting them whenever possible.

The Business Committee, good as it is, has been looking at ways to improve its practice. An Effectiveness Review Group was set up under the Chairmanship of Vice Convener, Dr Frances Dow. During the last year

we have considered papers written by members of the group, had discussions with senior University staff and input from an external facilitator. The final report will be considered by the Business Committee in July and it has many recommendations clarifying our responsibilities, streamlining procedures and having a more active relationship with stakeholders. Further details will be given at the next Half-Yearly meeting and in *Billet* within *Edit*.

Other important developments since our last away meeting in 2010 have been the retirement of our indefatigable Chancellor of 57 years, His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, and the election by the General Council of Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal. The celebrations marking these occasions were memorable and videos and photos of them may be seen on the University and our websites.

The General Council Prince Philip Fund flourishes. The slight change in name was necessary following the magnificent donation of an endowed scholarship by the University of Edinburgh US Development Trust. These bursaries and scholarships are even more vital in the changing climate of higher education funding as well as crucial in attracting the highest quality students. One of the many highlights of my four years as Convener has been the establishment of these awards and I am grateful to the many General Council members who have contributed to them.

In early July we are looking forward to a series of events with the Association of Yale Alumni, which has been organised by the International Office, Development & Alumni and ourselves. About seventy visitors are expected, and as well as social activities a workshop has been arranged concerning such areas of interest as alumni relations, global networks and distance learning. It promises to be a stimulating few days from which closer ties with Yale will develop.

Finally, this is my last report as I am stepping down after eight memorable and enjoyable years on the Business Committee. It has been an enormous privilege being involved in the General Council, particularly at a time when our University is well established in the top league of higher education. This has been very much due to the leadership of our Principal Sir Timothy O'Shea. He leads a talented team of staff and students who all contribute to an institution which is going from strength to strength. Time does not permit me to mention all those who have made my involvement so fulfilling, but they have my sincere thanks. I wish the General Council, Convener-elect, Professor Charles Swainson, and the University, well and look forward to continuing to support them in the future. Thank you.

D LIVE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

at the General Council Meeting on 16 June 2012

Mr Alan Johnston: Thank you Chair. The good news is we have sixteen questions, the even better news is that we can group those into a number of recurring themes and it is notable that there are questions and comments not only from Edinburgh and other places in the UK, but from places as diverse as Canada, Sri Lanka and Rwanda on email today. We start with Robert Milner, BSc 1972, he asks why does the university operate what he calls a 'racist' policy of charging tuition fees for English students, whilst not for Scottish and EU, and we could perhaps group that with a question from Katherine Westbrook, MA 2010, who notes that in her view nearly all academic staff at Edinburgh are not Scottish and there is a tiny proportion of Scottish students proceeding to postgraduate studies and she is asking what steps the University may take to encourage the uptake of postgraduate opportunities with the aim of producing a new Scottish intelligentsia?

Principal: Thank you. I will deal with Mr Milner's question first. The University does not operate a racist policy, the University operates a policy that comes from the Scottish Government of not charging fees to students from certain domiciles. We do not charge fees to students from Scotland and from the European Union, and this is not done on the basis of where one was born or anything like that, it is done on the basis of domicile, and we do not charge those students, because the Scottish Government pays for them. The Scottish Government pays for the expected 2,200 students, all other students are paid for by somebody.

The other question, it says nearly all staff at Edinburgh University are not Scottish, I would observe that Scotland represents slightly less than one 10th of one percent of the world's population, so maybe if you think of it in those terms we would expect in a staff of 10,000 to have ten Scots. I am fairly confident that we have more. In a statistical sense for an international university Scotland is over-represented in the staffing because there are obviously more than ten Scottish staff and I think it is a feature, if you have got a small country with a big, very successful international university there are bound to be a lot of international staff. The other part of the question I will not respond to in a facetious way, I think there is a real issue, and I mentioned it at the beginning of my talk, and the real issue is, because in so many jurisdictions in the world undergraduate students or their families are having to pay more or borrow more, it means that it is harder and harder for people to have the financial means to take on postgraduate studies and we take that very seriously indeed. We are actively fund-raising. When I am talking to the Scottish Government about our priorities, and for that matter I gave evidence at the recent Westminster Commission on Higher Education, in both those domains the top priority I push on the politicians is the need for more financial support for postgraduates. They are so important for us in the long term, and you can see from the numbers, and the questioner is quite right, the number of home students who wish to do postgraduate studies is dropping, and that is for financial reasons, and we need to work on that. So I think that part of the question I would entirely agree with. It is a real issue and the University is working very hard to address it.

Mr Alan Johnston: Chair, I can group three questions here; Anya Hart Dyke, MA 2002, 'What steps are being taken to lower carbon emissions and source office supplies sustainably?'. From Catherine Munro, Geography Degree in 2000; 'How will the University lead innovation in sustainability?', and a more specific question from Mandy Haggith, PhD 1996; who asks 'How much paper is used by the University?'

Principal: Vice Principal Mary Bownes, one part of her enormous portfolio includes environmental and sustainability issues, so I am sure she will answer the first two questions. I would be surprised if she knows the weight of the paper the University consumes.

Vice Principal Professor Mary Bownes: First of all, I will not answer the question about paper, but I what I will say is that all the paper we do use is sustainable paper, the right kind of paper if you like, and we do try very hard to get people not to print things off that they do not need, and all the paper is recycled, but we will find out for you exactly how much we use as closely as we can. We are doing a huge amount to cut our carbon footprint. The University has signed up to all kinds of different schemes to try to cut our carbon footprint. We have got a fantastic combined heat and power system that operates around the whole of George Square and has saved the University a huge amount of money already. Every new building we build is built to a very high standard in terms of using less energy. Obviously we have got a large number of old buildings which are very beautiful, but very difficult to deal with in terms of carbon reduction. A lot of them have got Historic Scotland watching over them in terms of what we do to them, and you cannot just change everything, it is very difficult to insulate some of these buildings, but again we are doing what we can. We have a lot of programmes for staff about how to travel to work; car sharing, coming on the bus whenever possible, all kinds of travel policies, so basically we are doing all sorts of things and if you want to know in detail what we are doing you can visit a completely new website we have built over the over the last two years for staff and students which is called 'Sustainable Edinburgh' so if you want to know in detail what we are doing, come and look at the University's website and look at the Sustainable Edinburgh website. So there is lots going on there and in terms of procurement, we are really leading the way in Scotland for a university in terms of procurement. We work closely with the Scottish Government to procure things from ethically sound sources and try to run the University's business in a way that is socially responsible and sustainable. We have now a huge volunteering centre where many of the students who come to the University spend quite a lot of time volunteering and we are doing everything we can to help them do things that are useful in the wider community, both in Edinburgh and internationally as well. So you will see our students on volunteering schemes on a day to day level while they are studying in Edinburgh and then in the vacations going around the world trying to help. I hope that answers and I am happy to expand on anything particular anyone would like.

Principal: And through Corporate Services we will try to determine what the weight of paper is and transmit that. I have been making myself unpopular by contributing to the University's environmental policy and also to it aesthetically by reducing the car-parking. I have been very successful in the Old College Quad. Notice here, the wonderful square, had no cars parked in it, and as we improve the quality of different spaces in the University we really want to see more places that are attractive with benches with students and staff sitting rather than clogged up with cars.

Mr Alan Johnston: We have a question from Zev Kesler from Ontario, MBA 2009. Zev is concerned at the drop of the MBA degree in the Financial Times Rankings and wonders what steps are being implemented to improve this, and there is also a specific complaint from Dr Paul Pettigrew, MBA 1974, who complains that the Institute of Geography many months ago asked him to complete a survey on how the School could better communicate and sadly he has heard nothing from them.

Principal: I can only offer a real apology to Dr Pettigrew. I will ask the University Secretary to get in communication with the Institute of Geography. Clearly you cannot say 'here is a questionnaire' because we want to improve our communication' and then not communicate, so we will get onto that. As far as the MBA ranking goes, it did drop, it has gone up again a bit, but it is not in the top 50. We are investing very heavily in the Business School, we invested £17m in the building. We are currently appointing 30 new academic staff, at a University level, but also at a School level, there is a real commitment to improve. But as you will understand the international business school world is a highly competitive world, it is actually creditable to be consistently as we are in the top 100, but I do share the questioner's aspiration that our Business School enters the top 50.

Mr Alan Johnston: Chair, we have a quite specific question from the Rev Dr Robin Hill, BD 2002, who asks what practical steps are being taken by the University to ensure that applicants from less advantaged backgrounds are helped to gain entry to higher education, and then there is a much bigger and wider question from John Spencer-Silver, BSc 1974, who asks 'Would an independent Scotland be an unambiguously good thing for the University of Edinburgh?'

Principal: I will give the easy question to Vice Principal Bownes, who will comment on LEAPS and Pathways to the Professions, we do an awful lot for widening participation, but I would like her to come forward again and describe those things, then I will give a highly political answer in one particular sense of the work 'political' to the question about independence.

Vice Principal Professor Mary Bownes: What we do for students from different disadvantaged backgrounds is many-fold. We have a whole series of systems across the region in which the University of Edinburgh is located where we go to schools which very rarely send anybody into higher education and we work with those schools, the teachers, the parents, to try to inspire students to think that they can do much better. One of the programmes is called the Lothian Equal Access Programme. That has been going for a number of years and actually we now have a large number of students enter our first year through this programme, so they are students who would have been unlikely to come to university without some intervention from the University and we now have several hundred students per year coming in through that route. Another highly successful programme is called Pathways to the Professions. This started off looking at students who were first in generation and trying to encourage them again by working with schools, parents and the pupils themselves to look at the possibility of coming in to study Law and into Medicine. That has now spread out into Veterinary Medicine and Architecture. Those programmes have been again highly successful and encouraged a large number of students who would not otherwise have thought of going in to the professions to be able to achieve the grades to get into the University. I want to say that we do not drop our standards for these students, they are students that get amazing grades under very difficult circumstances. So we encourage those students because we know they will do well at university and they do do well at university. We have another programme. There is quite a lot of evidence that boys tend to decide they are not doing academic things for a while around age 14 to 16, so those we try to get back in to the fold if you like by working with them through football coaches and their football clubs, and bringing them into the University to talk about sport and exercise and diet and all these things.

Again, they gradually re-engage with things academic. So we have a large number of programmes there that are highly successful. The Pathways to the Professions I think is especially good because the professions themselves are closely engaged with us, so when we have the students come to visit the University to see what it is like, Lawyers and people from the Royal College of Surgeons come along as well to tell them what it would really be like to be a medic or to be a lawyer, so that help we get from the professions is absolutely crucial to our success in this area. There is a long way to go. We know that there are a lot more students that we would really like to encourage to come in to higher education, but what we are doing is really very successful for the individuals that come and I think we have increased those numbers quite a lot over the past few years.

Principal: Thank you very much. I think we can be very proud of what our colleagues are doing in support of widening participation and I think we can also be very proud of the fact that the statistics show, and this is where there is a real tension point here, that students who come to us through those routes are particularly successful in our environment, because it is a very great risk in any widening participation scheme is that if you, as in my own area, bring people in to study Computer Science who do not have enough mathematics, you may not be doing them a favour. But the way the widening participation has been done in Edinburgh, we have been steadily improving the position, and the students who come to us through those routes are successful, actually more successful than similar students at other universities I would say.

So we tend to talk about the 'possibility of constitutional change' in Scotland. It is a very live question, I cannot escape it. I was at the League of European Research Universities meeting in Barcelona, and the colleagues in Catalonia are absolutely fascinated, and I chaired the evaluation of the Technical University in München, and the Bavarian ministers have a very, very strong interest in what is happening in Scotland. The weazily political answer, the question is very bald 'Would independence be unambiguously a good thing?' and the answer of course is, it depends what you mean by independence. There was a very interesting debate yesterday following the Minister President's excellent presentation where the position of Scotland was being debated and Sir Malcolm Rifkind was teasing, if that is the right word, he was teasing people there about the apparent recent Scottish commitment to stay with the pound, rather than to move to the Euro. So there are all sorts of ways that constitutional change could happen. If we look at the Scottish Government, and I have now worked with four, two coalition governments, a minority nationalist government and a majority government. If you look at the Scottish Government, they are deeply committed to higher education. They have treated us a bit better than England and a lot better than Wales, and there is a level of personal commitment from Scottish politicians of all parties to higher education, so that is something that does not make one nervous. If you look at the formula funding that we have for supporting students, it is good. If you look at the general, and this is not just a political remark, it is a cultural remark, if you look at the Scottish commitment to internationalisation it is very strong. The people in Scotland like the idea, for the most part, of gifted people from other countries coming, studying, working and so this makes one feel that constitutional change done right could be fine. Things that make one cautious, the thing that makes one most cautious is the role of the United Kingdom Research Councils. We are supported very well, in statistical terms disproportionately because, for the obvious reason because our research is so good. We have two high performance computers, one costing more than £50m the other cost more than £100m, and we have just been given a third high performance computer. We are building a wave tank which will be the best wave tank in Britain to do marine energy, it is costing more than £10 million. It is hard to see that the Scottish tax base could support any of its universities the way the British tax base does. We get very good support for very high quality research. It is not impossible that the constitutional change could be done in such a way that one would still from Scotland be able to participate, but there a number of higher education systems and processes that operate at the UK level where one would not be attracted to them operating at a Scottish level. The Research Councils is the most obvious one.

In terms of collective pay bargaining, because we see a lot of movement from staff from one UK university to another, if we found ourselves in a situation where coming to Scottish universities meant that your pension scheme changed, your salary changed in some unhelpful way, that would not be a good thing.

Likewise in terms of developing academics' leadership and skills, in terms of a whole set of statistical things, because as I said, Scotland is one 10th of one per cent of the world, it is very helpful to be alongside a larger higher education system, so that we can be bench-marked. One of the reasons why the research quality in Scotland, and particularly obviously outstandingly at Edinburgh, is understood to be so good is because anybody outside of the United Kingdom can compare the University of Edinburgh directly with Oxford and Cambridge and with Imperial and UCL, and Manchester and King's, which are the universities we want to be compared with. If we were subject to a research evaluation system that was just Scottish-based then all you would be doing would be comparing the University of Edinburgh with the University of the West of Scotland and such, it would not be really helpful on the international scene. So there are quite a lot of things that are done on a UK level which the University gets benefit from and there is no reason why, whatever the constitutional change was, that those should not continue to be done at a UK level, but it would need to be worked through very, very carefully with a lot of attention to detail. Obviously the University could not possibly have a simple yes/no answer. The University's answer would have to be, when the Court looks at this from its duty of care to the University what things would help the University flourish more and what things might make life harder for the University.

Mr Alan Johnston: Chair we have the expressions of good wishes from around the world. Rohan H. Wickramasinghe, Ph.D.1962, is following this meeting in his home in Sri Lanka and asks the General Council to consider, with the Scottish connections, perhaps holding a future meeting there. We have Winnie Muhumuza, from the Ministry of Education in Rwanda, hoping that the University will continue imaginative ways of communication beyond simple emails. We have a very specific question from Dr Neville Cobbe, PhD 2003, questioning why we are in Berlin today rather than Edinburgh, asking whether there is a special relationship between the universities and questioning whether this constitutes an unnecessary expense at a time of austerity.

Principal: I will answer the questions in reverse order; we are in Berlin because it is the General Council's call, we are in Berlin because the General Council so wisely understands that as an international university we need an international presence. It is very much being in Germany. The Humboldt is an important university, but we also have important partnerships with many other German universities, but we have an important relationship with Germany. We get a lot of good students from Germany, we get a lot of absolutely outstanding staff from Germany, we need to be able to provide an opportunity that alumni based in this part of Europe, and of course we have people who are not just based in Germany, for them to engage with the University, and my view would be that if you look at the importance of the international agenda for a university that last year had an income of slightly in excess of £650m, I think the international presence is just very, very important; it sends such a powerful signal. Our meeting here was discussed in the German cabinet, the ambassador from Britain to here came, was very enthusiastic and will be telling other ambassadors and people at the FCOs (Foreign and Commonwealth Offices) and we will be well represented in the German press. So I think it was exactly the right thing to do, but it is very much a question of 'we are here because Berlin is the capital city of Germany'.

Then the second question; I really very much appreciate the greetings from Winnie Muhumuza. I think going beyond emails, I am not sure that we would have a technology for that, we could have lots and lots of screens with Skype on, but I think for an event like this broadcasting via audio and webcast and then having questions come in via email is practical and I am delighted that we are able to reach out to alumni and students and colleagues in other parts of the world, I am very pleased to be able to do that. It is not obvious that there is a technological move. The question from Sri Lanka, and I have a copy of it, very, very pleased that we are being encouraged to go to Sri Lanka and a piece of information that comes with this, which is quite new to me, is 'Why is Ceylon famous for tea?'. Anybody know? It is famous for tea because the coffee crop failed entirely in the mid-nineteenth century and a Scot called James Taylor got the bright idea of 'well they can't grow coffee any more there, so let's try tea'. So it is part of this recurring 'Scotland rules the world' theme, so I found that a very nice piece of information to have.

Mr Alan Johnston: Chair we have a question from John Nolan MA 1970, who welcomes our presence in Berlin. He is very concerned by what he regards as the decline of German teaching, particularly in Scottish

schools, but also universities and gives some numbers to support this. He says it is indefensible in his view on educational, cultural and economic grounds.

Principal: I entirely agree and I have been active supporter. We have a very dynamic German Consul General in Edinburgh, Wolfgang Mössinger, who has a campaign to increase German teaching. There are two problems, and the statistics are very, very clear, German is in rapid decline in UK schools. I cannot use measured language for this, as an act of complete political stupidity the removal of compulsory modern languages from the school curriculum, everybody at the time and in past experience I was chair of one of the three big exam boards, everybody who was consulted, who said 'If you do this you will badly damage modern language instruction in the UK', and that is exactly what has happened. A hopeful sign is in Scotland there was serious consideration of putting modern languages in a very strong position and maybe even having modern European language teaching in primary schools, so there might be some good news. The problem is compounded for German, because German has become less fashionable, I think is the simple way to express it. There is an interest in Spanish, because of Latin America, because of Latin American culture. There is an interest in Mandarin, at the University of Edinburgh now, in Moray House we are training teachers of Mandarin to work in Scottish schools so German has a specific difficulty, which is some other languages are effectively competing with it and Spanish is the most prominent, although Italian is also. But there is also a structural issue. Within the University we have a very strong commitment to German as a subject area, as I said earlier, I am always out to bat for the languages, including the modern European languages, and German as a language, but also as a cultural enterprise, is very, very strong in the University of Edinburgh.

Mr Alan Johnston: Chair we have a question from Conrad Molleson, from Edinburgh, he graduated in Music in 2005. He says in the light of Edinburgh's unparalleled reputation as a centre of cultural activity, please indicate what role the University plays in maintaining and providing venues for musical activity.

Principal: This is a very helpful question, which I really welcome, and I will finish my answer with a question to General Council members present or looking at us remotely. St Cecilia's Hall is doing very, it has got some philanthropic support, it is being refurbished, has a really exciting programme of music in it, and it is very nice to listen to beautiful harpsichord music on Radio 3, when it is John Kitchen in St Cecilia's Hall. So that is very successful. The main Reid Hall itself, which is a bit bigger, St Cecilia's if comfortable for about 120, The Reid Hall is about 240 to 250. Again that has some very good concerts. It has got an excellent organ. The McEwan Hall is all right for big concerts. It is not fabulous, it has got a strange acoustic. What there is a real lack of, and we have been chatting to the various orchestras in Scotland, and I was chatting a couple of days ago to John Wallace, who heads what is now known as the Royal Conservatoire for Scotland and is working increasingly in partnership with the University of Edinburgh for music and opera and events for our students and their students to contribute to and have part of their studies actually in the festivals. Where there is a real lack is a high quality hall with rehearsal space for about 600-700, something that the Scottish Chamber Orchestra would be comfortable in; Queen's Hall is very nice, an emotionally nice place, but it is not the right size. There is a really nice site, if you can think in your mind's eyes of coming from Bristo Square towards the Old College, on that diagonal, headed towards the southwest part of the Old College, on your right you have got the Festival Theatre, the back of the Festival Theatre, which has now got some new rehearsal facilities, on your left you have got the refurbished museum. In front of you, with a little bit of help from the Council in getting rid of that underpass, you could have a beautiful, purpose built concert hall. If anybody would like to help me. They are cheaper than you think, obviously there is a design thing, but a 650 seater concert hall with your name on it. Everybody would be so impressed.

Chairman: We are pretty much out of time.

Mr Alan Johnston: Perhaps we could just take one quick one to finish. There are a number of very specific questions, which I am sure the General Council Secretary will respond by email to those we have not been able to take. Final one then is a question from Eleanor Carne who graduated in theology emailing from Cambridge and she has a question about the EUSA Nightline service which she gathers is in difficulties and needing new premises and is asking whether the University can help secure new premises for Nightline.

Principal: Until the slightly earlier sight of the email, I was not aware that there were any issues, they certainly have not come up in our regular discussions with EUSA Officers. We will investigate, I will ask the University Secretary to investigate urgently, and obviously an email will go out saying what the situation is, but we were not aware of an issue.

Rev Dr Harriet Harris: Staff working for EUSA in co-ordinating volunteers has been in touch with a lot of the Student Services about that, so there is a lot of conversation to try to fix that problem.

Principal: Can you tell us any more about that?

Rev Dr Harriet Harris: Just that people are very much on the case and concerned to find a solution.

Principal: So the Chaplain and Counselling colleagues are engaged with this.

Dr Alan Johnston: So Chair, on behalf of the questioners we would like to thank the Principal and the General Council for the commentary and the helpful answers.

Chairman: Thank you very much, and indeed if there are outstanding matters the Secretary will respond to them.

Any member who does not have web access may request a copy from the General Council Office:

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