

CHARTER of the University of Strathclyde

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Version N/A

The Charter defines the objects, powers, officers and statutory bodies of the University. It defines the University as a teaching, research and examining body and includes such fundamental powers as those of awarding degrees.

the place of useful learning

The University of Strathclyde is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, number SC015263

UNIVERSITY CHARTER

ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith: to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting!

WHEREAS an humble Petition has been presented unto Us by The Royal College of Science and Technology, Glasgow, praying that We should constitute and found a University within Our City of Glasgow for the advancement of knowledge, the diffusion and extension of arts, sciences and learning, the provision of liberal, professional, scientific and technological education and for the furtherance of the objects for which the said Royal College of Science and Technology was constituted under a scheme prepared by Our Secretary of State for Scotland and which was approved by Order in Council dated the thirtieth day of July in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and sixty-two and to grant a Charter with such provisions in that behalf as shall seem to Us right and suitable:

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

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

The Name of the University

1. There shall continue to be a body politic and corporate by the name of "The University of Strathclyde" ("the University") which was constituted in 1962 with perpetual succession and a Common Seal and whose current Members are set out in the Ordinances of the University.

The Objects of the University

2. The objects of the University shall be to advance learning and knowledge by teaching, research and knowledge exchange in Science, Engineering and Business as well as defined areas of the Social Sciences and Humanities and to provide a high quality education and experience so as to inspire students to develop to the full their abilities.

The Powers of the University

3. The University shall have all the powers of a natural person to do all lawful acts that are conducive or incidental to the attainment of the objects of the University, which includes but is not limited to the power to award and revoke degrees and other distinctions (including without limitation, diplomas, joint degrees, dual degrees, double degrees, certificates, fellowships, honorary degrees, honorary fellowships, memberships and associateships) in its own name and/or jointly with other education institutions.

Application of Income

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

The Court

5. There shall be a court of the University ("the Court"), which shall be the supreme governing body of the University and shall be responsible for the exercise of the University's powers. The functions of the Court shall include, without limitation:
 - 5.1 the custody and use of the Common Seal;
 - 5.2 the oversight of the management and administration of the revenue, property, staff and students of the University; and
 - 5.3 oversight of the conduct of the affairs of the University.

Delegation of Functions of the Court

6. The Court may delegate all or any of its functions provided that the Court shall not delegate any of the following:
 - 6.1 the determination of the character and mission of the University;
 - 6.2 the responsibility for ensuring the solvency of the University and for safeguarding its assets, including the appointment of auditors, the establishment of an audit committee and the approval of the University's annual audited accounts;
 - 6.3 the making of, alteration, amendment or addition to this Our Charter or the Statutes;
or
 - 6.4 the appointment and removal of the Principal and Secretary.

Officers

7. The University shall have the following Officers:
 - 7.1 *the Chancellor, who shall be the ceremonial head of the University;*
 - 7.2 *the Principal, who shall be the principal academic and administrative officer of the University and shall also have the title of Vice-Chancellor;*
 - 7.3 *the University Secretary; and*
 - 7.4 *the University shall have such other Officers as is provided for by Ordinance.*

The Senate

8. There shall be a Senate of the University which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes and to the general control and approval of the Court, shall be responsible for the academic work of the University, in teaching, in research and in knowledge exchange, and for the regulation and superintendence of the education and discipline of the students of the University.

The Students Association

9. There shall be a Students Association of the University, which shall conduct and manage its own affairs and funds in accordance with a constitution approved by the Court. No amendment to or rescission of that constitution shall be valid unless approved by the Court.

Alumni

10. The University shall engage with its former students and alumni. The University may, from time to time, prescribe in the Ordinances the conditions of such engagement.

Academic Freedom

11. The University will aim to uphold the academic freedom of all persons engaged in teaching, the provision of learning or research at the University. Academic freedom is taken to be the freedom to hold and express opinions, question and test established ideas or received wisdom, develop and advance new ideas or innovative proposals and present controversial or unpopular points of view and to do so without being adversely affected with regard to appointments held or sought and entitlements and privileges enjoyed, provided always that such freedom is exercised lawfully and respects the academic freedom of others.

Equal Treatment

12. The University shall be committed to the fair and equal treatment of every person and shall not discriminate on unjustified, irrelevant or unlawful grounds.

Staff and Student Engagement

13. The University shall arrange opportunities for engagement and consultation with staff members and students of the University as deemed appropriate.

Community Engagement

14. The University shall engage with its broader communities. The University may, from time to time, prescribe in the Ordinances the conditions of such engagement.

The Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations

15. Following consultation with the Senate, the Court may amend, add to, or repeal this Our Charter by a resolution passed at a Court meeting by a majority of not less than three quarters of those present and voting. Such amendment, addition or repeal shall, when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, have effect so that this Our Charter shall operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so amended, added to or repealed.
16. There shall be Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations of the University which shall contain all such other provisions consistent with this Our Charter as it may be thought proper to make for the convenient and effective attainment and execution of the objects and purposes of this Our Charter, provided that no provision of the Statutes, Ordinances or Regulations shall be repugnant to this Charter. The Statutes may direct that any of the matters authorised in this Charter to be prescribed by Statutes shall be prescribed by Ordinances or Regulations.
17. Following consultation with the Senate, the Court may by a simple majority amend, add to or repeal the Statutes provided that no such Statutes shall be either repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or shall have effect until approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council. In this Our Charter "Statutes" mean the Statutes set forth in the Schedule hereto and any Statutes amending, adding to or repealing the same.
18. Following consultation with the Senate, the Court may by a simple majority amend, add to or repeal the Ordinances and Regulations provided that no such Ordinances or Regulations shall be repugnant to the provisions of the Charter or the Statutes. The Court may delegate the power to make Regulations to any committee of the University.

Interpretation

19. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter shall ever be construed benevolently, and in every case most favourably to the University and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

IN WITNESS whereof We have ordered the Seal appointed by the treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland in place of the Great Seal of Scotland to be appended hereto.

Approved by Privy Council 12 February 2020