### THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST



## CHARTER

# AND STATUTES

FEBRUARY 2015

#### CHARTER

#### ELIZABETH THE SECOND

by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Our other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith;

#### TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS in pursuance of the Irish Universities Act 1908 His Majesty King Edward the Seventh, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine-hundred and eight, was pleased to found by Royal Charter (hereafter referred to as the "original Charter") a University under the name of "The Queen's University of Belfast" (hereafter referred to as "the University"):

AND WHEREAS an humble petition has been presented unto Us by the Senate of the University praying that We would be graciously pleased to grant a new Charter to the University:

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

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

- 1. The provisions of the New Charter of the University shall take effect from the first day of January Two thousand and fifteen and from that date the provisions of the original Charter and of the existing Statutes shall be revoked, but nothing in this revocation shall affect the validity of any act, deed or thing lawfully done thereunder.
- 2. The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors, the President and Vice-Chancellor, the Honorary Treasurer, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, members of the Senate, the Academic Council, members of staff, graduates and honorary graduates, and the registered students of the University, and all others who shall, pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University for the time being, be members of the University are hereby continued and confirmed as one Body Politic and Corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal by the name and style of "The Queen's University of Belfast" with a grant of armorial bearings recorded in Our College of Arms and with power in that name to sue, be sued, to take, purchase, hold, charge, sell, exchange, demise, or otherwise dispose of real and personal property, to invest, lend or borrow money and, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, to perform such other acts as by law Bodies Corporate may do.
- 3. We, Our Heirs and Successors shall be and remain the Visitor and Visitors of the University acting through such Board of Visitors as We or They may from time to time on the representation of the University by order in Council appoint for such period as We or They shall think fit. In the exercise of the Visitorial Authority We, Our Heirs and Successors for the time being shall think fit, to direct an inspection of the University, its buildings, laboratories and general equipment, and also of the examinations, teaching and other work done by the University.

- 4. The objects of the University shall be the advancement and dissemination of learning and knowledge by teaching and research, and through the practice and inculcation of professional and other skills appropriate to the provision of higher education, and by the example and influence of its corporate life.
- 5. The University shall be a teaching, research and examining body and shall, in furtherance of its objects (but not further or otherwise) and subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes, have the following powers:
  - 5.1 To provide instruction by a diversity of means in such branches of learning as the University may think fit and to make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge in such manner and by such means as the University may determine.
  - 5.2 To prescribe in the Statutes or Regulations the conditions under which persons may be admitted as students of the University or of any particular course of study within the University or to the use of any facilities provided by the University.
  - 5.3 Under such conditions as may be presented in the Statutes or Regulations:-
    - (a) to grant and confer Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions on persons who shall have pursued a course of study or research approved by the University and shall have passed such examinations, tests or other assessments as may be prescribed by the University, or in collaboration with another institution;
    - (b) to admit graduates of other Universities to Degrees of equal or similar rank in the University;
    - (c) to grant and confer Honorary Degrees, Honorary Titles, and other distinctions on persons approved by the University.
  - 5.4 For what the University shall deem to be good cause to deprive persons of any Degrees or other distinctions conferred upon them by the University and to revoke any Diplomas or Certificates granted to them by the University.
  - 5.5 To accept the examinations passed and periods of study or research spent at other Universities, places of learning or elsewhere as equivalent to such examinations and periods of study or research in the University as the University may determine, and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.
  - 5.6 To admit to the privileges of the University or to recognise for any purpose, and either in whole or in part, any University, College or other Institution or the members of staff or students thereof, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time to prescribed in the Statutes and Regulations.
  - 5.7 To institute and award Fellowships, Studentships, Scholarships, Exhibitions, Bursaries, Prizes and other aids to study and research.
  - 5.8 To provide for the printing, recording, broadcasting and distribution of teaching material, research reports and other works.
  - 5.9 To prescribe rules of discipline to which the students of the University shall be subject and to make such arrangements as may be necessary to secure the observance of such rules.

- 5.10 To institute such offices and employ such staff as the purposes of the University may require, to appoint persons to and remove them from such offices and employment, and to prescribe their terms and conditions of service.
- 5.11 To enter into any agreement for the incorporation within or association with the University of any other institution and for taking over, in whole or in part, its rights, property, privileges and liabilities and for any other purposes not repugnant to this Our Charter.
- 5.12 To demand and receive fees, subscriptions and deposits, to impose charges, to accept legacies, endowments, bequests and other gifts, to procure and receive contributions to the funds of the University and to raise money in such other manner as the University may deem fit.
- 5.13 To maintain, manage, administer, dispose of and save as hereinafter provided, to invest all the property, money, assets and rights of the University, to mortgage, to lend, to borrow and to accept obligations and liabilities in all respects without any restriction whatsoever and in the same manner as an individual may manage his/her own affairs.
- 5.14 To own, establish, hire, maintain, administer, govern, license, and supervise places of residence, recreation and study for holders of office, staff, students and guests of the University.
- 5.15 To make provision for the welfare of persons holding appointments in and persons in the employment of the University, of persons formerly in any such category and of dependants of such persons, including the provision for the payment of money, pensions or other payments and to subscribe to benevolent and other funds for the benefit of such persons, and to make such provisions as from time to time seem desirable for the welfare of students.
- 5.16 To give guarantees for the payment of any sum or sums of money or the performance of any contract or obligation by any company, body, society or person if it is in the interests of the University to do so.
- 5.17 To act as a trustee or manager of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for purposes of education or research or otherwise in furtherance of the work and welfare of the University and to invest any funds representing the same in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.
- 5.18 To make arrangements for the erection, furnishing, and equipping of buildings and the provision of goods and services for the University and, to such an extent as may be deemed expedient and consistent with the objects of the University as a place of teaching, learning and research to sell or provide for reward or otherwise goods and services for its members and their families, its guests and servants; and, without prejudice to the generality of this Article, to establish or assist financially or otherwise under such terms and conditions as the University may decide, any body, institution, company or association the objects of which are compatible with the objects of the University and the meeting of the material needs of the University.
- 5.19 To join or co-operate with any other University or with any Department of the Government of Our United Kingdom or with any authority or other public or private body, institution, organisation, company or association having in view or promoting any activity the same as, or similar or related to, or which can provide a service for, any activity of the University for such purposes as may be agreed upon or as may be provided for or permitted by law, being purposes consistent with the provisions of this Our Charter, and in such manner as may be authorised by the Statutes and Regulations; and to provide professional or related services (including research,

design development, testing, instructional and advisory services) for any such University, Department, authority, body, institution, organisation, company or association.

- 5.20 To do all such acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite to further the objects of the University.
- 6. There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be the ceremonial and ambassadorial head of the University.
- 7. There shall be Pro-Chancellors of the University, the number of which shall be determined from time to time by the Senate. One of the Pro-Chancellors, in the absence of the Chancellor and subject to the Statutes, shall preside over the meetings of the Senate and shall in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, exercise and perform, subject to the Statutes, the functions of the Chancellor.
- 8. There shall be a President and Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the Chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and shall preside over meetings of the Academic Council and who shall, in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, confer Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions.
- 9. There shall be Pro-Vice-Chancellors of the University, the number of which shall be determined from time to time by the Senate. Subject to the Statutes, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors shall exercise and perform such of the functions and duties of the President and Vice-Chancellor as the President and Vice-Chancellor or, if the President and Vice-Chancellor should be incapacitated, the Senate may delegate to him/her or them.
- 10. There shall be an Honorary Treasurer of the University.
- 11. There shall be such other holders of office in the University as the Statutes may prescribe and as the Senate may from time to time determine.
- 12. There shall be a Senate of the University (in this our Charter referred to as "the Senate") which, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes, shall be the executive governing body of the University and shall have custody and use of the Common Seal. The Senate shall be responsible for the management and administration of the revenue and property of the University and, subject to the powers of the Academic Council as provided in this our Charter and the Statutes, shall have general control over the conduct of the affairs of the University and shall have all such other powers and duties as may be conferred upon it by the Statutes.
- 13. There shall be an Academic Council of the University (in this Our Charter referred to as the "Academic Council") which shall, subject to the powers of the Senate as provided in this Our Charter and the Statutes, have control of the internal academic affairs of the University, both in teaching and in research, and for the regulation and superintendence of the education and discipline of the students of the University.
- 14. There shall be constituted, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes, such other bodies as the Senate and the Academic Council may from time to time consider necessary for the administration of teaching and research and other work, duties and activities of the University.
- 15. There shall be a Convocation of the University.
- 16. There shall be an organisation of students of the University whose constitution, powers and functions shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

- 17. Subject to the provisions of this our Charter, the Statutes may prescribe or regulate as the case may be:
  - 17.1 The status, appointment and continuance in office of the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors, President and Vice-Chancellor, Honorary Treasurer, Pro-Vice-Chancellors, Registrar and Chief Operating Officer and other holders of office in the University.
  - 17.2 The constitution, powers, duties and functions (as the case may be) of the Senate, the Academic Council and the Convocation.
  - 17.3 All such other matters as the Senate may deem fit with respect to or for the governing of the University, its members and constituent parts or otherwise for the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.
  - 17.4 The Statutes set out in the First Schedule to this Our Charter shall be the Statutes of the University and shall remain in force until they have been added to, amended or repealed in the manner prescribed in paragraph 17.5 of this Article.
  - 17.5 The Senate may by Special Resolution (as defined in Article 22.2 of this Our Charter) make Statutes for the University which may add to, amend or repeal the Statutes for the time being in force, provided that such Statutes be not repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter and that no such Statutes shall have effect until approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our said Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
- 18. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes, the Senate may make Regulations for the purpose of furthering the objects of the University and for the good order and government of the University, provided that Regulations concerning academic matters may be made only on the recommendation of the Academic Council. Regulations may add to, amend or repeal Regulations for the time being in force.
- 19. The Statutes may direct that any of the matters prescribed or regulated by Statute as authorised or directed in this Our Charter shall be further prescribed or regulated by Regulations, provided that any further prescription or regulation shall not be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or of the Statutes.
- 20. Persons shall not be excluded unlawfully by reason of religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or gender or whether or not they have dependants, from admission as members of the University or from an advantage or privilege thereof; preference shall not be given to or advantage be withheld from any person on grounds of religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation or gender or whether or not they have dependants and the religious beliefs of the members of the University shall be treated with due respect.
- 21. The University shall not make any dividend, gift, division or bonus in money unto or between any of its members except by way of prize, award or special grant.
- 22. The Senate may at any time after consultation with the Academic Council by Special Resolution add to, amend or repeal this Our Charter and such addition, amendment or repeal shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforth continue and operate as so added to, amended or repealed in the manner aforesaid.
  - 22.1 This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as added to, amended or repealed in manner aforesaid.
  - 22.2 For the purposes of this Our Charter, a "Special Resolution" means a Resolution passed at one meeting of the Senate and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not

less than one calendar month nor more than six calendar months after the former meeting. Provided that notice of each meeting shall be given to each member of the Senate not less than fourteen days before the meeting to be held and that the Resolution be passed at each meeting by not less than three-quarters of those present and voting.

- 23. In case of conflict the provisions of this Our Charter shall prevail over the Statutes and Regulations, and the Provisions of the Statutes shall prevail over those of the Regulations.
- 24. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter and the Statutes and Regulations shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case more favourably to the University and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter as well in all Our Courts as elsewhere notwithstanding any non-recital, misrecital, uncertainty or imperfection therein.

Approved by Privy Council on 11 February 2015

## STATUTES



#### At the Council Chamber, Whitehall

#### THE 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2015

#### BY THE LORDS OF HER MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL

The Privy Council has approved the revised Statutes of The Queen's University Belfast as set out in the Schedule to this Order.

Richard Tilbrook

#### SCHEDULE

#### REVISED STATUTES OF THE QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

#### **Statute I - Definitions**

In these Statutes, unless the context otherwise determines:

"The University" means The Queen's University of Belfast.

"The Charter" means the Charter of the University.

"The Senate" means the Senate of the University.

"The Standing Committee" means the Standing Committee of the Senate.

"Committee" means a committee of the Senate, unless otherwise specified.

"Convocation" means the Convocation of the University.

"Vice-Chancellor" means President and Vice-Chancellor of the University or such other title as may be determined by the Senate.

"Registrar" means Registrar and Chief Operating Officer of the University or such other title as may be determined by the Senate.

"Regulations" means Regulations made by the Senate pursuant to the Charter and these Statutes.

"Rules" means Rules made by a statutory body of the University other than the Senate, pursuant to the Charter and these Statutes.

"Prescribe" and "Prescribed" mean prescribe or prescribed under Regulations or Rules.

"Academic year" means such period of twelve months as the Senate may from time to time prescribe.

"Approved Course of Study" means a course of study extending over such period and conforming to such requirements as may be prescribed by Regulations.

Definitions in respect of staff categories/constituencies will be defined in Regulations which Senate shall from time to time determine.

"Student" means a person registered for an approved course of study in the University and shall include Sabbatical Officers.

"Sabbatical Officers" means those students elected to posts determined, from time to time, by the Students' Union Council.

"Holders of Office" provided for in these Statutes are as follows:

The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors, the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Honorary Treasurer, the Registrar, and such other holders of office as the Senate may from time to time determine.

Words implying the singular number include the plural, and vice-versa, where the context so admits.

#### Statute II

#### The Members of the University

- 1. The following persons shall be members of the University:
  - (a) The Chancellor
  - (b) The Pro-Chancellors
  - (c) The President and Vice-Chancellor
  - (d) The Pro-Vice-Chancellors
  - (e) The Honorary Treasurer
  - (f) The Members of the Senate
  - (g) The Members of the Academic Council
  - (h) The Members of Staff of the University
  - (i) The Members of Convocation
  - (j) The Graduates and Honorary Graduates of the University
  - (k) The Students of the University.
- 2. No person shall continue to be a member of the University unless he/she falls into one of the categories in paragraph 1.
- 3. A person shall enjoy the privileges of a Student only while he/she is pursuing a course of study approved by the Senate or while being a Sabbatical Officer.

#### Statute III

#### The Chancellor

- 1. The Chancellor shall be the ceremonial and ambassadorial head of the University.
- 2. The mode of appointment and terms of office of the Chancellor shall be prescribed by Regulation.
- 3. The Chancellor, or in his/her absence the President and Vice-Chancellor, a Pro-Chancellor, or a deputy appointed by the President and Vice-Chancellor, shall preside and confer the Degrees, Diplomas, and other approved awards at all meetings of the University held for that purpose.
- 4. The Senate may remove the Chancellor from office if he/she is deemed, by the Senate, to be incapable of performing the duties of the post or for other good cause.
- 5. The Chancellor may resign in writing, addressed to the Senate, through the Vice-Chancellor.

#### Statute IV

#### **The Pro-Chancellors**

- 1. The Senate shall determine from time to time the number of Pro-Chancellors.
- 2. The mode of appointment and terms of office of the Pro-Chancellors shall be prescribed by Regulation.
- 3. Where two or more Pro-Chancellors are appointed, Senate shall determine which should act as Chair of Senate.
- 4. During the absence of the Chancellor, or during a vacancy in the office, or during his/her inability to act, the Chair of Senate shall exercise all the functions of the Chancellor.
- 5. A Pro-Chancellor may resign in writing, addressed to the Senate, through the Vice-Chancellor.

#### Statute V

#### The President and Vice-Chancellor

- 1. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the University. Appointed by, and accountable to, the Senate, the Vice-Chancellor shall fulfil four key roles:
  - (i) Chief Executive of the University, with overall responsibility for the leadership and management of the institution;
  - (ii) Chief Academic Officer and President of Academic Council;
  - (iii) Accounting/Accountable Officer under the University's Financial Memorandum, or equivalent, with the relevant sponsoring Government Department;
  - (iv) Principal Ambassador, responsible for promoting the University, both nationally and internationally.
- 2. The mode of appointment and term of office of the Vice-Chancellor shall be prescribed by Regulation.
- 3. The Vice-Chancellor, in the absence of the Chancellor and the Pro-Chancellors, shall preside, if present, at meetings of the Senate. He/she shall also, if present, preside at all meetings of the Academic Council. Subject to these Statutes and to any Regulations which may be made by the Senate, he/she shall be entitled to attend meetings of all Committees of the Senate and of the Academic Council.
- 4. In the event of the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, or a vacancy in the office or his/her inability to act, one or other of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors shall normally be appointed to act by the Standing Committee until such time as the Vice-Chancellor returns to post or alternatively a successor Vice-Chancellor has been appointed and takes up post.
- 5. Except as prescribed in Statute XII, the President and Vice-Chancellor may delegate any of his/her functions and may withdraw any such delegation at any time.
- 6. Subject to these Statutes and to any Regulations which may be made by the Senate, the Vice-Chancellor shall have a general responsibility to the Senate for maintaining and promoting the efficiency and good order of the University. In particular, he/she shall exercise the powers and have the following duties:
  - (a) to prepare an Annual Report of the University for submission to the Senate;
  - (b) to regulate the order to be observed at the conferring of Degrees and other academic distinctions and at other public ceremonials of the University;
  - (c) in the absence of the Chancellor to sign all Certificates of Degrees and Diplomas and other awards;
  - (d) to exclude any student from the University or any part thereof until the next meeting of the Committee of Discipline and to report to such meeting the circumstances of the case;
  - (e) in all cases of emergency to take such steps as he/she may deem necessary for safeguarding the interests of the University, and in such cases to report his/her action to the next meeting of the Senate or the Standing Committee;

- (f) such other powers and duties as are set out in these Statutes or as the Senate may from time to time determine.
- 7. The Vice-Chancellor may resign in writing, addressed to the Senate, through the Chair of Senate.

#### Statute VI

#### **The Pro-Vice-Chancellors**

- 1. The Senate shall determine from time to time the number of Pro-Vice-Chancellors.
- 2. The mode of appointment and term of office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors shall be prescribed by Regulation. They shall be subject to Statute XII with regard to the holding of non-substantive posts.
- 3. A Pro-Vice-Chancellor may resign in writing, addressed to the Vice-Chancellor.

#### Statute VII

#### The Senate

1. The Senate shall be constituted as follows:

Ex-officio Members

 (a) The Chancellor The Pro-Chancellors The President and Vice-Chancellor The Honorary Treasurer The President of the Students' Union.

Other Members

- (b) Two members of the Academic Council, elected by the Academic Council under Regulations prescribed by the Academic Council;
- (c) Two members of the academic staff of the University, not being Pro-Vice-Chancellors, elected by the academic staff under Regulations prescribed by the Senate;
- (d) Two members of support staff, elected by this category of staff under Regulations prescribed by the Senate;
- (e) One member of the Students' Union Council, elected by that Council;
- (f) The Chair of Convocation;
- (g) Up to ten lay persons appointed under Regulations prescribed by the Senate.
- 2. Members of the Senate shall hold office only for so long as they are qualified under this Statute;

Members of the Senate included in Class 1 (a) above shall hold office while they occupy the positions named;

Members of the Senate included in Classes 1 (b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) shall hold office for such period as the Senate may determine in accordance with Regulations prescribed by the Senate.

A member of the Senate included in Class 1 (e) shall hold office for one year.

- 3. When appointing members, the Senate shall use its best endeavours to ensure that the membership of the Senate is representative of the diversity of the Northern Ireland community.
- 4. Any member of the Senate may resign in writing addressed to the Secretary to Senate.
- 5. Whenever a casual vacancy will occur among the members of the Senate, the Secretary to Senate shall put in place the necessary arrangements for the vacancy to be filled.

#### Statute VIII

#### Powers of the Senate

- 1. Subject to the provisions of the Charter and these Statutes the Senate shall have power to regulate and determine all matters concerning the University, shall exercise all the powers and discretions of the University, and shall by Regulation prescribe the form, custody and use of the Common Seal. In exercise of its powers the Senate shall have regard to the obligations under the Charter to provide and maintain equality of opportunity to all persons.
- 2. The Senate may delegate any of its functions and may withdraw any such delegation at any time.
- 3. The Senate shall have power to make and amend its Statutes and Regulations for the general government of the University, subject to the following conditions:
  - (a) No Statute or Regulation shall be altered so as to change the status, powers, or constitution of any of the Authorities of the University until such Authority shall have had an opportunity of pronouncing an opinion upon the proposed change.

The Authorities of the University are:

The Chancellor The Pro-Chancellors The Vice-Chancellor The Honorary Treasurer The Senate The Academic Council

- 4. The Senate may from time to time appoint Committees, including joint committees with the Academic Council, consisting wholly or partly of persons not being members of the Senate, with such powers and duties as the Senate thinks fit. When appointing members to committees, the Senate shall use its best endeavours to ensure that the membership of the committees is representative of the diversity of the Northern Ireland Community.
- 5. No resolution of the Senate seeking to enact, alter, amend or add to the Charter and Statutes shall have effect unless:
  - (a) any proposed amendments are brought forward and adopted at one meeting of the Senate;
  - (b) a copy of the proposed amendments, updated to reflect any comments put forward by the Senate at its meeting, are forwarded to the Academic Council for consideration at its stated meeting;
  - (c) the Senate has considered any subsequent representation made by the Academic Council;
  - (d) the Senate has confirmed the resolution with or without amendment, at a subsequent meeting held within six months after the former meeting. Resolutions (with or without amendments) must be supported by not less than three-quarters of those present and voting.
- 6. The Senate shall prescribe from time to time Regulations/Procedures to govern all appointments of office holders and members of staff.

7. The Senate shall have power upon receiving a report of the Standing Committee to take into consideration the conduct of any Holder of Office provided for in these Statutes (other than a person to whom Statute XII applies) and for good cause to remove him/her from his/her office; provided that the resolution for such removal shall not be carried unless supported by the votes of a majority of the then members of the Senate and unless due notice and opportunity for showing cause against the exercise of such power shall have been given to such Holder of Office provided for in these Statutes.

#### Statute IX

#### Meetings of the Senate

- 1. The Registrar shall be Secretary to the Senate.
- 2. The Senate shall hold at least four ordinary meetings in the academic year. All meetings will be held in accordance with the Standing Orders of Senate (Regulation) which the Senate will, from time to time, determine.

#### Statute X

#### The Standing Committee

1. The Senate shall appoint a Standing Committee, with powers and duties which it shall, from time to time prescribe.

#### Statute XI

#### The Academic Council

1. The Academic Council shall consist of the following members:

Ex-officio members

 (a) The Vice-Chancellor Pro-Vice-Chancellors Principals of University Colleges The Registrar President of the Students' Union. Holders of such other posts as may be prescribed by the Senate from time to time.

#### Other Members

- (b) Representation from the academic staff of the University as may be determined from time to time by the Academic Council and to be elected as directed by the Academic Council. The number elected shall be of the order of, but shall not exceed, one half of the total membership of the Academic Council.
- (c) Such members of staff as may be co-opted from time to time by the Academic Council. The number co-opted shall not exceed six.
- (d) Three students of the University appointed under Regulations prescribed by the Senate.

Members of the Academic Council shall hold office only for so long as they are qualified under this Statute.

Members of the Academic Council included in Class 1 (a) above shall hold office while they occupy the positions named;

Members of the Academic Council included in Classes 1 (b) and (c) shall hold office for such period as the Academic Council may determine in accordance with Rules prescribed by the Academic Council.

Members of the Academic Council included in Class 1 (d) shall hold office for one year.

- 2. The President and Vice-Chancellor, or in his/her absence a Pro-Vice-Chancellor present, shall preside at meetings of the Academic Council. In the absence of the President and Vice-Chancellor and the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, the Academic Council shall elect one of its number to preside at the meeting.
- 3. Subject to the Charter and Statutes, the Academic Council shall have control of the internal academic affairs of the University, the scope of which shall be prescribed from time to time by the Senate.
- 4. The Academic Council may establish wholly or partly from its own members such committees as it thinks fit, and may establish joint committees with the Senate. The Academic Council shall have power to delegate to any such committee such of its functions as it may determine from time to time and may withdraw its delegation at any time.

5. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and to Regulations, the Academic Council shall have power to regulate its own procedure and fix the times and places of its meetings.

#### Statute XII

#### Dismissal, Discipline, Grievance Procedures and related matters

#### PART I: GENERAL

Any proposals for the amendment of this Statute or its subsidiary Regulations may not be considered by the Senate until consultations with the appropriate recognised trade unions have taken place.

#### 1. Application

- (1) This Statute applies to all members of staff at Grade 6 and above (or equivalent) (except for those excluded from Part II by clause 5 of Part II).
- (2) This Statute will override any provision in any contract, term or condition of employment which is inconsistent with this Statute, whether dated before or after the commencement of this Statute, but
  - (i) it shall not affect the validity of any compromise agreement under Article 245 of the Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996, or any similar agreement permitted by law; and
  - (ii) it shall not preclude any member of staff deciding or agreeing to terminate employment with the University, on whatever terms have been agreed.
- (3) Parts II to VI of this Statute shall not apply to removal from an appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Dean or Head of School, or such other posts as have been designated by the Senate, to which a member of staff has been appointed and which is distinct from that individual's substantive post, where dismissal from the substantive post is not contemplated. The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe a procedure for handling such removals, which shall include a hearing panel and an appeal panel.

#### 2. General principles of construction and application

- (1) This Statute and any Regulations made under it shall be applied and construed in every case to give effect to the following guiding principles:
  - to ensure that members of academic staff have freedom (hereinafter referred to as 'academic freedom') within the law to question and test received wisdom, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges;
  - (ii) to enable the University to provide education, promote learning and engage in research efficiently and economically; and
  - (iii) to apply the principles of justice and fairness.
- (2) Where, in any proceedings under this Statute, a member of staff invokes a complaint under paragraph 2 above, the complaint shall be referred to the Vice-Chancellor. Upon receipt of such a reference, the Vice-Chancellor will consider the complaint and if he/she is satisfied that the complaint establishes a prima facie case, he/she will suspend any proceedings taken against the complainant, with the exception of a precautionary suspension where he/she considers it appropriate, and will instigate an investigation of that complaint. Such an investigation shall be undertaken in line with Regulations prescribed, from time to time, by the Senate.

In the event that the complaint is upheld all actions against the complainant should be withdrawn and expunged from the record. Should the complaint be held to be unfounded then the original action should resume.

- (3) Where there is any issue as to the meaning of academic freedom in any proceedings under Parts II, III, IV, V and VI of this Statute, regard shall be had to Sections VI and VII of the Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Paris on 11 November 1997.
- (4) The appointment of a member of staff on a limited term contract is only to be made in the following circumstances:-
  - (i) Where a current member of staff is unable to continue to fulfil the duties of the post, either because he or she has been seconded to other duties for a limited period or has been granted leave of absence for a limited period which may in either instance be subject to periodic review; or
  - (ii) Where the duties of the member of staff are for a specific determinable limited period; or where there are other necessary and objective circumstances for making categories or types of appointment on a limited term basis that have been identified from time to time in consultation with staff representatives.
- (5) Any reference in this Statute to a provision in a statutory provision shall be taken to be a reference to that provision as it may have been amended or superseded from time to time.
- (6) Any reference to the Standing Committee of the Senate in the subsidiary Regulations shall be a reference to the Standing Committee acting under delegated authority from the Senate.

#### 3. Dismissal

- (1) For the purpose of this Statute, "dismissal" shall have the same meaning as in Article 127 of the Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996.
- (2) A member of staff may be dismissed if that dismissal is for a reason set out in Article 130 of the Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996.
- (3) (i) A dismissal by reason of redundancy shall be handled in accordance with Part II;
  - (ii) A dismissal for disciplinary reasons shall be handled in accordance with Part III;
  - (iii) A dismissal on health grounds shall be handled in accordance with Part IV;
  - (iv) A dismissal on the grounds of Capability shall be handled in accordance with Part V;
  - (v) A dismissal on any other grounds shall be handled in accordance with Part VI.

#### 4. Hearing, appeal and grievance panels

(1) Any panel established pursuant to clauses 10(ii)(d) and (g), 15(2), 17(2) and 18(3) of this Statute shall be constituted in line with Regulations prescribed from time to time by the Senate.

- (2) At any panel within sub-clause (1) above, the member of staff shall be entitled to be represented or assisted by a University colleague or by a representative of a recognised trade union.
- (3) Any panel within sub-clause (1) above shall provide a reasoned decision to the member of staff in writing.

#### PART II: REDUNDANCY

#### 5. Application

The power to dismiss, and the procedures prescribed, under this Part shall not apply to those staff defined in sub-sections (3) to (6) of Article 5 of the Education (Academic Tenure) (NI) Order 1988 (staff appointed prior to, and not promoted after, 20 November 1987), who shall for this purpose continue to be subject to such powers, if any, as applied to them prior to the introduction of the Statute made by the University Commissioners in the exercise of their powers under Articles 4 and 5 of the Education (Academic Tenure) (NI) Order 1988.

#### 6. Definition of "redundancy"

Subject to clause 5 above, dismissal by reason of redundancy for the purpose of this Part has the same meaning as in Article 174 of the Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996.

#### 7. Procedure for dismissal by reason of redundancy

- (1) The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe the procedures for dismissing members of fixed term staff arising from the termination of a limited term appointment.
- (2) The Senate shall also prescribe by Regulation the procedures for dismissing all other staff covered by this Statute by reason of redundancy, which shall include the following:
  - a preliminary stage involving consultation with appropriate representatives in accordance with and to the extent required by Article 216 of the Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996 and discussion with the staff concerned;
  - (ii) a procedure which is fair and which allows each staff member concerned, having been informed of the selection criteria to be employed, to make written and oral representations on his or her behalf;
  - (iii) provision for informing any member of staff dismissed under this Part of the reasons for the dismissal and, where selection has taken place, why he or she was selected; and
  - (iv) authorising the Registrar or nominee to dismiss any member of staff selected for dismissal under this Part.
- (3) The procedures following the preliminary stage may be used at any particular time only after the Registrar has first determined that the circumstances are such that the procedures should be instituted.
- (4) In circumstances where a significant unit of the University is involved, or if a substantial number of redundancies are proposed, it will be for the Senate to determine that the relevant procedures should be instituted.

#### 8. Appeal against dismissal by reason of redundancy

(1) The Regulations shall include provision for an appeal to a panel by a member of staff who has been given notice of dismissal under this Part.

- (2) The panel shall be entitled to review all aspects of the case other than the original determination under clauses 7 (3) and 7 (4) above.
- (3) The appeal panel shall have the power to reach a final decision on the matter.

#### PART III: DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

#### 9. Grounds for disciplinary action

Disciplinary action under this Part may be taken and, where found to be appropriate, a penalty or other corrective action imposed, in respect of the following:

- Conduct amounting to a criminal offence, whether or not there has been a decision to prosecute of a kind that is judged in all the circumstances to impact adversely on the member of staff's employment in the University. If there is no criminal conviction, action under this Regulation can only be initiated with the prior approval of the Registrar or nominee;
- (ii) Failure, refusal or neglect to perform some or all of the duties or to comply with some or all of the conditions attaching to the post, or performing those duties or complying with those conditions in an unsatisfactory or inadequate manner;
- (iii) Conduct on the part of the holder of a post held by the member of staff which is judged to be inappropriate or unacceptable as defined in the Code of Conduct and conduct which could include (but not be confined to) the following:
  - (a) Breach of any obligation or duty arising under any of the University's regulations regarding financial matters, harassment, equal opportunities, public interest disclosure, health and safety, or data protection or any other rules, regulations or codes binding on the member of staff;
  - (b) Wilful damage to, or improper use of, University facilities, premises, property or equipment;
  - (c) Disruption of, or improper interference with, the activities of the University or of any member of staff, student, Senate member or visitor (other than any lawful industrial action);
  - (d) Violent, indecent, disorderly, threatening, abusive, insulting or harassing behaviour or language (whether written, spoken or in any other form);
  - (e) Fraud, deceit, deception or dishonesty in relation to the University or any related activity, including research and examining;
  - (f) Action likely to cause injury or impair safety;
  - (g) Inappropriately divulging information or material received that has been marked or otherwise indicated as being in confidence (unless the disclosure is permitted under the Public Interest Disclosure (NI) Order 1998 or in accordance with the University's Public Interest Disclosure Procedure);
  - (h) Conduct occurring outside the University, which has brought, or is likely to bring, the University into disrepute. Action under this Regulation can only be initiated with the prior approval of the Registrar or nominee.

#### 10. Disciplinary procedures

The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe disciplinary procedures for members of staff, which shall provide:

- (i) For less serious matters to be dealt with by warnings following a fair and appropriate procedure and for a member of staff to be able to appeal against the imposition of a warning to a person designated by the Vice-Chancellor; and
- (ii) For dealing with more serious matters, which shall include provision for the following:
  - (a) fair and reasonable time limits for each stage;
  - (b) investigating complaints and dismissing those found to be without substance;
  - (c) suspension, on full pay, by the Vice-Chancellor pending an investigation or hearing where this is necessary;
  - (d) a hearing by a tribunal, conducted in accordance with Regulations prescribed by the Senate;
  - (e) appropriate penalties, which in addition to warnings and dismissal shall include withholding any forthcoming increment in salary, suspension without pay (for up to three months), and reduction in grade and/or loss of title;
  - (f) designating a member of staff's conduct as constituting "gross misconduct" such as to merit summary dismissal without notice; and
  - (g) a right to appeal against the finding of, or penalty imposed by, the tribunal, including a finding under paragraph (f) above. An appeal shall not take the form of a re-hearing of the evidence unless that is necessary to remedy previous defects, and witnesses may be called only with the appeal panel's permission.

Nothing in this Statute or the Regulation aforementioned shall prevent cases of misconduct or unsatisfactory performance being resolved using informal procedures, rather than through the use of formal procedures provided for above.

#### 11. Dismissal

- (1) The Registrar or nominee shall give effect to a decision of a panel that a member of staff should be dismissed:
  - (i) where the panel has designated the conduct as "gross misconduct" such as to merit summary dismissal pursuant to clause 10(ii)(f);
  - (ii) in all other cases, the Registrar shall issue the notice of dismissal or dismiss together with payment in lieu of notice.
- (2) Any dismissal or notice of dismissal shall be cancelled, withdrawn or modified if an appeal panel decides that the member of staff should not be dismissed or should only be dismissed with notice.

#### 12. Clinical staff

Action under this Part or under Part IV may be taken against a member of staff falling within clause 18(1) below in respect of conduct or incapacity arising in connection with that member of staff's clinical work or activities as if the work or the activities were performed in and for the University.

#### PART IV: INCAPACITY ON HEALTH GROUNDS

#### 13. Incapacity on Health Grounds

- (1) The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe a procedure for dealing with staff, including dismissal, because of incapacity on health grounds, whether physical or mental.
- (2) The procedure shall include a hearing by a panel, with a right of appeal to another panel, and both panels shall seek professional medical expertise in considering the case.
- (3) No member of staff may be dismissed whether under this Part or Part III where that dismissal would contravene the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.

#### PART V: CAPABILITY PROCEDURES

#### 14. Capability

- (1) The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe a procedure for dealing with staff, including dismissal, on the grounds of capability.
- (2) The procedure shall include a hearing by a panel, with a right of appeal to another panel.

#### PART VI: OTHER DISMISSALS

#### **15. Probationary appointments**

- (1) This Part shall also apply to members of staff who have been appointed subject to review after a period of probationary service.
- (2) The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe a procedure under which staff on probation shall be reviewed and shall include provision for non-confirmation in post during or at the end of the probationary period if their performance is found to be deficient or for any other substantial reason or reasons they are judged unsuitable to be confirmed in post.
- (3) The review referred to in sub-clause (2) may encompass matters which, in other circumstances, would fall to be dealt with under Parts II, III or IV of this Statute.

#### 16. Dismissal on other grounds

- (1) This clause covers dismissals on any ground falling within clause 3(2) of Part I of this Statute other than those covered by Parts II, III, IV, V and VI of this Statute (i.e. "some other substantial reason of a kind such as to justify the dismissal of a member of staff holding the position which the member of staff held" (Article 130 (1) (b) of The Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996)); or "the member of staff could not continue to work in the position which he held without contravention (either on his part or on that of his employer) of a duty or restriction imposed by or under a statutory provision" (Article 130 (2)(d) of the Employment Rights (NI) Order 1996).
- (2) Dismissals covered by sub-clause (1) above shall be handled in accordance with a procedure prescribed by Regulation, which shall include the right to be heard by a panel and the right to appeal to a panel.

#### 17. Clinical staff

(1) This clause applies to a member of the clinical academic staff who is required to engage in clinical work or activities and for that purpose to be registered with the General Medical or Dental Councils or similar body and/or to have an honorary or substantive contract or status with a National Health Service trust or similar body, and may by Regulation be extended to other groups of staff in a similar situation.

- (2) Where the registration, contract or status referred to in sub-clause (1) above is terminated, withdrawn or revoked, the Vice-Chancellor may, having first afforded an opportunity to the member of staff concerned to make representations and to meet with their line manager (who will give consideration to redeployment opportunities), dismiss the member of staff concerned; and where the registration, contract or status is suspended, the Vice-Chancellor may suspend the member of staff from employment for so long as the registration, contract or status is suspended, that suspension from employment to be without pay where the registration, contract or status has been suspended as a substantive disciplinary measure.
- (3) The member of staff will have the right of appeal against any action taken under subclause (2) above to a panel as constituted to hear appeals against dismissals.

#### PART VII: GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

#### **18.** Grievance Procedure

- (1) The Senate shall by Regulation prescribe a Grievance Procedure for members of staff.
- (2) The Procedure shall apply to grievances by members of staff concerning their employment in relation to matters affecting themselves as individuals or their personal dealings or relationships with other staff of the University, other than those for which provision is made elsewhere in this Statute or in respect of the outcome of any matter dealt with under this Statute, or where the Senate has prescribed other procedures, provided those other procedures are no less favourable to the individual than under the Grievance Procedure.
- (3) The Procedure shall make provision for a member of staff who is dissatisfied with the outcome of a complaint to be able to have the complaint heard by a Grievance Panel.

#### Statute XIII

#### Institute of Professional Legal Studies

- 1. There shall be an Institute of Professional Legal Studies.
- 2. The constituent members of the Institute shall be the University, the Inn of Court of Northern Ireland, and Law Society of Northern Ireland.
- 3. There shall be a Governing Body of the Institute to be known as the Council of Legal Education (Northern Ireland), with such membership, powers and functions as the Senate may from time to time determine.
- 4. There shall be a Director of the Institute appointed by the University with such duties and upon such terms and conditions as the Senate may from time to time determine.
- 5. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and to any Regulations made by the Senate, the Council of Legal Education (Northern Ireland) shall have power to regulate its own procedure and determine the times and places of its meetings.

#### Statute XIV

#### **Recognition of Institutions**

- 1. The Senate may, on the recommendation of the Academic Council, recognise any organisation as an institution in which registered students of the University may pursue a course of study or part of a course of study leading to a Degree, Diploma, Certificate or other award of the University, and any such recognition shall be subject to such terms and conditions as the Senate may determine by Regulations.
- 2. Where the associations between the University and the Institution meet criteria established from time to time by the Senate, the Institution may, with the approval of the Privy Council, be accorded the title of University College.

#### Statute XV

#### Examiners

- 1. The Examiners of the University shall be appointed by the Academic Council in accordance with Regulations approved by the Senate upon the recommendation of the Academic Council.
- 2. Examinations for Degrees and Diplomas, Certificates and other academic awards shall be conducted according to procedures to be prescribed by the Academic Council.

#### Statute XVI

#### **Degrees and other Academic Distinctions**

1. The Senate may, on the recommendation of the Academic Council, institute Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions.

No student shall be admitted to any Degree, Diploma or Certificate or other award unless he/she has complied with all the conditions governing the completion of an approved course of study as laid down in Regulations prescribed by the Senate on the recommendation of the Academic Council.

- 2. Honorary Degrees may be conferred on persons of distinction in accordance with Regulations prescribed from time to time by the Senate.
- 3. The Senate may, with the approval of the Academic Council, institute other forms of honorary distinction to be conferred not being Degrees, and such honorary distinctions shall be conferred in accordance with Regulations prescribed from time to time by the Senate.

#### Statute XVII

#### The Honorary Treasurer

- 1. The mode of appointment and terms of office of the Honorary Treasurer shall be prescribed by Regulation.
- 2. The Honorary Treasurer may resign in writing, addressed to the Senate, through the Vice-Chancellor.

#### Statute XVIII

#### The Registrar

- 1. The mode of appointment and terms of office of the Registrar shall be prescribed by Regulation. Subject to Statute XII, the terms and conditions of service of the Registrar shall be prescribed from time to time by the Senate.
- 2. The Registrar shall be Secretary to the Senate and to the Academic Council. Subject to these Statutes and to any Regulations which may be made by the Senate, he/she shall be entitled to attend meetings of all Committees of the Senate and of the Academic Council.
- 3. Reporting to the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar shall be responsible for the conduct of the administration of the University and shall carry out such other duties as the Senate may from time to time determine.
- 4. In the case of the absence of the Registrar, or vacancy in the office, or his/her incapacity to act, the Vice-Chancellor may appoint an Acting Registrar until such time as the Registrar returns to post or alternatively, a successor Registrar has been appointed and takes up post.
- 5. The Registrar may resign in writing to the Vice-Chancellor.

#### Statute XIX

#### **Chaplains and Other Religious Representatives**

The Senate may appoint Chaplains or other religious representatives for the moral and spiritual care of the students belonging to such church or religious grouping respectively. Such appointments will be made in line with policies and procedures approved by the Senate.

#### Statute XX

#### Convocation

- 1. Convocation shall consist of the following members:
  - (a) The Chancellor
  - (b) The Pro-Chancellors
  - (c) The President and Vice-Chancellor
  - (d) The remaining members of the Senate
  - (e) The Registrar
  - (f) The graduates of the University who are enrolled as members of Convocation
  - (g) Such other members of staff and classes of persons as the Senate may determine following consultation with Convocation.
- 2. Convocation shall elect a Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson from amongst its members to hold office for such periods as Convocation may determine. The Chairperson, and in his/her absence the Deputy Chairperson, shall preside at meetings of Convocation. A retiring Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson shall be eligible for reelection for one further term of office.
- 3. The University shall provide a proper place for meetings of Convocation and the services of a Clerk.
- 4. The Clerk of Convocation shall keep a roll containing the names of all persons who are members of Convocation according to the provisions of the Charter and these Statutes, and the roll shall be conclusive evidence that any person whose name appears thereon at the time of his/her claiming to vote in Convocation is entitled to a vote and that any person whose name does not appear thereon is not so entitled.
- 5. All graduates of the University shall at graduation pay a registration fee to be determined by the Senate from time to time and shall be enrolled as members of Convocation for life.
- 6. The ordinary meetings of Convocation shall take place on such days as Convocation shall determine, provided that at least one ordinary meeting shall be held in each year.
- 7. Convocation at an ordinary meeting may discuss and pronounce an opinion on any matter whatsoever relating to the University, and shall do so upon any matter referred to Convocation by the Senate.
- 8. The Chairperson may at any time summon an extraordinary meeting of Convocation of his/her own motion. The Chairperson shall do so at the request of the Senate or on the requisition in writing of two hundred members of Convocation stating the purpose for which the meeting is required.
- 9. There shall be a Standing Committee of Convocation which shall be elected in accordance with the Standing Orders of Convocation.
- 10. The Chair of Convocation shall be elected to serve as a member of Senate.
- 11. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and to Regulations, Convocation may, by Standing Orders approved by the Senate, regulate its own procedure and may record its own proceedings.

#### Statute XXI

#### The Students' Union

- 1. There shall be an organisation of students within the University to be known as the Students' Union which shall elect from its own number a Union Council, hereinafter to be known as "the Council".
- 2. The students of the University for this purpose shall be the Sabbatical Officers and those, whether graduates or undergraduates, who have registered and are pursuing systematic courses of study leading to a University degree, diploma, certificate or other approved award, as shall be prescribed by Regulations made by the Senate from time to time.
- 3. Subject to these Statutes, the Constitution of the Students' Union shall be prescribed by Regulations made by the Senate following consultation with the Council, which shall take account of the views of the membership of the Students' Union.
- 4. The Council shall consist of a President and such other officers and members elected from among the members of the Students' Union in such manner as the students may determine by Rules to be made by the Council after consultation with the membership of the Students' Union and with the approval of the Senate. The Rules shall not be altered except with the approval of the Senate.
- 5. The functions of the Council shall be:
  - To promote the general and particular interests of its members and to represent them in all matters affecting their interests both to the University and to persons and bodies outside the University;
  - (b) To promote equality of opportunity and a safe and relaxed environment for all its members;
  - (c) To support a range of student societies in the University and to provide competitively priced entertainments in a safe environment;
  - (d) To represent the interests of its members in the arrangements made for the provision of commercial services, which will be staffed wherever practical by its members, for the benefit of its members;
  - (e) To promote unity of spirit among its members and to enhance relations between its members and the members of other institutions of higher education and the entire community;
  - (f) To communicate with all other organisations with whom the Union maintains contact for the attainment of these objects;
  - (g) To formulate policy and deliver strategy on student matters;
  - (h) To raise awareness in relation to issues arising as a result of the Union's representational role;
  - (i) To promote the interests of its members in relation to:
    - freedom from harassment or intimidation;
    - reasonable access to funds/finance in accordance with the Students' Union Constitutional Rules;

- the opportunity to participate in Union elections and activities;
- the opportunity of freedom of expression, the right of assembly and association and the right to participate in associations (subject in the case of University societies to Chapter 4 of the Students' Union Constitution) and subject to compliance with the law properly relating to the right to freedom of expression and the right to the freedom of peaceful assembly.

It is recognised that these functions may be amended/superseded by subsequent Students' Union Councils.

- 6. The Council shall be entitled to make representation to the Senate on any matter affecting the interests of the students.
- 7. Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and to any Regulations or Resolutions of the Senate, the Council, having consulted the membership of the Students' Union, may regulate its own procedure, appoint its own committees and officers, and the Council, its committees and officers may exercise such powers and additional functions as the Senate may approve or delegate to them.

#### Statute XXII

#### **Acts During Vacancies**

No Act or Resolution of the Senate, the Academic Council, Convocation or committees shall be invalid by reason only of any vacancy in the body doing or passing it or by reason of want of qualification or invalidity in the election or appointment of any member of such body.

#### Statute XXIII

#### Contracts

- 1. Contracts made by or on behalf of the University shall be validly made and binding on the University if made as follows:
  - (a) Any contract which, if made between private persons, would be by law required to be in writing and under Seal, may be made on behalf of the University in writing under its Common Seal, and such contract may be in the same manner varied and discharged.
  - (b) All other contracts must be in writing and signed by some person acting under the express or implied authority of the Senate.