

CHARTER OF INCORPORATION

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 Bristol College of Science and Technology in Our City and County of Bristol (hereafter called 'the College') praying to Us to constitute and found a University within the City of Bath in Our County of Somerset for the advancement of knowledge, the dissemination and extension of sciences and arts, the provision of technological, liberal and professional education and for the furtherance of the objects for which the College was incorporated by a Trust Deed dated the twenty-eighth day of March 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 fitting.

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 members for the time being of the Court, the Council, the Senate, and the Boards of Studies and Faculties and Schools of the University, the Graduates of the University, the Graduate and Undergraduate Students of the University, the Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors, the Vice-Chancellor, the Chair of Council, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellors 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 constituted and from hence forth for ever shall be one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal, by the name and style of The University of Bath (hereinafter called the University) and with full power by and in such name to sue and be sued, and to take by gift or otherwise purchase and hold, grant, demise, or otherwise dispose of real or personal property, and to obtain through Our College of Arms a grant of armorial bearings which shall be duly recorded in Our said College and to do all other lawful acts whatsoever pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes hereinafter prescribed.
2. The objects of the University shall be to advance learning and knowledge by teaching and research, particularly in science and technology, and in close association with industry and commerce.
3. The University shall be a teaching, research and examining body and shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, have the following powers:
 - (a) To prescribe the conditions under which persons shall be admitted to the University or to any particular course of study therein.
 - (b) To confer Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates or other academic distinctions and awards either itself or jointly or in conjunction with other institutions having the power to grant such qualifications, which may be dual, joint or otherwise, on and to persons who shall have pursued a course of study approved by the University and who shall have passed examinations or other tests approved by the University.

- (c) To admit Graduates of other Universities to Degrees of equal or similar rank in the University.
- (d) To confer Degrees of the University on any persons who hold office in the University as Professors, Readers, Lecturers or otherwise.
- (e) To confer Honorary Degrees or other distinctions which may be determined on persons approved by the University.
- (f) On what the University shall deem to be good cause, to deprive persons of any Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates or other distinctions or awards conferred upon or granted to them by the University.
- (g) To prescribe the disciplinary provisions to which Students of the University shall be subject.
- (h) To provide for instruction in such branches of learning as the University may think fit, with particular regard to the provision of higher education and research in the pure and applied sciences and technologies and the furtherance of this provision in co-operation with industry and other relevant bodies, and for the advancement and diffusion of knowledge in such manner and in relation to such matters as the University may think fit.
- (i) To provide such courses of lectures and other instruction for persons not Members of the University, as the University may think fit.
- (j) To affiliate other institutions or to admit the members thereof to any of its privileges, and to accept attendance at courses of study in such institutions in place of such part of the attendance of course of study in the University and upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as may from time to time be determined by the University, or to recognize any members of the teaching staff of any College or institution, whether affiliated to the University or not, as teachers of the University.
- (k) To accept the examinations and periods of study passed by Students of the University at other Universities or places of learning as equivalent to such examinations and periods of study in the University as the University may determine, and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.
- (l) To enter into an agreement with the College for its incorporation within the University and for taking over under any instrument or endowment scheme that may be made, its rights, property, liabilities and engagements, and if necessary to promote a Bill in Parliament to confirm or carry out such agreement.
- (m) To enter into any agreement for the incorporation in the University of any other institution and for taking over all or any of the rights, property and liabilities of the said institution, for any purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.
- (n) To institute Professorships, Readerships, Lectureships, and any other offices as may be required by the University, and to appoint persons to and remove them from such offices, and to prescribe their conditions of service.
- (o) To institute and award Fellowships, Scholarships, Studentships, Exhibitions, Bursaries, Prizes and other such awards.
- (p) To establish and maintain and to administer and govern institutions for the residence of the Students of the University and to license and supervise such institutions and other places of

residence as may be required by the University, whether or not maintained by the University.

- (q) To make provision for research and advisory services, more particularly in relation to the applied sciences and technologies and their allied industries, and for the promotion of such objects, to enter into such arrangements with other institutions or with public bodies, professional or industrial societies, or such other concerns as may be thought desirable.
- (r) To provide for the printing and publication of educational, research and other works which may be issued by the University.
- (s) To co-operate by means of Joint Boards or otherwise with other Universities and Authorities for the regulation and conduct of entrance and other examinations, for the examination and inspection of schools and other academic institutions and for the extension of University teaching and influence in academic matters and for such other purposes as the University may from time to time determine.
- (t) To demand and receive fees.
- (u) To take such steps as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purpose of procuring and receiving contributions to the funds of the University, and to raise money in such other manner as the University may think fit.
- (v) To act as trustees or managers of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for the purpose of education or research or otherwise for the furtherance of the work of the University, and to invest any moneys representing any such property or fund not immediately required for the purpose aforesaid in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.
- (w) To do all such other acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the University.

4. We reserve unto Ourselves, Our Heirs and Successors, the right on representation from the Court, made in pursuance of a resolution passed by a simple majority of the members of the Court present and voting, to appoint by Order in Council a Visitor of the University for such period and with such duties as We, Our Heirs and Successors shall see fit, and their decision on matters within their jurisdiction shall be final.

5. There shall be a Chancellor of the University, who shall be the Chief Officer of the University, and who shall confer Degrees and preside over meetings of the Court.

6. There shall be a Pro-Chancellor or not more than three Pro-Chancellors of the University who or one of whom in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor shall exercise all the functions of the Chancellor except the conferring of Degrees.

7. There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the Principal and the chief academic and administrative officer of the University and ex-officio Chairman of the Senate, and who shall, in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, confer Degrees.

8. There shall be a Chair of Council and other proper Officers of the University.

9. There shall be a Deputy Vice-Chancellor and not more than eight Pro-Vice-Chancellors who shall severally or together, subject to the Statutes, act for the Vice-Chancellor during their absence or during a vacancy in the office of Vice-Chancellor.

10. There shall be a Court of the University (herein called 'the Court') which shall be the formal body representing the interests of the University's constituencies and shall have power to make representations to the Council on any matter affecting the University.

11. There shall be a Council of the University (herein called 'the Council') which shall, subject to the Statutes, be the governing body of the University and shall have the custody and use of the Common Seal, and shall be responsible for the management and administration of the revenue and property of the University and shall, subject to the powers of the Senate as provided in this Our Charter and the Statutes, have general control over the conduct of the affairs of the University with power to manage all matters not provided otherwise by this Our Charter or by the Statutes.

12. There shall be a Senate of the University (herein called 'the Senate') which shall, subject to the powers of the Council as provided in this Our Charter and the Statutes, be the supreme academic authority of the University and be responsible for the academic work of the University both in teaching and research and for the regulation and superintendence of the education and discipline of the Students of the University.

13. There shall be Faculties and Schools within the University each comprising one or more related branches of teaching and research as may from time to time be established by the Council on the recommendation of the Senate.

14. There shall be an Academic Assembly of the University.

15. There shall be a Students' Union of the University. The constitution and function of the Students' Union and all other matters which it may be thought proper so to regulate, shall be as prescribed in the Ordinances.

16. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, Statutes shall prescribe or regulate as the case may be:

- (a) The status, appointment and continuance in office of the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors, Vice-Chancellor, Chair of Council, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellors and other officers of the University.
- (b) The constitution and functions of the Court, the appointment and continuance in office of the members of the Court, the filling of vacancies among the members and all other matters relative to the Court.
- (c) The constitution and functions of the Council, the appointment and continuance in office of the members of the Council, the filling of vacancies among the members and all other matters relative to the Council.
- (d) The constitution and functions of the Senate and all other matters relative to the Senate.
- (e) The constitution and functions of the Academic Assembly.
- (f) The constitution and functions of the Boards of Studies of the Faculties and Schools, the appointment and continuance in office of Deans and Chairs of Boards of Studies, and all other matters relative to the Faculties and Schools.
- (g) Such other matters as the Council 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. The Statutes set out in the Schedule to this Our Charter shall remain in force until they have been amended, added to, or repealed in the manner hereinafter prescribed.

18. The Council may from time to time make Statutes for the University which may amend, add to or repeal the Statutes for the time being in force; provided 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.

19. The Statutes may direct that any of the matters prescribed or regulated by Statute as authorised or directed by this Our Charter shall be further prescribed or regulated by Ordinance, provided that any such further prescription or regulation shall not be repugnant to the provisions of the Statutes or of this Our Charter.

20. Subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, the Council may make Ordinances to direct and regulate the University, its Members and affairs provided that:

- (a) Notice of any proposed Ordinance (and of the date upon which it is proposed that it should come into effect) shall be given to the Council not less than fourteen days before the date of the meeting of the Council at which it is to be considered, and,
- (b) before making any Ordinance the Council shall consider a report from the Senate and shall not, except on the recommendation of the Senate make any Ordinance relating to courses of study, Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates, for functions of the Boards of Studies and Faculties and Schools, the affiliation of other institutions, the recognition of teachers and the constitution of Joint Committees of the Council and the Senate.

The power to make Ordinances shall include the power to amend, add to or repeal any Ordinances therefore made.

21. Subject to this Our Charter, the Statutes and the Ordinances, the Senate may make Regulations to regulate the academic work of the University, the education and discipline of the Students of the University, and such other matters as lie within the functions of the Senate.

22. Regulations may amend, add to or repeal Regulations from time to time in force.

23. The University will:

- (a) Deliver quality and excellence, whilst being quick to listen and learn;
- (b) Nurture high aspirations, for the benefit of all;
- (c) Aspire to the highest standards of scientific, ethical, and professional integrity, whilst supporting the freedom to challenge received wisdom;
- (d) Support a sustainable community and adopt best environmental practice, providing leadership in addressing climate change; and
- (e) Foster inclusion, equity, diversity and accessibility, where the unique value of each individual is recognised.

24. All candidates shall be equally eligible for the holding of any office in the University and for membership of any of its constituent bodies, for the holding of all Degrees and for the pursuit of all courses of study in the University; and shall not be selected for, or discriminated against, based upon a protected characteristic. The University will advance equality of opportunity between people who

share a protected characteristic and those who do not, and will foster an inclusive community based on the principles of trust, care, and respect.

25. No religious, racial or political test shall be imposed upon any person in order to entitle them to be admitted as a Member, Professor, Teacher or Student of the University or to hold office therein or to graduate thereat or to hold any advantage or privilege thereof.

26. 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, reward or special grant.

27.

(a) The Court may at any time amend, add to or repeal any Article of this Our Charter by a Special Resolution in that behalf, and such amendment, addition or repeal shall, when allowed by us, Our Heirs and Successors in Council, have effect so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as so amended, added to or repealed.

(b) This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended, added to or repealed in the manner aforesaid.

(c) For the purpose of the foregoing Articles of this Our Charter, a Special Resolution means a resolution proposed on the joint recommendation of the Council and the Senate and passed at one meeting of the Court, following a formal consultation. The amendments for consideration and notice of the meeting must be provided to each and every member of the Court no less than two calendar months before the date the meeting is to be held, with a total consultation period lasting no less than four calendar weeks, and a summary of the consultation responses circulated as part of the papers for the meeting. The resolution must be passed at the meeting by the votes of not less than three-fourths of those present and voting.

28. In this Our Charter, 'Statutes' means the Statutes set forth in the Schedule hereto and any Statutes amending, adding to or repealing the same or any of them which may hereafter have been made or allowed. 'Ordinances' means Acts of the Council of the University under the powers conferred by this Our Charter to which Our further sanction is not hereby or by Statute of the University required. 'Regulations', except when otherwise required by the context, means Regulations made pursuant to this Our Charter or to the Statutes or Ordinances.

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 caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the Twenty-fifth day of October in the Fourteenth year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL

At a Privy Council meeting held on 19 July 2023, His Majesty The King approved an Order amending the Charter of the University of Bath.