

# University of Ulster

## CHARTER



ELIZABETH THE SECOND by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith:

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING!

WHEREAS We were pleased on the first day of September in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and seventy to grant a Royal Charter constituting and founding The New University:

AND WHEREAS The New University of Ulster has continuously fulfilled the objects and performed the duties in accordance with the aforementioned Charter but has now agreed with the Ulster Polytechnic that a new university institution, known as the "University of Ulster", be constituted and founded within Northern Ireland in order to advance the aims for which The New University of Ulster and the Ulster Polytechnic were established:

AND WHEREAS an humble Petition has been presented unto Us by The New University of Ulster and the Ulster Polytechnic jointly praying that We would be graciously pleased to grant a Charter of incorporation to the said new university institution:

AND WHEREAS The New University of Ulster has resolved to request that, if We are graciously pleased to comply with the prayer of the said Petition, We will at the same time accept the surrender of the Charter of The New University of Ulster and revoke the provisions thereof:

AND WHEREAS We have taken the said Petition and request 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. There shall be and there is hereby constituted and founded in Northern Ireland a university with the name and style of the "University of Ulster" (hereinafter referred to as "the University").
2. The provisions of this Our Charter shall take effect from the first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four from which date the provisions of the Charter of the New University of Ulster shall be revoked, but nothing in this revocation shall affect the validity of any act, deed or thing lawfully done thereunder.
3. The Chancellor, the Pro-Chancellors, the Vice-Chancellor and all other persons 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 henceforth 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 Ulster" 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 Bodies Corporate may by law do.
4. The objects of the University shall be to advance education through a variety of patterns, levels and modes of study and by a diversity of means by encouraging and developing learning and creativity, for the benefit of the community in Northern Ireland and elsewhere; to preserve, advance and disseminate knowledge and culture through teaching, scholarship and

research, and to make available the results of such research; and to promote wisdom and understanding by the example and influence of corporate life.

5. The University shall be a teaching, research and examining body and, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and Statutes, and insofar as is compatible with its status as a charitable body, shall have the necessary powers to further these objects, namely:
  - A. To provide full-time and part-time instruction, leading to awards and qualifications or otherwise; to make provision for research and research training and for the preservation and advancement of knowledge in such manner and through such media as the University may determine.
  - B. To prescribe the conditions under which persons, including lifelong learners, may be admitted as students of the University or of any particular course of study within the University or to the use and enjoyment of any resources and facilities provided by the University.
  - C. To provide facilities to enable disabled students to undertake courses of study in the University.
  - D. To collaborate with other institutions, including institutions of further and higher education, in the provision of educational opportunities.
  - E. 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 shall be prescribed by the University.
  - F. To grant and confer Degrees or other academic distinctions on other persons under such conditions as are prescribed by the Statutes.
  - G. To grant and confer Honorary Degrees on approved persons.
  - H. To accept the examinations passed and periods of study and research spent by students of the University at other universities or places of learning or elsewhere as equivalent to such examinations and periods of study or research of the University as may be determined by the Senate, and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.
  - I. To provide a range of course of study, academic, professional, technical or other, at higher Degree, Degree and non-Degree levels, leading as appropriate to qualifications awarded by the University or by national or professional bodies.
  - J. To facilitate consultancy and related activities.
  - K. To provide for Members of the University and others, on or off the campuses, access to the courses of study of the University and to its educational, social, cultural and recreational resources.
  - L. For what the Council, on the recommendation of the Senate, shall deem to be good cause, to deprive persons of any Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates or other distinctions granted or conferred on them by the University.
  - M. To admit to the privileges of the University or to recognise for any purpose, and either in whole or in part, any college or other institution or the employees or students thereof, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed in the Statutes or by Ordinance.
  - N. To institute and award Fellowships, Studentships, Scholarships, Exhibitions, Bursaries, Prizes and other aids to study and research.
  - O. To provide for the recording, broadcasting, publication and distribution, electronically and otherwise, of works of scholarship, research reports, teaching material and other works.

- P. To institute such offices and employ such academic and other staff as the objects of the University may require; to appoint persons to and remove them from such offices and employment, and to prescribe their conditions of service.
- Q. 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 educational purposes not repugnant to this Our Charter.
- R. 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 thinks fit.
- S. 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 enter into engagements and to accept obligations and liabilities in all respects without any restriction whatsoever and in the same manner as individuals may manage their own affairs.
- T. To establish, hire, lease, maintain, administer, govern, license and supervise places of residence, recreation and study for officers, staff, students and guests of the University.
- U. To make provision for the welfare of officers, staff and students of the University, of persons formerly in any such category, and of spouses, widows, widowers, and dependants of such persons, including provision for the payment of money, pensions, or other payments or benefits, and to subscribe to benevolent and other funds for the benefit of such persons.
- V. 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 so to do.
- W. To act as trustees or managers 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 and Ordinances.
- X. To make arrangements for the erection, redevelopment, 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 determine, any body, institution, organisation, 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.
- Y. To join or co-operate with any other University or other place of learning or with any Department of Our Government 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, Ordinances and Regulations, and to provide academic, professional or other related services (including research, design, development, testing, instructional and advisory services) for any such University, place of learning, Department, authority, body, institution, organisation, company or association.

- Z. To do all such other acts and things (including the promotion of Bills in any of Our legislative bodies) 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 head of the University and who shall have power to confer Degrees, Honorary Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions.
  7. There shall be Pro-Chancellors of the University, the number of whom shall be determined, as required, by Council. One of the Pro-Chancellors shall preside over the meetings of Council and shall, in the absence of the Chancellor, or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, exercise and perform all the functions and duties of the Chancellor except the conferring of Degrees, Honorary Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions.
  8. There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the chief academic and administrative officer and chief executive officer of the University and shall preside over meetings of the Senate. In the absence of the Chancellor, or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor shall have power to confer Degrees, Honorary Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions.
  9. There shall be an Honorary Treasurer of the University.
  10. There shall be a Deputy Vice-Chancellor, appointed by the Council, who shall, subject to Article 12 of this Our Charter, and to the Statutes and Ordinances, act as deputy to the Vice-Chancellor and, in the absence of the Vice-Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Vice-Chancellor, exercise and perform the functions and duties of the Vice-Chancellor.
  11. There shall be a University Secretary and such other offices of the University as the Council may from time to time determine.
  12. In the absence of the Vice-Chancellor, or during a vacancy in the office of Vice-Chancellor, the Council may appoint an Acting Vice-Chancellor who during such absence or vacancy shall exercise and perform the functions and duties of the Vice-Chancellor.
  13. The first holders of the offices specified in the First Schedule of this Our Charter and their initial tenures shall be as set out in that Schedule.
  14. There shall be a Council of the University (in this Our Charter referred to as "the Council") which shall have governance oversight of the use of the Common Seal and oversight of the management and administration of the revenue and property of the University. The Council shall maintain a steer over the conduct of the affairs of the University and shall have all other such powers and duties as may be conferred upon it by the Statutes.
  15. There shall be a Senate of the University (in this Our Charter referred to as "the Senate") which shall, subject to the powers of the Vice-Chancellor and Council as provided in this Our Charter and the Statutes, have responsibility for the ordering of the academic affairs of the University, both in teaching and in research, and for the regulation and superintendence of the education of the students of the University as prescribed in the Statutes.
  16. There shall be constituted, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes and Ordinances, such other bodies as the Council and the Senate may from time to time consider necessary for the organisation of teaching and research and of other work, duties and activities of the University.
  17. There shall be a Convocation of the University.

18. There shall be an organisation of students of the University whose constitution, powers and functions shall be prescribed by the Statutes and Ordinances.
19. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter the Statutes may prescribe or regulate as the case may be:
  - A. the status, election or appointment, continuance in office, powers and duties of the Chancellor, Pro-Chancellors, Vice-Chancellor and other officers of the University;
  - B. the constitution, powers, duties, functions and business of the Council, the Senate and the Convocation;
  - C. all such 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 furthering of the objects of this Our Charter.
20. The Statutes set out in the Second Schedule to this Our Charter shall be the Statutes of the University and shall remain in force until they have been revoked, amended or added to in the manner prescribed hereinafter.
21. The Council may by Special Resolution (as defined in Article 30 of this Our Charter) make Statutes for the University which may revoke, amend or add to the Statutes for the time being in force, provided that no such Statutes shall be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or 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.
22. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes, the Council may make Ordinances for the purposes of furthering the objects of the University and for the good order and government of the University. Ordinances may revoke, amend or add to Ordinances for the time being in force. Ordinances dealing with any matter for which under this Our Charter the Senate is responsible shall not be made, added to, amended or repealed except after consultation with the Senate.
23. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and of the Statutes and Ordinances, the Senate may, make such Regulations as it considers necessary or desirable for the purpose of carrying out the academic functions of the University. Regulations may revoke, amend, or add to Regulations for the time being in force.
24. 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 Ordinances, by Regulations, or by decisions made by the Council or the Senate: provided that any further Ordinances or Regulations or decisions shall not be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or of the Statutes.
25. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes and Ordinances, the Council, the Senate, the Convocation and any other body, institution, organisation, company or association established in furtherance of the objects of this Our Charter shall have power to control and regulate their proceedings by Standing Orders or in whatever other manner they may each think fit and that power shall include the power to revoke, amend or add to any Standing Order or other arrangements theretofore made by them.
26. Persons shall not be excluded by reason of race, sex, disability, age, marital status, religious belief, political opinion and sexual orientation from admission as Members or employees of the University or from office or employment therein or from any advantage or privilege thereof;

preference shall not be given to or advantage be withheld from any person on grounds of their religious belief, political opinion, race, sex, or disability; and the religious beliefs of Members and employees of the University shall be treated with due respect.

27. 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.
28. The Council may at any time, after consultation with the Senate, amend, add to or revoke any of the provisions of this Our Charter by Special Resolution and such amendment, addition or revocation shall, when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, become effectual so that this Our Charter shall henceforth continue and operate subject to such amendment or addition or revocation. This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended, added to or revoked in the manner aforesaid.
29. For the purposes of this Our Charter a "Special Resolution" means a Resolution passed at one meeting of the Council and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than four calendar months after the former meeting, provided that notices of each meeting shall be given to each member of the Council respectively not less than fourteen days before the meeting to be held and that the Resolution be passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-quarters of those present and voting.
30. In case of conflict the provisions of this Our Charter shall prevail over those of the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations, the provisions of the Statutes shall prevail over those of the Ordinances and Regulations and the provisions of the Ordinances shall prevail over those of the Regulations.
31. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter and the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourably to the University and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter as well as in all Our Courts as elsewhere notwithstanding any non-recital, misrecital, uncertainty or imperfection therein.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the twenty-fourth day of September in the thirty-third year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL.