**ORDINANCE 71**

**ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS TO COURT AND ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

(Reference, Statutes 9 & 10)

*Nominations*

1. The Students’ Association is required to nominate two students to be members of University Court each year. Students will be members of Court from 1st June and until 31st May the following year and are eligible for re-appointment for a maximum period of one year. The definition of students is defined in Statute 1 and includes those elected to sabbatical office with the Students’ Association. The process for deciding which students are to be nominated is to be determined by the Students’ Association. The names of the nominated students should be submitted to the Governance and Nominations Committee in writing prior to the 1st June each year. The Governance and Nominations Committee will recommend the nominees for approval by Court. A member of Court nominated by the Students’ Association who ceases to be a student shall simultaneously cease to be a member of Court.

2. There are two positions on Court for members nominated by a trade union. One will be a member of academic staff and one a member of professional services staff. For the purposes of this Ordinance the University recognises the following trade unions: Unison, Unite and University & College Union (UCU). Members nominated by trade unions will normally be members of Court from 1st August for four years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for a further period of four years for a maximum period of eight years. Where a casual vacancy arises, the trade unions will seek to make a new nomination as soon as possible and the new nominee will begin a full term of office. A member of Court nominated by a trade union who ceases either to be a member of the trade union or to be a member of staff of the University shall simultaneously cease to be a member of Court.

3. The nominations for both members of staff who are members of a trade union shall be the joint responsibility of the local branches of the trade unions who will make nominations from within their own memberships at the University. The executive committees of the local branches of the trade unions will jointly be responsible for determining their own procedures and ensuring that the process of determining a nominee is fair, transparent and equitable. All three trade unions must agree the final nominations for each of the two nominated positions on Court. The nominations should be submitted to the Governance and Nominations Committee to recommend approval by Court.

4. In reaching final nomination, the Students’ Association and trade unions shall have due regard to accepted principles of equality and diversity and shall support the commitment of Court to achieve greater diversity in its membership.

*Elections*

5. There are elected members of staff on both Court and Academic Council. Nominations for these appointments shall be sought by the University Secretary or designated nominee on the occurrence of a vacancy or vacancies. Nominations shall be in writing with the name of the candidate, a proposer and seconder, all of whom shall be current members of staff as recorded on the establishment record at the date of nominations being sought.

6. Where the number of eligible candidates in a category is equal to or fewer than the number of vacancies in that category, those candidates are deemed to be elected. Where the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, an election shall be conducted by the University Secretary or designated nominee, with at least ten days allowed between the announcement of the candidates and the close of the election. Each member of staff shall have as many votes as there are vacancies and no member may vote more than once for any one candidate. The candidates to be appointed shall be those who receive the most votes up to a number of vacancies available. In the event of a tie for the last vacancy, the issue shall be determined by lot drawn by the University Secretary or designated nominee in the presence of the relevant candidates or their representatives as they may be available.

7. The elected student members on Academic Council will be members from 1st June and until 31st May the following year and are eligible for re-appointment for a maximum period of one year. The definition of students is defined in Statute 1 and includes those elected to sabbatical office with the Students’ Association. The process for electing students shall be determined and managed by the Students’ Association. The names of the elected students should be submitted in writing to the Secretary of Academic Council prior to the 1st June each year.

8. Where a member no longer meets the criteria of the position to which they were elected their membership on Court or Academic Council will cease.

9. When conducting elections the electorate should be made aware of any significant imbalances in membership and should consider how they can contribute to increasing the diversity of members where appropriate.

10. Third party campaigning during the elections is not permissible.

*Approved by Court 10 December 2018*