

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING CALENDAR - ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE 72

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR OF COURT

(Reference, Statute 9)

1. The Governance and Nominations Committee will be responsible for managing the process of recruiting and electing the Chair of Court. This includes responsibility for:
 - a. Devising the relevant criteria with respect to the position of the Chair of Court, which must include the availability, skills and knowledge that is considered necessary or desirable to exercise the functions of the Chair of Court and command the trust and respect of other members of Court, members of Academic Council and the staff and students of the University
 - b. Ensuring the efficiency and fairness of the process for filling the position of Chair of Court.
 - c. Publishing anonymised data relating to the protected characteristics of the applicants, the applicants invited to interview, and the applicants entitled to stand as candidates in the election for the position.
 - d. Advertising the vacancy widely so as to attract applications from a broad range of persons and in accordance with the requirements set out in section 4 of the Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Act 2016.
 - e. Appointing a selection panel which shall include in its membership at least one member of staff and one student. Only persons who have declared that they shall not seek candidacy for the vacancy may be members of the appointing committee. The sitting Chair of Court can not be a member of the selection panel. The selection panel shall have an appropriate balance of membership in terms of accepted equality and diversity principles.
 - f. Determining the level of reasonable expenses for candidate campaigning in the election.
2. Existing lay members of Court shall be eligible to apply to be appointed as Chair. Students or members of staff of the University shall be ineligible to be appointed as Chair, and no former member of staff or student shall be eligible to be appointed as Chair until four years have elapsed from the point at which the person ceased to be a member of staff or a student of the University.
3. All applicants who appear to meet the criteria set by the Governance and Nominations Committee shall be invited to interview. Applicants who are invited to interview shall also be invited to meet with members of the senior management, with academic staff and with students. Each of these groups shall provide comments to the selection panel to enable them to determine whether each applicant has satisfactorily demonstrated that he or she meets the relevant criteria for the position.

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING CALENDAR - ORDINANCES

4. Applicants who have satisfactorily demonstrated to the selection panel that they meet the relevant criteria are entitled to stand as candidates in an election for the position of Chair of Court. An election shall only take place in the event that there are two or more candidates. In the event that there is only one candidate, a new appointment process shall be commenced with the same selection panel. The remaining candidate shall be entitled to stand for election without further interview.
5. The candidate can campaign in the election but third party campaigning is not permissible.
6. Those eligible to vote in the election shall be the members of the governing body, the staff of the University and the students of the University. No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote.
7. The candidate who secures a simple majority of the total number of votes cast shall be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined by lot in a manner to be decided by the University Secretary.
8. The candidate who wins the election shall be recommended to Court for appointment as Chair of Court by the Governance and Nominations Committee. The term of the appointment will be in accordance with Statute 9. Where an existing member of Court has been appointed as Chair the Governance and Nominations Committee should consider limiting the new Chair to a single term of office where the person has already served for a substantial period.
9. The candidate who wins the election shall be appointed as Chair for a period of four years and shall be eligible for re-appointment for a second term of four years on the recommendation of the Governance & Nominations Committee. In considering the re-appointment of the Chair for a second term the Governance and Nominations Committee shall be chaired by the Vice-Chair of Court.

Approved by Court 10 December 2018