# **THE CHARTER**

**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 University of Stirling Limited, being a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1948, with the object inter alia of providing and carrying on in or near Our Royal Burgh of Stirling a University and having power inter alia to petition for a Royal Charter with a view to the attainment of the above mentioned object, praying that We should constitute and found a University within Our County of Stirling and Our Royal Burgh of Stirling for the advancement and diffusion of learning and knowledge and grant a Charter with such provisions in that behalf as shall seem to Us right and suitable: **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 for Us, Our Heirs and Successors do will and ordain as follows:

1. There shall be and there is hereby constituted and founded in Our said County of Stirling and Royal Burgh of Stirling a University with the name and style of “The University of Stirling” (hereinafter called “the University”).

2. The Chancellor, the Principal and Vice-Chancellor and all other persons who are for the time being members of the University pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes 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 Stirling” with power to acquire armorial bearings, which shall be duly matriculated in Our Public Register of Arms and Bearings in Scotland, and in that name to sue and be sued and to take and hold land and to do all other lawful acts whatsoever.

3. The University shall be a body for the purposes of teaching, examining and the promotion of research and shall, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University, have the following objects and powers

(a) To provide instruction in such branches of learning as the University may think fit, whether for members of the University or for others, and to make provision for research and for the preservation, advancement and dissemination of knowledge in such manner as the University may determine.

(b) To prescribe in its Ordinances the conditions under which persons may be admitted as students of the University or of any particular course of study provided by the University.

(c) To grant or revoke, Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions to persons who shall have pursued a course of study approved by the University and shall have passed the examinations or met other conditions laid down by the University in its Statutes or Ordinances.

(d) REPEALED 2019

(e) REPEALED 2019

(f) To grant to approved persons, under conditions laid down in its Statutes or Ordinances, Honorary Degrees or other academic distinctions.

(g) 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 examination and periods of study in the University as the Academic Council of the University may determine, and to withdraw such acceptance at any time.

(h) To admit to any of the privileges of the University or to recognise for any purpose, either in whole or in part, any College or Institution or the members or staff or students thereof on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes or Ordinances of the University.

(i) REPEALED 2019

(j) To enter into any agreement for the incorporation within the University of any other institution and for taking over its rights, property and liabilities and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.

(k) To join with any other University or with any other public or private body, institution, authority or association having in view or promoting any purpose the same as or similar or related to any purpose of the University, or to appoint one or more representatives to act upon any such body, institution, authority or association, in either case for such purpose as may be agreed upon including but not limited to for the purpose of awarding jointly with other institutions, Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions (including but not limited to joint degrees, dual degrees, double degrees) or as may be provided for or permitted by law, on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes or Ordinances of the University.

(l) To institute such offices as the purposes of the University may require, to appoint persons to and remove them from such offices, and to prescribe their conditions of service.

(m) To prescribe rules for the discipline of the students of the University.

(n) To establish, maintain, administer, govern, license and supervise places of residence for officers and for students of the University.

(o) To institute and award Fellowships, Scholarships, Studentships, Prizes and other aids to study and research.

(p) To make provision for research, design, development, testing and advisory services and with these objects to enter into such arrangements with other institutions or with public bodies as may be thought desirable and to charge to the users of such services such fees as may be thought desirable.

(q) To print, reproduce or publish or to provide for the printing, reproduction or publication of research and other works to be issued by the University.

(r) To sell or provide for reward or otherwise such books, stationery and other goods and services as may be deemed expedient and consistent with the objects of the University as a place of education, learning and research.

(s) To demand and receive fees, to procure contributions to the funds of the University and to raise money in such manner as the University may deem fit.

(t) 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 such way as may from time to time be prescribed by the Statutes of the University.

(u) To borrow money and for that purpose to grant securities over, to mortgage or charge all or any part of the property of the University, whether heritable or moveable, real or personal, and to give such other security as the University may deem fit.

(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 in the interests of the University to do so.

(w) To apply for or otherwise acquire either alone or in conjunction with any institutions or institution or with any public or other bodies or body or with other persons or person, Letters Patent or patent rights.

(x) To construct, improve or manage or facilitate the construction, improvement or management of housing accommodation of any kind for the residence of students of the University.

(y) To process personal data, (including but not limited to the personal data of students, staff, alumni and individuals involved in, or associated with, research and development projects) whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further and/or facilitate the objects and powers of the University.

(z) To do all such other acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not, as may be conducive to or incidental to the furtherance of any one or more of the objects of the University.

4. There shall be a Chancellor of the University who shall be the Head of the University and who shall confer Degrees which have been granted by the University.

5. (1) There shall be a Principal of the University who shall also be the Vice-Chancellor of the University. The Principal shall be the chief Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and shall preside over meetings of the Academic Council and, except as otherwise provided in the Statutes, shall as the Vice-Chancellor in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in that office exercise and perform all the functions of the Chancellor including the conferment of Degrees.

(2) There shall be a Senior Deputy Principal who, during the absence or incapacity of the Principal or during a vacancy in the office of Principal, shall exercise and perform such of the functions of the Principal and shall have such of the Principal’s powers, privileges and duties under this Our Charter or under the Statutes as the Court may specify, including those relating to the Principal’s role as Vice-Chancellor.

(3) There shall be a number of Deputy Principals who in the absence of the Chancellor, Principal and Senior Deputy Principal shall have the power to confer Degrees.

6. The first Chancellor and the first Principal and Vice-Chancellor (hereinafter called “the Principal”) shall be the persons named in the First Schedule to this Our Charter.

7. The University shall engage with its broader communities. The University may, from time to time, prescribe in the Ordinances the conditions of such engagement.

8. (1) There shall be a Court of the University (hereinafter called “the Court”) which, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes and the rights of the Academic Council defined therein, shall be the governing body of the University.

(2) The Court shall direct the form, custody and use of the Common Seal and shall control, manage and administer all the revenue and property of the University, and shall have general responsibility for the conduct of the affairs of the University and shall exercise all such powers and duties as may be conferred upon it for these purposes by the Statutes or the Ordinances.

9. (1) There shall be an Academic Council of the University (hereinafter called “the Academic Council”) which, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes and to the powers of the Court, shall be responsible for the academic work of the University, both in teaching and in research, and for the regulation and superintendence of the education, discipline and welfare of the students of the University.

(2) The Academic Council may discuss any matters relating to the University and may convey its opinions thereon to the Court.

10. REPEALED 1993

11. REPEALED 1993

12. REPEALED 1993

13. There shall be such departments or other bodies as may from time to time be prescribed in the Statutes or Ordinances.

14. There shall be a Staff Assembly of the University.

15. (1) There shall be a Students’ Association of the University.

(2) The constitution of the Students’ Association, its powers and functions and all other matters which it may be thought proper so to regulate shall be as prescribed in the Ordinances.

(3) The University shall in no way be liable for the debts, liabilities and other obligations incurred for any act done or omitted to be done by the Students’ Association.

16. The University shall engage with its former students and alumni. The University may, from time to time, prescribe in the Ordinances the conditions of such engagement.

17. 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 or remuneration to members of staff or the Court in accordance with the law.

18. The University shall be committed to the fair and equal treatment of every person and shall not discriminate on unjustified, irrelevant or unlawful grounds.

19. Academic staff employed by the University shall have freedom within the law to hold and express opinion, to question and test established ideas or received wisdom, to develop and advance new ideas or innovative proposals and to present controversial or unpopular points of view without adverse effect in relation to their entitlements or privileges enjoyed or appointments held or sought.

20. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, Statutes and Ordinances may prescribe or regulate as the case may be:

(1) The powers, duties, appointment and continuance in office of the Chancellor, Principal and other officers of the University appointed by Court.

(2) The Constitution, the powers and the functions of the Court, the Academic Council, the Staff Assembly, and the appointment and continuance in office of the members of those bodies and all other matters relative to those bodies.

(3) All such other matters consistent with this Our Charter as it may be thought proper so to prescribe or regulate for the convenient and effective attainment and execution of the purposes of this Our Charter.

21. (1) The first Statutes shall be those set out in the Second Schedule to this Our Charter and they shall remain in force until they shall have been amended, added to or repealed in the manner hereinafter prescribed.

(2) The Court may, from time to time, on the recommendation of, or after consultation with, the Academic Council by Special Resolution make Statutes amending, adding to or repealing the Statutes:

Provided that no such Statutes shall be either 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. (1) 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 Ordinance or by Regulation or decision made by the Court or the Academic Council:

Provided that any such further prescription, regulation or decision shall not be repugnant to the provisions of the Statutes or of this Our Charter.

(2) The Court may, from time to time, by resolution make Ordinances. Provided that Ordinances dealing with courses of study, the conditions of award of Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions, and examinations shall not be made, amended, added to or repealed except on the recommendation, or with the concurrence, of the Academic Council.

(3) Ordinances may, subject to the foregoing provisions of this Article, be amended, added to or repealed from time to time.

23. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes and Ordinances, the Court and the Academic Council respectively may from time to time make standing orders for governing their proceedings, and may amend, add to or repeal any standing orders theretofore made.

24. (1) The Court may at any time amend, add to or repeal this Our Charter by a Special Resolution passed in that behalf, and such amendment, addition or repeal shall, when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, have effect so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so amended, added to or repealed.

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

(3) No Article or provision of this Our Charter shall be amended, added to or repealed otherwise than by Special Resolution or by Supplementary Charter.

25. (1) Every Special Resolution of the Court to amend, add to or repeal this Our Charter or the Statutes shall be communicated to the Academic Council, and notices stating that this has been done and naming a place within the University where the resolution may be inspected at all reasonable hours shall be displayed publicly within the University for not less than twenty-eight days as soon as may be after the said resolution has been passed at a meeting of the Court.

(2) Every Special Resolution of the Court when allowed or approved as hereinbefore provided and every Ordinance made, amended, added to or repealed by the Court shall forthwith be published within the University.

26. For the purposes of the foregoing Articles of this Our Charter, a “Special Resolution” means a resolution passed at a meeting of the Court:

Provided that notice of the meeting shall be given to each member of the Court not less than fourteen days before the meeting be held and that the resolution be passed at the meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of those present and voting.

27. In this Our Charter “Statutes” means the Statutes set forth in the Second Schedule hereto and any Statutes amending, adding to or repealing the same or any of them which may hereafter be made and may be approved by the Lords of Our Most Honourable Privy Council; “Ordinances” means Acts of the Court under the powers conferred by this Our Charter to which Our further sanction is not hereby or by Statute required; “Regulations” except when otherwise required by the context means Regulations made pursuant to this Our Charter, the Statutes or the Ordinances.

28. 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 ordered the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland in place of the Great Seal of Scotland to be appended hereto.

Given at Our Court at St. James’s the fourteenth day of December, One thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven in the sixteenth year of Our Reign.

PER SIGNATURAM MANU S.D.N. REGINAE SUPRA SCRIPTAM Written to the Seal and Registered and Sealed at Edinburgh the twenty-seventh day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven.

G. BLACK

Keeper of the Registers of Scotland and Deputy Keeper of the Seal.

CHARTER 5(2), 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20(2), 22(2), 23, 26 AMENDED 20.7.93. CHARTER 13, 20(2), 22(2), 23 AMENDED 24.4.96

CHARTER 5(2), 13, 20(2), 22(2), 23, 25(1), 26 AMENDED 19.07.06

CHARTER 4, 7, 14, 16, 18, 19, 20(2), 23 AMENDED 08.07.09

CHARTER 3, 5, 17, 19, 20, 23 AMENDED 08.10.19

FIRST SCHEDULE

FIRST OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Chancellor: Lionel Charles Lord Robbins of Clare Market, C.B., F.B.A., B.Sc., M.A., D.Litt., L.H.D., LL.D., D.Sc., D.Univ.

The Principal and Vice-Chancellor: Tom Leadbetter Cottrell, Esq., B.Sc., D.Sc.