



*At the Court at Buckingham Palace*

THE 5th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025

PRESENT,

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY  
IN COUNCIL

The Court of the University of Edinburgh, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, has made an Ordinance, No 217 (General Council Membership and Registration), as set out in the Schedule to this Order:

The provisions of the Act relating to the making of the Ordinance has been complied with:

The Ordinance has been referred to the Scottish Universities Committee of the Privy Council, who have reported to His Majesty that in their opinion it may properly be approved:

Therefore, His Majesty, having taken the Ordinance into consideration, is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to approve it.

*Richard Tilbrook, CVO*

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*SCHEDULE*

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH ORDINANCE No 217  
GENERAL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

At Edinburgh, the Twenty-sixth day of February, Two Thousand and twenty-four.

WHEREAS the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, Section 10(1), provides that the Court shall cause to be maintained a register of members of the General Council in accordance with provisions to be prescribed by Ordinance:

AND WHEREAS in terms of Sections 3 of the said Act and of paragraphs 1 and 5- of Part I of Schedule 2 thereto, the Court has power to amend by Ordinance the composition, powers, and functions of, 'inter alia', the General Council, and to prescribe the conditions under which the register of members of the General Council is to be maintained:

AND WHEREAS the Court deems it expedient to amend the composition of the General Council and to amend the conditions under which the register of members of the General Council is to be maintained:

THEREFORE the Court of the University of Edinburgh, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, and with particular reference to paragraphs 1 and 5 of Part I of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby statutes and ordains:

1. The General Council of the University of Edinburgh shall consist of:

(a) all persons who having successfully met the requirements of an academic award, other than an Honorary Degree, and have graduated from the University of Edinburgh and whose names shall be recorded in the Register of Graduates referred to in Section 3 of this Ordinance, in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance:

(b) all persons on whom the University has conferred an Honorary Degree or on whom it has conferred the title of Honorary Fellow of the University. [Note: this provision does not apply to those appointed or referred to as Honorary Fellows by Colleges or Schools.]

(c) during their tenure of office -

(i) the Chancellor of the University;

(ii) the members of the Court;

(iii) the Chaplain to the University.

(d) during the tenure of their appointment: all staff of the University appointed to roles assigned to University Grade 8 or above and their grade equivalent(s).

(e) those 'ex officio' members in Clause 1(c) who accept the invitation to retain their membership of the General Council on demitting office or completion of their period of appointment;

(f) former staff (admitted previously as per Clause (d) above) who accept the invitation to retain their membership of the General Council after being employed by the University for a period of at least three years in a role assigned to Grade 8 or above or equivalent and who leave University employment except when dismissed or in other similar categories of case as may be determined by the Registrar.

2. The Court shall from time to time appoint a Registrar of the General Council, upon such conditions as the Court may determine, and the Court shall provide such assistance for the performance of the Registrar's duties as it may consider necessary. The office of Registrar may be held in conjunction with any other office in the University .

3. The Registrar shall ensure that a Register of Graduates is maintained, recording the full names of all persons on whom the University has conferred an academic award other than an

Honorary Degree, the address of each graduand at the time of registration for graduation, the date of graduation, and the award conferred.

4. The Registrar shall also ensure that a Register of Members of the General Council is maintained, recording

(a) the full names in alphabetical order and addresses (where known) of all graduates whose names are recorded in the Register of Graduates and who are not known to be dead, or presumed dead failing contrary information after eighty years from the date of graduation, together with, in each case, the first academic award recorded in the Register of Graduates, and the year of graduation in that academic award;

(b) the full names, in alphabetical order, and addresses (where known) of all other members of the General Council not known to be dead and the offices in virtue of which they qualify for membership.

5. If any person whose name is not included in the Register of Members shall consider that it should be so included, it shall be competent for him or her to appeal to the Court and if the Court considers that such person's name should be included in the Register of Members in terms of this Ordinance, it shall direct the Registrar to amend the Register accordingly. The decision of the Court shall be final.

6. The provisions contained in section 1 of this Ordinance shall be in place of the provisions relating to the composition of the General Council of the University of Edinburgh contained in:

(a) section 6 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1858;

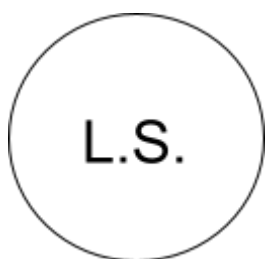
(b) section 28 of the Representation of the People (Scotland) Act 1868;

(c) section 2 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1922.

7. Ordinance No 186 (General Council Membership and Registration) is hereby revoked.

8. This Ordinance shall come into force after its approval by His Majesty in Council on a date to be determined by the Court.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF these presents are sealed with the Common Seal of the Court of the University of Edinburgh and subscribed on behalf of the Court in terms of the Requirements of Writing (Scotland) Act 1995.



*Professor Sir Peter Mathieson*  
*Member of the Court*

*Leigh Chalmers*  
*Vice-Principal & University Secretary*