

UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

MEETING OF SENATE

**Minutes of a meeting held on
Friday 6 May 2016**

Present:	The Provost (Chair)	
Professor Andrew		Professor Hughes
Professor Atkinson		Professor Ketley
Ms Bailey		Professor Lester (<i>vice Professor O'Brien</i>)
Professor Baker		Dr Macleod
Professor Barstow		Professor Martin
Professor Chakraborti		Dr Norman
Professor Coffey		Dr Parry
Professor Coleman		Mr Patel (<i>vice Mr Athwal</i>)
Professor Davidchack		Professor Phythian
Dr Dickinson		Professor Pritchard
Professor Dixon		Professor Radnor
Professor Du Bois		Professor Raven
Professor England		Professor Schwabe
Professor Fulcher		Professor Scott
Dr Gibson		Dr Shaw
Professor Hainsworth		Professor Tansey
Professor Hall		Ms Taylor
Ms Holland		Dr Thomas
Professor Heckel		Professor Yeoman

In attendance: Registrar and Secretary and Mr A Petersen (Acting Secretary)

Apologies for Absence were received from Professor Boyle, Professor London, Professor Pan, Ms Patrick and Professor Wood

UNRESERVED (ONLY) BUSINESS

16/M10 AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCES

Senate considered proposed amendments to Ordinances 9, 10 and 16 in order to allow an honorary degree to be awarded to an organisation, as well as to individuals.

Senate endorsed the amendment to Ordinances for submission to Council.

16/M11 AWARD OF AN HONORARY DEGREE

Senate considered a proposal to award an honorary degree to Leicester City Football Club in recognition of the club's extraordinary success in the 2015/16 Premier League. Although winning the Premier League was in itself an exceptional achievement, the award was designed to recognise the manner in which LCFC had performed throughout the season, which had been characterised less by the actions of individuals and more the value placed on teamwork and the contribution of the entire club to the city and region as a whole.

Senate noted that the case for a collective award was based on the fact that LCFC had won the title not through financial power but through teamwork and an exceptional team spirit which was evidence throughout the players, management and coaching staff, wider club staff and engagement with the local community.

Senate noted that the award of an honorary degree to an organisation could reflect poorly on the University if individual members of that organisation were previously or subsequently found to have engaged in inappropriate activities. Senate agreed however that where such cases had been identified by LCFC the club had taken decisive and appropriate action. Therefore, honouring the club did not automatically endorse the behaviours of all individual associated with it.

Senate also noted that the LCFC Women's team had achieved significant success in the 2015/16 season with a 100% winning record, and that LCFC was prominent within the community in terms of outreach and widening participation work. This award would therefore be in recognition of both sporting success and also the themes of equality, team work and engagement with the community.

Senate considered the timing of the award which came at the point of LCFC's greatest success. Senate agreed however that there was an existing and growing link between the University and Club, and that both of the institutions contributed to the success of the City of Leicester. Senate agreed that the timing of the award was appropriate.

Senate approved the award of the Honorary Degree to Leicester City Football Club, for submission to Council.

Senate noted that the award would be made to LCFC at the same time as an equivalent award by De Montfort University. Precise arrangements for the presentation of the award were under development.

DURATION OF MEETING: Thirty minutes

CHAIR