



*At the Council Chamber, Whitehall*

THE 24th DAY OF JULY 2025

BY THE LORDS OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE  
PRIVY COUNCIL

The Privy Council has allowed the revised Statutes of the University of Bath as set out in the Schedule to this Order.

*Richard Wilson*

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*SCHEDULE*

REVISED STATUTES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BATH

**Statute 1: Definitions**

1. Words used in the Charter have the same meaning in the Statutes.
2. Words that are in the singular also include the plural and words in the plural also include the singular unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.
3. Words used in the Charter or these Statutes have the same meaning in the Ordinances and Regulations unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.
4. **“Academic Assembly”** means the Academic Assembly of the University.
5. **“Academic Staff”** means all persons holding appointments as Professors, Readers, Research Fellows, Senior Lecturer or Lecturers of the University or in other posts stipulated by the Senate.
6. **“Boards of Studies”** means the Boards of Studies of the University.
7. **“Charter”** means the Charter of the University.
8. **“Conferring a degree”** means the official awarding of a degree by the University.

9. **“Council”** means the Council of the University.
10. **“Court”** means the Court of the University.
11. **“Curriculum”** shall mean a complete course of study prescribed as a qualification for a degree or University distinction.
12. **“Education Act 1994”** means Part II of the Education Act 1994.
13. **“Faculties”** means the most senior academic organisational unit of the University. Faculties may contain schools, academic departments, and divisions and shall normally be led by a Dean.
14. **“Functions”** includes powers and duties.
15. **“Ordinances”** means Ordinances made pursuant to the Charter or these Statutes.
16. **“Lay-member”** shall mean an independent member of Council who is not a member of staff of the University or a student or sabbatical officer at the University.
17. **“Regulations”** means regulations made pursuant to the Charter, these Statutes, or the Ordinances.
18. **“Staff”** means any individual employed by the University under a contract of employment in accordance with the Employment Rights Act 1996 or any successor legislation.
19. **“Senate”** means the Senate of the University.
20. **“Student”** means any Graduate or Undergraduate Student of the University, whether full-time or part-time.
21. **“Students’ Union”** shall mean The University of Bath Students’ Union.
22. **“Standing Order”** shall mean any enactment of any University body for the purpose of governing of its own procedure or that of its committees or the method of election thereto.
23. **“University”** means The University of Bath.
24. **“Year”** means a period of twelve months ending on such date as may be prescribed from time to time by the Ordinances, which may prescribe different dates for different purposes.

## **Statute 2: The Members of the University**

The members of the University will be as set out in the Ordinances.

### **Statute 3: The Chancellor**

The Chancellor shall be appointed by the Council, in accordance with the Ordinances.

### **Statute 4: The Pro-Chancellors**

The Pro-Chancellors shall be appointed by the Council, in accordance with the Ordinances.

### **Statute 5: The Vice-Chancellor**

1. The Vice-Chancellor shall be appointed (or removed) by the Council in accordance with the Ordinances.
2. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chief Executive and Accountable Officer of the University and shall have a general responsibility to the Council for maintaining and promoting the efficiency and good order of the University and for ensuring that it complies with its statutory obligations under the prevailing legislation.
3. The Vice-Chancellor shall have the power to admit Students to the University and may without assigning any reason refuse to admit any person as a Student.
4. The Vice-Chancellor may subject to the student regulations:
  - a) suspend any Student from any class or classes: or
  - b) exclude any Student from any part of the University or its precincts for such period as the Vice-Chancellor may determine,and shall report such suspensions or exclusions to the Senate.
5. The Vice Chancellor will be an ex officio member of Council.
6. Subject to the Charter and these Statutes, the powers, duties and functions of Vice-Chancellor will be as determined by Council.
7. Subject to the Charter and these Statutes, the Vice-Chancellor may delegate the powers, duties and functions of the role to any person or body. Any such delegations may also be revoked at the Vice-Chancellor's discretion.
8. In the event that there is a vacancy in the role of Vice-Chancellor or the incumbent is subject to an extended period of incapacity then Council may appoint either another officer of the University or make an external interim appointment to perform the role of acting Vice-Chancellor for a defined period and on such terms as Council may determine.
9. The Vice-Chancellor may resign by giving notice in writing to Council.

### **Statute 6: Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellors**

The Deputy Vice- Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellors shall be appointed by the Council in accordance with the Ordinances.

### **Statute 7: Appointments and Elections**

1. The appointment and election of members of Court, Council, Senate, Academic Assembly and Boards of Studies shall be conducted in accordance with the Ordinances and the Framework for Elections and Appointments to Court, Council, Senate and Boards of Studies.
2. The Framework is subject to initial approval by Council after consultation with Senate. Amendments to the Framework for Elections and Appointments can be proposed by Court, Senate or Council and are subject to approval by Council.

### **Statute 8: The Court**

1. The membership of Court will be as set out in the Ordinances.
2. The Court shall meet at least once in every academic year at a time and date determined by the Council.
3. The Court shall have the following functions:
  - a) To make representation pursuant to Article 4 of the Charter for the appointment of a Visitor.
  - b) To receive from the Vice-Chancellor an Annual Report on the working of the University and to receive the annual audited statement of Accounts of the University.
  - c) On the joint recommendation of the Council and the Senate to amend, add or to repeal any Article of the Charter in accordance with Article 27 of the Charter.
  - d) To make representations to the Council on any matter affecting the University.

### **Statute 9: The Council**

1. The membership of Council will be as set out in the Ordinances with the requirement that a majority of its membership shall be lay-members. Any changes to the size and make-up of Council shall require the approval of two-thirds of its membership.
2. The Council shall appoint a Chair of Council who is not a member of staff or a student at the University and who will preside over meetings of the Council. The Chair may serve for a maximum of six years (two three-year terms) save in exceptional circumstances.
3. An appointed member of Council may serve for not more than a total of nine years (three three-year terms) save in exceptional cases.

4. An elected member may not serve for more than a total of nine years (three three-year terms) save in exceptional cases.
5. The Council may remove any member of the Council where there is good cause. Council may also remove for good cause the Chancellor, a Pro-Chancellor or any member of Court. No member or office holder will be removed by the Council unless that person has been given a reasonable opportunity of being heard by the Council. In the case of the Vice-Chancellor additional provisions and safeguards apply and these will be laid out in a separate policy document agreed by Council.
6. The Council will appoint a Secretary to Council.
7. The procedures for meetings of the Council will be set out in the Ordinances. The procedures will include provisions dealing with conflicts of interest and withdrawal from meetings.
8. The quorum for meetings of the Council will be two-thirds of the membership of the Council, or such other number as the Council may from time to time determine, of whom a majority will be lay members.
9. The proceedings of the Council will not be invalidated by any vacancy in the membership, or by any defect in the appointment or qualification of its members.

#### **Statute 10: Powers of the Council**

1. Subject to the Charter and these Statutes, the Council will exercise all the powers, duties, and functions of the University. These include, but are not limited to, those powers, duties and functions set out in the Ordinances.
2. In accordance with Article 27 of the Charter, jointly with the Senate to recommend Special Resolutions to the Court.
3. In accordance with Article 20 of the Charter to make Ordinances.
4. The Council may delegate any of its powers, duties, and functions to a committee, or to any person. Any delegation of powers, duties, and function shall be explicit and a matter of record and may be revoked by Council at any time.
5. The following functions may not be delegated by Council:
  - a) Responsibility for the mission and values of the University together with its overall institutional strategy.
  - b) Appointment (or removal) of the Vice-Chancellor.
  - c) The variation, amendment or revocation of the Charter, Statutes, or Ordinances.
  - d) The approval of the University's budget and financial forecasts.

- e) The approval of the University's annual audited accounts.
- f) The setting of the University's strategic risk appetite.
- g) Appointing the External Auditors of the University.

#### **Statute 11: The Senate**

1. The membership of Senate will be as set out in the Ordinances.
2. The Vice Chancellor shall be ex-officio Chair of the Senate.

#### **Statute 12: Powers of the Senate**

1. The Senate is the principal body responsible for the strategic development of academic activities at the University.
2. Subject to the powers reserved to the Council by these Statutes, the Senate will take such measures and act in such a manner as appears to it best calculated to:
  - a) Promote the academic endeavour of the University, in education, research and innovation.
  - b) Regulate the education and discipline of the students of the University.
  - c) Provide assurance to Council that academic governance, quality and standards are adequate and effective.
3. The powers, duties and functions of the Senate will be set out in the Ordinances.
4. Subject to the Charter and these Statutes, the Senate may delegate any of its powers, duties, and functions to a committee of the Senate, or to any person or faculty. Any delegation of function shall be explicit and a matter of record and may be revoked at any time.

#### **Statute 13: Boards of Studies**

1. The membership of Boards of Studies will be as set out in the Ordinances.
2. There shall be a Board of Studies of each Faculty which shall have the following functions:
  - a) To advise and report to the Senate on all matters relating to the organisation of education, teaching, learning, and research in the subjects of the Faculty, including curricula and examinations.
  - b) To consider the progress of Students in the Faculty.
  - c) To appoint internal and external examiners in the subjects of the Faculty.

- d) To recommend to the Senate any appointment of an external examiner where the aggregate term of office exceeds four consecutive years.
  - e) To consider and where necessary act on any matters which may be referred to it by the Senate.
  - f) To advise and recommend to the Senate on the academic strategy of the Faculty.
  - g) To carry out any functions which may be given to or imposed on it by the Ordinances.
3. There shall also be such Joint Boards of Studies of two or more Faculties and such Boards or Joint Boards of Studies of such Institutes, Centres or other Academic Sections, and having such function, as the Senate may from time to time determine.

#### **Statute 14: The Academic Assembly**

- 1. The membership of the Academic Assembly will be as set out in the Ordinances.
- 2. There shall be at least one ordinary meeting of the Academic Assembly during each year and the Chair of the Academic Assembly may summon an extraordinary meeting at any time.
- 3. The Academic Assembly may make recommendations to the Council or to the Senate on any matter relating to the University. This may include recommendation on any matters referred to it by the Council or the Senate.

#### **Statute 15: Degree Ceremonies**

- 1. The University will hold Degree Ceremonies for the purpose of presenting graduates of the University.
- 2. The Degree Ceremonies will be held at least once every year at such time and place as determined by the Senate, and will normally be presided over by the Chancellor, or, in the Chancellor's absence, the Vice-Chancellor. In the absence of the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor, a Pro-Chancellor may preside at the Ceremony but may not confer degrees.
- 3. The procedures for Degree Ceremonies and all other matters relating to Degree Ceremonies will be determined by the Senate.

#### **Statute 16: The Union of Students**

There will be a union of students of the University (the "Students' Union"). The Students' Union will conduct and manage its own affairs and funds in accordance with a constitution approved by the Council.

## **Statute 17: The Employment of Staff**

1. The policies which relate to staff shall be designed to create a culture of justice, equity and inclusivity where every individual has opportunity to realise their potential in pursuit of the University's mission to provide high quality education and engage in impactful research. Procedures aimed at implementing these policies will be in line with good practice as described by ACAS or any successor organisation.
2. The Council shall ensure that procedures and policies are in place to achieve the aims of 17.1, and in particular shall be required to approve any proposals to change to the following policies where there is a significant impact on all staff or particular groups of staff as agreed with the recognised Trades Unions in line with the Trade Union Recognition Agreement:
  - a) Discipline
  - b) Capability
  - c) Grievance (Dispute Resolution)
  - d) Managing sickness
  - e) Dignity and Respect
  - f) Organisational change (Redundancy)
3. Staff policies and procedures will provide that staff have freedom within the law to question and test received wisdom, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves in jeopardy of losing their jobs or privileges.
4. Council will ensure that provisions are in place for the effective management of the role of Vice-Chancellor.

## **Statute 18: The Auditor**

The Council shall appoint (and may remove) an external auditor or auditors to audit the annual financial statements of the University. Every such auditor shall be a member of a recognised supervisory body and eligible for appointment under the rules of the body.

## **Statute 19: Interpretation of Statutes**

These Statutes will be interpreted in such manner as not to conflict with the Charter.