

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 the Manchester Mechanics Institution was founded in the City of Manchester in 1824 and became the Manchester Municipal College of Technology in 1918:

AND WHEREAS by a Charter granted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria dated 20 April 1880 ('the Charter of 1880') there was founded and constituted in the City of Manchester a body corporate and politic under the name of the Victoria University, and the Owens College Manchester, founded in 1851, was thereby constituted a College in the Victoria University with provision made for other Colleges from time to time similarly to be admitted:

AND WHEREAS Supplemental Charters dated 20 March 1883 and 3 June 1898 were granted to the Victoria University:

AND WHEREAS a further Supplemental Charter dated 15 July 1903 ('the Charter of 1903') was granted to the Victoria University which declared amongst other things that it should thenceforth be called the Victoria University of Manchester in association with the Owens College Manchester alone:

AND WHEREAS an Act of Incorporation dated 24 June 1904 incorporated the Owens College Manchester with the Victoria University of Manchester:

AND WHEREAS a further Supplemental Charter dated 12 February 1973 ('the Charter of 1973') was granted to the Victoria University of Manchester which revoked the Charters of 1880, 1883, 1898 and 1903 (except in so far as the Charter of 1880 and the Charter of 1903 related to the incorporation of the Victoria University of Manchester):

AND WHEREAS in pursuance of a Scheme approved by the Court of the Victoria University of Manchester and by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Manchester in the year 1905 a Faculty of Technology existed for the co-ordination of the work of the Victoria University of Manchester and of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology ('UMIST') which body under the name of Manchester College of Science and Technology was incorporated under the Charter granted on 29 July 1955 ('the Charter of 1955') as a successor to the Manchester Municipal College of Technology and with a duty to give effect to the Scheme until agreed otherwise by the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST:

AND WHEREAS until 1994 under the terms of the Scheme UMIST awarded the degrees of the Victoria University of Manchester, at which date an amendment to the Charter of 1955 was allowed by Us giving UMIST the power to award degrees in its own name, and the Scheme was terminated in favour of a new alternative form of collaboration in educational provision:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the Victoria University of Manchester and UMIST ('the former Universities') should together be dissolved and be replaced by a new University with its principal seat in the City of Manchester to be known as 'The University of Manchester' and that the rights, properties, assets and obligations of the former Universities should, on the incorporation of The University of Manchester be transferred to that University by means of The University of Manchester Act 2004:

AND WHEREAS a humble Petition has been presented to Us by the Board of Directors of Project Unity with the sanction of the Courts of the former Universities praying that We should be graciously pleased to grant a Charter incorporating The University of Manchester:

AND WHEREAS We have taken the Petition into Our Royal Consideration and are minded to accede thereto:

AND WHEREAS on or after the date of the transfer of assets and liabilities of the former Universities to The University of Manchester, the former Universities have proposed that We should be graciously pleased to accept the surrender of the Charters of 1880 and of 1903 (to the extent still in force), the Charter of 1955 and the Charter of 1973:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have been pleased to will and ordain and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, will and ordain as follows:

- I. There shall be having its principal seat in the City of Manchester a University having the origins aforesaid by the name and style of 'The University of Manchester' ('the University'), which shall be and continue one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal with power to obtain through the College of Arms a grant of armorial bearings (which shall be duly recorded in the College) and in that name to sue and be sued and to take and hold land and to do all other lawful acts whatsoever.
- II. The University shall further the prosecution of original research and shall be a teaching, assessment and awarding body. Its objects shall be to advance education, knowledge and wisdom by research, scholarship, learning and teaching, for the benefit of individuals and society at large.
- III.
 1. The Members of the University shall be:
 - (a) The members from time to time of the bodies provided for in Article V.
 - (b) The officers of the University provided for in Article VI.
 - (c) The persons holding academic, academic-related and other posts in the University.
 - (d) The graduates and honorary graduates of the University and of the former Universities, and the holders of diplomas and certificates of the University and of the former Universities awarded by their respective academic authorities.

- (e) The students who are from time to time registered for programmes of study provided by the University.
 - (f) Such other persons as may be declared Members of the University from time to time by Statute or Ordinance.
 - 2. Membership of the University shall not confer upon any Member rights, privileges or obligations other than those that may be expressly provided for in this Charter or the Statutes.
 - 3. 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.
 - 4. The work of the University shall be carried on in a spirit of tolerance and collegiality, freedom of opinion, mutual respect and concern, and openness responsibly exercised within the law. In the conduct of its business and affairs generally, the admission of students, the awarding of any degree, diploma or certificate, and the appointment of staff or other persons to its service, the University shall treat all persons with fairness and equality of opportunity, regardless of their personal characteristics or circumstances and of their opinions lawfully expressed, and shall comply with the principles of natural justice and the applicable provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights.
- IV. Subject to the provisions of this Charter, and in the furtherance of its Objects, the University shall have all the powers of a natural person and without further restriction, but which shall include the power:
- (a) To award and confer degrees, diplomas, certificates and other distinctions in its own name and jointly with other institutions of higher education which have the power to award such qualifications.
 - (b) To organise, regulate and provide in a manner set out from time to time in the Statutes and Ordinances education in such academic disciplines as it may think fit, whether for Members of the University or for others, and to make provision for research to be undertaken and for the preservation, advancement and dissemination of knowledge in such manner as it may determine.
 - (c) To institute such offices as the purposes of the University may require, appoint persons to and remove them from such offices, and prescribe their conditions of service.
 - (d) To prescribe the conditions under which persons may be admitted as students of the University or to any particular programme of study provided by the University.
 - (e) To institute, endow and award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, prizes and other grants for the encouragement of research, scholarship, learning and teaching.

- (f) To make provision for research, advisory and consultancy services and for these purposes enter into such arrangements as the University may think fit (including arrangements for the grant of powers of attorney and the formation, supervision, management and control of limited companies and for the University to hold shares in such companies and to participate in their affairs and activities) either alone or with other persons or bodies.
 - (g) To revoke any degree, diploma, certificate or other distinction awarded or conferred by the University and all privileges connected therewith if it appears to the University that the degree, diploma, certificate or other distinction has been obtained by or as a result of such fraud or mistake or in such other circumstances as the University shall deem to be good cause for revocation.
 - (h) To demand and receive fees, to seek and accept donations and legacies, to lend or borrow monies on the security of a mortgage or charge on all or any of the properties of the University or without such security, and to raise funds for the purposes of the University in such other ways as may be deemed expedient.
 - (i) To act as trustees of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for purposes of research, scholarship, learning and teaching whether in the University or elsewhere, or otherwise in furtherance of the work and welfare of the University.
 - (j) To invest any monies, including any unapplied income, whether belonging to the University or representing any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for which the University may act as trustee under such conditions as shall be prescribed from time to time by Ordinance.
 - (k) To enter into all types of contracts and agreements with external partner organisations for the provision of collaborative educational services consistent with the Objects of the University.
 - (l) To enter into any agreement for the incorporation within the University of any other institution and for taking over its rights, property and liabilities.
 - (m) To allow the delegation of powers by the Board of Governors and the Senate provided for in Article V, in such manner as shall be provided for in the Statutes.
 - (n) Generally to do all other lawful acts whatsoever that may be necessary for and conducive or incidental to the attainment of the Objects of the University.
- V. 1. There shall be a Board of Governors of the University ('the Board') which, subject to this Charter and the Statutes, shall be the Governing Body of the University and shall be responsible for the custody and use of the Common Seal. The first members of the Board shall be those persons designated in the First Schedule to this Charter. Their successors in office shall be appointed as provided for in the Statutes.

2. There shall be a Senate of the University which, subject to this Charter, the Statutes and the authority of the Board, shall be the principal academic authority of the University and be responsible for the promotion of research and for the regulation and superintendence of the education and discipline of the students of the University.
 3. There shall be a General Assembly of the University which, subject to this Charter and the Statutes, shall have the powers provided for in the Statutes and shall have the authority to present the University and its achievements to the wider community and to receive the views thereupon from that community.
- VI. There shall be officers of the University who shall perform *inter alia* the functions set out below:
- (a) A non-executive Chair of the Board.
 - (b) A Chief Executive Officer who shall be responsible to the Board for the conduct and management of the affairs of the University and the achievement of its Objects.
 - (c) A non-executive Chair of the General Assembly.

The titles and further duties of the aforementioned officers shall be set out in the Statutes or Ordinances, which may also provide for other persons to be declared officers of the University, with such duties and responsibilities as may be prescribed therein. The first officers of the University shall be those persons designated in the First Schedule to this Charter. Their successors in office shall be appointed as provided for in the Statutes.

- VII. We reserve unto Ourselves, Our Heirs and Successors the right, on representation from the Board made in pursuance of a resolution passed by a simple majority of the members of the Board present and voting, to appoint by Order in Council a Visitor of the University for such period as We, Our Heirs and Successors shall see fit.
- VIII.
1. The Board may from time to time make Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations for the University which shall carry into effect this Charter and its provisions and promote the Objects of the University and may regulate, govern and contain prescriptions in regard to the affairs, business, work and interests of the University.
 2. The Statutes set out in the Second Schedule to this Charter shall be the Statutes of the University until they shall have been amended, added to or repealed in the manner hereinafter prescribed.
 3. A Resolution of the Board amending, adding to or repealing the Statutes for the time being in force shall be a motion passed at a meeting of the Board provided that:

- (a) Notice of the meeting at which such a motion is to be considered shall be given to each member of Board no fewer than twenty-one days before the meeting is to be held.
 - (b) The motion has been accepted by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.
 - (c) The motion shall not be considered for approval by the Board until the General Assembly and the Senate each shall have had an opportunity of expressing an opinion thereon, and it shall be the duty of the Board to consider such opinions.
- 4. No Statute so made and no amendment or repeal of any Statute shall have effect until approved by the Lords of Our Privy Council, of which approval a Certificate under the hand of the Clerk of Our Privy Council shall be conclusive evidence.
- 5. In case of conflict the provisions of this Charter shall prevail over those of the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations, the provisions of the Statutes shall prevail over those of the Ordinances and Regulations and the provisions of the Ordinances shall prevail over those of the Regulations.
- IX.
 - 1. The Board may at any time alter, amend or add to this Charter by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such alteration, amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs and Successors by and with the advice of the Lords of Our Privy Council become effectual so that this Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as though it had been originally granted and made as so altered, amended or added to as aforesaid. This Article shall apply to this Charter as altered, amended or added to in manner aforesaid.
 - 2. The Board may by Special Resolution at any time submit to Us, Our Heirs and Successors a humble Petition praying for the surrender of this Charter or for the grant of a Supplemental Charter with or without revocation of this Charter.
 - 3. For the purposes of this Article a 'Special Resolution' means a motion passed at a meeting of the Board, provided that:
 - (a) Notice of the meeting at which such a motion is to be considered shall be given to each member of the Board no fewer than twenty-eight days before the meeting is to be held.
 - (b) The motion has been accepted by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.
 - (c) The motion shall not be considered for approval by the Board until the General Assembly and the Senate each shall have had an opportunity of expressing an opinion thereon, and it shall be the duty of the Board to consider such opinions.

- X. 1. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Charter and the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations shall always be construed and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the University and the promotion of its Objects as well as in all Our Courts as elsewhere not withstanding any non-recital, mis-recital, uncertainty or imperfection therein.

- 2. Any reference to the general law in this Charter or in the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations shall always be construed as relating to the laws of England and Wales.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster this in the year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN'S SIGN MANUAL.