

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 Governors of The College of Aeronautics Registered praying that We should constitute and found an institute of technology at Cranfield in Our County of Bedford for the advancement, dissemination and application of learning and knowledge in the disciplines of the Sciences, Engineering, Technology and Management and for the furtherance and extension of the objects (as subsequently varied from time to time) for which the said College was established and with power for such Institute to confer Degrees and to 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 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. The Chancellor and the other Officers of the University, the Graduates of the University and the Members for the time being of the several Constitutional Bodies hereinafter referred to and all others who shall pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University for the time being (herein referred to as "the Statutes") be Members of the University are hereby constituted and from henceforth forever shall be one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal by the name and style of "Cranfield University" (herein referred to as "the University").
2. The University shall be an institute of technology and a teaching, research and examining body with power to grant Degrees. The objects of the University shall be:
 - (i) To advance, disseminate and apply learning and knowledge in the disciplines of the Sciences, Engineering, Technology and Management.
 - (ii) To promote and encourage the application of that knowledge and learning to the practices of design, development and manufacture and to the organisation of industry and the public services.
3. The University shall give particular attention to the educational needs of industry, commerce and the public services and of persons with experience therein who can benefit from an extension of their higher education and thereby be prepared for positions of greater responsibility.

4. No religious, racial or political test shall be imposed by the University on any person in order to entitle him or her to be admitted as a Member, Professor, Teacher or Student of the University or to hold office therein or to pursue any course of study therein or to receive any Degree or other qualification awarded by the University or to hold, enjoy or exercise any advantage or privilege thereof.
5. Men and women shall be equally eligible for any office or appointment in the University and for membership of any of its Constitutional Bodies and Constituent Units. All Degrees and courses of study in the University shall be open to men and women alike.
6. The University shall not make any payment by way of dividend, gift, division or bonus in money unto or between any of its Members otherwise than by way of prize, special award or grant.
7. In furtherance of its objects (but not further or otherwise) the University shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, have the following powers:
 - (i) To provide facilities for study, research and the advancement and dissemination of knowledge, whether for the benefit of Members of the University or for that of others, by all appropriate means, including:
 - (a) the establishment of Professorships, Readerships and other posts and offices whether academic or otherwise and the appointment of persons thereto and their removal therefrom and the recognition of persons not being the holders of such posts and offices as entitled to like status;
 - (b) the provision of courses of study and research and of lectures and instruction both to Students of the University and to others; and
 - (c) the establishment and award of Fellowships, Scholarships and other grants for the encouragement of learning and research.
 - (ii) To admit persons as Students of the University or to any course of study or research, upon such conditions as the University may think fit and to control and regulate the residence, conduct and discipline of Students whether within the precincts of the University or elsewhere.
 - (iii) To confer and grant Degrees (including Honorary Degrees), Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions of the University:
 - (a) on persons who shall have pursued courses of study or research approved by the University and shall have satisfied the examiners in the requisite examinations or other tests, and whether the courses, examinations or tests be those of the University or not; and
 - (b) on persons associated with and approved by the University; and

- (c) on persons of distinction as a mark of honour and respect.
- (iv) To revoke any Degree or other distinction of the University and all privileges connected therewith if it shall appear to the University that the Degree or other distinction shall have 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.
- (v) To establish, maintain, administer and govern Halls of Residence and other buildings for the residence of the Staff and Students of the University and to license and supervise other places of residence, whether or not maintained by the University.
- (vi) To act as trustee or manager of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for purposes of education or research, whether in the University or elsewhere, or otherwise for the furtherance of the work and welfare of the University and to invest any funds representing the same in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.
- (vii) To administer the affairs and property of the University in all respects without any restrictions whatsoever and in the same manner as an individual may manage his own affairs and property, and in particular:
 - (a) to demand and receive fees;
 - (b) to seek and accept donations and legacies;
 - (c) to borrow moneys whether on the security of any or all of the property of the University or without security;
 - (d) to invest the funds of the University in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes;
 - (e) to accept obligations and liabilities;
 - (f) to provide for reward, research, design, development and advisory services, to buy, sell, acquire and otherwise deal in scientific and technological equipment, patents, designs and inventions of all kinds, to engage in printing and publishing, and to turn to account in any way goods, articles, designs and processes of all kinds made, executed or invented by Members of the University or other persons and for these and other purposes to enter into contracts and arrangements with any persons, companies or institutions as the University may think fit; and
 - (g) to let or otherwise turn to account all or any of the premises of the University not for the time being required to be used for the furtherance of its objects.

- (viii) (a) To provide goods and services for reward for Members of the University;
 - (b) To grant, continue and pay such salaries and pensions in respect of services performed by persons employed by the University or by the College of Aeronautics or formerly so employed as may from time to time be thought proper and to establish pension funds for the benefit of such persons or their dependants and to make payments towards the insurance of persons employed by the University;
 - (c) To give guarantees to Building Societies, Friendly Societies, Insurance Companies, Housing Associations, and any similar bodies whether in pursuance of continuing arrangements or not and generally to provide such assistance in connection with the housing of members of the Staff and Students of the University as the University shall deem fit.
- (ix) To enter into, and give effect to, agreements or arrangements of any kind with, or in relation to, other charitable institutions (including The College of Aeronautics) whose objects are not repugnant to this Our Charter whereby:
- (a) activities shall be carried on in co-operation by means of joint boards or otherwise; or
 - (b) any such institution shall become incorporated in, federated or affiliated to, associated with or recognised for any purpose by the University, or the University shall become affiliated to, associated with or recognised for any purpose by, any such institution; or
 - (c) the Members, Staff or Students of either body as aforesaid, or the courses of study provided by either body as aforesaid, shall be recognised for any purpose by the other.
- (x) To obtain through Our College of Arms a grant of armorial bearings, which shall be duly recorded in Our said College.
- (xi) To promote a Bill or Bills in Parliament for any of the aforesaid purposes.
- (xii) To do all such other acts and things, whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not, as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the University.
8. We reserve to Ourselves, Our Heirs and Successors the right, on the Petition of the Court, to appoint by Order in Council a Visitor or Visitors of the University who shall hold office for such period and shall have such duties as We, Our Heirs and Successors shall see fit and his or their decision on matters within his or their jurisdiction shall be final.

9. The following shall be Officers of the University:
 - (i) A Chancellor, who shall be the Head and Chief Officer of the University.
 - (ii) A Pro-Chancellor, who shall be the Chairman of the Council.
 - (iii) A Vice-Chancellor, who shall be the principal academic and administrative Officer of the University and the Chairman of the Senate.
 - (iv) A Pro-Vice-Chancellor or two Pro-Vice-Chancellors.
 - (v) A Treasurer.
 - (vi) A Secretary and a Registrar, which offices may be held separately or combined in one person.
 - (vii) The Deans and Professors of the University appointed and defined pursuant to the Statutes and Ordinances.
 - (viii) Such other persons or the holders of such other positions as may be declared by Statute or Ordinance to be Officers of the University.

10. (1) The following shall be Constitutional Bodies of the University:
 - (i) A Court of the University (herein referred to as "the Court"), which shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, be the supreme body of the University.
 - (ii) A Council of the University (herein referred to as "the Council"), which shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, be the chief executive and financial body of the University and shall have the custody and use of the Common Seal, the management and administration of the revenue and property of the University and the conduct of the affairs of the University. It shall be the duty of the Council to refer to the Senate (as hereinafter defined) any matter coming before the Council which the Council shall consider to have academic implications and which shall not have been previously considered by the Senate.

(iii) A Senate of the University (herein referred to as "the Senate"), which shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, be the principal academic body of the University and shall control and regulate the academic work of the University, both in teaching and in research, and the education and discipline of the Students of the University, and shall exercise such financial responsibilities as may be delegated to it by the Council. It shall be the duty of the Senate to bring before the Council any matter coming before the Senate which shall not have been previously considered by the Council and which the Senate shall consider to have financial or administrative implications or to affect the general wellbeing of the University.

(iv) For such period as shall be determined in accordance with the Statutes, an Academic Advisory Committee of the University (herein referred to as 'the Academic Advisory Committee'), which shall keep under review the standard of education provided in the University and of the Degrees awarded by the University and shall advise on academic matters.

[By Order in Council made on 9 January 1975, the Academic Advisory Committee was dissolved as from 12 March 1975.]

(v) An Assembly of the University.

(vi) A Convocation of the University.

(vii) An Association of the Students of the University.

(viii) Such other bodies as may be declared by Statute or Ordinance to be Constitutional Bodies of the University.

(2) There shall be such Constituent Units of the University with appropriate designations as may from time to time be established in accordance with the Statutes or Ordinances.

11. (1) The Statutes of the University may govern, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, such matters as the University may deem fit and meet with respect to or for the governance of the University and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter and in particular:

(i) the conditions to be satisfied by prospective Students before admission to the University or to any course of study therein;

(ii) the residence, conduct and discipline of the Students of the University;

- (iii) the conditions under which Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions may be conferred and granted by the University;
 - (iv) the powers, duties, appointment and continuance in office of the Officers and Staff of the University; and
 - (v) the constitution, powers, duties and functions of the Constitutional Bodies and Constituent Units of the University and of any board set up under the powers herein contained, the procedure for appointment and the tenure of office of their respective members, the procedure for the filling of vacancies among the members and all other matters pertaining to them.
- (2) The Statutes set out in the Schedule hereto shall be the first Statutes of the University.
- (3) The Court may from time to time, after considering reports of the Council and the Senate, by a Special Resolution in that behalf, make Statutes adding to, amending or repealing the Statutes for the time being in force; but no Statute so made 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.
- (4) The Statutes may direct that any matter which pursuant to this Our Charter might be prescribed or regulated in the Statutes may be further prescribed or regulated by the Ordinances and in like manner the Statutes or the Ordinances may provide for further prescription and regulation by Regulations: provided that any such further prescription or regulation shall not be repugnant to the provisions of the Statutes or of this Our Charter. Ordinances and Regulations may be added to, repealed and varied in like manner to that in which they were respectively made.
- (5) Ordinances shall be made, amended or repealed by the Court after considering reports from the Council and the Senate:
Provided that the Council may make, amend or suspend an Ordinance if, after considering a report by the Senate, the Council by a resolution approved by not less than two-thirds of its members present and voting, shall certify that the proposal for the making, amendment or suspension of that Ordinance is urgent, and such decision of the Council shall have effect until the close of the next meeting of the Court at which it can be considered.

- (6) If the Council shall submit to the Senate or if the Senate shall submit to the Council a proposal for the making, amendment or repeal of any Statute or Ordinance, or if the Court shall call for a report from the Council and the Senate upon such a proposal, it shall be the duty of the Senate or the Council, or both, as the case may be, to consider such proposal and to report thereon at the earliest opportunity to the body by which the same was submitted and to the Court and it shall be the duty of the Court to consider any such reports from the Council and the Senate.
 - (7) No Statute or Ordinance shall be made, amended or repealed so as to effect any change in the status, powers or duties of the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor or in the status, powers, duties or constitution of any of the Constitutional Bodies of the University until such Officer or Body shall have had an opportunity of pronouncing an opinion upon the proposed change.
 - (8) Regulations shall be made, amended or repealed by the Council or the Senate as provided in the respective Statutes and Ordinances which empowered the making thereof.
 - (9) Each of the Constitutional Bodies and of the Constituent Units of the University shall have power to make, amend or repeal Standing Orders for the purposes of regulating its own procedure.
12. The Court may at any time amend or add to this Our Charter by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that this Our Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as amended or added to. This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended or added to in manner aforesaid.
13.
 - (1) For the purposes of Articles 11 and 12 of this Our Charter "a Special Resolution" means a resolution passed at one meeting of the Court and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former provided that -
 - (i) notice of each meeting shall be sent to each member of the Court at his last known address in Our United Kingdom not less than fourteen days before the meeting is to be held; and
 - (ii) the resolution shall be passed at each meeting by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members present and voting.
 - (2) No Special Resolutions shall be submitted to the Court for confirmation until the Council and the Senate shall each have had an opportunity of pronouncing an opinion thereupon, which opinion shall be reported to the Court for consideration.

14. (1) In any case of conflict, the provisions of this Our 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.
- (2) 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 caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

WITNESS Ourselves at Westminster the twenty-ninth day of December in the eighteenth year of Our Reign.

By warrant under the Queen's Sign Manual

Dobson

