

Annual Meeting of Convocation

Council Chamber, Lanyon Building

Thursday 19 November 2015 at 7pm

Coffee/tea will be available from 6.30pm

Members of Convocation are asked to PRINT their names, degrees, date of graduation and address on the attendance record provided at the entrance.

The meeting will commence with the Convocation Lecture 2015 by:

John Larkin QC, Attorney General for Northern Ireland

Lecture title:

***What kind of branch?
Reflexions on the Court of Justice of the European Union***

The formal business of the meeting will follow the lecture.

AGENDA

(1) PRESENTATION OF THE CONVOCATION STUDENTSHIP 2015

Awarded to Alison Meagher, who is pursuing a PhD in Political History, focusing on the impact of diaspora groups on the formulation of United States foreign policy toward Northern Ireland during the Carter administration.

(2) APOLOGIES

A list of apologies received will be made available by the Clerk on request.

(3) MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 20 November 2014 are published on the Convocation website; copies of the full minutes are available for inspection.

(4) IN MEMORIA

A list of members of Convocation who passed away since the Annual Meeting of 2014 can be made available upon request.

(5) ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

Deputy Chair

Prof James Patton Taylor – MTh 1977, MA 1987

(6) ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON STANDING COMMITTEE OF CONVOCATION

Ciaran Gallagher – BSc Honours 2011

(7) REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF CONVOCATION

7.1 Meetings

Standing Committee of Convocation held 4 ordinary meetings in 2015. The under noted table shows the attendance of elected members:

Elected/retire Name		Attendance (Apology)
14/17	Carol Kinhead (Chair)	4 (0)
14/18	Prof James Patton Taylor	3 (1)
14/18	Dr Murray Power	2 (2)
14/18	David McKillen	4 (0)
14/18	Brian Roulston	2 (2)
14/18	Carolyn Forster	3 (1)
15/15	Paul Walsh (co-opted 31 Mar 2015)	3 (1)
15/15	Ciaran Gallager (co-opted 16 Sep 2015)	1 (0)

(8) Chair's Remarks

The Chair will deliver her remarks for 2015

Carol Kinhead
Chair of Convocation

(9) Use of Delegation of Authority

To conduct day-to-day business, Standing Committee seeks a formal renewal of its delegated authority and it is therefore recommended:

That Convocation authorises Standing Committee to act on its behalf in accordance with Statutes until the next Annual Meeting of Convocation, and that notice be given of any new Statutes adopted by the Senate.

(10) NOTICE OF MOTIONS 2015

10.1 In the names of Professor Michael J Larkin and George Dunn

Proposed by: Professor Michael J Larkin | Seconded by: George Dunn

Convocation supports the re-establishment of a staff common room and associated facilities at Queen's University and that this case is put to the University management alongside a motion to the Senate with a view to improving collegiality for both new and established staff.

Preamble:

An online petition 'We need a staff common room at Queen's University Belfast' (<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/we-need-a-staff-common-room-at-queensuniversity>) has collected 243 signatures. Queen's University for many years had an active staff common room where the Student Guidance Centre is now. But it was closed under the last VC with no replacement. We need one so that staff from different parts of the university - new and established - can come together in the interests of collegiality.

10.2 In the names of Benjamin Christman and Sean Fearon

Proposed by: Benjamin Christman | Seconded by: Sean Fearon

Asks Queen's University Belfast to commit to immediately freeze any new investments, and the complete withdrawal of any existing investments by 2020, in:

- (a) Companies whose main business is the extraction and/or production of fossil fuels, and,
- (b) Any commingled, or mutual funds that contain fossil fuel holdings.

Preamble:

This motion asks QUB to divest from fossil fuel companies. QUB currently invests in fossil fuel companies such as Shell and BP – it is estimated that QUB currently has fossil fuel investments of ~£3m. The actions of these businesses are at odds with a safe climate future for humanity; and the investments contradict QUB's values and the fundamental purposes of a university - enlightenment and investment in the future of students.

(11) DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

The next Annual Meeting of Convocation will be held on **Thursday 17 November 2016** in the Council Chamber / Canada Room, Lanyon Building

- NB (ii) Members not attending the meeting who wish to receive copies of the Minutes should apply to the Clerk of Convocation (address below). Alternatively, Minutes will be available on the Convocation website www.daro.qub.ac.uk/convocation in due course.

Meaghan Lyons
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Development and Alumni Relations Office, Lanyon Building
University Road, Belfast, BT7 1NN
Email: convocation@qub.ac.uk

30 October 2015