Registration and Declaration of Interests

[GB meeting: 7 July 2010; Minute No: 6225(c)]

Registration of Interests
The Secretary of the Governing Body shall maintain a Register of Interests of members of the Governing Body. The Register of Interests shall include a statement of membership of any Faculty or Department in the University, and the holding of any office or position in the University. It shall also include any other matters as may be specified by the Governing Body by Ordinance or as may reasonably be requested by the Secretary.

The Secretary shall seek information for entry into the Register of Interests from members of the Governing Body when they become members, and also annually. Members of the Governing Body shall notify the Secretary of changes in their information relevant to the Register of Interests as they occur.

The Register of Interests shall be available for inspection upon application to the Secretary of the Governing Body at Fitzwilliam College.

Declaration of Interests
Members of the College must declare any personal or prejudicial interest in any matter before the Governing Body or its Committees whether at a meeting, or by circulation; a member of the College wishing to remain for the discussion of that matter should abide by the decision of the chair at the meeting (or in the case of business being conducted by circulation by the signatory of the circular) as to whether the member remains and as to whether the member may take part in deliberation on the matter.

Special decisions
A special decision of the Governing Body is one in which a majority of the decision-makers have a material interest. For this purpose the decision-makers shall be taken to comprise the members of the Governing Body present when the decision is made, except for any member who is not entitled to vote in consequence of these rules or for any other reason.

Before the Governing Body makes a special decision it will consider, having taken full regard of all the circumstances of the matter:

- whether the nature of the conflict of interest is so pervasive throughout the Governing Body that it has no alternative but to surrender its discretion by seeking the direction of the Charity Commission in the matter; or
- whether, notwithstanding the conflict of interest, it is nevertheless able fairly and reasonably to take the decision; and, in that case,
- whether, before making its decision, the advice of the Charity Commission in the matter should be sought.

In relation to Statute LV, a decision to implement the results of the annual pay settlement agreed by the Council and General Board of the University may be taken by the College Committee, provided that it is confirmed by the Governing Body at its next meeting.