

Flysheet for the Ballot on the Governance Grace of 5 December 2007

The University of Cambridge has been successful as a self-governing community of scholars, and we need to keep it that way. At present we Regents elect a majority of the members of Council from among our own number. However there are regular contested elections only in classes (b) and (c), who make up twelve of the twenty-two members on Council. If we add two external members, we will no longer be the majority.

We therefore strongly urge you to vote against this grace. It will not only undermine our self-governance but will invite further pressure from Government for yet more external members. The logical conclusion of this process would be for both University and College governing bodies to be dominated by external members. The autonomy that has made Cambridge great would slowly be lost.

We urge you to vote against this Grace.

We also urge you to vote in favour of the Grace of the Regent House of 23 January 2008, as a fallback position; so that even if the number of external members is increased, the method of their nomination should be made as resistant to systems of patronage as is practical.

Please return to the Registry, signed and with your name in BLOCK CAPITALS, either by mail to The Old Schools, Cambridge CB2 1TN, or by fax to 01223 332332.

Deadline: 1pm on Thursday 14 February 2008.

Signature

Name in BLOCK CAPITALS