The amended Royal Charter, approved by Her Majesty the Queen in Council on 6 March 2007, to take effect from 1 August 2007

Heythrop College
University of London

Royal Charter

At the Court at Buckingham Palace

THE 11TH DAY OF MARCH 1971

PRESENT

THE QUEEN’S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY IN COUNCIL

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Report of a Committee of the Lords of Her Majesty’s Most Honourable Privy Council, dated the 24th day of February 1971, in the words following, viz:–

“YOUR MAJESTY having been pleased, by Your Order of the 28th day of November 1969, to refer unto this Committee the humble Petition of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Professor Sir Brian Windeyer and the Very Reverend Terence Corrigan, praying for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation constituting and founding within Greater London a University College by the name and style of ‘Heythrop College’:

“THE LORDS OF THE COMMITTEE, in obedience to Your Majesty’s said Order of Reference, have taken the said Petition into consideration and do this day agree humbly to report, as their opinion, to Your Majesty, that a Charter may be granted by Your Majesty in terms of the Draft hereunto annexed.”

HER MAJESTY, having taken into consideration the said Report and the Draft Charter accompanying it, was pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to approve thereof and to order, as it is hereby ordered, that the Right Honourable Reginald Maudling, one of Her Majesty’s Principal Secretaries of State, do cause a Warrant to be prepared for Her Majesty’s Royal Signature for passing under the Great Seal a Charter in conformity with the said Draft which is hereunto annexed.

W. G. Agnew
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 to Us jointly by Our most dearly beloved Mother Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, Chancellor of Our University of London, Our trusty and well beloved Sir Brian Windeyer, Knight, Vice-Chancellor of Our said University on behalf thereof and by Our trusty and well beloved Terence Corrigan of the Society of Jesus, on behalf of Heythrop College, praying that We should constitute and found a University College within Greater London for the advancement of knowledge, the diffusion and extension of learning, the provision of education and for enabling students to obtain the advantages of University education 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 THEREFORE 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 do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors will and ordain as follows:-

1. There shall be and there is hereby constituted and founded within Greater London a University College by the name and style of “Heythrop College” (hereinafter referred to as “the College”).

2. By the name and style of “Heythrop College”, the Governing Body of the College (hereinafter referred to as “the Governing Body”) shall be and is hereby created one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with full power and capacity by and in such name to sue and be sued and to take and hold and, subject to such consent as may by law be required, to grant, demise, exchange or otherwise dispose of real or personal property and to do all other lawful acts whatsoever.

3. The College shall have the constitution and powers in this Our Charter and in the Statutes for the time being of the College (hereinafter referred to as “the Statutes”) prescribed and contained.

4. The objects of the College shall be to advance learning and knowledge by teaching and research particularly in the fields of
Theology and Allied Sciences and in subjects which may be conveniently and usefully taught and studied therewith or which may conduce to the understanding or study thereof and in any other Faculty or Faculties into which the College may be admitted by Our University of London and in such other subjects of or cognate to a University education as may be decided upon from time to time by the Governing Body.

5. The College shall subject to this Our Charter and to the Statutes and Ordinances of Our University of London have the following powers:-

(1) To provide instruction in such branches of learning falling within Article 4 of this Our Charter as may be determined by the College and to prepare Students for Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other distinctions of Our University of London and for Diplomas, Certificates and other distinctions of the College.

(2) To make provision for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge.

(3) To prescribe in the Statutes and the Ordinances or Regulations of the College the conditions under which persons shall be admitted to the College and to any particular course of study therein.

(4) To grant, under conditions prescribed in the Statutes and the Ordinances or Regulations of the College, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions of the College to persons who shall have pursued a scheme of study or research approved by the College.

(5) To confer Honorary Fellowships and other distinctions of the College.

(6) On what the College shall deem to be good cause, to revoke any Diplomas, Certificates or other distinctions of the College.

(7) To prescribe provisions for discipline in the College.

(8) To establish such posts, both academic and non-academic, as the College may require, to abolish such posts, to appoint persons thereto, to prescribe their conditions of service, to remunerate them and to remove them.
(9) To confer the status or title of Visiting Professor or other similar status or title under arrangements approved by Our University of London.

(10) To institute and award College Fellowships, Studentships, Scholarships, Exhibitions, Bursaries, Prizes and other aids to study and research.

(11) To make provision for research and advisory services and for this purpose to enter into arrangements with other institutions or public bodies.

(12) To sell or otherwise provide such goods and services as may be consistent with the objects of the College.

(13) To determine, demand and receive fees, subscriptions and deposits.

(14) To provide, maintain, administer, regulate and dispose of land, buildings, fixtures, fittings, furniture, equipment and apparatus and any other property in such manner as may be deemed desirable on behalf of the College.

(15) To provide, maintain, administer and regulate residential accommodation for the Staff and Students of the College and to approve and inspect other accommodation in which Students of the College reside.

(16) To solicit, receive and administer grants, subscriptions, donations, endorsements, gifts or loans of money, lands, hereditaments and any other property real or personal, including patent rights and copyrights, and to purchase, lease, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property.

(17) To invest any moneys of the College in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes, to enter into engagements and to accept obligations and liabilities in all respects without any restriction whatsoever and in the same manner as an individual may manage his own affairs.

(18) To act as trustees or managers of any property, legacy, endowment, bequest or gift for purposes of education or research, or otherwise for the furtherance of the work or welfare of the college.

(19) Subject to the approval of Our University of London, to enter into any agreement for the incorporation within the College of any other institution and for taking over its rights,
property and liabilities and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter.

(20) To give guarantees for the payment of any sums of money on the performance of any contract or obligation by any company, body, society or person, whether in pursuance of continuing arrangements or not.

(21) To obtain through Our College of Arms a grant of armorial bearings which shall be duly recorded in Our said College.

(22) To do all such other acts and things (including the promotion of a Bill or Bills in Parliament), whether incidental to the powers aforesaid, or not, as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the College.

6. We reserve unto Ourself, Our Heirs and Successors the right, on representation from the Governing Body made in pursuance of a Resolution passed by a simple majority of the Members of the Governing Body present and voting, to appoint by Order in Council a Visitor of the College for such period and with such duties as We, Our Heirs and Successors shall see fit and his decision on matters within his jurisdiction shall be final.

7. There shall be a President of the College who shall be the Provincial for the time being of the Province of the Society of Jesus in which the College is situated. The President shall be ex-officio a Member of the Governing Body and shall perform such functions as shall be determined by the Governing Body.

8. There shall be a Principal of the College who shall, unless the Governing Body considers in connection with any appointment of a Principal that there are special reasons favouring candidates otherwise qualified, be a member of the Society of Jesus and who shall be the Principal academic and administrative Officer of the College and ex-officio Chairman of the Academic Board of the College.

9. The first President and Principal shall be respectively the persons named in the First Schedule to this Our Charter.

10. There shall be a Vice-Principal of the College and such other members of the Staff as the Governing Body may from time to time appoint.

11. (1) The Governing Body created by Article 2 of this Our Charter shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, have general control over the conduct of the affairs of the College.
(2) The Governing Body shall be responsible for the management and administration of the finances and property of the College and shall have the control and use of the Common Seal.

(3) The Governing Body shall have such other powers and duties as may be conferred upon it by the Statutes.

12. There shall be an Academic Board of the College (hereinafter referred to as “the Academic Board”) which shall, subject to this Our Charter and the Statutes, be responsible under the Governing Body for the academic work and development of the College in teaching, examining and research, and for the superintendence of the education and discipline of the Students of the College.

13. (1) There shall be a Union of Students of the College.

(2) The constitution of the Union of Students, its powers and functions and all other matters which it may be thought proper to regulate shall, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, be as prescribed in the Ordinances of the College (hereinafter referred to as “the Ordinances”).

14. Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter, the Statutes may prescribe or regulate as the case may be:-

(1) the status of the President and the status, appointment and continuance in office of the Principal, Vice-Principal and other Members of the Staff of the College;

(2) the constitution, powers, functions, duties and business of the Governing Body and the Academic Board, the election, appointment and continuance in office of the Chairman and other members of those bodies, the filling of vacancies among the members of those bodies and other matters relative to those bodies;

(3) all such matters as the Governing Body deems fit with respect to or for the governance of the College, its Members and constituent parts or otherwise for the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

15. The Statutes set out in the Second Schedule to this Our Charter shall be the first Statutes of the College and shall remain in force until they have been amended, added to or repealed in the manner hereinafter prescribed.
16. The Governing Body may by Special Resolution make Statutes for the College which may amend, add to or repeal the Statutes for the time being in force, provided that such Statutes shall not be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter and provided further that no such Statutes 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.

17. The Statutes may direct that any of the matters authorised or directed in this Our Charter to be prescribed or regulated by Statute shall be further prescribed or regulated by the Ordinances, by the Regulations of the College (hereinafter referred to as “the Regulations”) or by decision made by the Governing Body or the Academic Board, provided that any such further prescription or regulation shall not be repugnant to the provisions of the Statutes or of this Our Charter.

18. (1) Ordinances for carrying out the objects of the College shall be made by the Governing Body, which shall stipulate when such Ordinances shall come into effect, provided that any proposal for the making of an Ordinance shall state the date upon which it is proposed that the Ordinance should come into effect and shall be submitted to the Governing Body not less than fourteen days before the date of the meeting of the Governing Body at which it is to be considered, and provided further that Ordinances relating to powers reserved to the Academic Board by this Our Charter and the Statutes may only be made after consultation with the Academic Board.

(2) Ordinances may amend, add to or repeal Ordinances from time to time in force.

19. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and the Statutes and the Ordinances, the Academic Board may make such Regulations relating to teaching, to schemes of study and the award of academic distinctions of the College, to the conduct of examinations, to the College Library, to the conditions under which persons shall be admitted to the College and to any particular scheme of study therein, to the conditions under which Students shall be permitted to continue their studies in the College, to academic dress, and to the discipline of the Students of the College and to such other matters as it considers necessary or desirable for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the College.

(2) Regulations may amend, add to or repeal Regulations from time to time in force.
20. (1) It shall be the duty of the Governing Body before determining any question which it considers to affect the academic policy of the College to take into consideration any recommendations or report thereon of the Academic Board.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Academic Board to bring before the Governing Body any matter coming before the Academic Board which the Academic Board considers to have financial implications or in any way to affect the general wellbeing of the College or its relationship with persons or bodies outside the College.

21. No discrimination on account of religion, race, sex or politics shall be shown against any person in determining whether he or she is to be admitted as a Member of Staff of the College or as a Student, or to hold any advantage or privilege thereof, provided that in the appointment of Staff to the Departments of Theology of the College regard may be had to religion where this is relevant to the academic discipline professed.

22. The College shall not make any payment in the form of dividend, gift, division or bonus in money unto or between any of its Members of Staff or Students except by way of prize, special award or grant.

23. The Governing Body may at any time amend, add to or repeal this Our Charter by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such amendment addition or repeal shall when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council become effectual so that this Our Charter shall henceforward continue and operate as so amended, added to or repealed.

This Article shall apply to this Our Charter as amended, added to or repealed in manner aforesaid.

24. For the purposes of this Our Charter, a “Special Resolution” means a Resolution passed at one meeting of the Governing Body and confirmed at a subsequent meeting held not less than one calendar month nor more than three calendar months after the former:

Provided that notice of each meeting shall be given to each Member of the Governing Body not less than fourteen days before the meeting is to be held, and that the Resolution shall be passed at each meeting by a majority consisting of not less than two-thirds of the Members of the Governing Body present and voting and being an absolute majority of the whole number of Members of the Governing Body.
25. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that this Our Charter shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourably to the College and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.

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

WITNESS Ourself at Westminster the day of
in the year of Our Reign.

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN’S SIGN MANUAL

FIRST SCHEDULE

(1) The first President of the College shall be The Very Reverend Bernard Hall, S.J., Lic. Phil., S.T.L.

(2) The first Principal of the College shall be The Reverend Frederick Charles Copleston, S.J., M.A., D.Phil.

SECOND SCHEDULE

STATUTES OF HEYTHROP COLLEGE