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 2nd day of June 1986, in the words following, viz.:--

“YOUR MAJESTY having been pleased, by Your Order of the 11th day of April 1984, to refer unto this Committee the humble Petition of the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford and John Bernard Bamborough, Esquire, M.A., praying for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation constituting a Body Corporate by the name and style of “The Principal and Fellows of Linacre College in the University of Oxford”:  

“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, and it is hereby ordered, that the Right Honourable Douglas Hurd, 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.

G.I. de Deney
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 a Petition has been presented unto Us by the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of Our University of Oxford (hereinafter referred to as “the University”) and by Our trusty and well beloved John Bernard Bamborough, Esquire, praying that We would be graciously pleased to grant a Charter of Incorporation for the purpose of constituting the Principal and Fellows of Linacre College in the University, and all such persons who are or may hereafter become members of the College, a Body Corporate with the objects among others of acquiring and taking over any property and liabilities now vested in the University in trust for or on behalf of the unincorporated collegiate society hitherto known as Linacre College, Oxford, and any property and liabilities of the said collegiate society and of carrying on and developing its work under such regulations and with such powers as to Us may appear meet and expedient:

AND WHEREAS We have taken the said Petition into Our Royal Consideration and are minded to acceede thereto:

NOW THEREFORE KNOW YE that We by virtue of Our Prerogative Royal in that behalf and of all other powers enabling Us so to do of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion have granted and declared and by these Presents do for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant and declare as follows:

1. The First Principal and Fellows of Linacre College and all such persons who are or may hereafter become members of Linacre College under these Our Charter and the Statutes of the College shall for ever hereafter be one Body Politic and Corporate by the name and style of “The Principal and Fellows of Linacre College in the University of Oxford” (hereinafter referred to as “The College”), and by the same name shall have perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with power to break, alter and make anew the said Seal from time to time at their will and pleasure, and by the same name shall and may sue and be sued in all Courts and in all manner of actions and proceedings and before all Justices of Us, Our Heirs and Successors.

2. The College shall have full power and capacity to accept, acquire and hold any personal property whatsoever, and shall also, without any further authority, by virtue of this Our Charter, have full power and authority to accept, acquire and hold any lands and hereditaments situate in Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland or elsewhere and to dispose of, either by way of sale or lease, and to exchange, mortgage, charge, improve, manage, develop, turn to account or otherwise deal with all or any part of such property, real or personal, belonging to the College, upon such terms and in such manner as it shall see fit, and likewise to borrow, lend, give and accept guarantees and to accept mortgages, and also to do all other matters incidental or appertaining to a Body Corporate: provided always that nothing in this Article shall be deemed to empower the College to dispose of, or deal with, its property in the
manner mentioned without first obtaining such consent as would otherwise be required by law.

3. The College is incorporated for the furtherance of learning and education and to be a College wherein men and women may carry out advanced study or research, to which ends it shall have power

a) to acquire and take over such property and liabilities as are vested in the University in trust for or on behalf of the unincorporated collegiate society known as Linacre College, Oxford;

b) to acquire and take over from the University the property known as Cherwell Edge in South Parks Road in the City of Oxford, presently occupied by the said society;

c) to acquire and take over any other property and liabilities of the said society;

d) to apply and invest the monies of the College as prescribed in the Statutes of the College;

e) to do all other things as may be incidental or conducive to the carrying out of the above objects.

Provided always that the College shall not be deemed to be a body formed for the purpose of carrying on a business which has for its object the acquisition of gain either by itself or by its individual members.

4. The government of the College and the exercise of the powers granted by Article 2 of this Our Charter shall be vested entirely in the Governing Body of the College, which shall have power to order the affixing of the Common Seal to any document which requires to be under seal.

5. The first Statutes of the College shall be those set out in the Schedule to this Our Charter.

6. The composition of the Governing Body shall be as determined by the Statutes, provided that for the exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 7 and 8 hereof the Governing Body shall consist of The Principal and all actual Fellows of the College as therein defined, being graduates. The persons who at the date specified in Article 14 of this Our Charter were the members of the Governing Body of the unincorporated collegiate society known as Linacre College, Oxford, shall upon the grant thereof become the first members of the Governing Body of the College and shall forthwith perform any acts necessary to complete the membership thereof.

7. The Governing Body of the College shall, subject to the provisions of this Our Charter and in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge Act 1923, and subject to the approval of Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council as required by that Act, have full power to make, and when made to alter the Statutes of the College: provided that no alteration of the Statutes shall have any force or effect if it be repugnant to the provisions of this Our Charter or to the provisions of such Statutes or Decrees of the University as may from time to time be made to govern the relationship of the colleges with the University.

8. The Governing Body of the College may from time to time revoke, amend, or add to the provisions of this Our Charter and of any Supplemental Charter by a Special Statute in that behalf, and such revocation, amendment or addition shall, when allowed by Us, Our Heirs or Successors in Council, become effectual so that this Our Charter and any Supplemental Charter shall thenceforward continue and operate as though they had been originally
granted and made as so revoked, amended or added to. This Article shall apply to this Our Charter and any Supplemental Charter as revoked, amended, or added to in the manner aforesaid. A Special Statute is one made at a Statutory Governing Body Meeting held pursuant to the Statutes for the time being of the College. Every proposal for the amendment of this Our Charter shall be communicated to the Hebdomadal Council of the University before it is submitted for allowance as aforesaid.

9. The constitution of the Common Room of the unincorporated collegiate society known as Linacre College, Oxford, as it stands at the date of this Our Charter, shall be the constitution of the Common Room of the College and may from time to time be amended as provided by that constitution and subject to the provisions of the Statutes of the College.

10. There shall be a Visitor of the College who shall be the High Steward of the University for the time being.

11. The first Principal of the College shall be Our said trusty and well-beloved John Bernard Bamborough, Esquire, who shall enter upon the duties, rights and privileges attached to his office from the date specified in Article 14 of this Our Charter.

12. The first Fellows of the College shall be the persons who at the date specified in Article 14 of this Our Charter held Fellowships of the unincorporated collegiate society known as Linacre College, Oxford, and their seniority as Fellows shall be reckoned from the date of their first appointment to the class of Fellowship of the said society which they held on that date.

13. Save in so far as the same may be affected by the Statutes in the Schedule to this Our Charter, the College shall take over any contracts entered into by the University for the employment of any person as Principal, officer or servant of the unincorporated collegiate society known as Linacre College, Oxford, and current at the date specified in Article 14 of this Our Charter, on the terms that any persons with whom such contracts were made shall thereafter in respect of such employment (but not otherwise) be deemed to have been employees of the College from the date on which such contracts were entered into; and the College shall take such action as may be necessary to ensure that the pension arrangements of any such persons are continued on the same or an equivalent basis.

14. This Our Charter shall come into effect on the 1st day of August One thousand nine hundred and eighty-six.

AND LASTLY WE do by these Presents for Us, Our Heirs and Successors grant and declare that these Our Letters shall be in all things valid and effectual in law according to the true intent and meaning thereof and shall be taken, construed and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the College as well in Our Courts of Record as elsewhere by all Judges, Justices, Officers, Ministers and other subjects whatsoever of Us, Our Heirs and Successors, any non-recital, mis-recital, or other omission, effect or thing to the contrary notwithstanding.

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

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

BY WARRANT UNDER THE QUEEN’S SIGN MANUAL