Submission from Tony Pay

Dear Sir

Before my comment, I have to declare ‘no interest’.

Although I live, though choice, in Scotland, I was born in Oxford. I was at university there, although my college, Balliol, has strong Scottish connections. Best of all, my wife is a Maths graduate of St.Andrews!

**Higher Education Governance (Scotland) Bill: Comment**

1. The ‘Chairing Member’ may be remunerated. However, he or she will probably already be a paid, professional member of the staff of the organisation, with staff such as secretaries to assist in what will without doubt be onerous duties.

2. Three categories of membership come from paid bodies essential to the running of the organisation. The first is from the teaching staff, and chosen by election by those staff. The second, also from the teaching staff is simply nominated by the Trade Union of the teaching staff. The third, a member of the support staff, is also nominated by the appropriate Trade Union.

3. The work of these members, and in particular the meetings of the governing body, will presumably take place during their normal working day.

4. Two members of the student body, and two members who were once members of that body, are also chosen to be members. There are no provisions for their payment: their work will presumably be voluntary. The former members may well be in a position to afford both the time and the expense of this, and be happy to help their Alma Mater.

5. However, the student members may not only have to pay their expenses – post, phone, travel – but be distracted from their studies. However unlikely, there may even be a conflict of interest if their examiners serve on that same committee.

Why, therefore should they not be remunerated in some way beyond having this on their C.Vs.?

Tony Pay