

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

**MINUTES**

A Stated General Meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 at 2.00 p.m. remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Present: The President, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. Elston, Professor C. Whistler, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor C. A. Larrington, The Revd. Prof. W. Whyte, Professor A. Hills, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor S. R. Myers, Professor A. Wright, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor C. Newton, Professor G. Gottlob, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Dr. G. Kantor, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor K. Southwood, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor L. Pratt, Professor C. Beem, Professor L. di Mare, Professor G. Rose, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Professor R. Slater, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Greensmith, Professor E. Wonnacott, Dr. M. Nicholls, Professor N. Jones, Ms. Z. Hancock, Ms A. Baazaoui (MCR President), Mr. E. O'Leary (JCR President)

Apologies: Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor P. K. Maini, Professor J. Schnell, Professor H. Skoda, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Bray, Professor B. McFarlane, Dr. D. Sprengel

In attendance: Dr. S. Campbell, Dr. K. Doornik, Ms. D. Cripps

**ACTION**

**AGENDA 'A'**

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were **approved**.

In matters arising the President reminded the Governing Body that the deadline for nominating BAME students and staff for the new series of portraits was on 25<sup>th</sup> June.

2. President's Update

The President noted that her weekly update had proved an effective way to share College news.

At the end of a challenging academic year she thanked the JCR and MCR Presidents, past and present, for their great support during the pandemic, recognising their fine balancing act in reflecting the views of Junior Members and sharing College decisions with them.

She also highlighted the continued risks of new Covid cases and the need to continue to act with great caution.

3. Educational Policy Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were received.

The Senior Tutor noted that it had been agreed to enhance the current provision of Academic Grants to incoming first-year students to enable them to claim the cost of spending in advance of their arrival in College.

The Governing Body **agreed** that the Senior Tutor should continue negotiations with the Collegio Borromeo, Pavia with a view to establishing an exchange scheme for students.

**SENIOR TUTOR**

#### 4. Rents and Charges 2021

The Principal Bursar reported on the discussions with representatives of the JCR and MCR on rents and charges for the 2021/22 academic year. She thanked the JCR and MCR for the comprehensive reports they had provided and for their very professional approach to the meetings.

The Governing Body **agreed** increases of 2.67% to room rents, drinks and food outside of Hall. It was **agreed** that no increase would be applied to food in Hall to encourage as many students as possible to eat in Hall next year in order to rebuild the College community following the disruptions of this academic year.

It was **agreed** to contribute £10k towards improvement of the JCR lounge if this was organised via the College and with invoices paid directly by College. It was also **agreed** that the coffee machine revenue would be reconciled to the JCR.

The Principal Bursar noted that the College would look to replace coin-operated washing machines in Kendrew Quad with contactless pay machines and to see if this was also possible in other laundry rooms.

In response to an MCR proposal it was **agreed** that requests for Special Grant eligibility extensions could be funded from the existing Covid hardship fund and would be considered for up to six months after the end of fee-paying status for current second- and third-year graduates.

It was **agreed** to increase the thesis binding grant to two times £80 per copy, given the size and image quality required by many students.

It was **agreed** that room grading would take place before the next MCR room ballot and that an additional eight MCR rooms with no access to kitchens would be provided with a discount to the normal room rate for the 2021/22 academic year only.

It was also **agreed** to contribute up to £6k to improvements to the MCR building.

The JCR and MCR Presidents thanked the Principal Bursar for their productive and useful meetings.

#### **PRINCIPAL BURSAR and FINANCE BURSAR**

#### 5. Race and Equality

The Governing Body received an executive summary of the outcomes of the Working Group for Race and Equality,

The President highlighted a draft College anti-racism statement that aimed to update the previous statement on race equality (June 2020) and replace it with a more concise and more direct statement. She asked members of Governing Body for comments.

A final version would be agreed at the July meeting of the Governing Body, together with the full report and action plan.

#### **GOVERNING BODY**

#### 6. Michaelmas Term 2021 Calendar

The Governing Body **approved** the Michaelmas Term Calendar.

**BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE**

7. Equality Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were received.

8. Academic Services Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 were received.