

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A Stated General Meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Tuesday 22nd 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 P. K. Maini, 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 A. Starinets, 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 B. Murnane, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor J. Bray, Professor K. Southwood, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor I. Klinke, 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 B. McFarlane, Professor E. Wonnacott, Dr. M. Nicholls, Professor N. Jones, Ms. Z. Hancock

Apologies: Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor J. Schnell, Professor H. Skoda

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

ACTION

AGENDA 'B'

1. Minutes and matters arising

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

The President drew Governing Body's attention to the University's new fundraising strategy.

2. President's Report

The President reported the sad news of the death of Alviar Cohen (Biomedical Sciences, 2020) after an illness. The College's thoughts were with his family and friends.

She thanked Governing Body for their support in handling requests for vacation residence, noting concerns about rising Covid infection rates as a result of intermingling. She encouraged everyone to continue to take two lateral flow tests a week.

She noted the publication of the Norrington Table for 2020 which placed St John's in 8th position, but as the only college with no student achieving lower than an upper second.

The Governing Body congratulated Emeritus Fellow Professor John Kay on the award of a knighthood for services to economics, finance and business in the Queen's Birthday Honours. Congratulations were also offered to former Junior Research Fellow Professor Adrian Hill, Director of the Jenner Institute and Lakshmi Mittal and Family Professor of Vaccinology, awarded a knighthood for services to science and public health.

3. Academic Services Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2021 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** that the College should join the Digisafe project on 1st October 2021 [].

4. Domestic and Establishment Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2021 were received.

5. Educational Policy Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2021 were received.

The Senior Tutor noted that Degree Day had been confirmed for 11th September 2021.

He explained how to calculate the interval for external buy-outs before a fresh buy-out could be requested. The Governing Body **agreed** that partial buy-outs should count at the relevant percentage rate when calculating the period to elapse before a further application could be made (for example, a five-year buy-out at 20% should count as one accrued year).

It was **agreed** that Mr Gill-Tiney should be reappointed to a six-hour Stipendiary Lectureship in Politics for the 2021/22 academic year, that recruitment to a Supernumerary Teaching Fellowship in Politics should commence as soon as the new Official Fellow was in post, and that any additional teaching hours required for the 2021/22 academic year should be negotiated with the Vice-President (Academic), Senior Tutor and interested parties.

Sabbatical leave was agreed for Professor Molnár from Michaelmas Term 2021 to Trinity Term 2022.

It was further **agreed** that Dr. Francesco Giusti should be appointed to a Fixed-Term Studentship in Italian from 1st October 2021.

VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC), SENIOR TUTOR

6. Research Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2021 were received.

The President thanked Professor Armstrong for his five years' service as Fellow for Research.

The Governing Body **agreed** a Medium-Size Grant for Professor Burt de Perera and Dr. Padgett [] for a project on 'Spatial cognition in a wild seabird'.

A Visiting Researcher Grant for Professors Larrington and Hayes to invite Professor Jacob Sider Jost, Dickinson University (PA), from March to May 2022 [], with dining rights in accordance with the scheme was also **agreed**.

PRESIDENT

7. General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2021 were received.

The Governing Body **elected** Professor A. J. Parker to an Emeritus Research Fellowship for three years from 1st April 2021 and Professor R. Ostle to an Emeritus Research Fellowship for a further three years from 1st January 2022.

Dr. G. Viehhauser was **elected** to a Supernumerary Fellowship (without membership of Governing Body), coterminous with his holding the post of University Research Lecturer in the Department of Physics from 1st October 2021.

Dr. J. Omukuti was **elected** to a College Association with St John's for a fixed-term period of five years from 1st October 2021. The President asked for suggestions for a name for the Fellowship.

GOVERNING BODY

The panel members and terms of reference for the EJRA Review Panel were **agreed**.

The Principal Bursar updated the Governing Body on progress in appointing a board for Thomas White Oxford.

The Governing Body **agreed** that a shareholder agreement be put in place to ensure effective oversight of activities and to exercise appropriate controls [].

It was also **agreed** that an Oxford North Committee be established [].

It was further **agreed** that the College would:

- a) underwrite the Year 12 and 13 *Inspire* programmes which are already established in non-selective state schools in the South East of England;
- b) underwrite the *Inspire Digital* blended programmes and summer schools for Years 10 and 11 pupils from non-selective state schools across the UK;
- c) authorise fundraising through the Development Office to: (i) continue to raise lower-level funding to offset the access and outreach expenditure, and (ii) raise major funds to roll out the College's sustained access three-year pre-GCSE *Inspire* programme to disadvantaged regions in the South East of England (Years 9–11).

Updates to the following policies were **agreed**:

- TT2021 Data protection and retention of teachers mailing list;
- TT2011 Data protection and mention teachers booking form;
- TT2021 Privacy notice for teachers;
- TT2021 ROPA teachers mailing lists.

The finalised lists of College Officers and Committee members for 2021/22 were **agreed**.

The minutes of the reserved business for the meeting of General Purposes Committee held on 16th June 2021 were received.

The Governing Body **elected** Dr. Campbell and Dr. Doornik as Supernumerary Fellows with membership of Governing Body from 1st October 2021 in recognition of their contributions to the work of the College.

8. Michaelmas Term 2021 Calendar

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

9. Remuneration Committee

The minutes of the meetings held on 19th April, 10th May and 7th June 2021 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed**:

- a) to increase the stipend for the Welfare Dean [] to reflect an increasing workload;
- b) to increase the salary for the Director of Development and Alumni Relations [];
- c) that due to the extra work caused by the pandemic all members of Bronze Group (with the exception of the President and Principal Bursar) and the President's Executive Officer should receive an additional duties allowance [];
- d) that the nationally agreed uplift (currently estimated to be 1.5%) should be applied to College academic stipends, the pay of College officers and stipendiary allowances;
- e) that the College-nominated Non-Executive Directors to the TWO board (with the exception of the Principal Bursar) should receive an annual stipend [].

The Governing Body thanked Remuneration Committee for their dedicated work over the past year and thanked especially the retiring members, Sir John Tooke, Ms. Emily Bell and Mrs Sarah Deaves. Sir Nigel Carrington was welcomed as the incoming Chair of the committee.

10. Remuneration Committee Report on Fellows' Housing

The Remuneration Committee Report and Recommendations to Governing Body on College Housing Arrangements and an Addendum following the 'Town Hall' meeting on 18th June were received.

The Principal Bursar thanked Fellows for helpful discussions on the issues and reported that she had asked Robert Ham QC for further confirmation that Governing Body was voting within its powers. []. It was **agreed** that discussion of the report would continue with only non-conflicted members of the Governing Body present. Conflicted Fellows withdrew from the meeting.

The Principal Bursar presented a summary of the report and answered questions on the detail and rationale for the Committee's recommendations, noting the principles that had been applied in considering the issues. She explained that the recommendations were interlinked and interdependent.

The recommendations of the Remuneration Committee, and the reasons behind them as set out in the report of the Committee, were discussed. Particular attention was also given to concerns raised in the Town Hall meeting and there was discussion on the specific question of the arrangements for new Tutorial Fellows, including the proposal in the addendum to the report of the Committee.

After discussion of the issues, the non-conflicted Fellows **agreed** to accept the recommendations from the Remuneration Committee with regards to Housing Arrangements (including the addendum to the report of the Committee) after a secret ballot vote with 16 in support, no votes against and no abstentions.

In addition, the non-conflicted Fellows urged the Principal Bursar to move forward with reviewing alternative options (such as loans). They noted that levels of Housing Allowance were subject to annual review by the Remuneration Committee and also recommended that a review of the operation of the new scheme be undertaken at an appropriate point.

PRESIDENT, PRINCIPAL BURSAR

BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE

11. Development and Alumni Relations Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2021 were received.

12. Conference of Colleges

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Conference of Colleges on 27^h May 2021 were received.

13. Inspiring the next generation

A draft strategy for Development and External Affairs for the University was received.