

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 21st May 2021 at 2.00 p.m remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Present: The President, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. J. Elston, Professor C. Whistler, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor C. A. Larrington, The Revd. Prof. W. Whyte, Professor D. Martin, Professor A. Hills, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor A. Wright, Professor A. Russell, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor H. Skoda, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor A. Russell, 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 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, Dr. M. Nicholls, Professor E. Wonnacott, Professor N. Jones, Ms Z. Hancock

Apologies: Professor R. G. Compton, Professor P. Maini, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor M-S. Omri

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

AGENDA 'B'**ACTION**1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meetings of Governing Body held on 10th and 17th March 2021 were **approved**.

The President thanked the Vice-President for chairing the meeting on size and shape. Now that the report had been accepted, she invited members of Governing Body to contact her to express their interest in joining the Working Group on ECRs.

GOVERNING BODY2. President's update

The President reported the retirements at the end of March of Professor Armstrong, Professor Grafen and Professor Parker. She wished them long and happy retirements and thanked them for their service to the College.

Bronze Group continued to deal with student disciplinary matters and the President asked tutors to keep supporting the decanal team as more students returned to College. The Proctors were currently consulting about trashing and had decided that to be Covid-secure, any trashing should be contained within colleges. The College Student Handbook forbids trashing and the President was discussing more positive ways to celebrate the end of exams with the JCR President.

Bronze Group had now removed the requirement for face coverings to be worn outside on the College grounds; face coverings continued to be required for indoor meetings.

The Senior Tutor reported that he had emailed tutors with information about students' return and the implications for teaching. In-person meetings with students should be discussed with him and the Vice-President (Academic) but could be held outdoors. He noted that most exams would be online in College rooms and that students would be likely to feel anxious about the

possibility of disturbance. Tutors were asked to offer reassurance and to remind their students about the mitigation scheme in place.

The Senior Tutor reported that, due to recent retirements, he had arranged substitute teaching over the Vacation, outside of the usual approval procedures.

3. Remuneration Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th and 30th March 2021 were received.

The President noted that the recommendations in the minutes of the 30th March meeting were being withdrawn and apologised, as the intention had not been for the recommendations to come to Governing Body piecemeal. Remuneration Committee was still deliberating on the housing issues and in due course the Committee's full report would come to Governing Body with all supporting information. Remuneration Committee had met again on 19th April and continued to make progress on the issues.

The Principal Bursar added her apologies to those of the President and reiterated the seriousness and care with which Remuneration Committee was approaching its task.

Governing Body's comments on the issues raised by the minutes, including the extent of Remuneration Committee's remit and whether Fellows were conflicted on all aspects of housing, were noted. It was also suggested that individual or small-group meetings of affected Fellows to discuss the issues would be helpful.

PRESIDENT, PRINCIPAL BURSAR

It was **agreed** that Professor Stanyek would consult the housed Fellows about the Principal Bursar joining the Fellows' Housing Working Group.

PROFESSOR STANYEK

4. Bursarial update

The Principal Bursar thanked Governing Body for their warm welcome and asked Fellows to contact her with any concerns or queries.

She reported that the enabling works on Phase III of the Library project were continuing. She also noted that, following Professor Parker's retirement, he would not be able to represent the College on the Thomas White Oxford Board. Two further non-executive directors would be required and any Fellow interested was encouraged to contact the President.

GOVERNING BODY

There was currently a further technical consultation on USS and which the College would respond to by the closing date of 24th May.

A new Domestic Bursar, Neil Tindall, would start his role on 7th June.

5. Research Committee

The minute of the meeting held by email circulation was received.

The Governing Body **agreed** a Visiting Researcher Grant [] to cover expenses, accommodation and (limited) dining rights in accordance with the scheme, for Professor Beem to work with Professors Laura Schaposnik and James Unwin, University of Illinois at Chicago for Hilary and Trinity Terms 2022.

SENIOR TUTOR

BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE

6. Investment Advisory Group

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2021 were received.

7. Conference of Colleges

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Conference of Colleges on 18th February 2021 were received.