

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 25th May 2022 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor P. K. Maini, The Revd. Professor W. Whyte, Professor D. Martin, Professor A. Hills, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor H. Skoda, Professor P. R. Hayes, 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 Z. Olszewska, Professor I. Klinke, Professor G. Rose, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Professor R. Slater, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Greensmith, Dr M. Nicholls, Professor N. K. Jones, Ms Z. Hancock, Dr. S. Campbell, Dr. K. Doornik, Dr J. Richards (ECR Representative)

Apologies: Professor R. G. Compton, Professor C. Whistler, Professor C. A. Larrington, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor A. Wright, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Professor A. Russell, Professor J.J. Pandit, Professor Sir R. Collins, Professor C. Beem, Professor B. McFarlane, Professor B. Stevenson, Dr S. Derbyshire

In attendance: Ms. D. Cripps

AGENDA 'C'

ACTION

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 20th April 2022 were **approved**.

2. Professor Dame Sue Black – Visiting Professorship

The Governing Body **agreed** to Professor Black's appointment as a Visiting Professor at Lancaster University from 1st September 2022 until 31st December 2024, on the basis that this was acceptable to the European Research Council.

The Governing Body noted that this appointment would be within the [] days already agreed with Professor Black for time spent on other commitments.

VICE-PRESIDENT (DOMUS)

3. General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2022 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** to renew the Fellowships of Professor Elston, Professor Omri, Professor Lübecker, Professor Skoda, Professor Kiefer and Professor Sugimura from 1st October 2022 for a period of seven years or until retirement, whichever was sooner.

It was **agreed** that a set template for Fellowship reports would be helpful.

SENIOR TUTOR

It was also **agreed** to elect Professor Bray to an Emeritus Research Fellowship for three years from 1st October 2022.

The Vice-President (Domus) briefed Governing Body on the College values exercise undertaken to date by the non-academic staff that had produced a set of values and values statements that reflected the aspirations of the College and that could be meaningful for all members of St

John's. In discussion a number of suggestions were made that could helpfully be incorporated into a revised document.

Further round-table discussion involving both academic staff and Junior Members would help refine the document with a view to the values being endorsed and then embedded in College life.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

The Senior Tutor briefed Governing Body on proposals for the College's provision of fixed-term teaching posts.

It was noted that not all appointees to such posts would be suited to supporting the College's access work and that the role profile for recruitment should reflect this. The Senior Tutor also noted the feedback received on the title for the roles and would consult further with the Working Group.

The Governing Body **agreed** to the creation of two new posts (job titles to be confirmed):

- **College Teaching Assistant** – for teaching needs of three or four hours (currently Non-Stipendiary Lecturer) for up to two terms;
- **College Teaching Associate** – for teaching needs of five or more hours (currently Stipendiary Lecturer), and full-year posts.

SENIOR TUTOR

The Senior Tutor described the proposal to support a range of internships. It was **agreed** to support the scheme for internships and research projects for undergraduate students on a trial basis for one year, subject to clearer criteria about what constituted an internship, and to give the Senior Tutor the latitude to make decisions during the trial period as follows:

For academic internships/research projects

- Where a student is paid for their work we currently offer a partial subvention in the form of a special grant covering some, but not all, accommodation costs.
- We should ask departments to recognise this as a contribution to the funding they insist on as a condition of entry. The Access Office's parallel initiative, which proposes the creation of funded internships within College, suggests a cash value of c.£70/week for such subsidised or free summer accommodation.
- We could also consider offering a cash contribution where necessary (to help meet entry requirements, to cover subsistence costs away from home, and to partly make up for lost earning potential).

For non-academic internships and volunteering

- College would establish a scheme of grants for undergraduate students towards unpaid internships, volunteering and similar opportunities.

SENIOR TUTOR

It was **agreed** to offer a Supernumerary Fellowship without membership of Governing Body, coterminous with the appointee holding the role of Youth Mental Health Research Fellow, from 1st October 2022, for three years in the first instance.

VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

The Committee had reviewed the list of historic donors to the College before agreeing the list to be included on the donor plaque. It was **agreed** to review this again alongside further information from the St John's and the Colonial Past project.

PROFESSOR WHYTE, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS

It was also **agreed** that a donation [] should be used for a plaque in honour of Lesley MacFarlane, former Tutor in Politics, to be attached to the Senior Tutor's room.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS

It was further **agreed** that the new Fellowship in Psychology should be named the Snowling Fellowship in Psychology in honour of the outgoing President.

SENIOR TUTOR, PRINCIPAL BURSAR

4. Fellows' Housing Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2022 were received.

Fellows who were conflicted on the issue of Fellows' housing withdrew from the meeting.

In accordance with the legal advice received on trustees' conflict of interest, the non-conflicted Fellows **agreed** that an overall budget [] should be allocated for the refurbishment of [], of which [] was for improvement work.

The Agreement for Housed Fellows was also **agreed**. Each housed Fellow would receive a copy.

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

5. Remuneration Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2022 were received.

The Governing Body meeting was adjourned and a 'Town Hall' meeting convened to enable all members of Governing Body to exchange views on future Fellows' housing arrangements without risk of being conflicted.

The Principal Bursar explained the reasons for changing the scheme and Remuneration Committee's remit in relation to the scheme.

It was agreed to seek further legal advice on the issue of conflict of interest to ensure that this was clear in relation to future housing schemes and so as not to put undue burden on a small number of Fellows.

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

6. Finance and Estates Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2022 were received.

The Governing Body noted that a new fund manager had been appointed after a process to identify the group with the best fit to the College's investment principles. Any conflicts of interest had been managed in the process and appropriate assessment of the new fund managers was undertaken. The allocation between the different funds in the portfolio had been considered jointly by the Investment Advisory Group and the Investment Sub-Committee and proposals brought to Finance and Estates Committee for recommendation to Governing Body.

The College budgets for 2022/23 were **agreed**.

The Governing Body also **agreed** to appoint Moore Kingston Smith as College auditors as soon as practicable.

It was **agreed** to authorise the purchase [], subject to receiving formal advice from Savills, by the agreement of three of the President, Principal Bursar, Vice-Presidents and Finance Bursar, and the disagreement of none of the three.

Initial design fees [] were **agreed** to develop a detailed design for a redevelopment of the Old Lighting Store and College-owned flats in Pusey Lane.

Design fees for refurbishment of student accommodation at 19–21 St John Street were also **agreed**.

It was further **agreed** to approve an increase in costs of the Garden Quad Auditorium AV upgrade due to a general increase in the costs of equipment and labour [].

PRINCIPAL BURSAR

The College Masterplan would be reviewed at a future meeting.

7. Any other business

It was noted that the acoustics in the lunch room were not ideal and that desktop microphones for Governing Body meetings would be helpful.