

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 2nd December 2015 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor J. C. G. Pitcher, Professor K. P. Tod, Professor C. J. K. Batty, Professor I. J. Sobey, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor A. Grafen, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. Elston, Dr. C. Whistler, Professor L. Tarassenko, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor J. Ouaknine, Professor L. M. McDowell, Professor P. K. Maini, Professor D. Martin, Professor R.M. Harding, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor A. Wright, Professor A. Starinets, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor H. Skoda, Dr. K. Doornik, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Dr. G. Kantor, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Bray, Mr. L. Rostill, Ms. L. Eberle, Ms. E. Tanner (MCR President), Ms. C. St. Clair (JCR President), Ms. B. McCullagh (JCR Vice-President), Ms. J. Colston (incoming JCR President), Mr. T. Wadsworth (incoming JCR Vice-President)

Apologies: Dr. C. A. Larrington, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor A. Russell, Professor K. Southwood, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor Z. Olszewska, Mr. A. Payne (MCR Vice-President), Mr. D. Waldman (JCR Secretary)

In attendance: Ms. A. Bielby (Director of Development and Alumni Relations), Dr. E Clewlow (Academic Dean), Ms. D. Cripps
Ms. T. Coe (Head of Equality and Diversity Unit), Ms. I. Burke (Bursary Manager) & Mrs. E. Marston (Academic Administrator) for Item 2

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

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 11th November 2015 were **approved**.

2. Public Equality Duty

Ms. Coe (Head of Equality and Diversity Unit) briefed Governing Body on recent guidance for members of the University on meeting the obligations of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). She noted two key phrases: 'having due regard to' and 'proportionate', meaning that for decisions affecting significant numbers (changes in policy, resourcing for sport, and allocation of childcare places, for example), due consideration should be given to discussing issues of equality, to how to mitigate the impact of any decision, and that the outcome of the discussion should be clearly recorded. She highlighted that decision-makers had personal responsibility for their actions under the PSED and that the duty could not be delegated.

It was noted that the University had produced standard text for inclusion in committee templates to draw attention to the duty. It was **agreed** that College should adopt such a mechanism and should also consider how to achieve this for decisions that did not necessarily go through a committee process.

PRESIDENT3. Equality Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2015 were received.

4. Academic Services Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2015 were received.

The first College Office Annual Report 2014–15 was welcomed as an opportunity to note the work of the College Office, to understand resourcing needs and to thank the staff.

5. Music & Visual Arts Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2015 were received.

6. Educational Policy Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2015 were received.

7. Outgoing JCR President

Ms St. Clair thanked the Governing Body for being so receptive to the ideas and concerns of Junior Members and for their generous support during her year as JCR President. She noted that the JCR had particularly brought useful suggestions to Equality Committee and how glad she had been to be part of the 2000 Women year.

The President thanked the JCR President and the outgoing JCR Committee on behalf of Governing Body for their hard work over the past year.

Ms Tanner reported that the MCR had decided to support the Oxford Refugee Campaign through an opt-out termly bursary once a university-wide scholarship programme had been instituted.