

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 17th April 2013 at 10.30 a.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Dr. J.C.G. Pitcher, Professor K. P. Tod, Professor C. J. K. Batty, Professor R.G. Compton, Dr. I. J. Sobey, Professor S.J. Whittaker, Dr. P. K. Dresch, Professor A. Grafen, Dr. A. R. Weidberg, Professor A. J. Parker, Professor F.A. Armstrong, Professor S.J. Elston, Dr. C. Whistler, Professor R. Bush, Dr. M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor J. Ouaknine, Professor L.M. McDowell, Professor P. Maini, The Revd. Dr. W. Whyte, Dr. A. Hills, Dr. R.M. Harding, Dr. H. Bouman, Dr. A. Wright, Dr. J. Schnell, Dr. T. Burt de Perera, Dr. J.G.C. Snicker, Ms. S. Layburn, Dr. M-S. Omri, Dr. N. Lübecker, Dr. K. Doornik, Professor C. Newton, Professor G. Gottlob, Dr. J. Obloj, Dr. G. Kantor, Dr. B. Murnane, Dr. J. Stanyek, Professor J. Bray.

Apologies Professor P.P. Craig, Dr. C. A. Larrington, Professor N. P. Harberd, Dr. A. Starinets, Professor C. Jeffrey, Dr. H. Skoda.

ACTION

AGENDA 'B'

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 6th March were approved.

2. Election to a Supernumerary Teaching Fellowship in Politics

Mr Iason Gabriel was elected to a five-year fixed-term Supernumerary Teaching Fellowship in Politics (without membership of Governing Body), with effect from 1st October 2013.

SENIOR TUTOR

3. Elections to scholarships

Recommendations for four Casberd Scholarships were **approved**.

4. Deputy Dean of Degrees

Dr Sandra Campbell has agreed to serve as Deputy Dean of Degrees with immediate effect.

5. Review of Academic Structures

The President presented the Review Group's report on the Review of Academic Structures and summarised its recommendations, outlining the rationale behind the creation of a new post of Academic Dean (under Model B) as well as alternative arrangements considered by the Group (Model A).

The view was expressed that Model A would be preferable to Model B if Official Fellows were willing to fill the proposed posts. However there was little enthusiasm for Model A since its

administrative burden on Official Fellows was generally perceived to be similar to that of the academic structure currently in operation.

Governing Body welcomed aspects of Model B that remove the parts of the current role of Senior Tutor which detract from its main functions of formulating and overseeing academic policy. It was also felt that Model B would preserve valuable features of the current academic structure, in particular retaining an Official Fellow as Senior Tutor was seen to be important.

Given that the Academic Dean and Senior Tutor would have responsibility for undergraduates under Model B, it was felt that the interests of graduate students would be best represented by a different college officer, such as the proposed post of Fellow for Research or a new post of Fellow for Graduates. This officer could also take on the social role of the current Tutor for Graduates.

Opinion was divided on whether the post of Tutor for Admissions should continue under Model B or alternatively be subsumed into the role of Academic Dean. The Tutor for Admissions argued that the post is well-defined and largely separate of the rest of the College's academic structure, has good administrative support, and is therefore manageable by an Official Fellow under the current system.

Some of the difficulties of implementing schemes similar to Model B in other colleges were briefly discussed and it was emphasised that clarity of the roles and demarcation of the duties of the new Senior Tutor and Academic Dean, and their interaction with the Academic Administrator, would be vital for success. It was also felt that the new structure should not lead to a reduction of the responsibilities of the Academic Administrator.

The specification of the post of Academic Dean was briefly discussed, and the view was expressed that it would be desirable to employ someone with experience of teaching and academic research, who was committed to a career in academic administration.

Governing Body agreed in principle to the Review Group's recommendation endorsing Model B. The President outlined the next steps to be taken by the Review Group:

- Development of a full job specification and further particulars for the post of Academic Dean.
- Clarification of the duties of the Senior Tutor and Academic Administrator.
- Consideration of the role of Fellow for Graduates.
- Terms of reference for committees concerned with teaching and research activities in College.

PRESIDENT

6. Visiting Scholarships

Recommendations for six Visiting Scholarships were **approved**. It was recommended that these scholarships be advertised more widely in future in order to encourage larger numbers of applications and more female applicants.

SENIOR TUTOR

7. Trinity Term Calendar

The Trinity Term Calendar was **approved**.

8. Conference of Colleges

a) Professor Craig Jeffrey has been nominated for the Steering Committee of Conference of Colleges.

b) Conference will be asked to vote on the Collegiate Funding Formula (CFF) for academic year 2013/14 later this term. The proposed CFF settlement and the terms of reference for Conference's forthcoming review of the CFF will be considered by Finance Committee.

PRESIDENT

9. Consultation on the wider use of the title of Professor and merit pay for titular Professors

Members of Governing Body were invited to submit their response to this consultative document directly to [] of the University's Personnel Committee.