

## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

## MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

*Present:* The President, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor P. K. Maini, The Revd Professor W. Whyte, Professor D. Martin, Professor A. Hills, Professor H. Bouman, Professor A. Wright, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Dr G. Kantor, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor K. Southwood, Professor Z. Olszewska, 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, Dr M. Nicholls, Professor E. Wonnacott, Professor N. K. Jones, Ms. Z. Hancock, Dr S. Campbell, Dr K. Doornik, Professor L. Hunt, Professor R. Lall, Professor K. J. Patel, Professor T. Qutbuddin, Professor A. Lak, Mr S. Lalanne (MCR President), Ms R. Hurwitz (MCR Secretary), Ms. E. Heywood (JCR President)

*Apologies:* Professor S. J. Elston, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor A. Starinets, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Professor H. Skoda, Professor A. Russell, Professor C. Newton, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor I. Klinke, Professor B. McFarlane, Professor B. Stevenson, Professor R. Hoye, Dr. C. He (ECR Representative), Dr L. Flannigan (ECR Representative), Mr B. Croucher (JCR Vice-President)

In attendance: Ms. D. Cripps

## AGENDA 'A'

## ACTION

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were **approved**.

2. Educational Policy Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** to host the Future Climate Innovators Summer School (Said Business School), to be charged at full economic cost [ ], subject to the Principal Bursar and Fellow for Access deciding the maximum number of fee-paying attendees acceptable to the College and being in a position to withdraw the offer to host if those numbers were not adhered to.

## FELLOW FOR ACCESS

3. MCR President's address

The MCR President, who had stepped into his role partway through the past year, noted the achievements of the previous MCR Committee and thanked Fellows and members of the professional staff for their support.

He highlighted the four main areas of focus for the MCR Committee: community, inclusiveness, representation and accommodation. The MCR Committee played an important role in creating a sense of community through a great range of activities, including large-scale guest nights and welfare brunches, as well as museum trips and international film nights. A strong collegiate community was crucial to student wellbeing and interdisciplinary interaction and the committee had organised over twenty-five events.

Inclusiveness was equally important and the MCR worked to ensure that it was a space where all members were respected with the past year having been very active on interfaith understanding. The MCR President thanked the Fellow for Equality and Head of Student Wellbeing for arranging an 'Expected Behaviours' workshop that over thirty MCR and JCR committee members had attended.

A key role of the MCR Officers was to represent the graduate community across the range of College committees. The MCR President thanked the Bursary for their support of graduate students during the ongoing cost of living crisis and welcomed the final below-inflation rent increase of 5%. More generally, he suggested that there was scope to increase student representation on College committees with the benefit of increasing diversity of opinion and allowing for better feedback from the student body.

Finally, accommodation was a major area of concern for graduate students and, given the rental and stipend situation, availability of College accommodation was increasingly crucial to allow graduates to support themselves. The new complex being developed at Pusey Lane with housing for thirty-five graduates would be very welcome. The MCR President also commended the principle of a 1:1 replacement of rooms during the Thomas White refurbishment.

The MCR President reiterated his thanks to College staff and especially to the President for her role in pioneering student welfare.

The President thanked the MCR President on behalf of Governing Body and looked forward to continuing to work with him over the remainder of his presidency.

#### 4. Any other business

The President reported that Professor Gottlob had retired at the end of January. The Governing Body wished him well in his retirement.

### **BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE**

#### 5. Promotion of the Arts Committee

The minutes of the Promotion of the Arts Committee held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 were received.