

## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

## MINUTES

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. J. Elston, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor K. Nation, The Revd Professor W. Whyte, Professor A. Hills, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor S. Myers, Professor A. Wright, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Professor H. Skoda, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Dr G. Kantor, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor K. Southwood, Professor Z. Olszewska, Professor C. Beem, Professor L. di Mare, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Professor S. Toussaert, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Greensmith, Professor B. McFarlane, Dr M. Nicholls, Professor E. Wonnacott, Professor N. K. Jones, Ms Z. Hancock, Dr S. Campbell, Dr K. Doornik, Professor R. Hoyer, Professor L. Hunt, Professor A. Lak

Apologies: Professor P. K. Maini, Professor D. Martin, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor A. Russell, Professor C. Newton, Professor G. Gottlob, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. J. Pandit, Professor I. Klinke, Professor L. Pratt, Professor G. Rose, Professor R. Slater, Professor B. Stevenson, Professor R. Lall, Professor K. J. Patel, Professor T. Qutbuddin

In attendance: Ms. K. Jenkins (Finance Bursar), Ms. D. Cripps

## AGENDA 'C'

## ACTION

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were **approved**.

In matters arising the Provost for Academic Affairs reported that the bid for association with the new APTF-U post in Plant Molecular Biology had been accepted and that recruitment would start in the new year. The new post in Climate Science had also been accepted by the Social Sciences Division and University and so that post was also being recruited.

An appointment had been made to the Law Fellowship with a view to a start date on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and interviews for the English Fellowship were being held in early Hilary Term. In addition, electoral boards had been constituted for the Hillary Rodham Clinton Chair of Women's History and the Nuffield Chair of Population Health.

Professor Obloj noted that the cellar stock count was ongoing and he would report further in due course.

2. Audit and Risk Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** the committee's terms of reference.

The Chair, the Rt Hon Alistair Burt, would present to Governing Body at a meeting in Trinity Term.

## PRESIDENT

3. Annual Report and Financial Statements 2023

The Finance Bursar briefed Governing Body on the College's Annual Report and Accounts. She highlighted the Annual Report as an opportunity to showcase the achievements and performance

of the College. She thanked everyone who had had a direct input into the accounts and the resulting strong position of the College. She noted her intention to move to a four-year budget process to enable a view of longer-term expenditure patterns.

The Governing Body thanked the Finance Bursar and her team for preparing such an excellent overview of the College's finances.

#### 4. Working Parties and Advisory Groups

The President updated the Governing Body on the EJRA Review and the Wellbeing Centre Advisory Group. She noted that the Strategic Plan Working Party required two more members and that the Academic Planning Working Party needed one further member.

The minutes of the Governance Working Party held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** to participate in the collective legal advice supplied to a number of colleges in the Conference of Colleges Governance Forum [ ].

It was also **agreed** that Governing Body would input into the Charity Governance Code template and complete a Board Effectiveness Survey by the end of December 2023.

#### **PRESIDENT, GOVERNING BODY**

The minutes of the Masterplan Working Party held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 were received. It was noted that the projects would be segmented and items brought for decision on individual aspects at the right time for each particular project. It was also noted that connectivity was an important principle underpinning the Masterplan.

#### 5. Philanthropic Fellowship

The Director of Development and Alumni Relations presented a proposal for a new form of recognition to acknowledge very large donations to the College.

The Governing Body **agreed** to establish a philanthropic Fellowship to recognise exceptional generosity to the College with a name still to be decided [ ]. The offer of such a Fellowship would not be automatic and would be subject to Governing Body approval. The Fellowship would enjoy a number of privileges and could be withdrawn if any donor and/or their gifts no longer met the criteria of the College's Gift Acceptance Policy.

#### **DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI RELATIONS**