

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A Stated General Meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 9th October 2019 at 10.30 a.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor C. J. K. Batty, Professor R. G. Compton, Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor A. Grafen, Professor S. Elston, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor W. Mattli, The Revd. Professor W. Whyte, Professor R. M. Harding, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Professor T. Burt de Perera, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor G. Gottlob, Professor R. Ekins, Dr. G. Kantor, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor K. Southwood, Professor Z. Olszewska, Dr. I. Klinke, Professor C. Beem, Professor L. di Mare, Professor S. Kiefer, Professor N. Sugimura, Mr R. Crow, Professor S. White, Professor E. Greensmith, Professor B. McFarlane

Apologies: Professor F. A. Armstrong, Professor C. Whistler, Professor K. Nation, Professor P. Maini, Professor D. Martin, Professor A. Wright, Professor H. Skoda, Professor C. Newton, Professor J. Bray, Professor Sir R. Collins, Professor G. Rose, Professor S. Toussaert, Professor A. Srinivasan

In attendance: (for item 4) Master of Works and representatives from Ridge and Partners;
(for item 5) Librarian; Dr. S. Campbell, Dr. M. Nicholls, Ms. D. Cripps

ACTION**AGENDA 'B'**

1. Professor S. White (Official Fellow and Tutor in Mathematics), Professor E. Greensmith (Official Fellow and Tutor in Classics) and Professor B. McFarlane (Professor of English Law) were admitted to Governing Body.

2. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 12th July 2019 were **approved** with one amendment.

The Governing Body congratulated Professor Ekins on being awarded a title of distinction by the University.

The President noted that the new academic year was the 40th anniversary of the admission of women to the College. She encouraged members of Governing Body to attend the various events planned.

3. Membership of Governing Body

The President reminded members of Governing Body about their obligations as charity trustees, drawing their attention to UK Government guidance (see www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3). She particularly highlighted the need to manage resources responsibly and to take appropriate advice when making major financial decisions. She noted the requirement for Trustees to complete a full declaration of any conflicts of interest.

The President also noted the duty of the Governing Body under the Public Sector Equality Duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities.

GOVERNING BODY

4. Bursary updates

a) The team from Ridge and Partners reported on the plans for refurbishment of the Lodge. Building and planning consent had been granted and Ridge were tendering for a contractor and programme for implementation. The design would be complete by the end of October, with tendering during November and December; a temporary lodge would be established in early January for works to begin in February, with a view to completion by the end of May. The needs of the Ball were being taken into account.

A drop-in session was being planned for Lodge staff, Fellows and other members of the College to give information and gather their feedback on design details.

Some additional work was now required to upgrade the fire alarm system in other quads. This would increase costs [].

b) The Acting Principal Bursar reported that a decision on the planning application for Oxford North had been deferred by Oxford City Council's West Area Planning Committee at its meeting on 24th September. He clarified a number of points regarding the project.

c) The Acting Principal Bursar reported that a pay settlement of 2% had been agreed for all staff on College-specific salary scales, backdated to 1st August. He noted that the pay increase for the lowest paid College staff would be 2.9% to meet the expectations of the Living Wage as set by the Living Wage Foundation and that there would be a further review at the end of November when updated figures would be reported. He also noted that the Oxford Living Wage had been discussed at Finance Committee.

ACTING PRINCIPAL BURSAR

5. Library and Study Centre – update

The Fellow Librarian welcomed the opening of the new Library and Study Centre and thanked the Librarian and her team for the preparatory work they had completed over the Long Vacation.

The Librarian briefed Governing Body on the arrangements for the Study Centre, noting that 24/7 access was being trialled and its continuation would be reviewed at the end of term. She encouraged Fellows to visit the exhibition to celebrate the opening and to see the newly cleaned Founder's Chest. The building had attracted a lot of positive press coverage.

6. EJRA update

The President reported that a decision on Professor Pitcher's appeal against the decision of the Employment Tribunal was still awaited.

In accordance with the decision at the meeting of Governing Body on 12th July, she had informed Professor Pitcher that the College could not continue the transitional arrangements, given that the Tribunal proceeding had been concluded and the 2018/19 academic year had ended. Professor Pitcher had declined the opportunity to be put forward for election to Emeritus status.

As a result, Professor Pitcher's University card expired on 30th September and it was not appropriate, as matters now stood, to support the renewal of the card whilst Professor Pitcher continued in the position of not holding any status recognised by the College Statutes.

The Governing Body asked General Purposes Committee to consider the legal advice and to return with a proposal in due course.

PRESIDENT

7. Women's History Chair

The Acting Vice-President (Academic) reported on an opportunity to bid for association with a new Chair in Women's History, noting that it would require a strong commitment to fundraising on the part of both the College and the University. She noted the College's current Professorial Fellowships (see Appendix One) and that interest had previously been indicated in another chair in Mathematics.

The Governing Body **agreed** to express interest in the role, to gather more information about other possible Chairs, and to discuss further at General Purposes Committee.

PRESIDENT

8. Working Party on Ethical Investment

The President reported on the membership of the Working Party on Ethical Investment (see Appendix Two). The group would meet twice during Michaelmas Term and would agree its terms of reference. The aim was to report by the end of the academic year.

PRESIDENT

9. Directorship of Bainton Road Nursery

The Governing Body **agreed** that Professor Murnane should be appointed as a Director of Bainton Road Nursery.

ACTING PRINCIPAL BURSAR

10. North Senior and Beeston Scholarships

The list of scholarships was **approved**.

11. Elections and renewals of scholarships

The list of scholarships was **approved**.

12. Michaelmas Term 2019 Calendar

The Michaelmas Term Calendar was **approved**.

13. Any other business

Revd. Professor Whyte invited Governing Body to the Black History Month Lecture by Professor Richard Drayton on 31st October 2019.

The Governing Body expressed its thanks to the Steward of Common Room and SCR Staff for the smooth and elegant refurbishment of the SCR.

BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE

14. Development Board

The minutes of the Development Board meeting held on 6th June 2019 were received.

15. Conference of Colleges

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Conference of Colleges on 27th June 2019 were received.

16. Moritz-Heyman Scholarship Programme

The renaming of the Moritz-Heyman Scholarship as the Crankstart Scholarship from September 2019 was noted.

APPENDIX ONE Statutory Professors

Julia Bray, A. S. AlBabtain Laudian Professor of Arabic
Humanities (Oriental Studies)

Lloyd Pratt, Drue Heinz Professor of American Literature
Humanities (English)

Rory Collins, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology
Medical Sciences (Population Health)

Dominic Kwiatkowski, Professor of Genomics and Global Health
Medical Sciences (Medicine)

Charles Newton, Cheryl & Reece Scott Professor of Psychiatry
Medical Sciences (Psychiatry)

Rebeccah Slater, Professor of Paediatric Neuroscience
Medical Sciences (Paediatrics)

Georg Gottlob, Professor of Informatics
MPLS (Computer Science)

Nick Harberd, Sibthorpe Professor of Plant Sciences
MPLS (Biology)

Philip Maini, Professor of Mathematical Biology
MPLS (Mathematics)

TBA, Professor of Electrical Engineering
MPLS (Engineering)

Ben McFarlane Professor of English Law
Social Sciences (Law)

Gillian Rose Professor of Human Geography
Social Sciences (Geography)

APPENDIX TWO

Working Party on Ethical Investments – membership

Chair: President

Ex-Officio Members: Acting Estates Bursar Steve Elston
Finance Bursar Sally Layburn

Members: Julia Bray
Robert Crow
Ian Klinke
Walter Mattli
Lloyd Pratt (on return from sabbatical)
Hannah Skoda
Tony Weidberg