

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

MINUTES

A Stated General meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 7th October 2015 at 10.30 a.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, Dr. C. Whistler, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor L. M. McDowell, Professor P. K. Maini, Dr. C. A. Larrington, Professor D. Martin, Professor R.M. Harding, Professor H. Bouman, Professor N. P. Harberd, Professor A. Wright, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor N. Lübecker, Professor P. R. Hayes, Dr. K. Doornik, Professor C. Newton, Professor R. Ekins, Professor J. Obloj, Dr. G. Kantor, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor J. Bray, Professor K. Southwood, Professor Z. Olszewska

Apologies: Professor M-S. Omri, Professor J. J. Pandit

In attendance: Dr. E Clewlow (Academic Dean), Ms. D. Cripps

ACTION**AGENDA 'B'**

1. Professor Z. Olszewska, Official Fellow and Tutor in Archaeology and Anthropology, was admitted to Governing Body.

2. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 10th July 2015 were **approved**.

3. Elections to Honorary Fellowships

The Governing Body **elected** Professor Sir David Cannadine, Professor Ann Jefferson, Professor Andrew Harrison and Ms. Barbara Slater to Honorary Fellowships from 1st October 2015.

PRESIDENT

4. Election to Supernumerary Fellowship

The Governing Body **elected** Ms Amber Bielby to a Supernumerary Fellowship (without membership of Governing Body), coterminous with her holding the post of Director of Development and Alumni Relations, from 1st December 2015, for a period of five years in the first instance, and with a review in 2018/19 (as part of an overall review of Development and Alumni Relations activities).

5. Elections and renewals of scholarships

The list of scholarships was **approved**, pending further information about one student. The Founder's Fellow noted the deadline for the next edition of *TW* which included the list.

SENIOR TUTOR

6. Development and Alumni Relations: update

The Founder's Fellow updated Governing Body on developments since July 2015, including the appointment of Ms Amber Bielby as the new Director of Development and Alumni Relations and of Mr Alastair James, Senior Consultant at Global Philanthropic. Mr James was working specifically on the College's 'Case for Support', prospect identification and training/mentoring support for the team.

7. College's response to Syrian refugee crisis

The Senior Tutor briefed Governing Body about a proposal to create an Oxford University/CARA Academics-at-Risk initiative as a result of the protracted conflict in Syria. The College had been the first in Oxford to offer support to a CARA (Council for At Risk Academics) Fellow,[].

CARA required more funding and it was **agreed** to offer £5,000 towards the organisation's running costs. It was also **agreed** that the College would consider assisting another college to take a CARA Fellow, for example, by offering accommodation.

SENIOR TUTOR

8. Bursarial matters

The Acting Principal Bursar updated Governing Body on progress on a number of issues during the Long Vacation including developments in the Northern Gateway project and next steps on the Library and Study Centre. The proposed College Nursery had also been granted planning permission for a new building at Bainton Road subject to minor conditions and it was **agreed** to proceed to contract for the architect's fees.

The Acting Principal Bursar would propose that the Nursery project be managed by a sub-committee of Domestic Committee. Fellows interested in serving on the committee were asked to contact the President.

FELLOWS, ACTING PRINCIPAL BURSAR

The Acting Principal Bursar also briefed Governing Body about the outcome of a boundary dispute regarding a hedge on the Wasperton Estate.

The President noted that the College would consider engaging PR/communications support for specific projects.

PRESIDENT

9. Fellows' Housing Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2015 were **approved**.

The Governing Body **agreed** amendments to the terms of the College Housing Schemes, subject to clarification [].

10. Presidential Collections timetable

The Senior Tutor presented a Presidential Collections timetable for Michaelmas Term as required by the meeting of Governing Body on 27th May 2015. Governing Body did not approve that timetable, but instead **agreed** to approve a process by which, from this term onwards, the timetable would be formulated by email beginning on Monday of 5th Week of the term in question and finalised by Friday of 6th Week.

SENIOR TUTOR

11. Michaelmas Calendar

The draft Calendar was **approved**, subject to one amendment.

12. Research Committee

The following decisions of the Committee were noted:

- a Visiting Research Grant for Dr Mayr, University of Edinburgh for two terms [];
- a Small Conference Grant for Professors Kantor and Skoda [] for a workshop on 'Legalism – property and ownership' in January 2016;

- a Small Workshop Grant for Professor Starinets [] for a conference on ‘Non-equilibrium physics and holography’ in July 2016;
- a Small Conference Grant for Dr Mango and Revd Dr Carmichael [] for a conference on ‘Conflict and cultural heritage’ in October 2015.

13. Thematic Research Grant scheme

The President reminded Governing Body that the deadline for submission of outline proposals for the Thematic Research Grant was 11th December 2015.

14. Professor Harberd

The Governing Body noted Professor Harberd’s application for BBSRC-Newton funding for a UK–China ‘Virtual Joint Centre’ in Biological Nitrogen Use Efficiency. If successful, Professor Harberd would spend two months a year at the China Academy of Sciences but would continue in his role as Keeper of Bagley Woods.

15. Open Doors

The Governing Body received the report of the College’s participation in the Oxford Preservation Trust’s Open Doors weekend on 13th September 2015 and thanked the President’s Secretary and Library staff for their supporting work and help on the day.