

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

**MINUTES**

A meeting of **GOVERNING BODY** was held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 2.00 p.m. in the Senior Common Room.

Present: The President, Professor J. C. G. Pitcher, Professor K. P. Tod, Professor C. J. K. Batty, Professor R. G. Compton, Professor I. J. Sobey, Professor A. R. Weidberg, Professor S. Elston, Professor M. Cannon, Professor K. Nation, Professor J. Ouaknine, Professor L. M. McDowell, Professor P. K. Maini, Dr. C. A. Larrington, Professor D. Martin, Professor R.M. Harding, Professor A. Wright, Ms. S. Layburn, Professor H. Skoda, Professor N. Lübecker, Dr. K. Doornik, Professor C. Newton, Professor J. Obloj, Dr. G. Kantor, Professor B. Murnane, Professor J. Stanyek, Professor J. Bray, Professor Z. Olszewska

Apologies: Professor S. J. Whittaker, Professor A. Grafen, Dr. C. Whistler, Professor Z. Molnár, Professor H. Bouman, Professor S. Myers, Professor A. Starinets, Professor J. Schnell, Professor M-S. Omri, Professor P. R. Hayes, Professor R. Ekins, Professor K. Southwood, Professor J. J. Pandit

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

**ACTION**

**AGENDA 'B'**

1. Minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of Governing Body held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were **approved**.

2. Lamb & Flag Directors meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were received.

The Acting Principal Bursar noted that there was a vacancy for a Lamb & Flag Director and encouraged interested members of Governing Body to contact him or the Bursary Manager to discuss the role.

**ACTING PRINCIPAL BURSAR and GOVERNING BODY**

3. Library and Study Centre

The Acting Principal Bursar reported that the Committee continued to meet fortnightly with a current focus on finalising the details of the building.

Drawings of Susanna Heron's artwork would be displayed in the Otranto Passage between 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November.

The project would go out to tender at the beginning of December.

**ACTING PRINCIPAL BURSAR**

4. Educational Policy Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** that the value of the JRF housing allowance should be considered by Remunerations Committee.

It was **agreed** that the College should continue its association with the Professorship of Human Geography.

**PRESIDENT**

The Academic Dean highlighted developments in the University and Conference of College on access and outreach. Governing Body **agreed** that an Access and Outreach Committee should be established as a sub-committee of Educational Policy Committee.

The Committee had also discussed whether to bid for association with the Associate Professorship in Education & the Developing Child but had decided against at present. The post had, however, subsequently been circulated under the entitlement procedure (with the College now second on the list) and Governing Body **agreed** that, under these circumstances, the College should bid for association.

The President and Senior Tutor would take forward discussion about the future size and shape of Governing Body.

#### **PRESIDENT and SENIOR TUTOR**

##### 5. Domestic Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 were received.

The Domestic Bursar outlined the need for a review of catering operations in the College, given the substantial growth in activity in recent years. The Governing Body **agreed** that a review of catering functions should be undertaken.

The Domestic Bursar asked for Governing Body's co-operation in scheduling Schools Dinners within the timeframe requested by the SCR.

It was also noted that at the recent Staff Equality Forum the cleaners had expressed their preference to be called Scouts to reflect that their responsibilities towards students often extended beyond cleaning.

#### **DOMESTIC BURSAR**

The Acting Principal Bursar briefed Governing Body on plans to move the Nurse's Room in order to comply with the regulations of the Care Quality Commission and the creation of a suite of rooms for circumstances where a student required a live-in carer.

He also updated Governing Body on plans for the refurbishment of the Auditorium in the second half of 2017.

#### **ACTING PRINCIPAL BURSAR**

##### 6. Research Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015 were received, including the Annual Report of the Director of the Research Centre and Fellow for Research.

The Governing Body **agreed** a Visiting Researcher Grant [] to cover expenses and dining rights during May and June 2016 for Professor Murray Cox, Massey University, New Zealand.

The Governing Body also **agreed** the following Small Grants:

- a) [] to Dr. Earnshaw for a conference on 'Cognitive Visions: Poetic Imagine-making and the Mind' in January 2016;
- b) [] to Dr. Earnshaw for research assistance;
- c) [] to Professor Whyte for a conference on 'Architecture and Experience in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century' in March 2016;
- d) [] to Dr. Gabriel for a conference on 'Effective Altruism, Global Poverty and Systemic Change' in March 2016.

The Fellow for Research noted that Small Grant applications could be made throughout the academic year but that circulation would be in gathered fields several times a year. He

therefore recommended that applications should be made at least eight months ahead of any proposed conference date.

The Fellow for Research also reminded Governing Body that outline applications for the new Thematic Research Programme were due by 11<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The President reported on advice from Sir Michael Perry and Sir Stuart Hampson that more time should be spent on scrutiny of this stage and that, as a result, the deadline for submission of the long proposal would be put back to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Professor Ruth Harris had agreed to chair the panel of independent assessors.

#### **PRESIDENT and FELLOW FOR RESEARCH**

##### 7. General Purposes Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were received.

The Governing Body **agreed** that the College's EJRA procedure should not be amended in the light of the University's interim procedure but should be reviewed once the changes to the University's procedures were finalized.

The Governing Body **agreed** that Professor Tod should be elected to an Emeritus Research Fellowship for three years from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016.

**PRESIDENT**

The Governing Body also **agreed** that Statute XVII should be changed to allow more than four Stated Meetings of Governing Body, that the November meeting of Governing Body should be added to the list of Stated Meetings in By-Law 13, and that By-Law 29 should be updated accordingly. It was also **agreed** that a clause should be added to Statute IV enabling additional classes of non-statutory Fellowships to be created by By-Laws.

**STATUTES OFFICER**

The President noted that the Student Support Package for 2016/17 and 2017/18 would be discussed at the meeting of the Conference of Colleges on 12<sup>th</sup> November, ahead of a binding vote in 9<sup>th</sup> Week. The proposal would be discussed further at Educational Policy Committee and Governing Body later in the term.

The Acting Principal Bursar reported an additional donation, [] to Full Circle.

The President summarised the views of the Committee regarding the proposal for Rawlinson Fellowships (to recognise donors who had given a major benefaction and who were alumni of the College) and invited the views of Governing Body. There was considerable support from members of Governing Body regarding the principle of creating philanthropy Fellowships. Issues surrounding due diligence would need to be addressed and there was also support for the recognition of donations in kind. General Purposes Committee was asked to give further consideration to the issue and to formulate a proposal to Governing Body.

**PRESIDENT**

The Governing Body also noted the Committee's discussion on philanthropic giving by Fellows.

##### 8. Estates Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were received.

The Acting Principal Bursar updated Governing Body on a number of projects, including the Northern Gateway and the College Nursery. The President asked that a timeline for the Northern Gateway project be discussed at General Purposes Committee in Hilary Term 2016.

The Governing Body **agreed** to commission Mark Laird, Senior Lecturer in the History of Landscape Architecture at Harvard University to write a guide and history of the College Garden [].

It was also **agreed** to replace the mower at Bagley Wood [].

9. Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were received.

The Finance Bursar briefed Governing Body on the College's Annual Report and Accounts with a series of helpful graphs.

The Governing Body **agreed** to appoint Mr Marcus Mackay as a director of Thomas White Oxford Ltd and Peartree Oxford Limited [].

It was also **agreed** to take out specialist Professional Liability Insurance cover [].

10. Official Guests to dinners 2016

The list of Official Guests was approved. The President's Secretary would confirm that the Professor in Medieval German had already been invited to dinner.

**PRESIDENT**

**BELOW THE LINE ITEMS – TO NOTE**

11. Development and Alumni Relations Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were received.

12. Health and Safety Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> November were received.

13. Selection of Artist-in-Residence 2016/17

The report on the selection of the Artist-in-Residence for Trinity Term 2016 (Ross Sinclair) and Trinity Term 2017 (Edward Thomasson) was received.