

Council Minutes**(Open)****8th April 2022**

Held via Teams from 2pm.

Present: Irene Adeyinka, Ronke Akerele, Sara Bafo, Dinah Caine, Anna Carlile, Frances Corner, Susan Dilly, Kiran Grewal, Andrew Laurence (joined meeting at 14:35), Ben Morton-Wright (left the meeting at 17:07), David Oswell, Lynn Pearcy (Acting Chair for item 9), Aaron Porter, Pam Raynor, David Reddaway, Philip Stoltzfus

In attendance: Jilly Court (Secretary), Imran Chughtai, Matthew Cragoe, Susan Edwards, Stephen Graham, Simon Mattison, Michael Vincent (for item 8), Elizabeth Williams, Kayley Darby-Philpotts, Matthew Brooks and Tyler Harris.

Starring indicates those matters on which discussion was expected.

OPEN BUSINESS

1 Apologies

Received:

- 1.1 Elisabeth Hill, Steven Graham, Monika Barnes and Anna Furse were not in attendance.
 - 1.2 Thanks were given to Anna Furse, Ravi Mahendra, Elizabeth Williams and Sara Bafo for their time and contributions to Council.
 - 1.3 The Chair reminded members of the need to conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner at all times and treat each other with dignity and respect during all meetings.
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2 Chair's action

Received:

- 2.1 Chair's action in relation to the appointment of the Interim Chief Operating Officer and Secretary to Council;
- 2.2 Chair's action in relation to the appointment of the new Chair of the Human Resources and Equalities Committee;
- 2.3 Chair's action in relation to the awarding of an Honorary Fellowship on the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees and Fellowships Committee;
- 2.4 Chair's action in relation to approving the making of a request for a waiver of a condition subsequent of the rolling credit facility; and

2.5 Chair's action in relation to the approval of study abroad fees for 2022/2023.

Noted:

2.6 It was noted that the appointment of the new Chair of the Human Resources and Equalities Committee was approved by Chair's action after having gone through the appropriate nomination and governance procedures.

2.7 In relation to the action for a waiver (point 2.4 above) the Chair of Council confirmed that the action was taken due to an issue around timing. It was suggested that going forward the Warden and also the Chairs of the Finance and Resources and Audit and Risk Committees agree to any changes in these areas and if Council falls within a reasonable window of time, then it should also be brought to Council.

Resolved:

2.9 Council approved the Chair's action in relation to the appointment of the Interim Chief Operating Officer and Secretary to Council;

2.10 Council approved the Chair's action in relation to the appointment of the new Chair of the Human Resources and Equalities Committee;

2.11 Council approved the Chair's action in relation to the awarding of an Honorary Fellowship on the recommendation of the Honorary Degrees and Fellowships Committee;

2.12 Council approved the Chair's action in relation to approving the making of a request for a waiver of a condition subsequent of the rolling credit facility; and

2.13 Council approved the Chair's action in relation to the approval of study abroad fees for 2022/2023.

3 Minutes*

Received:

3.1 Full Minutes (Open, Closed and Reserved) of the Council meeting on 25 November 2021 (CNCL138).

Resolved:

3.2 Council approved the full minutes of the meeting of 25 November 2021 (CNCL138).

4 Matters Arising*

Received:

4.1 Statement from Anna Furse.

Noted:

- 4.2 Council noted certain points within the letter for reflection. It was also noted that some of the contents refers to information of a personal and confidential nature in relation to some of the administrative points raised and so could not be discussed.
- 4.3 It was acknowledged that any move around people leaving is painful and difficult and Council felt it appropriate to acknowledge Anna Furse's contributions to Council and thank them for their time.
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5 Actions*

Received:

- 5.1 The action tracker.

Noted:

- 5.2 The progress of the Council action tracker is up-to-date and progress of ongoing work was noted.

Action:

- 5.3 The Students' Union ("SU") to bring their report to the next meeting of Council in June to cover the past two years.
- 5.4 An update on the composition of the SU's trustee board was requested for the next meeting of Council.
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6 Chair's Report*

Noted:

- 6.1 It was noted that the Chair has been undertaking work since the last meeting of Council in November 2021 around the lobby to do with quality and standards, with the Office for Students ("OfS") and also in response to the Augur review.
- 6.2 A concern around the prospect of differential fees between STEM subjects and arts and humanities has not appeared in the Augur review.
- 6.3 Further work around data is expected and the way in which data is being constructed to measure progress and performance and how it links to the way that quality and standards are going to be measured.
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7 Warden's Report*

Received:

- 7.1 An update on the College's Race Justice work;
- 7.2 An update on student recruitment; and
- 7.3 An update on the DTH Statues.

Noted:

- 7.4 Thanks were given to the President of the SU for their continued contributions and input into the work on Racial Justice work.
- 7.5 It was suggested that the appointed Co-Chair of the Race Justice Board to be invited to the next meeting of Council.
- 7.6 Clarification was sought around the correct terminology adopted by the College as referenced in the update (7.1).
- 7.7 Congratulations were given to the new sabbatical team.
- 7.8 It was noted that the current combination of a number of consultations and changes by the OfS will put pressure on all institutions in terms of data gathering and meeting very tight deadlines which is a cause for concern. Further updates on where the College is in relation to this work will be provided at the joint Council and Academic Board meeting scheduled in May.

- 7.9 Work is being done to support students both from Ukraine and from Russia because there are a certain number of Russian students who do not want to return home. It was also noted that the College is looking at joining up with the Council for At Risk Academics (CARA) for the offering of scholarships for Ukrainian academics.
- 7.10 Council was advised that a report on the Deptford Town hall statues will be brought to the next meeting on 23 June 2022. The College has had a number of responses to its survey is currently commissioning a postgraduate research student from a group of PGR students to perform the data analysis.
- 7.11 Certain members expressed that given the difficulties that the College faces requiring it to make changes in terms of finances, the fact that there remains some medium to long term challenges needs to be stressed and the College's financial position will continue to be a challenging one.
- 7.12 It was suggested that given the central role to the College's financial performance, that the student recruitment update element of the report could be included as a standalone item in the next meeting of Council.
- 7.13 It was noted that out of 21 of the KPIs within the current strategy 20 of those have not been met and therefore the College needs to focus not just on the 'what' but the 'how' when going forward and setting KPIs.

Secretary's note: items 8 and 9 were discussed as Reserved Business.

10 Strategy Update*

Received:

10.1 The College's Strategy Update (Part A); and

10.2 The College's Strategy KPI Update (Part B).

Resolved:

10.3 Council noted the College's Strategy Update.

10.4 Council noted the College's Strategy KPI Update.

11 Quality and Standards Update from Academic Board*

Received:

11.1 An update from Academic Board in relation to work undertaken in relation to quality and standards;

Resolved:

11.3 Council noted the update from Academic Board in relation to work undertaken in relation to quality and standards.

12 University Title and Constitutional Documents*

Received:

12.1 Universal Title and Constitutional Documents and associated appendices.

Resolved:

12.3 Council noted that the DfE has determined that Goldsmiths meets the criteria for university title and has directed the College to make relevant petitions to the Privy Council in order that its determination can be given effect.

12.4 Council resolved that a petition be made to the Privy Council for the granting of a Supplemental Charter by the monarch and the amendment of the Statutes by an order of the Privy Council.

12.5 Council reaffirmed the previous resolutions of Council relating to the drafting of a Supplemental Charter and the amendments to the Statute(s).

12.6 Council noted that, in order to control costs, it is not intended to pursue a Supplement Charter on velum.

13 Accommodation Fees

Received:

13.1 The 2022/23 academic year's accommodation fees upon recommendation from the Finances and Resources Committee.

Resolved:

13.2 Council approved the 2022/23 academic year's accommodation fees upon recommendation from the Finances and Resources Committee.

14 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Report

Received:

14.1 The College's equality, diversity and inclusion report 2021 upon recommendation from the Human Resources and Equalities Committee.

Resolved:

14.2 Council approved the College's equality, diversity and inclusion report 2021 upon recommendation from the Human Resources and Equalities Committee.

15 Pensions Update

Received:

15.1 The update regarding USS Pensions.

Resolved:

15.2 Council noted the update regarding USS Pensions.

16 Lewisham Borough of Culture

Received:

16.1 The update regarding Lewisham Borough of Culture.

Noted:

16.2 Council noted the update regarding Lewisham Borough of Culture.

17 OfS Consultation Response

Received:

17.1 The College's response to the latest OfS consultation exercise.

Noted:

17.2 Council noted the College's response to the latest OfS consultation exercise.

18 Academic Board Report

Received:

18.1 The Academic Board Report.

Noted:

18.2 Council noted the report for this Council Committee.

19 External Relations Committee Report

Received:

19.1 The External Relations Committee Report.

Noted:

19.2 Council noted the reports for this Council Committee.

20 Finance and Resources Committee Report

Received:

20.1 The Finance and Resources Committee Report.

Noted:

20.2 Council noted the report for this Council Committee.

21 Health and Safety Committee Report

Received:

21.1 The Health and Safety Committee Report.

Noted:

21.2 Council noted the report for this Council Committee.

22 Human Resources and Equalities Committee Report

Received:

22.1 The Human Resources and Equalities Committee Report.

Noted:

22.2 Council noted the report for this Council Committee.

23 Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee

Received:

23.1 The Joint Negotiation and Consultation Committee Report.

Noted:

23.2 Council noted the report for this Council Committee.

24 Any other business

Noted:

24.1 It was noted that the College is going through a very difficult time and despite differences of opinions it is essential that everyone within the community and particularly Members of Council be more respectful of one another. This includes engaging with respect as well as talking about other colleagues with respect.