

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

ACADEMIC BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2017

OPEN BUSINESS

Present: Mr Patrick Loughrey (in the Chair),
Mr Leo Appleton, Professor Michael Archer, Professor Vikki Bell,
Professor Claudia Bernard, Professor Lucia Boldrini,
Professor Frank Bond, Professor Andy Bremner, Dr Lisa Busby,
Professor Rebecca Cassidy, Ms Eva Crossan-Jory, Dr Debbie Custance,
Professor Mark d' Inverno, Dr Henrike Donner, Dr Jasna Dragovic Soso,
Professor Anna Furse, Mr Ian Gardiner, Ms Annie Guo,
Professor Elisabeth Hill, Mr Kevin Jones, Mr Steve Keirl,
Dr Rodger Kibble, Dr Pdraig Kirwan, Dr Betty Liebovich,
Ms Karen Matthewman, Ms Taylor McGraa, Professor Richard Noble,
Professor Osita Okagbue, Professor Simon O'Sullivan,
Professor David Oswell, Dr Rajyashree Pandey, Professor Alan Pickering,
Ms Maggie Pitfield, Dr John Price, Professor Marsha Rosengarten,
Dr Anamik Saha, Mr Paul Stocks, Dr Ragupathy Venkatachalam,
Dr Erica Wald, Ms Zoe Walshe, Mr Matthew Ward,
Professor Robert Zimmer, Professor Joanna Zylinska.

Apologies: Mr Martin Conreen, Mr Adrian De La Court, Mr Conrad Heyns,
Ms Wei Jin, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Dr Caroline Rix, Mr Joe Williams.

In attendance: Mr Kieron Broadhead, Mr Matthew Brooks, Ms Tara Mariwany,
Mr Ian Pleace, Ms Alix Poulton, Ms Helen Watson, Mr Ben Wilson,
Mr Gareth Bodrell (Secretary).

OPEN BUSINESS

1 MINUTES

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 September 2017 be approved.

2 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Received:

An oral report on matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2017

Noted:

Audit and Risk Committee and Council had received and discussed the Annual Quality Report, which had been approved at the September meeting of the Board. They were satisfied with the information contained within the report and Council had consequently made its required annual assurance statements on quality and standards and the College's academic governance to HEFCE.

3 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Noted:

the Chair reminded members that considerations of equality and diversity should inform the deliberation of all items of business.

4 WARDEN'S REPORT

- (i) Both undergraduate and postgraduate admissions had remained very healthy and enrolments were positive. The undergraduate and postgraduate student bodies were currently 4% and 8% bigger respectively than the previous year. UCAS figures for the next year were also encouraging but it was important to increase efforts to recruit more non-EU international students in the next few cycles. The considerable effort made by staff to achieve these results was acknowledged. However, it was essential that this was maintained and that the College continued to make up ground on some of its peers.
- (ii) Following a long period of consultation, HEFCE had clarified a number of key issues relating to REF 2021. The decision to allow both the institution in which an output took place and the current employing institution to gain credit was welcomed. The decisions regarding the number and distribution of outputs to be submitted should lead to slightly less bunching of institutions in the final rankings. There was a great determination to demonstrate the excellent research carried out across the mix of disciplines and practice at the College.
- (iii) The government had published its industrial strategy white paper. Although it was a step in the right direction and contained some important levers for the creative industries and the wider economy, there was a lack of ambition around skills policy and little to address the crisis in secondary-level creative education. Goldsmiths could take pride in the fact that the pledge of £33 million for an "audiences of the

future” fund was the result of an idea for targeted funding for immersive technologies that was developed within the College. The importance of STEAM was underlined: Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences would be a major part of the strategy. There was much that the College could contribute, not just in Computing and Psychology but in all departments. It was a positive challenge to be imaginative and refashion what we did to make it relevant.

- (iv) Council had approved the Goldsmiths Institutional Strategy for 2018-2023. Following the last round of feedback a few additions had been made to the draft that had been seen previously. Greater emphasis had been placed on research, including research-led teaching, as a core part of the College’s identity and work, and on student input and decision-making and collaboration with the Students’ Union. More mention had been made of Brexit and greater recognition given to the role of technology in teaching and learning and to the need to continue developing the estate. Communication materials were being prepared and there would be a formal launch in the New Year.
- (v) The Caroline Graveson building had recently been handed over to the College by the developers. This was some weeks later than originally planned and staff were thanked for their patience. Staff moves would now take place in the forthcoming weeks and the space this freed up would enable the College to provide offices to academics and to locate student services in more accessible spaces.
- (vi) Work was progressing on the art gallery (Centre for Contemporary Art) and it was planned that it would be completed by April. The £1 million fundraising target set by Council was within reach and it was hoped to go a lot further. Work was also underway on the new theatre. The official opening would take place in October but it was expected that it would be open by the summer term. The theatre would be within the bookable pool so would also be available for events.

5 TERMS OF REFERENCE, CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF ACADEMIC BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES

Received:

the terms of reference, constitution and membership of the Board and its committees for 2016-17 (17-01R)

Noted:

- (i) The terms of reference and membership of the Board and all its committees had been updated following discussion at their first meetings of the year.
- (ii) In addition to the membership set out in the papers, individuals could, with prior agreement of the Chair, come to the meeting “in attendance”. Attendees were not members and could not vote on committee matters.

- (iii) It was asked whether the membership position allocated to a member of the Student Assembly, could be changed to an additional position allocated to a second sabbatical officer of the Union. It was explained that proposals for such changes to the membership would need to be formally submitted in a paper. The Students' Union were invited to present a paper to the following meeting of the Board.

Resolved:

That the terms of reference, constitution and membership of the Board and its committees for 2017-18 be approved.

6 SEXUAL VIOLENCE, HARASSMENT AND MISCONDUCT POLICY

Received:

An update on the continuing work around the Goldsmiths Policy on Sexual Violence, Harassment and Misconduct (C1) and the policy and the procedures outlined for its implementation (C2) (17-198R).

- (i) Due to the need to meet external regulatory deadlines the autumn term meeting of Council preceded the meeting of Academic Board. Because of the extensive consultation that had occurred in creating the policy and the importance of having it in place at the earliest opportunity, it had been approved in principle by Council. Final sign off had been delegated to SMT once agreement had been reached on the amendments highlighted within the documentation. Any further minor amendments recommended by the Board could also be dealt with in this way.
- (ii) A package of training was being rolled out for staff and students to support the policy and procedures.
- (iii) The policy would sit alongside the College's relevant disciplinary procedures, which would be unaffected by its approval.

7 EMPLOYABILITY STRATEGY

Received:

the Goldsmiths Employability Strategy (17-76R).

Noted:

- (i) The final strategy was the result of a very wide consultation, which had included consideration at all of the relevant College committees and discussions with a broad range of stakeholders.

- (ii) Improved graduate outcomes was one of the College's four strategic aims. However, Goldsmiths had not performed well in this area and, particularly given the changing context of UK higher education, it was important to improve.
- (iii) The principle of education for education's sake was not at odds with the aim of equipping students with the knowledge and skills that would enable them to pursue successful careers following graduation.
- (iv) It was pointed out that target setting and accountability should not be limited to academic departments. It was agreed that the strategy was a partnership that was equally reliant on the provision of effective support from professional services departments. This was underlined by the responsibilities set out within the action plan, which spanned areas across the College.
- (v) It was important that employability should not appear to be an additional responsibility that was divorced from the academic work of departments. It was pointed out that the strategy would sit alongside the Learning Teaching and Assessment Strategy which itself contained a specific aim relating to graduate futures. It was felt that it was important that the link between the two strategies be made more explicit.
- (vi) Implementation of the strategy would have financial implications and it was asked how this would be recognised. It was noted that the strategy was an institutionally owned activity and its implementation would be a core part of the financial planning process.

Resolved:

To approve the Employability Strategy.

8 SECURING STUDENT SUCCESS: RISK-BASED REGULATION FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE, SOCIAL MOBILITY AND INFORMED CHOICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION – DFE CONSULTATION

Received:

the College's draft response to the above consultation (17-196R)

Noted:

- (i) The consultation, which consisted of nine separate documents, set out proposals for how the Office for Students (OfS) would carry out its role. Council had considered the draft response at its meeting on 23 November and had accepted the recommendation that Goldsmiths should respond to the majority of questions set out in the main consultation document and to the separate fees consultation (stage 2). It had confirmed it was content with the draft responses set out in the paper.

- (ii) Council also agreed that the College should not respond to the DQB, DDB and new provider consultations since these were enshrined in HERA and their existence would not therefore be in doubt. In each case, only one organisation had responded to the tender, both with long established relationships with HEFCE – the Higher Education Statistics Agency, and the Quality Assurance Agency.
- (iii) Council had approved the draft response whilst noting that feedback had also been sought across the College via staff news and that Academic Board would be asked to comment. Subsequent to this feedback, final sign off would be delegated to SMT.
- (iv) The Draft response attempted to reflect the College's point of view whilst focussing its arguments on those areas where there appeared to be a better possibility of effecting change.
- (v) The Students' Union intended to make a separate response to the proposals.
- (vi) There was general agreement with the content and tone of the response though some scepticism was expressed over its possible effect.

Resolved:

To approve the response.

9 TEACHING EXCELLENCE AND STUDENT OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK YEAR 3

Received:

a paper summarising the changes introduced to TEF and of Goldsmiths' performance in the latest set of metrics (17-169).

Noted:

- (i) Although institutions received a TEF award for three years, they could opt for reassessment before then if they believed this could lead to an improvement in their result. However, Goldsmiths' position had worsened in nearly all of the TEF core metrics and it had therefore been decided not to submit for reassessment in TEF Year 3.
- (ii) It was hoped that the work now being undertaken to improve the student experience would lead to better metrics. However, since the TEF made use of data from the previous three years, any improvement would only be gradual. The data would be considered again in 2018-19. If there was evidence of positive movement in the key indicators then it would be possible to develop a narrative evidencing the specific impact of the actions that had been taken and it might be appropriate to make a new submission.

10 BAME STUDENTS

Received:

a report analysing data around key indicators of the student academic lifecycle of undergraduate students and a proposal for further work in this area (17-168R).

Noted:

- (i) The Head of Management Information and Analysis had produced an initial analysis of HESA data for discussion. It was planned to work with the Students Union to develop a project plan with a timeline and responsibilities based on a clear understanding of the issues.
- (ii) The number of respondents marked as “unknown” presented a real difficulty in understanding the data and it was a priority for the College to improve the quality of the data. It was noted that a data quality strategy was currently being formulated which would consider how information was requested from students.
- (iii) It was requested that the data be published. It was pointed out that it was already in the public domain but that there needed to be careful consideration of the interpretation that was put around it. It was agreed that the Deputy Warden should liaise with the Students’ Union and the Head of Management Information and Analysis to discuss how this could be achieved.
- (iv) It was noted that entry tariffs and demographics varied between departments and this highlighted the importance of undertaking further granular analysis at a departmental level. There would be separate conversations with departments. It was important that the process was informed both by data and personal experience of students.

11 STUDENT EXPERIENCE WORKSTREAMS

Received:

a paper detailing the creation and progress of the three Student Experience Workstreams (17-220).

Noted:

- (i) The work of the groups had continued over the autumn term. Each group had identified 4 or 5 projects which would now get underway, some of which would report back to the March meeting of the Board.

- (ii) There had been good engagement with the groups and it was hoped that this would continue. Further calls for engagement would be made at different points during the year.
- (iii) It was suggested that some of the projects were articulated at a high level. The review of support provided to personal and senior tutors was welcomed but it was suggested that this should also look at processes on the ground. It was agreed that this was a fair comment and anybody who wished to input to a project was invited to contact the leader of the relevant group. It was noted that the output of the projects alone would not resolve every issue but they could provide the context for department specific solutions.

12 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK WORKING GROUP

Received:

a paper providing an update on the work of the Regulatory Framework Working Group (17-221).

Noted:

- (i) The Working Group had met twice and discussed proposed revisions to the regulations for resits. There had also been a wider consultation through departmental learning and teaching committees.
- (ii) Mapping of the College regulations to the new structure of the academic manual was also underway. A project timeline would be published in January. This would incorporate discussions at the Quality and Standards Sub-Committee and then ultimately at Academic Board. Departments would also be asked to make the regulations a standing item on learning and teaching committee agendas. The Chair of the Working Group would be able to attend these meetings if this was helpful.

13 STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Received:

the new Student Attendance Policy (17-231).

Noted:

- (i) The new policy did not propose significant changes to current practice but recorded it in a more systematic way. The aim of the policy was to better enable the College to identify students who might be struggling and to provide them with appropriate support as well as ensuring that students were safe, well and engaged with their university experience. It also ensured the College fulfilled its statutory

responsibilities to monitor the attendance of students. It was noted that, because of these different aims, it would be important to present the policy sensitively.

- (ii) It was asked what would represent a “contact point” as set out in the policy. It was explained that anything specified on a student’s timetable constituted a contact point.
- (iii) One change would be the provision of centralised support to departments and it was queried why it was necessary to collect information centrally. It was explained that this would ensure that the College had a clear picture of student attendance and was able to act promptly to protect the wellbeing of individual students. It was pointed out that departments often reported that they struggled to find the time to do this effectively.
- (iv) If the new policy were approved it would then be necessary to set out the processes to ensure its effective implementation.

Resolved:

To approve the policy.

14 QAA HIGHER EDUCATION REVIEW ACTION PLAN

Received:

the updated action plan stemming from the June 2015 QAA Higher Education Review (17-05R).

Resolved:

To approve the updated action plan.

15 GUIDELINES FOR THE GOVERNANCE OF ACADEMIC CENTRES AND UNITS

Received:

Revisions to the Guidelines for the Governance of Academic Centres and Units (17-138)

Resolved:

To approve the revisions to the Guidelines.

16 DECADENCE RESEARCH UNIT

Received:

a proposal for a new Decadence Research Unit within the department of English and Comparative Literature (17-225).

Resolved:

To approve the new Decadence Research Unit.

17 DEGREE AWARDING POWERS

Received:

a proposal to apply to the University Board to grant Goldsmiths unfettered right to exercise its degree awarding powers for all programmes at all academic levels (17-222).

Resolved:

To approve the proposal.

18 EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

Resolved:

To appoint the following External Examiners:

Dr Kerrie Bertele

Senior Lecturer in Marketing, University of Hertfordshire
BSc Marketing
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Mercedes Bunz

Faculty of Media, Arts and Design, University of Westminster
BA Media and Communications [theory]
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Mr Paul Dickinson

Leeds Trinity University
PGCE Secondary (Chief External Examiner)
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Professor Mark Dunhill

Dean of Academic Programmes, Central St Martins (retired)
BA Fine Art / MA Fine Art [LASALLE]
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Stephanie Feiereisen

Senior Lecturer in Marketing, City University London
MSc Consumer Behaviour
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Miss Helen Felcey

Manchester School of Art, Manchester Metropolitan University
BA Product Design / MA Design [LASALLE]
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Nicky Hatton

Lecturer in Drama, University of Winchester
MA Applied Theatre
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Dan Jackson

Faculty of Media and Communication, Bournemouth University
MA Political Communications
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Associate Professor Katya Johanson

Faculty of Arts and Education, Deakin University
BA Arts Management / MA Arts and Cultural Management [LASALLE]
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Ms Li yun Liao

Centre for Languages & International Education, UCL
BA International Studies with Chinese
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Eirini Mavritsaki

Department of Psychology, Birmingham City University
MSC/MRes Research Methods in Psychology
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Professor Andrew McStay

Professor of Digital Life, Bangor University
MA Promotional Media
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Jo Melvin

Reader Fine Art, Archives and Special Collections, UAL
MA Contemporary Art Theory
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Ms Tanya Moore

Senior Clinical Lecturer in Social Work,
The Tavistock and Portman NHS Foundation Trust
MA Social Work
From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Professor Kate Oakley

Professor of Cultural Policy, University of Leeds
BA Media and Communications [theory]

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2020

Miss Emily Pethick

Director, The Showroom NW8

MA Curating

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Mr David Phillips

Kingston School of Art, Kingston University

BA Design Communication [LASALLE]

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Eugenia Siapera

School of Communications, Dublin City University

BA Media and Communications [theory]

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Mr Jeremy Smith

Senior Lecturer in Mathematics Education, University of Chichester

PGCE Secondary (Mathematics)

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Rasha Kadry Soliman

Lecturer in Arabic Language, University of Leeds

Certificate in Arabic

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Jen Southern

Lancaster Institute for the Contemporary Arts, Lancaster University

MA Visual Sociology

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Dawn Watling

Psychology Department, Royal Holloway

BSc Psychology

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Eric White

Senior Lecturer in American Literature, Oxford Brookes

BA English programmes

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Dr Andy Williams

School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies, Cardiff University

BA Media and Communications (theory)

From 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2021

Received:

the annual digest of the minutes of departmental learning and teaching committees (17-178).

20 ADMISSIONS POLICY AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Noted:

- (i) the entry requirements to be published for the 2019 entry cycle (17-167).
- (ii) revised 2018-19 Goldsmiths Admissions Policy & Entry Requirements (17-166).

21 LIBRARY SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

Noted:

the Library annual report 2016-17 (17-180).

22 PERIODIC REVIEW

Noted:

Reports and action plans of the following periodic reviews:

- (i) Computing Report and Initial response (17-95)
- (ii) Music Action Plan update (17-96)
- (iii) STaCS (Community Studies) Action Plan update (17-97)
- (iv) CCS Action Plan update (17-98)
- (v) Art Action Plan final update (17-99)
- (vi) ECL Action Plan final update (17-100)

23 VISITING PROFESSORS AND FELLOWS

Noted:

the recent appointments of Visiting Professors and Fellows (17-224)

24 PROMOTIONS

Noted:

a summary of academic staff promotions from 1st September 2017 (17-226).

25 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

Noted:

Minutes from the following committees:

Academic Development Committee – 17th October 2017 (17-227)

Research and Enterprise Committee – 18th May 2017 (17-228)

Research and Enterprise Committee – 20th September 2017 (17-229)

Research and Enterprise Committee – 8th November 2017 (17-230)

26 FUTURE MEETINGS

To note the dates of meetings in 2017-18 as follows:

Wednesday 7 March 2018

Wednesday 6 June 2018

All meetings will begin at 2.00pm and take place in the Professor Stuart Hall Building, Room 3.26.

GB

December 2017