

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London
COUNCIL**

21 September 2016

OPEN BUSINESS

- Present:** Rt. Hon Estelle Morris (in the Chair), Mr Nick Barron, Professor Sean Cubitt, Dr Kate Devlin, Ms Marl'ene Edwin, Professor Elisabeth Hill, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Mr Patrick Loughrey, Ms Jackie Morgan, Mr Daniel Nasr, Professor Richard Noble, Professor Jane Powell, Ms Sue Reece, Ms Vanessa Sharp, Dr Derval Tubridy, Mr Tom Wilson, Mr Phillip Wright and Ms Theodora Zemek.
- Apologies:** Ms Althea Efunshile, Dr Barry Quirk, Sir David Reddaway, Mr David Richards and Ms Jessica Wanamaker.
- In attendance:** Interim Registrar and Secretary, Director of Finance, Director of Executive and Governance Services, Director of Human Resources, Director of Communications and Policy, Head of Secretariat and Legal Services and Executive and Governance Officer.
- Observers:** Ms Natalie Fenton (UCU), Ms Susan Kelly, Ms Eva Crossan Jory and Mr Massimiliano Mollona.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Noted:

apologies received as shown above.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Noted:

no further items were identified as requiring discussion .

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noted:

- i) the Deputy Warden, Professor Jane Powell, has been appointed by the Vice Provost for Education and Students at the University of Surrey. The Deputy Warden was congratulated on her appointment and appreciation was expressed for her many years of invaluable service to the College; and
- ii) the Director of Executive and Governance Services, Mrs Lucinda Parr, has been appointed as the Secretary to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Mrs Parr was congratulated on her appointment. Council expressed its gratitude for the support it has received from Mrs Parr.

4. CHAIR'S ACTION

Noted:

on the recommendation of the Chairs of the Finance and Resources Committee and the Audit and Risk Committee, the Chair had given approval for the College to enter into new lending covenants with Lloyds on the 26 July 2016.

5. MINUTES

Resolved:

the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2016 (Paper A) are approved.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

none.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Noted:

- (i) that a session with all available members of Council had been held earlier in the day and that there would be further thought on the practical steps that could be taken to ensure that inclusion and the consideration of difference became a practical and measurable part of all committee meetings going forward.

8. TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

Received and noted:

Council's terms of reference, composition and membership.

9. STANDING ORDERS

Received and noted

the Standing Orders.

10. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY

Received and noted:

the College's policy on conflicts of interests:

<http://www.gold.ac.uk/governance/policies/conflicts/> .

Secretary's note: All members of Council had been requested to make declarations to the Secretariat of any or any perceived conflicts of interests that they may have.

11. ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS

Received and noted:

the list of those members of the academic staff who had been promoted with effect from 1 September 2016 (Paper B: 16-021).

12. WARDEN'S REPORT

Noted:

- (i) the external environment remains highly complex and changing and that Goldsmiths continues to engage with sector policy level discussions on the way forward;
- (iii) Mr Ian Pleace has been appointed as Director of Finance and Ms Claire MacLean is acting as Registrar and Secretary.
- (iv) the appointment process for the new Registrar and Secretary has commenced;

- (v) sexual harassment at HEIs, including Goldsmiths, has been the subject of significant coverage in the national press. Goldsmiths is to appoint a dedicated member of staff to lead the College's response to this issue. That notwithstanding, Goldsmiths has a robust strategy to ensure that members of the College feel able to report instances and a proactive programme of activity around making explicit what harassment was;
- (vi) Goldsmiths had performed well and increased its student intake during the recruitment round at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Testing targets set were nearly met.
- (vii) Goldsmiths has and continues to develop an exciting portfolio of new programmes which is proving attractive to prospective students;
- (viii) it is essential that the College's changes its culture and improves processes relating to offer making;
- (ix) Goldsmiths performed well in the National Student Survey compared to London HEIs but less well in terms of the wider sector. Some departments performed outstandingly well;
- (x) a financial forecast was provided based on preliminary enrolment numbers;
- (x) £3,000,000 has been invested in updating and regularising the IT and AV equipment in teaching spaces; and
- (xi) works on the Art Gallery have started. Some art students have been moved to new premises at Deptford Creek.

13. SECTOR POLICY AND THE EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

Received and noted:

a report on policy shifts in Higher Education and Research (Paper D: 16-023).

14. REPORTS FROM SELECTED COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Received and noted:

reports from the following committees of Council (Paper E: 16-024):

- (i) Human Resources and Equalities Committee
- (ii) Estates and Infrastructure Committee
- (iii) Health and Safety Committee.

15. SCHEDULES OF BUSINESS

Received and noted:

draft Schedules of Business for the following committees of Council
(Paper F: 16-025):

- (i) Council
- (ii) Academic Board
- (iii) Human Resources and Equalities Committee
- (iv) Audit and Risk Committee
- (v) Estates and Infrastructure
- (vi) Finance and Resources Committee
- (vii) Health and Safety Committee
- (viii) External Relations Committee.

16. THEMATIC REPORT FROM ANNUAL SURVEY OF THE COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Received and noted:

a thematic report from the annual survey of the Committees of Council
(Paper G: 16-026).

17. GOLDSMITHS DUTY TO DELIVER PUBLIC BENEFIT

Received:

guidance on “Public Benefit” published by the Charity Commission:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/public-benefit-rules-for-charities>

Noted:

members of Council have had due regard to guidance on “Public Benefit”, as published by the Charity Commission.

18. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Received:

a report from the Director of Executive and Governance Services
(Paper H: 16-027).

Noted:

- (i) there should be a disaggregation of the risk surrounding the GSU and reporting of historical events and the recent press coverage.

19. PREVENT

Secretary's note: Nicola Bennison of Eversheds LLP attended for this item.

Received:

- (i) a paper from the Interim Registrar and Secretary detailing the College's response to and action plan for the Prevent Duty; and
- (ii) a full briefing from Nicola Bennison of Eversheds LLP concerning the legal responsibilities of Council in relation to the Prevent Duty.

Resolved:

that a further briefing will be provided to members in advance of the statement being presented as part of the accountability return in December 2016.

20. ACADEMIC SECTIONS

Received:

recommendations from Academic Board concerning the establishment and/or discontinuation of academic sections (Paper J: 16-028).

Resolved:

- (i) the Centre for English Language and Academic Writing is to be discontinued with immediate effect; and
- (ii) the English Language Centre and the Academic Skills Centre be established as academic sections but such status be reviewed within 6 months.

21. POLICIES

Resolved:

the policies for 2016-2017 are approved.

22. ORDINANCES

Resolved:

the amendments to the Ordinances proposed within Paper K are approved, with effect from 1 September 2016.

23. ANTI-SLAVERY STATEMENT

Resolved:

the Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement as set out within Paper J is approved.

24. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Noted:

the following dates of forthcoming meetings in 2016-17:

4pm on 30 November 2016;
4pm on 5 April 2017; and
4pm on 28 June 2017.

25. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (OPEN)

Noted:

none.