

GOLDSMITHS
University of London

COUNCIL
28 June 2007

- Present:** Mr Christopher Jonas (in the Chair), Mr Keith Ajegbo, Mr Mark Baillache, Mr Jack Barnes, Dr David Barrett, Dr Philip Broadhead, Professor Geoffrey Crossick, Ms Katy Donnelly, Lady Goodhart, Ms Jennifer Huseman, Mr Kenneth May, Mrs Alyson McGarrigle, Professor Simon McVeigh, Ms Samyukta Mukhopadhyay, Mr Dick Melly, Professor Carrie Paechter, Professor Robert Pinker, Mr Keith Potter, Professor Nirmala Rao, Dame Janet Ritterman, Viscount Sandon.
- Apologies:** Professor Warwick Gould, Dr Janet Hand, Baroness Morris.
- In attendance:** Registrar and Secretary, Director of Finance, Academic Registrar, Head of Secretariat, Head of Quality and Governance (for the business referred to in item 39 below).
- Observers:** Trades Union Representatives (UCU and UNISON).

OPEN BUSINESS

26 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 22 March 2007 be approved.

27 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

- (i) that no Disciplinary Tribunal would be convened under Statute 14, given the resignation, in the meantime, of the member of staff in question (*Minute 3 refers*);
- (ii) that the amended Charter and Statutes had been approved by the Privy Council on 2 May 2007, to take effect from 1 September 2007 (*Minute 5 refers*).

28 WARDEN'S REPORT

The Warden gave an oral report, including the following matters:

- (i) The Queen's Birthday Honours 2007, among which honours for individuals associated with Goldsmiths included:
 - OBE: Professor Diane Waller (Art Psychotherapy, PACE)
 - OBE: Ms Mee Ling Ng (former member of Council)
 - Knighthood: Mr Steve Bullock (Executive Mayor of Lewisham)

- (ii) The encouraging student recruitment prospects for September 2007, including the College's success in obtaining Additional Student Number (ASN) funding from HEFCE, now awarded in connection with Lifelong Learning Networks for students from disadvantaged backgrounds;
- (iii) Progress on the refurbishment of the Whitehead Building (on which works were expected to be completed within budget by Autumn 2007), and on the construction of the Backfield Building with a view to Summer 2009 completion.
- (iv) The start of the development of an Estate Master Plan using external advisers, taking into account the need to maximise the value derived by Goldsmiths from its estate, and also the need to prepare for a changing external funding environment, focusing less on earmarked estates funding and more on the oversight of institutions' plans for the use of all their capital resources.
- (v) The establishment of the new government Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills as one of the two successor bodies to the Department for Education and Skills.
- (vi) Preliminary indications of a relatively favourable outcome for higher education from the Comprehensive Spending Review.

29 REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR

Council noted that since the last meeting Chair's action on behalf of Council had been taken as listed below (07-274):

- (i) to approve a loan of 9 million pounds from Lloyds Bank TSB, in the light of the decision by Council on 29 June 2006 on the refinancing of leases (Minute 25, 29 June 2006 and Minute 38 below refer);
- (ii) to approve minor changes to the Health and Safety Policy in the light of comments made by Council on 22 March 2007, prior to publication on 1 April 2007;
- (iii) to approve the following change to the Students' Union Articles of Governance approved by Council on 22 March 2007, in the light of a request from the Charities Commission. (The relevant section concerns the objectives of the Charity.)

"7.4 facilitating the social, recreational, ~~political~~ and educational interests of its Membership, through providing services and support for its Members";

- (iv) to amend the composition of the Joint Consultative Committee (formerly chaired by Mr Ian Turner),

from: "to Warden or his or her appointee"
to: "the Registrar and Secretary *ex officio*";

- (v) to approve the following addition to the section of the statement of Financial Authorities and Limits headed "Banking Arrangements" with immediate effect:

Indemnities: Chair of Council (to be reported to Council as Chair's Action)

- (vi) to make the following amendments to the terms of reference of Audit Committee, consequential upon the abolition of the post of Director of Resources and Planning:

"The ~~Director of Resources and Planning~~ **Director of Finance** may at any time have direct access to Council should this be necessary."

Replace of "Director of Resources and Planning" by "Director of Finance" in the list of officers attending Audit Committee in the term of reference which lists persons in attendance. (The Director of Finance has in fact always been included in the relevant appendix to the composition listing attendees, so this was probably an oversight originally.)

- (vii) to appoint Dr Virginia Brooke to membership of Audit Committee for three years from 1 September 2007, to fill the consequential vacancy in ordinary membership arising from the appointment, by Council at its meeting on 22 March 2007, of Mr Jack Barnes as Chair of Audit Committee.

30 GOLDSMITHS' ACADEMIC FOOTPRINT

Received:

a discussion paper from the Warden (07-275).

Council noted that the issues raised in the paper would be subject to further discussion within the College, including at Academic Board.

In considering the challenge of choosing a new subject area or areas into which Goldsmiths might move, the following points were particularly highlighted by members of Council:

- (i) The need to avoid launching subjects currently popular, if they might have passed their peak by the time they could be introduced at Goldsmiths.
- (ii) The benefits of choosing new subjects which were cognate to the existing provision.
- (iii) The importance of launching new areas only if there was confidence that excellence could be achieved.
- (iv) The importance of accurate assessment of overseas - and in particular United States - market in making choices about any new subject areas.
- (v) The benefits of choosing new subjects which were cognate to the existing provision, so that that existing provision would thereby be strengthened.
- (vi) The risk management benefits from offering a wider portfolio of subject areas, so that subject-specific risks - principally market fluctuation - would be more widely spread.
- (vii) The implications for the gender balance of the College of a shift in subject mix. (Although national statistics showed that, if the subject mix of Goldsmiths were taken into account, its gender profile was not out of line with national trends, some members of Council felt that a more evenly-balanced gender profile would be desirable.)
- (viii) The need to ensure that space could be made available for any planned net expansion, which would as far as possible be done by making more efficient use of existing buildings, as well as in the longer term by changing land usage where necessary. (It was noted in this regard that more efficient use of space would be likely to entail a change in the approach to timetabling - for example to make better use of rooms available on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons.)

31 DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

Received:

the draft Strategic Plan (07-276).

Resolved:

that the broad direction and content of the Strategic Plan be endorsed.

32 APPROVAL OF ANNUAL BUDGET

Resolved:

that the College's Budget for 2007-08 be approved (07-144).

33 FINANCIAL FORECAST

Resolved:

that the draft Financial Forecast and Commentary be approved for submission to the Higher Education Funding Council in July 2007, it being noted that the format of the actual submission would be somewhat different from the Council paper (07-244R).

34 REVIEW OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A REDUNDANCY COMMITTEE

[Mr Kenneth May abstained from discussion of this item, in view of his expected participation in the subsequent redundancy process]

Received:

- (i) a paper from the Registrar and Secretary, concerning decisions by Academic Board (7 June 2007) to close modern foreign language programmes within the Language Studies Centre, and the need for Council, in consequence of these decisions, to set up a Redundancy Committee (07-277);
- (ii) a statement from staff of the Language Studies Centre, supplementary to the statement already presented to Academic Board (and attached to paper 07-277) (07-301).

Resolved:

- (i) that in accordance with paragraph 10(2) of Statute 14, and the light of the closure of modern foreign languages programmes within the Language Studies Centre, a reduction in the academic staff of the Language Studies Centre by way of redundancy be identified as desirable;
- (ii) that a Redundancy Committee be established in accordance with paragraph 11 of Statute 14, and that the Chair be empowered to approve on behalf of Council the membership of that Committee.

35 VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE SCHEME

(Minute 20, 22 March 2007, refers)

Received:

a proposed Temporary Voluntary Severance Scheme, which had been amended since consideration by Finance and Resources Committee, following consultation with Trades Unions.

Resolved:

to approve the adoption of the proposed Temporary Voluntary Severance Scheme, to be launched in June 2007 (07-278).

36 NURSERY FEES

Resolved:

To approve, on the recommendation of Finance and Resources Committee, arrangements for Nursery fees for 2007-08 (07-249).

37 HALL FEES

Resolved:

to approve, on the recommendation of Finance and Resources Committee, arrangements for Hall fees for 2007-08, involving an increase of 5-8 percent (07-146).

38 REFINANCING COLLEGE LEASES, AND ACCEPTANCE OF A LOAN

Received:

a paper from the Director of Finance, concerning the acceptance of a loan, consequential upon the course of action agreed by Council on 29 June 2006 (Minute 25 of that meeting refers; see also Minute 29 above) (07-279).

Resolved:

- (i) that loan facilities in an original aggregate principal sum of up to £9,000,000 with Lloyds TSB Bank plc (the "Bank") pursuant to a letter dated 26 June 2006 (the "Facility Letter") be amended in the manner proposed in a letter from the Bank dated 13 March 2007 (the "Amendment Letter").**
- (ii) that Professor Geoffrey Crossick, Warden, and Mr Barry Douglas, Director of Finance, be authorised to make the necessary arrangements with the bank and to sign on behalf of the College the Amendment Letter which was produced to the meeting and its terms and conditions approved.**

39 APPLICATION FOR DEGREE-AWARDING POWERS / INSTITUTIONAL AUDIT

Received:

a draft Critical Self-Analysis document prepared for submission to the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) as part of the College's application for Degree-Awarding Powers (07-205R2).

Resolved:

to approve the Critical Self-Analysis document in general terms, and subject to any necessary further editorial amendments, including those arising from comments by members of Council.

40 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON STATUTES

Received:

the proposed new Statutes for the University of London (07-251), presented for consultation by the University's Constitutional Review Working Group.

Resolved:

that no objections be raised to the adoption of the proposed new Statutes.

Noted:

- (i) that concerns had been expressed about the uncertainty of the position of the University of London Students' Union under the new structure;
- (ii) that, though these concerns did not have direct implications for the approval of the specific Statute wording on which Council had been asked to comment, and had not been considered by the University of London Constitutional Review Working Group, it was important in a wider context that they be given further consideration, and that accordingly the Warden and the President of the Goldsmiths Students' Union would have further discussion of the matter in the near future.

41 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

- (i) **that, with effect from 1 September 2007, amendments to the General Regulations be approved as set out in paper 07-254R;**
- (ii) **that "Secretary" and "College Secretary" be replaced by "Registrar and Secretary", and "Computer Services" by "IT Services" wherever required in General Regulations.**

42 AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS

Resolved:

that proposed amendments to the Standing Orders with effect from 1 September 2007 be approved (07-253).

43 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

- (i) **that the amendments to the Financial Regulations set out in Appendix A to paper 07-280 be approved with effect from 1 August 2007;**
- (ii) **that, with immediate effect, Signatory Group A for the signing of cheques be amended by the deletion of "Director of Resources and Planning" and "Secretary", and the substitution of "Registrar and Secretary".**

44 AMENDMENT TO COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Resolved:

- (i) that amendments to the terms of reference of Remuneration Committee and Promotions Panel C be approved as set out at Appendix A to paper 07-281, with effect from 1 September 2007;
- (ii) that, in order to avoid duplication with the Senior Management Team and Audit Committee the following clause be deleted from the terms of reference of Finance and Resources Committee with effect from 1 September 2007:

3. To advise and report to Council on matters relating to risk assessment, and in particular to receive reports from time to time on the College's Risk Register.

45 IT STRATEGY

Received:

a paper from the Director of Information Technology, containing a draft IT Strategy (07-245R), of which a more detailed version had been recommended by Academic Board (6 June 2007) and Finance and Resources Committee (7 June 2007).

Resolved:

that the approach and specific developments proposed in the IT Strategy be approved.

46 RISK MONITORING

Noted:

an update of the College Risk Register (07-282).

47 HEFCE ASSESSMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL RISK

Noted:

a letter dated 30 April from the Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE), confirming that in their annual risk assessment, Goldsmiths had been assessed as "not at higher risk" (07-283).

48 AUDIT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Received:

the minutes of the meeting of Audit Committee held on 22 May 2007 (07-284).

49 GENDER EQUALITY SCHEME

Resolved:

that the draft Gender Equality Scheme be approved (07-166).

50 SMOKE-FREE POLICY

Resolved:

- (i) that the proposed Smoke-free Policy attached as Appendix B to paper 07-285 be introduced with effect from 1 July 2007;
- (ii) that all bedrooms and other areas in Halls of Residence be designated smoke-free, with effect from 1 September 2007;
- (iii) that, as soon as practicable, "no smoking" signs be displayed at entrances to all Goldsmiths buildings and in all Goldsmiths vehicles.

51 STUDENTS' UNION BUDGET

Received:

the draft Students' Union Budget for 2007-08 (07-246R).

52 STUDENTS' UNION ANNUAL REPORT

Received:

the Students' Union Annual Report for 2006-07 (07-286).

53 CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

Noted:

- (i) that the following members of Council would retire on 31 August 2007:

Mr Andrew Brett, Ms Katy Donnelly, Professor Warwick Gould, Professor Robert Pinker, Mr Keith Potter, Dame Janet Ritterman and Ms Jennifer Huseman.
- (ii) that the office Students' Union Chair currently changed officeholders on 1 April, and that accordingly Mr Lewis Davies had already been replaced by Ms Samyukta (Sam) Mukhopadhyay.
- (iii) that the following had recently been elected to membership of Council from 1 September 2007:

Non-academic staff:	Mr Pádraig O'Connor (<i>vice</i> Mr Andrew Brett)
Senior Academic Staff:	Dr Gareth Stanton (<i>filling existing vacancy</i>)
Member of Academic Board:	Dr Richard Grayson (<i>vice</i> Mr Keith Potter)

Resolved:

that the thanks of Council be expressed to its retiring members.

54 APPOINTED MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

Resolved:

- (i) that Ms Althea Efunshile be appointed a member of Council for three years from 1 September 2007 (07-287).**
- (ii) that, in the light of the provisions of the new Statutes (Minute 8 of 14 December 2006, and Minute 27 above refer), the term of office of Mr Jack Barnes as a member of Council be extended by one year, to 31 August 2009, this being a three-year term from 1 September 2006 (07-287).**

55 HONORARY DEGREES AND FELLOWSHIPS

Received:

a report from the Honorary Degrees and Fellowships Committee, recommending future awards and noting that certain individuals previously selected were now unable to attend ceremonies (07-267R).

Resolved:

that the award of Honorary Doctorates to Dr Anthony Minghella and Professor Margaret Snowling be proposed to the University of London.

RESERVED BUSINESS

56 APPOINTMENTS OF HEADS OF ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Received:

recommendations of the Appointment Panel for Heads of academic departments (07-288).

Resolved:

- (i) that Dr Stephen Cottrell be appointed Head of the Department of Music from 1 January 2008 to 31 August 2011;**
- (ii) that Dr Helen Jones be appointed Head of the Department of History from 1 September 2007 to 31 August 2010.**

57 APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY TO COUNCIL

Resolved:

that Mr Hugh Jones be appointed Secretary to Council for so long as he also remained Registrar and Secretary, or until such earlier date as might be determined by Council (07-289).