

**GOLDSMITHS  
University of London**

**FINANCES AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 4 June 2007**

**Present:** Baroness Morris of Yardley (in the Chair), Ms Vicky Annand, Mr Tim Crook, Mrs Rosie Dewhurst, Dr Richard Grayson, Mr Hugh Jones, Mr Alex Law, Mr Gerald Lidstone

**In attendance:** Ms Donna Hartwell (Secretary), Mr Michael Metelits

**Apologies:** Mr Geraint Fox

**11. MINUTES**

To note that Alex Law had not been present at the previous meeting and to correct the record of the meeting to reflect this.

**12. REBRANDING**

Received :

From the Warden, a response to the concerns raised by the Committee to SMT (07.257)

The Warden's paper noted the recent change in line-management of the Reprographic Department, which would now be the responsibility of the Head of IT Services, as well as the increased IT budget which should ensure the Web Team were able to meet their targets.

**13. THE ROLE AND PURPOSE OF THE EXTERNAL RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Received :

A discussion paper from the Registrar & Secretary looking at possible ways forward for the Committee (07.258)

This being the third meeting of the Committee and the final one of the academic year, this was a good time for the Committee to re-focus. In reviewing its performance so far, members acknowledged that the absence of a well-defined purpose had hindered its development.

Would a clearly defined external relations strategy help? The Registrar and Secretary's paper prompted the Committee to consider this and whether the Committee should play a part in its development; the consensus being that while a strategy would be helpful it was not key to the Committee's development and would be better formulated by the administrative officers concerned rather than by the Committee as a whole.

The Registrar and Secretary then suggested a possible way forward. The Committee could become the platform for a series of Enquiries into themes/issues relating to Strategic Aims 6 and 10. Evidence could be taken from experts within College to give a clear picture of Goldsmiths' position in relation to the topic at hand, after which the Committee would make recommendations on how this could be strengthened. A contribution from SMT would add gravitas.

If the Enquiry idea was pursued, the size and shape of the Committee could be adjusted for different topics. The number of meetings could be reduced to two annually, with optimal meeting times being mid-June and the first two weeks of December.

So as not to be flooded with information, a set format should be adopted, suggested as comprising :

- an overall summary written by an officer of the administration identified as an expert
- an FAQ guide
- SMT's reflection on the topic

The resulting document could then be kept as a briefing document for College-wide use. And to maintain interest, a prospectus of upcoming topics could be published, say, on an 18 month basis.

Future topics for the Committee to consider :

- Stakeholder Engagement (the next stage of the rebranding process)
- Lewisham
- Olympics
- Collaborations with other Universities
- The Estate
- Employer engagement

With the first topic being "Lewisham".

#### **14. PROJECT 24 GOLD TRAINING RADIO STATION**

Received : A tabled paper from Tim Crook (07.273)

MA Radio students had produced and transmitted a half hour rolling news and cultural radio programme as part of a branded and audience researched "24 Gold". Tim asked the Committee to consider the feasibility of developing this idea through to applying for a permanent licence. Before proceeding further, the Chair declared an interest in the discussion, having recently promised to help secure a radio licence at the University of Sunderland, where she is Pro-Vice chancellor however the Committee did not feel this should preclude her from joining in the discussion.

The Committee responded with enthusiasm to Tim's paper and suggested he should take it forward via the planning process. The Registrar & Secretary would brief the Warden about it and the Office of Business Development would enter into further discussion with Tim direct. In the meantime, Tim would make copies of the pilot programme for Committee members.

#### **15. NEXT MEETING**

To be advised.