

GOLDSMITHS
University of London

COUNCIL
29 November 2007

- Present:** Mr Christopher Jonas (in the Chair), Sir Keith Ajegbo, Mr Mark Baillache, Mr Jack Barnes, Dr Virginia Brooke, Dr Philip Broadhead, Ms Hannah Bullivant, Professor Geoffrey Crossick, Ms Althea Efunshile, Lady Goodhart, Dr Richard Grayson, The Earl of Harrowby, Mr Kenneth May, Mrs Alyson McGarrigle, Ms Samyukta Mukhopadhyay, Mr Dick Melly, Dr Gareth Stanton, Ms Colleen Toomey.
- Apologies:** Mr Bob Annibale, Dr David Barrett, Dr Janet Hand, Professor Simon McVeigh, Baroness Morris, Mr Pádraig O'Connor, Professor Carrie Paechter, Professor Nirmala Rao.
- In attendance:** Registrar and Secretary (Secretary), Director of Finance, Academic Registrar, Head of Secretariat.
- Observer:** Quality and Governance Administrator.

OPEN BUSINESS

58 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2007 be approved.

59 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Received:

the College Policy on Conflicts of Interest, and its committee section in particular (07-307).

60 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

Noted:

the membership of Council in 2007-08 (07-446).

61 STANDING ORDERS

(28 June 2007, Minute 42 refers)

Noted:

the Standing Orders, as revised by Council with effect from 1 September 2007 (07-306).

62 WARDEN'S REPORT

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

- (i) the senior staff residential event in October, which had addressed a wide range of issues, including academic governance structures, the "Academic Footprint" (paper 07-275 as received at the meeting of Council on 28 June 2007 – Minute 30 refers), the planned new Student Records System, and the Estate (including space management);

- (ii) the financial outturn for 2006-07, which was more favourable than expected and had involved a move from deficit to surplus (as also indicated by the Commentary on the Financial Statements (07-404R) – Minute 65 below refers);
- (iii) Recruitment and Admissions for the 2008-09 intake, as reported in paper 07-448 (Minute 64 below refers);
- (iv) the Research Assessment Exercise, for which a strong Goldsmiths submission was about to be made;
- (v) the Comprehensive Spending Review by Government in October 2007, the final outcome of which for HEFCE would be confirmed in January 2008;
- (vi) the Review of the Department of Art, to address concerns of staff and students.

63 REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR

Received:

a report on action taken by the Chair since the last meeting of Council (07-447).

64 RECRUITMENT AND ADMISSIONS REPORT

Received:

a report on student recruitment and admissions for the 2007 intake (07-448).

65 FINANCIAL AND AUDIT STATEMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 2006-07

Received:

- (i) the Financial Statements (07-403R);
- (ii) a commentary from the Director of Finance on the Financial Statements (07-404R);
- (iii) the Audit Committee report to Council and the Warden (07-405R), incorporating:
 - the External Management Letter from Knox Cropper;
 - the response by the Director of Finance;
 - the Letter of Representation to the External Auditors

Resolved:

that the Financial Statements for 2006-07 (07-403R) be approved.

66 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

(14 December 2006, Minute 12 refers)

Resolved:

that, on the recommendation of Audit Committee (07-406R), the appointment of Deloitte as External Auditor from 1 January 2008 until 31 December 2012, with the option of a two-year extension of contract, be approved.

67 MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

Received:

minutes of the meetings of Audit Committee held on 10 July 2007 (07-449), 24 September 2007 (07-450) and 13 November 2007 (07-451).

Noted:

the suspension, for many years, of the term of reference of Audit Committee preventing officer attendance at the discussion of the Internal Auditors' Annual Report.

Resolved:

that an amendment be made to the relevant term (currently clause 23) the next time HEFCE was consulted on a new version of the Audit Committee's terms of reference.

68 STUDENTS' UNION FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Received:

the Students' Union Financial Statements for 2006-07 (07-393R).

69 CODE OF PRACTICE FOR STUDENTS' UNION GOVERNANCE

Received:

a draft Code of Practice for Students' Union Governance (07-452), indicating how the College intended to meet its legal responsibilities for oversight of the Students' Union in the context of the Union's new governance arrangements

Resolved:

- (i) that the draft Code of Practice attached to paper 07-452 be approved with effect from 1 September 2008;**
- (ii) that, unless an earlier review should emerge as necessary, the Articles of Governance of the Students' Union be next reviewed in 2011-12.**

70 GOLDSMITHS' APPROACH TO GROWTH

Received:

a discussion paper from the Director of Finance on options for growth (07-453).

Council noted that increases in institutional size offered important opportunities for improvement in financial performance, and that to some extent Goldsmiths had already demonstrated this. However, the size of Goldsmiths relative to that of other institutions was as important for its future success as absolute size. Major growth was potentially possible, but some significant advantages might be gained from modest growth, while preserving the benefits of remaining a smaller institution.

Student expectations would be high, and it was important that growth should not be at the expense of the quality of the student experience. Student recruitment was not the only area of potential growth; consultancy and research could also be growth areas. From an educational viewpoint part-time student growth was valued as beneficial to the local community; however it was noted that the current HEFCE funding regime did not encourage part-time expansion.

An essential requirement identified was that developments in the Estate should provide appropriately for growth anticipated in on-campus provision (especially in respect of student numbers). It remained to be clarified how much the College could grow on its existing site, especially given the high priority attached to maintaining the quality of the student experience.

It was noted that collaborative provision was another important option for growth, which was possible without expanding the Estate, but it would be unwise to rely upon it entirely.

Council agreed that the next steps in formulating a plan for growth should include the development of models for different types of growth and the risks involved. There was considerable support for the idea of setting up working groups of Council and academic staff, with the aim that these should report to the June 2008 meeting of Council.

71 WHITEHEAD BUILDING

Received:

a progress report from the Registrar and Secretary (07-397).

Resolved:

that the proposed increase in project costs, to an anticipated maximum of £3.95m, be approved.

72 GOLDSMITHS STRATEGY: REPORT AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)

Received:

a report on the performance of the College against the Key Performance Indicators agreed by Council in December 2006 (07-454).

73 WINDING-UP OF THE GOLDSMITHS SOCIETY

Resolved:

that the proposal for the dissolution of the Goldsmiths Society (07-455) be approved.

74 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON STATUTES

(28 June 2007, Minute 40 refers)

Noted:

that the formal consultation with College governing bodies on the revised University of London Statutes would be launched, and that the deadline for responses would pass, before the next meeting of Council.

Resolved:

to consider the Statutes for approval by circulation.

75 ACADEMIC PROMOTIONS

Received:

a report on academic promotions with effect from 1 September 2007 (07-456).

76 ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Received:

reports from Committees on activities in 2006-07, as follows:

Equal Opportunities report, submitted via Equality and Diversity Committee (07-345)
Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee (07-394R)
Research Ethics Sub-Committee (07-442)

77 MEETINGS OF COUNCIL IN 2007-08

Resolved:

that meetings of Council be held on the following dates in 2008-09:

27 November 2008
26 March 2009
25 June 2009

78 PRESENTATION CEREMONIES

Noted:

that presentation ceremonies in 2008 would be held on 2, 3, 4 and 5 September 2008.

79 NEXT MEETING

Noted:

that the next meeting would be held on 13 March 2008 at 4.00pm.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Exemption claimed under Section 36 (Prejudice to the effective conduct of Public affairs of the Freedom of Information Act (2 years))

80 CORPORATE PLANNING STATEMENT

Noted:

the Corporate Planning Statement submitted to HEFCE in July 2007 (07-457).

81 ANNUAL MONITORING STATEMENT

Received:

a copy of the Annual Monitoring Statement submitted to the Higher Education Funding Council for England in July 2006 (07-458).

82 INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT 2006-07

Noted:

the annual report of the Internal Auditor for 2006-07 (07-311).

83 INTERNAL AUDIT PLANS

Resolved:

that the updated Strategic Internal Audit Plan for the three years to 31 July 2008 (07-407) and the draft Operational Internal Audit Plan for 2007-08 (07-408) be approved.

RESERVED BUSINESS

84 APPOINTMENT OF PRO-WARDEN (STUDENTS AND LEARNING DEVELOPMENT)

Resolved:

that Dr Philip Broadhead be re-appointed Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) for the period 1 September 2008 to 31 August 2012 (07-459).

85 APPOINTMENT OF HEADS OF DEPARTMENT

Resolved:

(i) that the following Heads of academic departments be re-appointed from 1 September 2008 for the periods stated (07-460):

Design	Mr Terry Rosenberg (to 31 August 2009)
Media and Communications	Dr Gareth Stanton (to 31 August 2011)
PACE:	Professor Len Platt (to 31 August 2009)
Visual Cultures	Mr Brendan Prendeville (to 31 August 2009)

(ii) that the following new Head be appointed from 1 September 2008:

Drama	Mr John Ginman (to 31 August 2011)
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(iii) that the Chair of Council be given delegated authority to appoint or reappoint further Heads of the Departments as necessary from 1 September 2008.