

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 March 2009

Present: Mr Christopher Jonas (in the Chair), Mr Mark Baillache, Mr Jack Barnes, Dr David Barrett, Dr Virginia Brooke, Dr Philip Broadhead, Professor Geoffrey Crossick, Professor Alan Downie, Ms Althea Efunshile, Lady Goodhart, Dr Richard Grayson, The Earl of Harrowby, Mr Manoj Kerai, Mr Kenneth May, Mrs Alyson McGarrigle, Professor Simon McVeigh, Mr Dick Melly, Baroness Morris, Mr Pádraig O'Connor, Professor Carrie Paechter, Professor Jane Powell, Ms Mary Stacey, Dr Gareth Stanton, Ms Jess Tratt.

Apologies: Mr Mark Baillache, Dr Philip Broadhead, Ms Althea Efunshile, Dr Richard Grayson, Ms Colleen Toomey.

In attendance: Registrar and Secretary (Secretary), Academic Registrar, Head of Secretariat.

Observers: Union representatives, Ms Anne Craven, Mr David Mungall

Professor Crossick was absent for the meeting for the business recorded at item 34 below. and Professor McVeigh for that recorded at items 41 & 52.

OPEN BUSINESS

28 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2008 be approved.

29 REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR

Received:

a report on action taken by the Chair since the meeting of Council held on 27 November 2008 (09-126).

Noted:

that since the last meeting the Chair had taken action on behalf of Council by resolving:

- (i) to make minor further amendments to the Treasury Policy, in addition to those approved by Council on 27 November 2008 (Minute 13 refers), as follows:

7 Investing and Depositing of Surplus Funds

[No changes to clauses (a) and (b)]

- (c) The College will limit its investment of surplus funds to organisations with a credit rating of **AA- ~~single-A~~** or above

Appendix III(a)

Accepting Houses

Royal London Cash Management	15,000 40,000	(limited to £3,000k per counterparty);
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- (ii) to authorise, on behalf of Council, concurrent membership of Audit Committee and Finance and Resources Committee by the Earl of Harrowby for the Spring and Summer terms 2009 only, until the expiry of his term of office on Finance and Resources Committee on 31 August 2009, it being noted that this period was sufficiently short for it to be unlikely that a conflict of interest based on cross-membership could arise;
- (iii) to approve the recommendation of the Warden that Dr Richard Grayson be reappointed Head of the Department of Politics from 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2010;
- (iv) to approve the appointment of Dr Jorella Andrews as Head of the Department of Visual Cultures, from 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2012, on the recommendation of an Appointment Panel consisting of the Warden, the Pro-Warden (Research and Enterprise) and Dr Stephen Cottrell.

30 THE GOLDSMITHS ESTATE

Received:

- (i) an oral presentation by a representative of the master planning consultancy John McAslan;
- (ii) a background paper by the Director of Estates and Facilities (09-59).

31 WARDE N'S REPORT

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

- (i) the negative outlook in terms of public funding for higher education generally, the freeze on home and EU student numbers (which had forced Goldsmiths to abandon its planned high-profile collaboration with the British Film Institute) and the particularly detrimental effect on Goldsmiths of government commitment to the protection of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics ("STEM" subjects);
- (ii) the reduction of Goldsmiths' HEFCE funding for 2009-10, and the Senior Management Team's plans to revise the Financial Strategy and to present a budget with a modest surplus;
- (iii) national discussions on the possible removal of the cap on student fees, and the Students' Union's plans to give a presentation on this to the next Council meeting;
- (iv) the first meeting of the new Joint Negotiating Committee for Higher Education Staff (JNCHES) on 30 March 2009, in the context of the current round of national pay negotiations, in which Goldsmiths was now committed to participating.

32 ALLOCATION OF HEFCE GRANT

Received:

a report from the Interim Director of Finance on the allocation of HEFCE grant for 2009-10 (09-95).

33 REPORT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS REVIEW OF COUNCIL

Received:

the first report from the Review Panel appointed by Council (09-127).

Dr David Barrett, Chair of the Review Panel, introduced the report. The Panel had made considerable progress, with an approach based on the better functioning of Council rather than compliance with external requirements, although at the same time taking the various national good practice guidelines into account as part of the general context. However, more time was needed for discussion in order to complete its work in specific areas indicated in the report, although its recommendations at this stage - summarised in section 43 of the report - would not be affected by this additional phase.

In discussion of the report, members expressed particular interest in the recommendation for a review of the relationship between Academic Board and Council, and also in developing a framework within which independent members of Council would have the opportunity to become better acquainted with the work of the College's academic departments.

Resolved:

- (i) to approve the recommendations of the Review Panel so far, as set out in section 43 of the report, noting that recommendation (h) had already been approved under formal business (see Minute 40 below);**
- (ii) to authorise the Review Panel to continue its work as planned and to bring a further report to Council in due course.**

34 APPOINTMENT OF WARDEN

Received:

a proposed procedure for the appointment of the next Warden, in the light of Professor Crossick's intention to retire in the summer of 2010 (09-128).

Members were of the view that consultation with Council before the final recommendation of a candidate should have greater prominence than was explicitly set out in paper 09-128, including a more detailed description of the process and preferably draft documentation for candidates to be presented to the Summer term meeting of Council.

the documentation issued to prospective candidates was of particular importance.

Resolved:

- (i) to approve the proposals contained in 09-128 in general terms;**
- (ii) to add the 2009-10 President of the Students' Union to the composition of the Search Committee, although it was noted that he would join the Committee for its initial work while still President-elect;**
- (iii) to amend the element of the proposed composition "4 other Council members, of whom 2 are external members of Council", to read "5 other Council members, of whom 3 are external members of Council";**
- (lii) to give the Chair delegated authority to appoint the Search Committee.**

35 APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Received:

a report on the arrangements for appointment of the next Director of Finance (09-129).

(See also Minute 53 below.)

36 NEW IT STRATEGY

Resolved:

that the proposed new IT Strategy be approved (09-30R).

In discussion it was noted that the Strategy set out priorities; these would be resourced in accordance with institutional priorities set by the annual planning and budgeting rounds. Members of Council drew particular attention to the need for close consultation with users of IT systems as the process of implementation moved forward, and were pleased to note that this was already planned.

37 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE AND CULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ICCE)

(Minute 108, 26 June 2008 refers)

Received:

a report from the Director of ICCE on early progress in the development of the Centre, proposing a minor change in the composition of the Management Board (09-15R).

Members of Council were pleased to note the promising start being made by the new Institute, which was already gaining a high and positive external profile with its current limited staffing resources. However, members were also concerned that the new Institute should not over-stretch itself by attempting to cover too many projects in the early stages of development, in particular relating to its international rather than UK focus. It was also suggested that consideration should be given to the brand. It was felt to be important that future statements on the financial position of academic departments were being planned to include ICCE as a separate budget line.

Resolved:

that the Board of ICCE be amended by the deletion of the place for the Strategic Business Development Manager.

38 ANNUAL REPORT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Received:

the Annual Report of External Relations and Development Committee (09-88).

39 AUDIT COMMITTEE

Received:

the minutes of the meeting of Audit Committee held on 24 February 2009 (J; 09-130).

40 AMENDMENTS TO TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Received:

proposals for changes to terms of reference and composition of committees of Council with effect from 1 September 2009 (09-131);

Resolved:

- (i) that the changes to the terms of reference and composition of committees of Council with effect from 1 September 2009 set out in paper 09-131 be approved;**
- (ii) that, in view of the fact that under the new Students' Union governance arrangements (from 1 July 2008), the Student' Union Executive had ceased to exist, the Executive be replaced, with effect from 1 September 2009, by "the Students' Union Assembly" wherever it appeared in the compositions of College committees.**

41 AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCES

Resolved:

to approve an amendment to Ordinances, to enable the appointment of a Deputy Warden from 1 April 2009 (09-101).

42 AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

to approve amendments to General Regulations with effect from 1 August 2009 (09-102R).

43 AMENDMENTS TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

to approve amendments to the Financial Regulations with effect from 1 August 2009 (09-90R).

Noted:

that the proposed increase in the standard retention period for financial documents from three to seven years - recommended by Finance and Resources Committee on the advice of the Interim Director of Finance - would be subject to further review in the course of the current project to establish a Retention Schedule for documentation across the whole College based on recent national guidelines, and that if appropriate a further amendment to the Financial Regulations would be proposed as an outcome of that wider review.

44 PROPOSALS FOR HONORARY DEGREES

Resolved:

that proposals from Honorary Degrees and Fellowships Committee be approved (09-132).

45 TRANSPARENT APPROACH TO COSTING (TRAC) RETURN

Received:

the TRAC return submitted at the end of January 2009, authorised by the Chair of Finance and Resources Committee (09-94).

46 RESEARCH ASSESSMENT EXERCISE (RAE) OUTCOMES FOR GOLDSMITHS

Received:

a report from the Pro-Warden (Research and Enterprise), providing an overview and analysis of Goldsmiths' outcomes in RAE 2008, both at institutional level and by each individual Unit of Assessment (09-51R).

47 UPDATE ON KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

(Minute 72, 29 November 2007 refers)

Received:

a report on the Key Performance Indicators information received by Council on 29 November 2007 (09-133).

48 NEXT MEETING

Noted:

that the next meeting of Council would be held at 4pm on Thursday 25 June 2009.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

49 INDEPENDENT MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

Resolved:

that Mr Rupert Evenett be appointed to membership of Council for the period 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2012 (09-134).

50 RE-AP POINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Resolved:

that the following be re-appointed to membership of Council for the period for the period 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2012 (09-135):

**Mr Mark Baillache
Mr Jack Barnes
Mr Kenneth May**

51 INDEPENDENT MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

Resolved:

that the following Chairs of Council committees be re-appointed for a period for the period 1 September 2009 to 31 August 2012:

Health and Safety Committee	Mr Dick Melly
Finance and Resources Committee	Mr Mark Baillache
Human Resources Committee	Mr Kenneth May
Estates Committee	Mr James Grierson
External Relations and Development Committee	Baroness Morris

RESERVED BUSINESS

52 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY WARDEN

(Minute 41 above refers)

Resolved:

that Professor Simon McVeigh be appointed Deputy Warden with effect from 1 April 2009 until he should cease to hold the office of Pro-Warden (09-137).

53 APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

that, subject to receipt of satisfactory references, and to successful conclusion of negotiations, Sally Townsend be appointed Director of Finance from a date to be determined (09-58).

[Secretary's Note: The appointment was subsequently confirmed with effect from 25 May 2009]

RMH
March 2009