

GOLDSMITHS
University of London

COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2012

OPEN BUSINESS

Present: Mr Christopher Jonas (in the Chair), Professor Catherine Alexander, Mr Richard Bolley, Dr Virginia Brooke, Dr Rupert Evenett, Dr Andrea Gilroy, Mr James Grierson, Mr James Haywood, Dr Alison Henwood, Professor Mark d'Inverno, Mr Patrick Loughrey, Mr Brian Lymbery, Dr Richard Noble, Professor Simon McVeigh, Mr Dick Melly, Professor Jane Powell, Ms Cathy Runciman, Ms Mary Stacey, Dr Gareth Stanton, Ms Colleen Toomey, Ms Jessica Wanamaker, Mr Philip Wright.

Apologies¹: Mr Dan Lambeth, Mr Kenneth May, Ms Althea Efunshile, Mr Tom Williams.

In attendance: Interim Registrar and Secretary (Secretary), Director of Finance, Head of Corporate Governance and Information Management.

Observers: *Members of Council-designate from 1 September 2012:*
Mr Sebastian Hicks, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Ms Jackie Morgan, Mr Samson Osun, Mr David Richards, Ms Vivienne Rose, Dr Derval Tubridy.

Other observers:
UCU representation, Ms Vicky Annand, Ms Liz Hutchinson, Ms Marcia Williams, Dr Michael Young.

1 MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2012 be approved.

2 REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN BY THE CHAIR

Noted:

that since the circulation of the last agenda the Chair had taken action on behalf of Council as follows (12-284):

(i) On the recommendation of the Appointment Panel for Pro-Wardens:

to appoint Dr Michael Young, currently Head of the Department of Music, as Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) from 1 August 2012 to 31 August 2016;
and

¹ In the initial issue of these minutes, Mr Philip Wright was incorrectly shown - as both present and having sent apologies.

to re-appoint Professor Jane Powell as Pro-Warden (Research and Enterprise) from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2016.

- (ii) To appoint Professor Andrea Gilroy, Head of the Department of Professional and Community Education, as Acting Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development) from 11 June 2012 to 31 July 2012.
- (iii) To approve, on the recommendation of an Appointment Panel consisting of the Warden, Dr Philip Broadhead and Dr Tim Parnell, the appointment of Professor Jim Campbell as Head of the Department of Professional and Community Education for three years from 1 September 2012 (noting that the name of the Department is expected to change from that date in the light of a change of Ordinance being presented to Council at the present meeting).
- (iv) to amend the composition of the Appointment Panel for the Registrar and Secretary (Minute 27 refers) as follows:

The Chair of Council-designate	Baroness Morris of Yardley ²
Chair	Dr Rupert Evenett
The Warden	Mr Patrick Loughrey
The Deputy Warden	Professor Simon McVeigh
A member of Council	Professor Catherine Alexander
Two members of Council	Ms Mary Stacey
The Director of Finance	Miss Sally Townsend
An external adviser, to be approved by the Chair	(not appointed)
A member appointed by the Students' Union	Mr Samson Osun

- (v) to remove the role of Chair of Audit Committee from the composition of the review panel for Audit Committee (set up at the meeting of Council on 29 March 2012, Minute 11 refers).
- (vi) to amend the composition of the Equality and Diversity Committee, with effect from 1 September 2012, by replacing

"Two Diversity Champions, one from an academic and one from a support department, elected by and from the Diversity Champions in the College"
by
"A place for a member of staff from an academic and another from a support department, to be appointed by Council (unless another mode of appointment or election is approved by the Chair of Council by the end of December preceding the start of the academic year of an impending vacancy)"
- (vii) To re-appoint the following members to Equality and Diversity Committee in the newly-defined places as described above:

Ms Sharon Alleyne (to 2015 eot)
Ms Jennifer Bain (to 2015 eot)
- (viii) To appoint Mr David Richards as a member of Finance and Resources Committee with effect from 1 September 2012.

² Note: Baroness Morris participated in the shortlisting, but for personal reasons was not able to be present at the interviews.

- (ix) To amend the General Regulations (Copyright) as follows:

17.2 Copyright Licences

17.2.1 In pursuance of its duties under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 which came into force on 1 August 1989 the College has entered into the following Licences negotiated on behalf of universities:

~~The Design and Artists Copyright Society Limited (DACs) in respect of the slides of copyright images held in the College Library's slide collection;~~

the Educational Recording Agency in respect of the off air recording of copyright works (see also below);

~~the Mechanical Copyright Protection Society in respect of copying from commercially published sound recordings and the recording of live performances of copyright works;~~

the Newspaper Licensing Agency (NLA) in respect of the copying of articles from certain newspapers;

~~a company of the Open University in respect of the off air recording of Open University broadcasts.~~

- (x) To approve the recommendation of a Redundancy Committee under Statute 16 for Marketing, Recruitment and Communications which met on 19 March 2012 (Council Minute 2 (iv), 29 March 2012 refers), that one member of staff be issued with a notice of redundancy.

3 WARDEN'S REPORT

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

- (i) student recruitment, including generally higher conversion rates from offers of places to acceptance, and plans to increase the number of students in Psychology, Art, Music and Theatre and Performance;
- (ii) Goldsmiths' attainment of a place in the Times Top 50 universities, and the likely significance of this for international recruitment;
- (iii) plans to monitor student satisfaction more closely;
- (iv) the recent annual regulatory meeting with HEFCE which had been a brief but positive discussion;
- (v) continuing discussions on redefining the role of the 94 Group following recent changes in membership;
- (vi) the success of St James' Church for exhibitions, including degree shows following its recent refurbishment, and its potential as a community asset;
- (vii) the recent successful dinner at Buckingham Palace to promote the College;
- viii) plans aimed at minimising disruption to normal College business arising from the Olympics.

4 PRO-WARDEN (STUDENTS AND LEARNING DEVELOPMENT)

Received:

an introductory oral report from the incoming Pro-Warden (Students and Learning Development), Dr Michael Young, including his plans for a student-centred approach to the role, and the need for adaptability and willingness to innovate in a changing environment.

5 STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND GOLDSMITHS 2015

Received:

an oral report from Mr Simon Donoghue, Lead Consultant at SUMS Consulting, together with a background paper from the Director of Finance (12-285).

In noting the report, Council emphasised the need to prioritise improvements in project management and assurance. It was further noted that an update report would be presented to the November 2012 meeting of Council.

6 COLLEGE BUDGET

Received:

the proposed College budget for 2012-13 (12-238).

Council noted that some flexibility was being proposed in the capital programme, to be overseen by the Senior Management Team; however this would involve re-scheduling in response to changing practicalities, rather than fundamental changes of priority.

It was noted that in the preparation of the budget, emphasis had been placed on the College's capacity to improve the student experience.

Resolved:

- (i) that the College budget for 2012-13 be approved as set out in paper 12-238;.
- (ii) that in the light of emerging operational requirements, the Senior Management Team be authorised to approve amendments to the prioritisation of projects set out at Appendix C (capital programme), within the overall capital budget envelope, following consultation with Estates Committee or its Chair.

7 STUDENTS' UNION BUDGET

Noted:

a paper from the Students' Union concerning their budget for 2012-13 (12-242R).

8 EQUALITY OBJECTIVES

Received:

draft Equality Objectives for the College (12-228R), and an oral report from Ms Colleen Toomey, on behalf of the Equality and Diversity Committee.

It was noted that Equality and Diversity Committee (9 May 2012) had considered and supported the nine Equality Objectives set out in paper 12-228R (a revised version of a paper previously considered by the Committee itself). The Committee further envisaged ongoing consultation with departments responsible for implementation of the objectives, concerning the further development of the implementation plan set out in chart form at the end of paper 12-228.

Equality and Diversity Committee had concerns about the College's failure to publish equality-related statistics and objectives by the statutory deadlines, and wished Council, as the body with ultimate responsibility for legal compliance in this area, to be aware of this. However the Objectives would be published immediately after the present meeting, and the required data would also shortly be published. There had also been recent strengthening of the staffing establishment of the Human Resources Department to support data preparation. While noting the improved position, Council also felt that the implications of this compliance issue for the Risk Register should be kept under review.

Council recognised that further improvements were still necessary to the Estate to improve accessibility to the necessary standards; some investment already provided for within the budget related to improvements of this kind. In some other areas of College activity there could be difficulties in measuring compliance, as well as in demonstrating continued improvement.

Council expressed its gratitude to Mrs Alyson McGarrigle, Chair of Equality and Diversity Committee, and Ms Toomey, for bringing these matters to their attention.

Resolved:

to approve the Equality Objectives as set out in paper 12-228R, as representing a strategy to discharge the College's general equality duty, to be published as required by the Equality Act 2010 specific duty regulations.

9 MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

Received:

the minutes of the meeting of Audit Committee held on 24 May 2012 (12-286).

10 RE-APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Received:

recommendations concerning the re-appointment of the External Auditor and the audit fee, together with an accompanying paper from the External Auditor (12-210R).

Resolved:

- (i) that Deloitte be re-appointed as External Auditors to the College from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2014, subject to negotiations by the Director of Finance of a fee for the next US GAAP Audit;
- (ii) that the main External Audit fee be approved in accordance with the proposal from Deloitte attached in annex to paper 12-210R.

Noted:

the replacement of David Hall as External Audit partner by Heather Bygrave.

11 GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACADEMIC AREAS

Received:

a report and proposals from the Pro-Warden (Academic Development) concerning the Academic Areas (12-287).

Noted:

the proposed arrangements for the management of the Confucius Institute and the Institute of Management Studies;

Resolved:

that the decision to establish a Management Board for ICCE be rescinded (Minute 108, 26 June 2008, refers).

12 ORDINANCES

Resolved:

that amendments to the Ordinances with effect from 1 September 2012 be approved as set out in paper 12-269.

13 GENERAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

that amendments to the General Regulations with effect from 1 September 2012 be approved as set out in paper 12-288.

14 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Resolved:

that amendments to the Financial Regulations with effect from 1 August 2012 be approved as set out in 12-244R.

15 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

Resolved:

that changes to terms of reference and composition of committees with effect from 1 September 2012 be approved as set out in paper12-289.

16 ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Received:

the annual report of the Remuneration Committee for the academic year 2011-12 (12-290).

17 MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

Noted:

- (i) that the following members of Academic Board had been elected to serve on Council for three years from 1 September 2012:

Mr Gerald Lidstone
Dr Derval Tubridy

- (ii) that Dr Andrea Gilroy had been appointed Acting Pro-Warden from 11 June 2012 until Dr Michael Young took up the post on 1 August 2012 (Minute 2 above refers), and in that capacity was a member of Council for the present meeting.

Resolved:

that the thanks of the Council be expressed to the following members who had recently left Council or whose terms of office would end on 31 August 2012:

Professor Catherine Alexander
Mr Richard Bolley
Dr Philip Broadhead
Professor Mark d'Inverno
Mr James Haywood
Mr Christopher Jonas
Mr Kenneth May
Mr Tom Williams

18 REGISTRAR AND SECRETARY AND SECRETARY TO COUNCIL

(Council Minute 27, 29 March 2012, refers).

Noted:

the appointment of Mrs Liz Bromley as Registrar and Secretary and Secretary to Council with effect from 1 August 2012.

Council expressed its thanks to Miss Catherine Swarbrick for her work as Interim Registrar and Secretary and Secretary to Council.

19 FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Noted:

the following forthcoming meeting dates:

29 November 2012

20 March 2013 (*not 21 March 2013 as originally scheduled*)

27 June 2013

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS
*Exemptions 36 and 43 of the Freedom
of Information Act apply for one year*

20 FINANCIAL FORECASTS AND COMMENTARY

Received:

the Financial Forecasts, together with a commentary (12-245).

Resolved:

to approve the commentary (paragraphs 2-15) and financial tables, both as set out in paper 12-245, for submission to HEFCE.

Council noted that the forecasts incorporated a range of prudent assumptions appropriate to an uncertain environment. Uncertainties related to both external factors such as student choice (especially how higher debts from undergraduate study would impact on postgraduate applications), and internal ones such as the difficulty of predicting the level of enhancement to be achieved by Goldsmiths' various new academic initiatives and process improvements.

It was noted that Goldsmiths continued to have somewhat higher staff costs than the higher education sector generally. It was suggested that changes in the law in relation to retirement age might impact on staff costs, and that a future discussion on the handling of this issue might be useful.

RMH
June 2012