

# Council 117

## Minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2019

Richard Hoggart Building room 274.

**Present:** Ms Lynn Pearce (Acting Chair), Mr Nick Barron, Mr Ian Borman, Ms Althea Efunshile, Mr Ben Fowler, Mr Conrad Heyns, Prof. Elisabeth Hill, Dr Rodger Kibble, Dr Suhail Malik, Mr Kierin Offlands, Prof. David Oswell, Dr John Price, Ms Pam Raynor, Ms Carol Rue, Ms Vanessa Sharp [arrived 5.45pm], Ms Helen MacNamara (via Phone) and Ms Theodora Zemek.

**Apologies:** Mr David Reddaway

**In attendance:** Mr Matthew Brooks, Ms Giorgia Cowan, Mr Simon Mattison, Ms Sally Priddle, Mr Joseph Tema, Ms Helen Watson and Mr Ben Wilson.

**Observers:** Ms Louisa Green (for Open Business), Mr Ravi Mahendra and Ms Vivienne Rose.

### OPEN BUSINESS

---

## 1 Apologies for absence

---

**Noted:**

- 1.1 Apologies received from Ms Dinah Caine (Chair); Joe Leam (President of Students Union) and Sir David Reddaway (Goldsmiths' Company Secretary).
- 

## 2 Identification of items for discussion

---

**Noted:**

- 2.1 The Chair's changes to discussion items and members were given the opportunity to raise concerns at any point.

---

### **3 Chair's action**

---

**Noted:**

- 3.1 The Registrar and Secretary reported that the Chair of Council had appointed Lynne Percy as Deputy Chair until her full return.
- 

### **4 Minutes**

---

**Resolved:**

- 4.1 Open minutes were approved as an accurate record of Council Meeting No.116 held on 11 April 2019.
- 

### **5 Matters arising from the minutes**

---

**Received:**

- 5.1 A response to a question posed by a member of Council regarding the revenues from Coursera programmes.
- 5.2 Oral updates on the items Council were lobbied about at meeting 116.

**Noted:**

- 5.3 Coursera programmes would be treated as teaching and learning.
- 5.4 There were concerns about academic quality control and lack of consultation. Staff had been advised by their union that they were not required to sign the release relating to their work. The matter would be escalated by the union if required.
- 5.5 Security matters: Senior Management Team (SMT) had met with Goldsmiths Anti-Racist Action (GARA) and discussed their demands, one of which related to the insourcing of security. SMT had shared their original timeline to insource staff, which was in line with the end of the contract with CIS, and confirmed their intention to present a proposal to Council in September 2019. GARA had raised concerns about this timeline and requested that SMT ask Council to consider an extraordinary meeting to resolve the matter faster. Members were informed of the process set out in the statutes that would trigger an extraordinary meeting, and advised that information available before September would be limited. An extraordinary meeting required 5 members of Council to write to the Registrar and Secretary to outline why an additional meeting was required.
- 5.6 Accommodation matters: FRC agreed the continuation of accommodation working group and they would review the strategy. The group would meet over the summer to ensure that fees are set within the required timeline.
- 5.7 Occupation: An update would be reported under the Warden's report.

---

## 6 Warden's report

---

### **Received:**

- 6.1 A report from the Acting Warden.

### **Noted:**

- 6.2 The significant sectoral changes that would impact the future direction and shape of Goldsmiths, including Brexit and Augar.
- 6.3 The protest had absorbed a significant amount of time and resource.
- 6.4 The next steps for departments to ensure improvements in league table data inputs. The data inputs were part of the institutional KPIs.

### **Resolved:**

6.5 Dr Nicola Rollock would be invited to present to Council on her work.

---

## **7 Institutional Strategy and KPI report**

---

**Received:**

7.1 A report on activity undertaken in pursuit of the Strategy and against the Delivery Plan (18-561)

---

## **8 Admissions update 2019 – 2020**

---

**Received:**

8.1 An update on the current admissions data for 2019-20 (18-562)

---

## **9 Quality Assurance report**

---

**Received:**

9.1 Updates on QA Action Plan 2018-19 reported to Council in September 2018 (18-563)

---

## **10 Subject Level TEF update**

---

**Received:**

10.1 Subject level TEF as recommended by Academic Board (18-564)

---

## **11 Academic Board report**

---

**Received:**

11.1 report from Academic Board on action and impact of Committee (18-565)

**Noted:**

- 11.2 The reports were intended to provide Council with clarity on the links between Academic Board and Council business. The reports also outlined the work and strategy of the Board and the risks it wanted to escalate.

---

## **12 Substantive Strategy update on Theme 3**

---

**Received:**

- 12.1 A substantive strategy update on Strategic Theme 3: Making a difference through research and knowledge exchange (18-566)

**Noted:**

- 12.2 Grant income had declined. An upturn was expected in the next academic session.
- 12.3 Concerns were raised about Research teams' capacity to increase and manage research income.
- 12.4 Colleagues' approaches were inconsistent across the College.
- 12.5 The allocation of QR income would be reviewed to ensure that strategic work was supported and resourced effectively.

**Resolved:**

- 12.6 A report on the knowledge exchange framework would be brought to Council in Autumn 2019.

---

## **13 Substantive Strategy update on Theme 6**

---

**Received:**

- 13.1 A substantive strategy update on Strategic Theme 6: Supporting the Goldsmiths Community of students, staff and alumni (18-567)

**Noted:**

- 13.2 The strategy responded directly to student feedback and invested in the student experience.
- 13.3 The strategy would be developed and amended in response to some of GARA's demands.

---

## 14 Student Protection Plan update

---

### **Received:**

- 14.1 Student Protection Plan 2019-20 update (18-568)

### **Noted:**

- 14.2 The OfS were due to release guidance on Student Protection Plans and the requirements for institutions. The College would respond to this.
- 14.3 The plan would be revised in line with the guidance and changes would be communicated to staff and students.
- 14.4 Updates would also be provided to Student Experience Sub-Committee and Academic Board.

### **Received:**

- 14.5 The approach to revising and approving the Student Protection Plan following the publication of the OfS guidance was approved.

---

## 15 Student's Union Impact report

---

### **Received:**

- 15.1 Students' Union Impact Report as received by Academic Board (18-569)

### **Noted:**

- 15.2 The Students' Union had overhauled their approach student voice and academic representation. Further work would continue in 2019-20.
- 15.3 The remit and work of the liberation coordinator.
- 15.4 The Students' Union would be working on access and understanding to governance.

**Resolved:**

- 15.5 The results from the Students' Union's survey would be shared with Council members.

---

## **16 Sexual Violence Policy**

---

**Received:**

- 16.1 Sexual Violence Policy as recommended by Academic Board (18-570)

**Resolved:**

- 16.2 The Sexual Violence Policy was approved.

---

## **17 Academic Manual**

---

**Received:**

- 17.1 Student conduct regulations as recommended by Academic Board (18-571)

**Noted:**

- 17.2 The Annual Manual was approved.

---

## **18 EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT**

---

**Received:**

- 18.1 report from External Relations on action and impact of Committee (18-572)

---

## **19 Budget and Forecast**

---

**Received:**

- 19.1 Item 19 was discussed under the confidential section of the agenda.

---

## **20 Student's Union Block Grant 2019 - 2020**

---

**Received:**

- 20.1 Students' Union Budget as recommended by the Finance and Resources Committee (18-574)

---

## **21 2020 – 2021 Tuition Fees**

---

**Received:**

- 21.1 Proposed 2020-21 Tuition fees as recommended by the Finance and Resources Committee (18-575)

**Noted:**

- 21.2 The student representative member of the Finance and Resources Committee was not in attendance at the meeting in which the fees were discussed.
- 21.3 The Students' Union opposed all tuition fees.
- 21.4 The Students' Union requested further information about the size of the increase in Art and assurance that the additional fees would be utilised to support international students and their experience.

**Resolved:**

- 21.5 The proposed 2020-21 Tuition Fees were approved.
- 21.6 The Art Department would be invited to provide information to the Students' Union on how the additional funds would be used and how the international student experience would be supported.

---

## **22 Portrait of the Warden**

---

**Received:**



- 22.1 A proposal regarding the commissioning of a portrait of Goldsmith's twelfth Warden (18-576)

**Noted:**

- 22.2 The proposal was in line with previous practice.  
22.3 The artist proposed was local which aligned with the College's values.

**Resolved:**

- 22.4 Council voted on the proposal and it was supported.  
22.5 13 for, 1 against and 3 abstains

---

## **23 Risk Management**

---

**Received:**

- 23.1 the Strategic Risk Register (18-577)

---

## **24 Report from the Audit and Risk Committee**

---

**Received:**

- 24.1 A report from Audit and Risk Committee on action and impact of Committee (18-578)

---

## **25 Access and Participation Plan 2020 – 2021**

---

**Received:**

- 25.1 Access and participation plan for 2020-21 as recommended by Academic Board (18-589)

**Noted:**

- 25.2 The Students' Union President (2019-20) had written to the Chair of Council and outlined concerns regarding the College's approach to student consultation on the Access and Participation Plan.
- 25.3 The plan was not finalised and would be revised throughout implementation in response to evaluation, impact and feedback. Students, including the Students' Union, would be part of this process.
- 25.4 Student surveys had been undertaken to feed into the development of the plan. At the time of meetings, the Students' Union Sabbatical Officers were not supporting College business and so had not attended. It was felt that ongoing consultation and engagement was key to the development and implementation of the plan.
- 25.5 There were gaps in the College's performance and these needed to be addressed. Effective monitoring and evaluation was essential.
- 25.6 The targets were challenging and required input and engagement from all stakeholders within the plan.
- 25.7 The Students' Union asked that the College did not use student ambassadors for consultation going forward, due to their being employees.

**Resolved:**

- 25.8 The Access and Participation Plan 2020-21 for submission to the OfS was approved.
- 25.9 Impact reports would be provided to future Council meetings.

---

## **26 Office for Students Terms and Conditions of Funding**

---

**Received:**

- 26.1 a brief summary on the revised terms and conditions of funding for Higher Education Institutions and the implications for Goldsmiths (18-579)

---

## **27 FOR GOVERNORS; AUGAR AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR GOLDSMITHS**

---

**Received:**

- 27.1 a summary of the Augar Report outcomes and potential implications for Goldsmiths (18-580)

**Noted:**

- 27.2 The potential implications for specialist institutions like Goldsmiths.  
27.3 The potential impact of the value of degrees' narrative.  
27.4 The FE implications of the Augar Report and potential impact for Foundation Courses.  
27.5 The need to maintain and build on links with local Schools.

---

## 28 Policies

---

**Received:**

- 28.1 Revised policies as recommended by Audit and Risk Committee (18-581)  
28.1.1 Whistleblowing Policy  
28.1.2 Anti-Money Laundering Policy  
28.1.3 Anti-bribery and corruption Policy  
28.1.4 Fraud Policy

**Resolved:**

- 28.2 The revised policies were approved.

---

## 29 Returns

---

**Received:**

- 29.1 To receive and note returns made to OfS since the last meeting:  
29.1.1 Reportable event- Change in Warden (Accountable Officer) (18-582)

---

## 30 Uses of Seal

---

**Received:**

30.1 the use of the College's Seal since last meeting (18-583)

---

## **31 Any other business (Open)**

---

No matters raised.