

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

14 April 2016

OPEN BUSINESS

- Present:** Rt. Hon Estelle Morris (in the Chair), Mr Nick Barron, Professor Mark d'Inverno, Ms Marl'ene Edwin, Mr James Grierson, Professor Elisabeth Hill, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Mr Patrick Loughrey, Ms Jackie Morgan, Mr Daniel Nasr, Professor Richard Noble, Professor Jane Powell, Dr Barry Quirk, Ms Cathy Runciman, Mr David Richards, Ms Vanessa Sharp, Dr Derval Tubridy, Mr John Wadsworth, Mr Laith Whitwham, Mr Tom Wilson, Mr Phillip Wright and Ms Theodora Zemek.
- Apologies:** Professor Sean Cubitt, Professor Jane Powell, Sir David Reddaway and Ms Jessica Wanamaker.
- In attendance:** Registrar and Secretary, Director of Finance, Director of Executive and Governance Services, Head of Secretariat and Legal Services and Executive and Governance Officer.
- Observers:** Mr Tom Henri (UCU).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Noted:

Apologies received as shown above.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Noted:

That no additional items had been starred for discussion.

3. APPROVAL OF ITEMS FOR FORMAL DECISION

Noted:

that all formal decisions proposed in the circulated papers for Open, Confidential and Reserved business were confirmed by Members.

4. MINUTES

Resolved:

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2015 (Paper A) were approved.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Noted:

That there were none.

6. WARDEN'S REPORT

The Warden gave a report on matters of interest to Council.

Noted:

- (i) that a White Paper is widely expected to follow on from the Green Paper and that it will bear a striking resemblance to the Green Paper;
- (ii) that the Stern Review is likely to be released in the autumn;
- (iii) that Goldsmiths will receive its funding agreement letter from HEFCE next week, which will include details of QR funding and a notification of intentions around London Weighting;
- (iv) that, in relation to this, provision has been made in the budgets to allow for some downside;
- (v) that the EU referendum is imminent and that it is important to encourage students to engage with the issues and use their vote;
- (vi) that student recruitment is looking extremely positive and that focus is now on converting students holding offers;
- (vii) that new programmes, such as Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and Filmmaking and Journalism account for 20% of the growth in student numbers from this time last year;
- (viii) that significant work has gone into developing short course offers both onsite and through distance learning through Get Smarter, Coursera and Future Learn;
- (ix) that a new research strategy was launched at an event attended by 250 members of staff;

- (x) that Danny Nasr has been elected as the new President of the Students' Union;
- (xi) that the vacant post of Pro-Warden (Interdisciplinarity) will not be filled for at least another year;
- (xii) that the Open Book programme received a Guardian Award for widening participation; and
- (xiii) that John Thompson who established the Art Department, and Dame Zaha Hadid, a recent honorand, had passed away since the last meeting.

Noted:

- (i) that the Students' Union is running a campaign to encourage students to register to vote in the EU referendum; and
- (ii) that the Warden had signed a letter to the Times that outlined the impact that an exit from the EU would have on the higher education sector.

Resolved:

that, with the abstention of Dr Barry Quirk (due to conflict of interest with his role as returning officer for Lewisham) members of Council noted their support of the stand that the Warden had taken in relation to signing the letter of concern regarding the possible exit of Britain from the European Union.

7. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Received:

- (i) the Strategic Risk Register (Paper C: 15-648).

Noted:

- (i) in relation to SRR 7 (the UK resigns its membership of the European Union):
 - a. that the 'young vote was widely considered to be critical in the outcome but was also the group least likely to participate in voting, not least because of the timing of the Glastonbury Festival this year;
 - b. that EU membership was important to Goldsmiths because of its research collaborations, EU student recruitment, student number growth opportunity, UKVI rules;
 - c. that the financial impact would be felt most by research and student fee income;
 - d. that although this was a very challenging prospect, Goldsmiths was working hard to mitigate the risk;

- (ii) that it was considered that new risks have arisen around the possibility of campaigns about student rent, and industrial action by the trade unions.

Resolved:

- (i) that SRR 62 (current activities and press coverage of the Goldsmiths Students' Union have a detrimental effect on our wider reputation and could impact on recruitment) would be discussed at the next meeting; and
- (ii) the risk of rent campaigns and industrial action by unions will be entered onto the Register.

8. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Received:

the Institutional Key Performance Indicators (Paper D: 15-612R).

Noted:

- (i) that a revised approach to KPI generation would be presented to the next meeting;
- (ii) that these would be part of the discussion at the Council Strategic Planning away day in May; and
- (iii) that in relation to 'London and the World', the KPIs did not reflect the aspirations more recently articulated in the international strategy.

Resolved:

that Council approved the proposal for the ongoing development of Key Performance Indicators and that this would form part of the discussions at the forthcoming away day.

9. FRS102

Received:

a report on progress made in relation to the implementation of the new financial reporting standard from the Director of Finance.

10. *EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

Noted:

- (i) that a workshop was being arranged on Equality and Diversity for members of Council; and

- (ii) that Equality and Diversity has been included as an item on the agenda of every committees to ensure that all committee business is dealt with through the prism of Equality and Diversity.

11. REPORT FROM AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Received and noted:

the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee held on 12 October 2015 (Paper E).

12. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL (AVAILABLE ELECTRONICALLY ONLY)

Received and noted:

The open Minutes from recent meetings of the Committees of Council (Paper F: 15-649).

13. LETTERS FROM HEFCE

Received and noted:

the following letters from HEFCE (Paper G: 15-650):

- (i) Annual Assessment of Institutional risk; and
- (ii) Audit of DLHE Collection 2012-13.

14. POLICIES

Resolved:

That the following policies were approved upon the recommendation of the Human Resources and Equalities Committee (Paper H: 15-629R):

- a. Guidance on Lone/Night working; and
- b. Secondment Policy.

15. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

To note the following dates of forthcoming meetings in 2015-16:

16 May 2016 (Council Development Session); and
30 June 2016.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (OPEN)

CUT THE RENT CAMPAIGN

Received:

a statement on behalf of the student body in relation to the 'Cut the Rent' campaign read out by the Chair of the Student Assembly.

Secretary's note: a copy of the statement can be provided upon request.

Noted:

- i) that the Student Assembly will shortly consider whether this campaign should be adopted by the Students' Union; and
- ii) that a meeting has been arranged between the College and the Students' Union to discuss the campaign.

Resolved:

that the Director of Estates would collate a summary of maintenance requests (at College accommodation) and their resolution for the next meeting.