

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO.110 HELD 19 SEPTEMBER 2017

Present: Rt. Hon Estelle Morris (in the Chair), Mr Ian Borman, Professor Andrew Bremner, Ms Eva Crossan-Jory, Dr Kate Devlin, Professor Mark d'Inverno, Dr Marl'ene Edwin, Ms Althea Efunshile, Professor Elisabeth Hill, Mr Gerald Lidstone, Mr Patrick Loughrey, Ms Helen MacNamara, Ms Jackie Morgan, Professor David Oswell, Ms Lynn Percy, Sir David Reddaway, Ms Sue Reece, Ms Carol Rue, Ms Vanessa Sharp, Mr Joseph Williams, Mr Tom Wilson, and Ms Theodora Zemek.

Apologies: Mr Nick Barron, Mr Conrad Heyns, Mr Barry Quirk.

In attendance: Ms Helen Watson, Registrar and Secretary; Mr Ben Wilson, Director of Communications; Mr Ian Pleace, Director of Finance; Mr Matthew Brooks, Head of Governance and Legal Services; Ms Giorgia Cowan, Executive and Governance Officer.

OPEN BUSINESS

PRE-SESSIONAL DISCUSSION: RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNIVERSITY GOVERNORS

Secretaries note: This meeting commenced with a focused discussion on the responsibilities of university governors. Accompanying documents are listed under agenda item No.6.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Noted:

- (i) The Chair welcomed Independent Members Carol Rue, Lynn Percy, and Helen MacNamara to Council.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

No additional items had been raised for discussion.

3. CHAIR'S ACTION

None to note.

4. MINUTES

Resolved:

Subject to minor amendments the open minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2017 (Paper A) were approved.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters to note.

6. *RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNIVERSITY GOVERNORS (PRE-SESSIONAL DISCUSSION)

Noted alongside the pre-sessional discussion:

- (i) Goldsmiths' Declaration of Interests and Conflicts of Interest Policy;
- (ii) Committee of University Chairs (CUC) Higher Education Code of Governance;
- (iii) HEFCE Memorandum of Assurance;
- (iv) Higher Education and Research Act and UUK summary; and
- (v) Goldsmiths duty to deliver public benefit, as published by the Charity Commission.

7. TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

Resolved:

That the Terms of Reference, Composition and membership of Council and its Committees for 2017-18 (Paper B: 17-19) were approved.

8. STANDING ORDERS

Received:

The standing orders of the College in force for all Goldsmiths Committees.

MATTERS FOR REPORT

9. *WARDEN'S REPORT

Received:

An updating report from the Warden (Paper C: 17-20).

Noted:

- (i) That there had been significant public scrutiny of the Higher Education sector over the summer period. Council discussed potential avenues for engaging with external debates;
- (ii) The Caroline Graveson building completion and subsequent staff office moves had been delayed, as had some of the CLV refurbishment works to student halls. Students who could be

- impacted had been contacted and contingency plans were in place in the event that rooms were not ready in time for the move in date;
- (iii) While Goldsmiths' had risen in the QS rankings, the College's ranking had dropped in some national newspaper league table results;
 - (iv) Queries were raised regarding whether league table results were reflected in student feedback received, as well as the mechanism for receiving this feedback, and how assurance could be provided of its accuracy alongside the adequacy of the College's response;
 - (v) Council discussed Goldsmiths' year-end financial position and student numbers; and that
 - (vi) Investments had been made in Professional Services, ITIS, and additional academic staff to support student number growth.

10. ANNUAL REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Received:

The annual reports from the following Committees of Council (Paper D):

- (i) Health and Safety (17-21)
- (ii) Human Resources and Equalities Committee (17-22)
- (iii) External Relations (17-23)

11. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL (OPEN)

Received:

The open minutes of the Nominations Committee: Meeting No.13 on 28 June 2017 (Paper E: 17-24).

12. ANNUAL SCHEDULES OF BUSINESS

Received:

The following schedules of business for Council, Academic Board, and the Committees of Council (Paper F: 17-25):

- (i) Council
- (ii) Academic Board
- (iii) Human Resources and Equalities Committee
- (iv) Audit and Risk Committee
- (v) Finance and Resources Committee
- (vi) Health and Safety Committee
- (vii) External Relations Committee

13. ANNUAL SURVEY OF THE COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Received:

The thematic report from the annual survey of the committees of Council from the Executive and Governance Officer (Paper G: 17-26).

14. *STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Received:

The Strategic Risk Register (Paper H: 17-27)

Noted:

- (i) That there had been one risk added regarding CMA compliance;
- (ii) The Strategic Risk Register was currently considered to be of an excessive length; and that
- (iii) Advice would be sought from the internal auditors to make the Register more fit for purpose.

15. *SEXUAL HARASSMENT, VIOLENCE AND MISCONDUCT

Received:

An updating report from the Strategy and Review Manager for Sexual Harassment (Paper I: 17-28)

Noted:

- (i) The Strategy and Review Manager for Sexual Harassment had been introduced to a number of Committees, and would be reporting in to the Human Resources and Equalities Committee (HREC) and Council regularly on their work;
- (ii) Work had been undertaken over the summer period on procuring a reporting tool, producing a policy, and delivering training;
- (iii) The report was discussed and feedback was provided on a number of areas; and
- (iv) Particular concern was expressed regarding a lack of clarity around the processing of anonymous reports, as well as the moral and legal obligations involved.

16. REMUNERATION OF SENIOR STAFF

Received:

A report from the Secretary of Council concerning the processes for the determination of the remuneration of senior staff (Paper J: 17-29)

17. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

To note the following dates of forthcoming meetings in 2017-18:

3pm on 23 November 2017 in PSH 326;
3pm on 12 April 2018 in PSH 326; and
3pm on 28 June 2018 in PSH 326.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (OPEN)

None to note.