OPEN BUSINESS

Present: Dr Anthony Freeling (Chair, President), Dr Hilary Burton (Vice-President), Dr Lydia Drumright (Pro-Vice-President), Mr Daniel Anton Garcia (MCR President), Mrs Victoria Espley (Bursar), Dr Sara Hennessy, Prof Ian Hodge, Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Dr Philip Johnston (Senior Tutor), Prof Jonathan Powell, Dr Corinne Roughley, Dr Eugene Shwageraus, Miss Hattie Stacey (MCR Secretary).

Apologies: Dr Stephen Axford (Director of Research Translation), Mr Bill Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement).

In Attendance: Mrs Wendy Solomou (College Secretary and Fellowships Manager, Secretary).

84.7. Introduction

The President acknowledged that Mr Anton Garcia and Ms Stacey were attending their last meeting.

84.7.1. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

84.8. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of College Council, of 20 March 2019

84.8.1. Approval of minutes (CC84 04)

The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

84.8.2. College Council action list: Open Business (CC84 05)

- 83.11. Senior Members' Privileges
  The Bursar to word the amendment to the policy and send to the College Secretary.
    o Ongoing.
- 83.15. Arrangement for hanging of photograph
  Acting Development Director, Bursar and Senior Tutor to arrange for the photograph to be hung.
    o The Bursar to finalise arrangements.
- 82.12.3. Prevent – Freedom of Speech policy
84.8.3. Matters arising not on the action list
There were no other matters arising.

84.9. {[REDACTED]}

84.10. Proposed accommodation prices, 2019-20 (CC84 07)

The Bursar spoke to the paper, which presented data to support the proposed rent structures for 2019-20. She reported that she had taken into account current accommodation prices for comparable accommodation across Cambridge, inflationary factors affecting accommodation costs, and feedback from the recent student satisfaction survey.

The proposed overall increase, to take effect from 9 September 2019, was 2.5%, with some further adjustment to reflect students’ negative perception of value for money of Fenners (rents to be increased by 2.2%) and positive perception of Gresham Court (rents to be increased by 3.0%).

The proposed rent structure excluded accommodation at Swirles Court, for which rents would be set by Girton College and passed directly to students.

Council approved the proposed rents.

84.11. {[REDACTED]}

84.12. Reports from Honorary Post-holders

84.12.1. Research Convenor’s report (CC84 09)

The President spoke to the report and commented favourably on the high level of activity generated by Dr González-Zalba and the post-doctoral research group and the high quality of the programmes created. In his report Dr González-Zalba acknowledged the input of the group of researchers involved in planning and organising a variety of events.

It was noted that the group’s activities were well integrated with Bridge initiatives and the view was expressed that Fellows should seek to increase their interactions with the post-doctoral researchers.

The President clarified that the £250 travel grant mentioned on page 2 was available to Research Associates and Research Fellows in addition to their research expenses grants.

**ACTION:** The President to ask the Research Convenor to encourage applications for the research and travel grants.

84.12.2. Curator of Valuables’ report (CC84 10)

Council received the Curator of Valuables’ report. Council noted that the Curator, who had been recently appointed, was actively engaged in the role and approved her proposed programme of work.
84.12.3. Director of Research’s report (CC84 11)

Council received the Director of Research’s report, which focussed on the recruitment competitions for Research Associates and Research Fellows (for which he had taken lead responsibility as a member of the Bridge Committee, which has the remit of organising the competitions) and the development of academic activity into three broad thematic areas (Education, Global Health and Well-being, and Sustainability) in close collaboration with the Bridge.

The Senior Tutor noted that there was a productive overlap between the work of the Director of Research, the Research Convenor and the Academic Convenor.

84.12.4. Director of Music’s report (CC84 12)

The Director of Music’s report reviewed an active programme in the current year and outlined plans for the coming academic year, noting that two generous donations would allow a more ambitious programme in terms of quality and developing external partnerships. The Director acknowledged a number of individuals who were key in promoting, supporting and organising musical activity in College.

Two members of Council said that events had been very well attended and enjoyable, with a greater number of students attending. They also noted that the arrangements the Director had put in place for Hughes members to use the nearby practice facilities at Anglia Ruskin University (mentioned in the report) had proved to be very successful.

Council gave its support for the budget request for the coming year.

84.13. MCR Business

The MCR President reported that:

- Additional study spaces for the examinations preparation had been arranged with the Bursar and Senior Tutor;
- Elections for the next MCR President were underway, with voting closing on 27 April.

The President gave a vote of thanks to the MCR President, Secretary and the Committee for their commitment and work for the College.

The MCR President thanked the Bursar and Senior Tutor and their teams for the support they had provided over the past year.

84.14. President’s Report

The President noted that the two Hughes students had been members of the crew in the University’s men’s boat in the Boat Race.

{[[REDACTED]]}

84.15. Academic:
84.15.1. Senior Tutor’s Report (CC84 13)

Council received the report of the Senior Tutor. Dr Johnston noted that a new Deputy Librarian had been appointed and would start work on 7 May. He also drew attention to the three very large graduations taking place in Easter term, which would place heavy demands on College staff.

84.15.2. Event Approval form and Freedom of Speech policy (CC84 14)

The Senior Tutor spoke to the proposed revision of the notes to the Event Approval form (p.3) and clarified that not everyone was required to complete the form. Both he and the Conference Office requested it when a room was booked and the event met the criteria for requiring approval. It was not the intention, for example, that Fellows arranging a meeting with one or more collaborators from outside the collegiate University should seek the Senior Tutor’s approval. Council suggested further changes to the notes to indicate what type of events would not require approval.

**ACTION:** It was agreed that the Senior Tutor should edit the document and circulate to Council for final approval.

Council reviewed and approved the Freedom of Speech policy without amendments (i.e., the version approved by Governing Body on 5 March 2016).

The President suggested that future changes to the Freedom of Speech policy be made in consultation with the Office for Intercollegiate Services.

84.16. Bursarial:

84.16.1. Bursar’s Report (CC84 15)

Council received the report of the Bursar. She drew attention to Appendix 1 ‘Roles and responsibilities within the Bar’ and reported that she had held a meeting with MCR representatives and the outgoing Bar Manager to review and update roles and responsibilities regarding the supply of alcohol. This had involved some changes to the Bar Manager role, renamed as ‘Student Bar Supervisor’ to more accurately reflect the responsibilities of the job. The Bursar said that she would like to record her thanks to the outgoing student Bar Manager, who had done an outstanding job.

84.16.2. Management accounts update (CC84 16)

Council received the management accounts to 28 February 2019 and noted that the increase in the forecast surplus was largely due to lower than expected salary costs across a number of departments.

84.17. Development Office Report (CC84 17)

The President spoke to the Development Office Report. {{[REDACTED]}}

The President reported that he had attended alumni events in Hong Kong and Singapore and that alumni were actively engaging and could be expected to organise their own fund-raising events in the future. At the University campaign event in Hong Kong, Hughes alumni had formed the largest group attending.
It was noted that Fellow Dr Ricardo Sabates had hosted an alumni event in Mexico. The President said that Fellows were encouraged to meet with alumni when travelling for research purposes and that they would receive help from the Development Office if they wished to host an event.

84.18. Director of Research Translation’s Report (CC84 18)

The President spoke to the report, which gave an update on progress and activities under the three main themes (Education, Global Health and Well-being, and Sustainability). Three pairs of Senior Members had agreed to lead each of the themes and a soft launch of the Bridge was planned in May during a VIP visit. A Bridge newsletter would shortly be issued.

84.19. Minutes of Committees

84.19.1. ***Unconfirmed minutes Admissions Committee, 5 March 2019 (CC84 19)

Council received the unconfirmed minutes of Admissions Committee, 5 March 2019.

84.20. Any other Open Business

There was no other Open Business.

WS 24/04/2019