



HUGHES  
HALL  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**COLLEGE COUNCIL**  
**Confirmed minutes**  
**Ninetieth meeting of COLLEGE COUNCIL 26 February 2020**

*{}* indicates that this item will be removed prior to publication on the College website.

**OPEN BUSINESS**

**Present:** Dr Anthony Freeling (Chair, President), Prof Jonathan Powell (Pro-Vice-President), Dr Stephen Axford (Director of Research Translation), Mr Martin Coleman (from item 90.2.2), Miss Alexandra Entwistle-Thompson (MCR President, from item 90.2.1 to 90.14), Mrs Victoria Espley (Bursar), Prof Bill Irish, Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Dr Philip Johnston (Senior Tutor), Mr Patrick Perillo (MCR Secretary, to item 90.14), Dr Corinne Roughley, Dr Eugene Shwageraus, Dr Lars Vinx (from item 90.5).

**Apologies:** Dr Hilary Burton (Vice-President).

**In Attendance:** Mr Bill Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement), Mrs Wendy Solomou (Secretary).

**90.1. Introduction**

**90.1.1. Declarations of Interests**

Mr Conner declared an interest in item 90.12.2.

**90.2. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of College Council, of 18 December 2019**

**90.2.1. Approval of minutes (CC90 01)**

Council approved the minutes as an accurate record.

**90.2.2. College Council action list: Open Business (CC90 02)**

- [87.10] Review of Council's Term of Reference  
The Secretary to refer the proposed changes to Governance Committee.
  - Governance Committee (17 February 2020) considered the proposed amendments and highlighted a lack of clarity in the division of responsibility between Council and Governance Committee for the review of Offices and Posts.

Council's agreed response was that Council should have the remit for the review of Posts (since it had responsibility for establishing and appointing to Posts) and that the responsibility for the review of College Offices should lie with Governance Committee. This was on the premise that Offices exist in Statutes or are created by Ordinance (Statue [VI,1]) and Officers are appointed by Governing Body. It was therefore appropriate that Governance Committee, as a standing committee of Governing Body, should have oversight of the structure and role descriptions of Offices.

The Secretary to draft and circulate the proposed amendments.

- [87.13] Smoking Shelter  
The Bursar to organise the removal of the smoking shelter and to implement a policy of non-smoking throughout the College site.
  - The MCR President reported that a survey to collect the views of the student body was underway and that results would be available for the next meeting of Council. Ongoing.
- [88.11] Size and shape of University – input to survey  
The President to circulate the completed questionnaire to Council.
  - Completed.
- [89.11] Diversity and inclusion in the Senior Membership  
Dr Roughley to organise the collection of data from the Senior Membership and provide feedback from the Work Strand to Fellowships Committee.
  - Dr Roughley reported that a survey had been recently launched. Ongoing.

### **90.2.3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda**

There were no other matters arising.

### **90.3. The Bridge – moving forwards (CC90 03)**

Council considered the strategy paper for the Bridge and approved its presentation to Governing Body subject to the following amendments:

- Append the criteria agreed by Bridge Committee for establishing new Themes and Centres
- Page 3, last sentence of the fourth complete paragraph: correct to 'Furthermore, Bridge Committee (reporting to Council) will need to develop a management and governance approach that ensures each Centre uses its funds for the specified purpose, delivers what is promised to an appropriate standard and accounts for its funding properly.'

In response to a question, the President clarified that the Bridge Office would co-ordinate Bridge activity and that he and Dr Axford would report and bring papers to Council under a standing item on the agenda.

It was noted that a new Librarian was about to be recruited and could, as part of their responsibility for delivering and co-ordinating study skills resources for students, be encouraged to utilise Bridge activities as an educational resource.

**POST-MEETING NOTE:** An additional amendment to the paper was made at the suggestion of Dr Iwasiewicz-Wabnig:

Page 4, add to the end of the first complete paragraph:

‘Through its central, joined-up position, it can also offer advice on best practice already developed in the parallel strands, to avoid duplication of effort.’

#### **90.4. Proposal for 2021/22 unregulated undergraduate fee (CC90 04)**

The Bursar presented the proposed College undergraduate tuition fee for 2021-22 for students who do not have Home/EU fee status or students with Home/EU fee status who are studying for a second undergraduate degree in subjects other than architecture, medicine or veterinary medicine.

{[REDACTED]}

Council approved the proposed fee and the associated terms and conditions.

#### **90.5. College Teaching Officer in Economics (CC90 05)**

The Senior Tutor presented a case for employing a full-time College Teaching Officer (CTO) in Economics. He informed Council that the number of undergraduate students in the subject had increased in the last ten years (from less than 10 to almost 20 students) and more resources for supervision and directing studies were required. The subject was popular amongst mature students and attracted high-quality applicants.

Council approved the suggested budget and agreed that the Senior Tutor should begin the recruitment process in consultation with College Officers.

#### **90.6. Review of the Freedom of Speech policy (CC90 06)**

Council approved the existing policy without discussion. However, the President informed Council that the University Council had recently agreed a new version of the University’s policy, which was to be put to Regent House for approval. The College would need to update its own policy in line with the new University policy in due course.

#### **90.7. MCR Business (CC90 07)**

Council approved the proposal to incorporate a specific BAME Officer Role into the MCR Committee, without changing the overall number of MCR Officers. This was to be achieved by restructuring the Welfare and Equality roles to: ‘Equality & LGBTQ+ Officer’ and ‘Equality & BAME Officer’.

Council also approved amending the roles of Male Welfare and Female Welfare officers to ‘Male & Non-Binary Officer’ and ‘Female and Non-Binary Officer’.

#### **90.8. President’s Report**

The President reported the following;

- Within the wider University strikes were continuing - there appeared to be a deadlock on negotiations over pensions, although there was some progress on consultations over pay.

- An update on the University's and College's responses to the outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Colleges Committee – main topics under discussion included the future size and shape of University: the proposed CBSZ bursary scheme and consideration of specific proposals to increase the eligibility bar for a 'squeezed middle' (for example families with more than one child in HE).
- There was to be a rugby match in honour of Jack Merritt. The President would be out of the country, but a senior representative from the College would attend.
- Recent adverse media coverage on the handling of sexual misconduct complaints in one of the colleges was likely to lead to a further rethinking of policy in the collegiate University.
- He had had several conversations with individuals about the annual Green Week and noted that there was energy and appetite to promote de-carbonise activities. He asked that members of Council become involved and help to co-ordinate planned activities. The Senior Tutor suggested holding the Green Week at the end of Easter Term when more people would be free to participate.
- Council elections – several potential candidates had said that they could not attend on Wednesdays so the President asked members of Council to let him know if they would be unable to meet on a Tuesday and said that it may be necessary to vary the weekday on which Council met.

#### **90.9. Director of Research Translation's Report (CC90 08)**

The Director of Research Translation reported that two recent events, '*Changing the world through public service*' and a day-long conference on Health Ageing had been very well attended and successful at building momentum for the Bridge. He added that he was aiming to develop projects that would attract investment and long-term support for the College.

#### **90.10. Senior Tutor's Report (CC90 09)**

Council received the Senior Tutor's report without discussion.

#### **90.11. Bursarial:**

##### **90.11.1. Bursar's Report (CC90 10)**

The Bursar reported that the small number of students who would not be able to return home during the Easter break had been informed that they would be able to keep their accommodation in College over the holiday period.

### **90.11.2. Management accounts update (CC90 11)**

The Bursar informed Council that the outbreak of the Coronavirus was having an adverse impact on booking for summer schools from overseas institutions and that the Conference Office was seeking to mitigate the fall in demand by attracting more business from UK conference business. The Tutorial Office would consider cases of financial hardship from students whose family's financial circumstances may be affected by the Coronavirus.

### **90.11.3. Estates update**

{{REDACTED}}

Prof Powell spoke with enthusiasm about the recent seminar held for Fellows at which a designer, an architect and specialist in Ecology had presented ideas. He expressed the hope that more Fellows would become engaged during what was an exciting time of major change and transformation for the College.

## **90.12. Director of Institutional Advancement**

### **90.12.1. Report (CC90 12)**

The Director of Institutional Advancement informed Council that

- the Development Office had received positive feedback on the recent issue of the College magazine and planned to publish two issues a year in future.
- The College had received £36,500 in donations to the Jack Merritt Memorial Fund.
- All trips by key members of College to Asia had been cancelled owing to the Coronavirus.
- The Development Office was in the process of recruiting two new members of staff to replace staff who had left or were about to leave.

### **90.12.2. Briefing Note on progress with corporate opportunities (CC90 12a)**

The paper provided an update on progress being made in seeking corporate opportunities, focussing mainly on initiatives and donations to support Prof Rupert Wegerif's proposed Cambridge Institute for Future Education Research (CIFER).

{{REDACTED}}

The President responded that Council must be consulted on a regular basis as options emerged and that there would need to be good governance structures in place. CBELA (University's Committee on Benefactions, External and Legal Affairs) would be consulted about donations or funding from any potential partner.

### **90.13. Minutes of Committees**

Council received the minutes of the following committees without discussion:

**90.13.1. \*\*\*Unconfirmed minutes Admissions Committee, of 26 November 2019 (CC90 13)**

**90.13.2. \*\*\*Confirmed minutes Estates Committee, of 16 October 2019 (CC90 14)**

**90.13.3. \*\*\*Confirmed minutes Finance Committee, of 30 September 2019 (CC90 15)**

**90.13.4. \*\*\*Unconfirmed minutes Bridge Committee, of 29 January 2020 (CC90 16)**

### **90.14. Any other Open Business**

There was no other Open Business.

End of Open Business WS