



GOVERNING BODY Confirmed Minutes

Sixty-sixth meeting of Governing Body, 27 November 2019

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OPEN BUSINESS

Present: Dr Anthony Freeling (President, Chair), Dr Hilary Burton (Vice-President), Dr Paula Banca (from item 66.4), Dr Heather Blackmore, Dr Othman Cole (from item 66.4), Dr Bart de Nijs, Prof Gishan Dissanaiké, Prof John Doorbar, Prof Ming-Qing Du, Dr Peter Dudley, Mrs Victoria Espley (Bursar), Dr Markus Gehring, Prof Emanuele Giovannetti, Dr Fernando Gonzalez-Zalba (from item 66.4), Dr Sara Hennessy (from item 66.4), Dr Danika Hill, Dr Sarah Hoare, Dr Sonia Ilie, Prof Bill Irish, Dr Philip Johnston (Senior Tutor), Prof James Kaufman, Dr Alastair Lockhart, Prof William Nuttall, Mr Tim Pilkington (from item 66.3.3), Dr Aisling Redmond (from item 66.4), Dr Corinne Roughley, Dr Ricardo Sabates, Dr Carole Sargent, Prof Nidhi Singal, Dr Jeffrey Skopek (from item 66.4), Prof Andreas Stylianides, Prof Paul Tracey, Dr Caroline Trotter, Dr Lars Vinx, Prof Rupert Wegerif, Dr Clive Wells, Dr Jessica White, Dr Vanessa Wong, Dr Nigel Yandell.

In Attendance: Mr Bill Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement, to item 66.9), Mrs Wendy Solomou (College Secretary and Fellowships Manager, Secretary), Ms Helena Wilkinson (Partner, Price Bailey Chartered Accountants (from item 66.3.1 to item 66.3.8).

Apologies: Prof Jonathan Powell (Pro-Vice-President), Mr Mark Anderson, Dr Stephen Axford (Director of Research Translation), Dr Mark Bale, Prof Michael Barrett, Mr Martin Coleman, Dr Bernard Devereux, Dr Claire Donnelly, Mr Nick Gray, Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Dr Yury Korolev, Dr Andrew Mackintosh, Prof Neil Mercer (Senior Independent Fellow), Dr Ajith Parlikad, Mrs Laurel Powers-Freeling, Dr Kishore Sengupta, Dr Eugene Shwageraus, Dr Jacob Stegenga, Dr Martin Steinfeld.

On leave: Dr Lydia Drumright, Dr Suzanne Turner.

Absent: Dr Stephen Cave, Mr William Charnley.

66.1. Introduction

66.1.1. Welcome

The President welcomed everyone to the audit meeting of Governing Body and informed them that Ms Helena Wilkinson, Partner of Price Bailey Chartered Accountants, would be joining the meeting for part of item 66.3.

66.1.2. Declarations of Interests (Open Business)

There were no declarations of interests.

66.2. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of the Sixty-fifth meeting of Governing Body, 30 October 2019

66.2.1. Approval of minutes (GB66 01)

Governing Body approved the minutes as an accurate record.

66.2.2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

66.3. Annual report and accounts

(N.B. Governing Body agreed to deal with items 66.4 to 66.7 before item 66.3 because the auditor had not arrived.)

The Bursar first welcomed Ms Wilkinson, partner of Price Bailey to the meeting before briefly outlining the audit process.

66.3.1. Management letter to trustees following the audit to 31 July 2019 (GB66 02)

Ms Wilkinson went through the key points of the Management letter to trustees. She confirmed that all areas highlighted as requiring attention in the previous year's audit had been given a green light and that she anticipated issuing an unqualified report. She also responded to questions about developments in the charity sector.

The President thanked the auditors.

66.3.2. Bursar's introduction to the accounts (GB66 03)

The paper explained the distinction between financial and management reporting. The Bursar said that she would refer back to the figures in the paper as she went through the key points in the audited accounts to show how the financial accounts presented in the standard format of Cambridge Colleges reconciled to the end of year management accounts.

66.3.3. Audit Committee minutes, of Friday 25 October 2019 (GB66 04)

Governing Body received the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of 25 October 2019. Dr Dudley, a member of Audit Committee, offered to answer any questions and reported that, following robust discussions, the Committee were content to recommend that Governing Body approve the RCCA accounts. Governing Body did not raise any questions.

66.3.4. Audited RCCA accounts of Hughes Hall (GB66 05)

The Bursar presented the audited accounts for 2018-19, which were approved by Governing Body.

66.3.5. Audited accounts of Hughes Hall Limited (GB66 06)

Governing Body approved the accounts of Hughes Hall Limited for 2018-19.

66.3.6. Audited accounts of Elizabeth Phillips Hughes Hall Company (GB66 07)

Governing Body approved the accounts of Elizabeth Phillips Hughes Hall Limited for 2018-19.

66.3.7. Audited accounts Hughes Hall (Hong Kong) Limited (GB66 08)

Governing Body received the audited accounts of Hughes Hall (Hong Kong) Limited for 2018-19.

66.3.8. Letters of representation (GB66 09a, 09b, 09c)

Governing Body approved the three letters of representation from Governing Body to Price Bailey LLP (concerning Hughes Hall, Hughes Hall Limited, and Elizabeth Phillips Hughes Hall Limited).

Ms Wilkinson left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.

66.3.9. Auditors' remuneration

Governing Body approved the audit fees payable to the auditors (given in section 7c, page 30 of the Hughes Hall RCCA accounts).

66.3.10. Appointment of the auditors for 2020-21 (for the audit of the 2019-20 accounts)

Governing Body agreed that Audit Committee should review the appointment of the auditors and make a recommendation at the next meeting of Governing Body. {[REDACTED]}

The President thanked the Audit Committee.

66.4. President's Report

The President reported on the following:

- The resignation of HRH Prince Andrew, Duke of York as Honorary Fellow. Prior to his resignation, students had called for a review of his Honorary Fellowship in an open letter.
- Coverage in the press of the removal of the Snyder painting, 'The Fowl Market', which had hung in the Dining Hall. The coverage was a result of a press release by the Fitzwilliam Museum to generate publicity for a forthcoming exhibition and referred to the removal of the painting following complaints that it was putting non-meat-eaters off their food. The Fitzwilliam had not made an apology for its portrayal of the College. The Bursar had responded to adverse reactions on social media by describing any debate as a 'really poultry affair'.
- The Bridge - a good start to the year, with funding raised to support Education and encouraging discussion regarding Law, and the holding of two major dinners.
- {[REDACTED]}
- Industrial action by the University and College Union (UCU) was underway.
- Undergraduate Admissions Assessments – Council had discussed issues around cost and considered a number of proposed options. All colleges would need come to a joint decision for a way forward. Any decision taken would not greatly affect Hughes, because of the relatively small number of applicants for subjects which would continue to be assessed.
- Undergraduate transition year – consultations were taking place for implementation of a pilot scheme.
- University's International Strategy – the President was involved in University consultations with Heads of Houses, Senior Tutors and Bursars currently taking place. A wider consultation would come to Governing Body later in the year.
- The President congratulated Prof Nuttall on the launch of his new book; Dr Johnston on his appointment to the Business Committee of the Senior Tutors' Committee; and Mrs Espley on her appointment to the Business Committee of the Bursars' Committee.

66.5. *Cost of research expenses programme (GB66 10)**

Governing Body received the cost of the research expenses grant programme without discussion.

66.6. *Protocol for Fellows changing colleges (GB66 11)**

Governing Body received the reminder (from the Office of Intercollegiate Services) of the protocol for Fellows changing colleges.

66.7. Size and shape of the University (GB66 12)

The President informed Governing Body that the Size and Shape Joint Working Group (drawn from members of the colleges and the University) was consulting and developing strategy for optimising the future size and composition of the student body. As part of the process colleges were being asked to participate in a preliminary survey to indicate the extent to which they wished to grow or shrink any categories of their student body over the next ten years, assuming no resource constraint and a significant expansion in student numbers. The President stressed that at this stage, the survey was a scoping exercise and that the College was not making any binding commitment.

{{REDACTED}}

Governing Body approved the proposed targets.

66.8 Management accounts update (GB66 13)

The Bursar presented management accounts for the first quarter to 31 October 2019 and noted that the forecast outturn was on track.

66.9. Any other Open Business

There was no other Open Business.

End of Open Business WS 27/11/2019