



HUGHES
HALL

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

COLLEGE COUNCIL

Confirmed minutes

One hundred-and-tenth meeting of College Council 22 March 2022

Video conference at 4.30pm

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

Present: Dr Anthony Freeling (Chair, President), Prof Nidhi Singal (Vice-President), Mr Jordan Corbett (MCR President, to item 10.9), Dr Sonia Ilie, Prof Bill Irish, Dr Tobias Kohn (from item 10.4.1), Dr Yury Korolev, Dr Tori McKee (Senior Tutor), Mr Jonathan Newby (Bursar), Prof Ricardo Sabates, Dr Carole Sargent, Dr Lars Vinx, Mr Yuchen Zhu (MCR Secretary, to item 10.9).

In Attendance: William Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement), Dr Pete Dudley (MCR Senior Treasurer for item 10.4.1), Mrs Wendy Solomou (Secretary).

Apologies: Dr Stephen Axford.

OPEN BUSINESS

10.1. Introduction

10.1.1. Welcome

The President noted that Mr Corbett and Mr Zhu were attending their final meeting before handing over to the incoming MCR Committee. He thanked them for all that they and the MCR Committee had achieved over the past year and especially for supporting the student community as it returned to College after two years of varying degrees of lockdown.

The President noted that Dr Kohn, who would be arriving late, would also be attending his final meeting before leaving Cambridge.

10.1.2. Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests.

10.2. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of College Council, of 22 February 2022

10.2.1. Approval of minutes (CC10 01)

The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

10.2.2. College Council action list: Open Business (CC10 02)

[9.8] Charges and fees for Hong Kong University Visiting Fellows for 2022-3.

The Bursar to revise and resubmit the proposal to provide more information about the rationale for determining the fee component.

- Ongoing.

10.2.3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

The Senior Tutor and Dr Sargent (Deputy Senior Tutor, Admissions Lead) gave an update on the March undergraduate admissions round. There had been 135 applications of which 28 had been invited for interview. The Senior Tutor said that she would provide fuller details in her next report to Council.

10.3. President's report

The President offered his congratulations to Miranda Clements, member of the University's Lightweight Women's crew, which had beaten Oxford's boat by fifteen lengths in the Interactive Investor Lightweight Boat Race. He also noted that Patrick Harris had been selected for the Varsity Rugby squad.

He informed Council that at the last meeting of the Colleges' Committee:

- The two-year extension of the MOU between the colleges and the University on postgraduate student numbers (accepted by Governing Body on 9 February [GB80.5]) had been approved.
- There had been extensive discussion about the war in Ukraine and the support the University and colleges could offer Ukrainian students, post-doctoral researchers, and other university staff. He said that the Colleges' Committee acknowledged that Russian and Belarusian students and scholars who were speaking out against the war were also in need of support.

10.4. MCR business

The President welcomed Dr Pete Dudley (Honorary MCR Senior Treasurer) to the meeting to speak to the MCR Treasurer's report.

The MCR President informed Council that in the recent elections all roles on the MCR Committee bar one had been filled and preparations for the handover at the beginning of Easter term were going well. The MCR had voted against a name change for the MCR.

He also reported that the first bop held with a change of venue and with new protocols in place had gone very well. He thanked the Senior Tutor, Bursar and the former Domestic Bursar for their help and support. The Bursar and Senior Tutor reciprocated by thanking the MCR President and Committee for their pragmatic approach and help in establishing the new protocols for running the bops and other events.

10.4.1. MCR Senior Treasurer and MCR Treasurer's report (CC10 02a)

Dr Dudley, Honorary MCR Senior Treasurer, reported that he had met with the MCR Treasurer and that following a quiet year the accounts were in good order, but showed an underspend. He said that preliminary discussions with the MCR as to how the surplus could be used to benefit students would be followed up with the incoming MCR Committee early in the Easter term. Dr Dudley said that he planned to have regular meetings with the incoming MCR Treasurer over the coming year.

The report documented difficulties with the handover from the previous MCR Treasurer (owing to the pandemic and other issues), which had resulted in the closure of the MCR bank account between August 2021 and January 2022. To ensure that this would not happen again it had been agreed that the Assistant Bursar and the MCR Senior Treasurer would be added as account holders.

10.5. Health and Safety Policy (CC10 03)

The Bursar reminded Council that for any organisation with more than five employees it was a statutory requirement to have a written health and safety policy and that the Governing Body, as Trustees, had collective and individual responsibility for the policy. He was therefore requesting that Council review the updated policy for recommendation to Governing Body. He reported that normally the Health and Safety Policy is reviewed every three years, but that owing to the COVID pandemic the policy had not been reviewed since 2017. In future the intention was for the Head of Facilities to submit a review to Council annually (for operational oversight) and to Governing Body every three years or whenever there were significant changes to Health and Safety legislation.

The Bursar reported that the review had raised two amber warnings (embedding a robust system of health and safety training for staff and ensuring that a central record of the training was maintained), and that actions to address both issues would be completed by 30 April 2022.

In response to comments and questions the Bursar agreed to consider offering Fellows who spent time working in College the chance to be recruited and trained as first-aid officers, and to ensure that Tutors were not excluded in communications about training for staff. He also agreed that having appropriate risk assessments and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place was essential to support the statutory requirements of the Health and Safety policy and that he would stress this in his covering statement when the policy was submitted to Governing Body.

Council approved recommending the Health and Safety Policy to Governing Body.

10.6. Carbon reduction - update on progress (CC10 04)

Council received an update on progress towards meeting the Science-Based Targets set by the College's Carbon Reduction Policy. The Bursar reported that there had been good progress in key areas, particularly aided by the move to 100% renewable energy. However, he noted that some metrics were impacted by the reduction in energy usage during the pandemic and that quantifying and targeting Scope 3 (indirect) emissions remained a challenge.

The President asked whether a reduction in the frequency of serving beef and lamb (stated as a means of reducing Scope 3 emissions) would be acceptable to students. The MCR President added that significant changes to the menu would not be well received. It was agreed that before any changes were introduced there should first be consultation with students.

10.7. IT Audit report (CC10 05)

Council received the report of the recent external IT audit.

{REDACTED}

10.8. *Minutes of committees**

Council received the minutes of the following committee without discussion:

10.8.1. Unconfirmed minutes Estates Committee, of 21 February 2022 (CC10 06)

10.9. Any other Open Business

The President gave a vote of thanks the MCR President and MCR Secretary, and also to Dr Kohn for his contribution to the College as a member of Council and Chair of House Committee.

End of Open Business WS