



HUGHES  
HALL

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## GOVERNING BODY

### Confirmed minutes

### Seventy-sixth meeting of Governing Body 12 May 2021

#### Video conference at 5.30pm

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

**Present:** Dr Anthony Freeling (President, Chair), Prof John Doorbar (Vice-President), Prof Jonathan Powell (Pro-Vice-President), Mr Mark Anderson, Dr Stephen Axford, Dr Paula Banca (from item 76.3), Dr Jimmy Chan, Mr William Charnley, Dr Othman Cole, Mr William Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement), Dr Peter Dudley, Mrs Victoria Espley (Bursar), Prof Tamsin Ford, Dr Markus Gehring (from item 76.3), Prof Emanuele Giovannetti, Dr Sarah Hoare, Dr Riikka Hofmann, Dr Sonia Ilie, Prof Bill Irish, Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Dr Philip Johnston (Senior Tutor), Dr Tobias Kohn, Dr Yury Korolev (from item 76.5), Dr Alastair Lockhart, Dr Andrew Mackintosh, Dr Timea Nochta, Prof William Nuttall, Mrs Laurel Powers-Freeling, Dr Aisling Redmond, Dr Corinne Roughley, Prof Ricardo Sabates, Dr Carole Sargent, Dr Kishore Sengupta, Dr Jeffrey Skopek, Dr Jacob Stegenga, Dr Livia Tomova, Dr Caroline Trotter, Dr Suzanne Turner, Dr Lars Vinx, Prof Rupert Wegerif, Dr Clive Wells, Dr Jessica White, Dr Nigel Yandell.

**In Attendance:** Mr Bill Conner (Director of Institutional Advancement (from item 76.3 to item 76.8), Mrs Wendy Solomou (College Secretary and Fellowships Manager, Secretary).

**Apologies:** Mrs Heidi Allen, Prof Michael Barrett, Dr Claire Donnelly, Prof Ming-Qing Du, Prof Neil Mercer (Senior Independent Fellow), Dr Martin Steinfeld.

**On leave:** Prof Gishan Dissanaiké, Dr Sara Hennessy, Dr Eugene Shwageraus, Prof Nidhi Singal, Prof Andreas Stylianides, Prof Paul Tracey.

**Absent:** Dr Bart de Nijs, Dr Ajith Parlikad.

## OPEN BUSINESS

### 76.1. Introduction

#### 76.1.1. Welcome and apologies for absence

#### 76.1.2. Declarations of interests (Open Business)

There were no declarations of interests.

## **76.2. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of Governing Body, of 17 March 2021**

### **76.2.1. Approval of minutes (GB76 01)**

Governing Body approved the minutes as an accurate record.

### **76.2.2. Governing Body action list: Open Business**

There were no items on the action list.

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

There were no other matters arising.

## **76.3. President's report**

The President informed Governing Body that he had been elected exceptionally for a further year as Chair of the Colleges' Committee.

He congratulated Dr Gehring on his recent re-election to the Cambridge City Council.

He thanked Fellows who had volunteered to stand for election or re-election on college committees and reminded Governing Body that more candidates were needed to fill forthcoming vacancies.

He invited the Bursar and Dr Roughley to give an update on the College's responses to the recent government rules and guidance on COVID.

The Bursar and Dr Roughley reported the following:

- Students
  - Approximately 280 students were resident in college, with a further 15 expected to return.
  - COVID testing. There were no positive results to report although the uptake of asymptomatic testing had been relatively low: higher participation rates were being encouraged (via posters and emails).
  - Support for students living in college and elsewhere. With the start of examinations the College counsellor was busy again and tutors were working hard.
- Meeting and working on site from 17 May
  - Students would be permitted to host visitors and meet according to the law. Communications to students had asked that they act responsibly and show respect for others regarding COVID rules and the need for a quiet environment for study and sitting examinations.
  - The porters would be keeping a list of visitors to site. Individual households would be responsible for organising and keeping track of contacts if they had guests.
  - The serving of drinks and meals would remain limited to table service and subject to the rule of no more than six people or two households. This would allow the College to restart holding dinners and planning for events such as the completion dinner for PGCE students.
  - Fellows and staff would continue to work from home if possible. In-person meetings relating to key college business could be facilitated but other meetings, for example, department/institute work-related, would need to continue to take place elsewhere or

online. Fellows working in college would be able to dine from the following Monday but would not be able to bring in guests.

- Dr Roughley gave a vote of thanks to all the managers on the Silver (Operations) Team who had contributed to discussions and putting plans in place.

#### **76.4. \*\*\*Response to Government consultation on admissions process (GB76 02)**

Governing Body received the University's proposed response to the Government's consultation on a change to the admission process, without discussion.

#### **76.5. Update on Estates (GB76 03)**

{[REDACTED]}

#### **76.6. Freedom of Speech policy (GB76 04)**

Governing Body approved the adoption of the University's Statement on Freedom of Speech and agreed that the current College policy (based on a template aligned with the University's previous statement) should be replaced with the following statement (published to the College website):

##### HUGHES HALL STATEMENT ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH

The College endorses and supports in full the University's Statement on Freedom of Speech (<https://www.governanceandcompliance.admin.cam.ac.uk/governance-and-strategy/university-statement-freedom-speech>) adopted by the University in December 2020 and commends it to its members, staff and visitors.

With reference to the management of College (and not University) events, the College ensures freedom of speech at these events through a formal pre-approval process. Details of this are available at: [Policies | Hughes Hall \(cam.ac.uk\)](#) - see 'Events Management'.

Governing Body also approved the updating of the link to the Freedom of Speech statement in the Events Management document by replacing:

3. Hughes Hall is strongly committed to the principle of freedom of speech. Every event organiser must ensure that their event complies with the [published college statement](#). This form is part of the procedure mentioned in that statement.

With:

3. Hughes Hall is strongly committed to the principle of freedom of speech. Every event organiser must ensure that their event complies with the University's Statement on Freedom of Speech, which the College has adopted:  
<https://www.governanceandcompliance.admin.cam.ac.uk/governance-and-strategy/university-statement-freedom-speech>

**76.7. Management accounts update (GB76 05)**

The Bursar presented the management accounts to 31 March 2021 and highlighted the key areas of changes since the period to 31 January 2021. The Bursar reported that the most significant change had been an improvement in the forecast deficit owing to an increase in rental income as students returned to the College. She noted that that there remained provision of £160k in the COVID contingency fund.

**76.8. Any other Open Business**

There was no other Open Business.

End of Open Business WS