



COLLEGE COUNCIL

Confirmed minutes

One hundred-and-twenty-third meeting of College Council 14 November 2023

Council Room at 16.30

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Present: Sir Laurie Bristow (Chair, President), Prof Nidhi Singal (Vice-President), Veronica Hera (MCR President), Dr Tori McKee (Senior Tutor), Mr Jonathan Newby (Bursar), Prof Bill Irish, Dr Carole Sargent, Dr Lars Vinx, Mrs Emily Farnworth, Dr Bart de Nijs, Dr Claire West

In Attendance: Sarah Langford (Communications Manager, to item 23.11), Mrs Julia Watkinson (Secretary)

Apologies: Dr Stephen Axford (Director of Strategy and the Bridge), Ms Mahnaz Malik, Mr William Conner, Dr Lars Vinx, Yihan Yue (MCR Secretary)

OPEN BUSINESS

23.1. Introduction

23.1.1. Welcome

23.1.2. Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests.

23.2. Minutes and Matters arising from Open Business of College Council, 10 October 2023

23.2.1. Approval of minutes (CC23 01)

The minutes were approved as an accurate record, subject to minor amends.

23.2.2. College Council action list: Open Business (CC23 02)

[CC22.2.2] Terms of Reference for Capital Campaign Board

The Director of Institutional Advancement to request nominations for Campaign Board from Governing Body and senior members and submit revised terms of reference including a prospect list for Council approval.

[CC22.3.1] Operationalising the 2030 Vision

The Secretary to organise a meeting for the senior leadership team in December 2023.

[CC22.5] Hughes Hall Collection

The Vice-President has identified stored artworks to be displayed and is starting a dialogue with Sarah Squire who wishes to be involved. The artwork will be used to update the Fenner's entrance lobby and Dining Hall and will showcase the College's history.
[CC22.7.2] Associate Director CCE pay scale adjustment – complete.

23.2.3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

There were no matters arising.

Strategic and operational items

23.3. President's Report

The President noted the 2030 Vision required capacity to support its delivery and that information would be brought to Council to understand the scope and priorities of the personnel requirement. The priority focus within the next three months is the Director of Development appointment.

Council heard that the Vice-Chancellor has visited Hughes Hall three times in the last two weeks, including a meeting with students who shared their journeys to study at Cambridge.

The MCR President welcomed the opportunity to meet the Vice-Chancellor and expressed interest in continuing this relationship; it was agreed that creating unique events and inviting a wide audience would facilitate future engagement between the student body and senior University contacts.

23.3.1. College Video <https://vimeo.com/883237703/53692a215b>

Council viewed the new College video and gave very positive feedback, thanking the Communications Manager for her hard work in producing the video. Council noted the video will be sub-titled for accessibility and the fourteen testimonies will be launched on social media to tie in with the key admissions phases.

The Vice-President suggested the videos be used to tie in with global events, such as International Women's Day. The Communications Manager welcomed suggestions for use of the material and will be engaging with teams to understand how this material can support their targets. The Bursar noted that the stories would be of interest at alumni events.

23.3.2. Staffing the Communications Team

The proposed staffing vacancy within the Communications Team is considered under item 23.18.2 and was discussed at this point in the meeting.

23.4. MCR Business

The MCR President communicated the appointment of the May Ball President to lead on the ball planned for June 2024; the MCR are actively reaching out to other Colleges who may be interested in co-hosting. The students are recruiting for a University Challenge team, to submit a team in 2024. Council noted the launch of the Hughes Hall Bridge Award, in collaboration with all the Bridge Centres, an open to all competition with teams including at least one Hughes student. Teams pitch ideas to solve a real-life crisis, with prizes funded by the Bridge Centres.

The MCR President shared upcoming formal hall details, with Hughes Hall Students going to Linacre

College, Oxford in late November 2023 for the formal hall swap, and the MCR hosting a formal to thank the Hughes catering team on 30 November 2023. The MCR will also be updating the Bar with photos including societies and committee photos.

Council thanked the MCR Committee for their ongoing work.

23.5. Annual reports of the Investments Committee (CC23 03)

The Bursar presented the annual report for the financial year to 31 July 2023 which had been approved by Investments Committee.

- {{REDACTED}}

23.6. * Review and Sign Off Process for CCE Funding Proposals and Reports (CC23 04)**

Council noted without discussion the sign-off process for CCE funding proposals and reports.

23.7. Next Steps for the Centre for Climate Engagement, the Climate Governance Initiative and Chapter Zero (CC23 05)

{{REDACTED}}

Council thanked the Director of CCE and the MCR President for the exciting range of events that have been created between the Centres, Fellows and students.

23.8. Updates to Chapter Zero Memorandum of Understanding (CC23 06)

Council noted the planned changes to Hughes Hall representation on Chapter Zero's board, to resolve specific conflicts of board member's responsibilities and provide additional Governing Body representation.

23.9. CCE Oversight Committee remit and membership (CC23 07)

Council noted the changes to CCE Oversight Committee membership, which removes a requirement for a Council member to serve on committee, instead requiring two members of Governing Body.

Standing items

23.10. Bursarial:

23.10.1. Bursar's report: For information (CC23 08)

The Bursar noted the imminent resolution of an issue with the leased student houses. Council noted that improvements in catering have resulted in increased sales and positive student feedback.

Council thanked the College staff for their actions during the power cut.

23.10.2. Masterplan update

{{REDACTED}}

23.10.3. Management Accounts to 3 October 2023 (CC23 09)

The Bursar reported that the management accounts show the budget is on track to produce a small deficit at year-end, forecast at £44k deficit.

23.10.4. Letters of Representation 2022-2023 Accounts (CC23 10)

Council noted this paper was included in error and the letters are approved by Governing Body.

23.11. Tutorial:

23.11.1. Senior Tutor's report: For information (CC23 11)

The Senior Tutor's report included details of the following:

- Final exam results have been published, with fantastic results for Hughes students.
- There has been a reduction in those who did not complete and reduced applications to the Examinations Mitigation Committee.
- Open applications for the PG community are increasing, with almost 50% of students open applications. This results in less control on Admissions for Accept All colleges.
- UG mature students are declining year on year. Medicine, law, economics, maths have seen a small increase; the new admissions round features a strong pool of economists & lawyers.
- Tutorial team are working with partner colleges, to encourage mature UG to apply to a mature college.

23.11.2. Pathways Project Plan Overview (CC23 12)

The Senior Tutor reported on the active exploration of funding bids for Pathways, and anticipates seeking Council approval in Lent Term 2024 pending the outcomes of these bids.

The Council noted engagement data: 250 students have enrolled, 140 students of these with access to the online model. 15 one-to-one sessions have taken place to date, and there have been 217 attendees for live events. Students need to have engaged with a third of the modules to provide a valid research model, and receive recognition at the end of the programme through a Pathways formal hall and a certificate of completion.

23.11.3. Admissions Tables (CC23 13)

Council received admissions data tables for 2022 and 2023, and noted that the Admissions Team processed 100 more PG applications in 2023 to end with fewer students than 2022. Conversion rates have not increased as had been hoped, however a slight increase in PhDs will improve continuing student numbers.

23.12. Director of Institutional Advancement's Report (CC23 14)

There were no comments on the paper.

23.13. * Minutes of committees**

Council received the minutes of the following committees without discussion:

23.13.1. Unconfirmed minutes CCE Oversight Committee, 9 October 2023 (CC23 15)

23.14. Any other Open Business

There was no other Open Business.

End of Open Business JW.