HUGHES HALL
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

GOVERNING BODY

CONFIRMED MINUTES

Ninety-ninth meeting of Governing Body 19 March 2025

In person at 5.30pm

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

Present: Sir Laurie Bristow (President, Chair), Dr Sonia Ilie (Acting Vice-President), Mr William Charnley, Prof Gishan Dissanaike, Dr Joe Ellis, Ms Emily Farnworth, Prof Emanuele Giovannetti, Dr Sarah Hoare (from item 99.7), Prof Riikka Hofmann, Prof Bill Irish, Dr Agnieszka Iwasiewicz-Wabnig, Dr Florian Jaeckle, Dr Spencer Johnston, Dr Lois Kim, Dr Gosia Marschall, Dr Kennedy Mbeva, Dr Tori McKee (Senior Tutor), Ms Amy Mollett, Mr Jonathan Newby (Bursar), Mr James Nicholson Bowers, Prof William Nuttall, Prof Ajith Parlikad, Prof Jonathan Powell, Dr Sally Raudon, Prof Ricardo Sabates (from item 99.8), Prof Jorge Santos, Prof Kishore Sengupta, Prof Eugene Shwageraus, Prof Andreas Stylianides (for item 99.5), Prof Caroline Trotter, Prof Harro van Asselt, Dr Lefan Wang, Dr Zhiwu Wei, Dr Clive Wells, Dr Jessica White, Dr Alexis Willett, Mrs Kerry Wilson, Dr Emmanuela Wroth, Dr Nigel Yandell, Dr Matteo Zallio.

In Attendance: Miss Katherine Springthorpe (Secretary to Governing Body), Mrs Julia Watkinson, Dr Alastair Lockhart and Caroline Jelves (Deputy Development Director) (for item 99.5).

Facilitators (item 99.5): Dr Alexis Willett, Dr Alastair Lockhart, Dr Sonia Ilie, Dr Riikka Hoffman and Sir Laurie Bristow.

Rapporteurs (item 99.5): Dr Sarah Hoare, Ms Amy Mollett, Dr Riika Hoffman, Dr Tori McKee and Prof Harro van Asselt.

On leave: Prof Nidhi Singal (Vice-President), Prof Lars Vinx, Dr Martin Steinfeld.

Apologies: Dr Farah Ahmed, Prof Michael Barrett, Dr Jimmy Chan, Dr Bart de Nijs, Prof John Doorbar, Prof Tamsin Ford, Dr Markus Gehring, Prof Sara Hennessy, Ms Jane Mann, Prof Neil Mercer, Dr Vasiliki Mavridou, Dr Perla Pucci, Dr Guillermo Serrano Nájera, Dr Corinne Roughley, Prof Jeffrey Skopek, Prof Paul Tracey, Prof Suzanne Turner, Prof Rupert Wegerif and Dr Yi Wei.

Absent: Dr Othman Cole, Ms Mahnaz Malik, Dr David McCay, Dr Tabitha Mwangi.

OPEN BUSINESS

99.1. Introduction

Members were reminded that the meeting would be recorded as usual to support accurate production of the Minutes.

99.1.1. Welcome

The President extended a warm welcome to Mr James Nicholson Bowers, Ms Amy Mollett, Dr Lefan Wang and Dr Zhiwu Wei to their first meeting as Governing Body Fellows, and informed Governing Body that Dr Lockhart and Ms Jelves would attend the meeting for item 99.5.

The President welcomed Miss Katherine Springthorpe as the incoming Secretary to Governing Body, whilst extending a vote of thanks to Rebecca Lawrence and Julia Watkinson for their excellent stewardship of Governing Body ahead of Miss Springthorpe's arrival.

99.1.2. Declarations of interests (Open Business)

There were no declarations of interest.

99.2. Minutes and Matters arising from the Open Business of Governing Body, of 5 February 2025

99.2.1. Approval of minutes (GB99 01)

Governing Body approved the minutes as an accurate record.

99.2.2. Governing Body action list: Open Business

[Minute 98.7] Development Director's report

Governing Body noted that the collation of relevant development data to inform discussion of item 99.5 had been presented as paper GB99 03. Complete.

99.2.3. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

There were none.

99.3. President's report

The President reported on current priorities: Bursar recruitment, Pavilion Project, Statutes & Ordinances reform and the College's 140th anniversary Giving Day.

Governing Body noted recent achievements, with specific reference to the Impact events programme (99.6.1 referred) and the importance of this work to building the College's case for support to be explored in more detail under 99.5.

The President thanked the Governing Body for its continued support with the resource- and time-heavy implementation of the 2030 Vision, and emphasised a need for careful pacing, ensuring urgent and important matters were addressed, alongside delivery of business as usual.

99.4. Management accounts update (GB99 02)

The Bursar presented the management accounts for the period ending 28 February 2025 and confirmed that the year-to-date data were tracking as expected to the forecast and budget *{REDACTED}*. No questions were raised.

99.5. Philanthropy and Fundraising Priorities (GB99 03)

At the President's request, this item was taken last.

The President introduced the item, highlighting the need to engage Governing Body in detailed discussion on this important strategic matter. He noted that the content and format might also prove helpful when considering how best to ensure Governing Body retained strategic oversight of the College beyond the Statutes and Ordinances revisions.

The Development Director outlined the team's recent activities and areas of focus, particularly the Commemoration Dinner (9 May) and the upcoming College Giving Day and the College's 140th Anniversary.

Governing Body Fellows joined one of five facilitated breakout groups to discuss fundraising priorities which might underpin the College's case for support and generate meaningful conversations with prospective donors.

{REDACTED}

99.6. Impact Director's Update

99.6.1 Impact Director's Report

The Impact Director briefly reported on Impact Programme activity:

- The Impact Expo, Masterclasses and Covid Reflections events had been very well received and attended, providing excellent impetus for a broad and diverse group of people to come together.
- A number of events were coming up:
    - Literary Day - on Friday 21 March.
    - Senior Members' Symposium - on Thursday 15 May.
    - 'Hughes Comes to You' – a number of outreach events visiting Hughes' researchers who were based at satellite sites outside of the city centre and who found it more difficult to attend events at College.

- The annual Fellows survey would be circulated shortly to capture research involvement and impact.
- The new Director of the Centre for Climate Engagement (CCE), Dr Paul Jefferiss, had recently taken up his post. A meeting of the CCE Advisory Group would take place the same week to discuss next steps for CCE.

99.6.2 ***Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Hughes Hall and PHG Foundation (GB99 04)

Governing Body approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Hughes Hall and the PHG Foundation. The MoU agreed the award of a Fellowship of The Foundation to one or more Members of the College engaged in research or translational activities in an area of mutual interest, and the award of a Fellowship or Senior Membership of the College to the Director or such other senior staff member or Trustee of the Foundation as may be agreed between the parties, subject to due process and approval defined in the MoU.

99.7. Statutes and Ordinances revision update

The Bursar provided an oral update, reporting that:

- Proposed Statutes revisions were currently with the Privy Council for informal review. Subject to Privy Council comment being non-substantive, a final version would be brought to Governing Body for consideration and approval in Easter Term, ahead of University and Privy Council ratification thereafter.
- Review of Ordinances was taking place in parallel, with particular focus on aligning Academic Staff ordinances to comply with employment law, getting the details of financial and investment procedures right, as well as simplifying ordinances related to committee arrangements.
- A critical aspect of the review was the structure of the statutory governance of the College. With the trusteeship moving away from Governing Body to a newly structured Council, a key challenge would be configuring the size and shape of that new trustee body. This was particularly important in relation to the balance between executive members (College Officers) and elected trustees, and the need to avoid the possibility of “executive capture”.
- Governance Committee had been asked to consider options for a newly structured Council accordingly, with its conclusions intended to form the basis of recommendations to Governing Body in Easter Term.

{REDACTED}

99.8. [CONFIDENTIAL] Pavilion Project Update

[{Redacted}]

99.9. Any other Open Business

There was none.

End of Open Business KS.