

ST HUGH'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

The Second Stated Meeting of the **GOVERNING BODY** in Trinity Term was held on
Wednesday, 19 May 2021.

The Meeting was held virtually by Video Conference in Microsoft *Teams*
as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Present:	The Principal (Chair)	Professor Loutzenhiser
	Professor Moore	Professor Conway
	Professor Garnett, Vice-Principal and Library and Archive Fellow	Professor Mann
	Professor Getzler	Dr Sanders
	Professor Wong	Dr Parkin
	Professor Stellardi	Professor Husband
	Professor Mitchell	Professor Doyle (Secretary)
	Professor McDonald	Professor Eidenmüller
	Mrs Vainker	Professor Jérusalem
	Professor Westbrook, Senior Tutor	Professor Oberhauser
	Professor Grainger	Professor Saupe
	Professor Macnair	Professor Cousins
	Professor Wilson	Professor Cont
	Professor Rood	Dr Taylor, Tutor for Equality
	Dr Perkins	Professor Kornmann
	Professor Marshall	Mr Myring, Bursar
	Professor Perera, Dean	Professor Abate
	Mr Marshall	Professor Kocsis
In attendance:	Professor Blunsom	Professor Alemany
	Professor McMahon	Dr Nichols
	Professor Bentley	Dr Vandí
	Dr Large	Dr Smyth
	Dr Hein	Mr Lawrence, Director of Development
	Ms Aitken	

Mr de Luca e Tuma represented the MCR and Mr Bakare the JCR. They attended for items 374-389, 391-398, 400-401, 409, 411 and 413-419.

Dr Marchella Ward, Tinsley Outreach Fellow at Worcester College; Ms Thea Crapper, College Academic Registrar; Ms Lena Sorochina, College Outreach Officer; and Ms Sophie Cheng, College Admissions Officer attended for item 378.

374. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from: Professor Plunkett, Professor Pařeta, Professor Harnden, Professor Ballentine, Professor Chalker, Professor Thompson and Professor Cook (Dr Kuhn, Professor Stevens, Professor Leach, Professor Biro and Professor Morisi on leave).

375. SCR President (Circ Bus 18.05.21)

It was noted that a proposal for Professor Wong to become SCR President with immediate effect, as a result of the retirement this summer of the current SCR President, Professor Plunkett, had been circulated and received.

376. The Minutes of the First Stated Meeting in Trinity Term held on 22 April 2021 had been circulated and were approved.

377. Conflicts of Interest

Potential conflicts were declared with regard to student members and the proposal for student rents in 2021-22 (see Minute 387, below).

378. Admissions Presentation: *Making Access Fair*

Dr Ward, Ms Crapper, Ms Sorochina and Ms Cheng were welcomed to the Governing Body. Dr Ward presented to the Governing Body on *Making Access Fair*, based on her experiences of Admissions at Worcester College and advised on strategies that could be adopted by St Hugh's. [The presentation slides were subsequently distributed to the Governing Body on 25 May 2021.]

Dr Ward was thanked for her presentation and advice.

[Dr Ward, Ms Crapper, Ms Cheng and Ms Sorochina left the meeting.]

379. Annual Admissions Statistical Report, May 2021 (AC 4.1) (GB 413, 17.06.20)

The Annual Admissions Statistical Report, May 2021 and a Summary of College Figures 2018-20 had been circulated and were received. It was noted that the Report had been considered by the Academic Committee at its meeting held on 5 May 2021.

It was agreed that an Away-Day should be arranged for the Governing Body to consider this Report, together with Dr Ward's presentation (see Minute 378, above) and the Tutor for Equality's paper on *Re-thinking Admissions at St Hugh's* (see Minute 380, below), to allow the Governing Body the opportunity to reflect further on these issues and ideas.

380. Re-thinking Admissions at St Hugh's (AC 4.2)

A paper from the Tutor for Equality, *Re-thinking Admissions at St Hugh's*, had been circulated and was received. It was noted that this paper had been considered by the Academic Committee at its meeting held on 5 May 2021.

381. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Update (GB 338, 22.04.21)

The Bursar advised that there had only been one positive case in College this term, and that had been brought into the College by a returning international student. Cases in Oxford were also currently low. However, there were concerns that the number of students taking tests was very low and clearly the recent news regarding the Delta variant will need to be monitored closely. LFD test kits would again be available from the Lodge in College from 25 May, and it was hoped that this would significantly increase the take-up.

This continues to be a challenging term with students nervous about taking examinations in their rooms, and with tensions arising from differing views regarding the easing of restrictions and the

speed of return to 'normality'. The College is working with the MCR and JCR to support social spaces and occasions as much as possible, but there are constraints with the resourcing of some requests and the College always needs to remain in line with current Government guidance. One example given was of the Catering Team, which has been divided into two 'bubbles', to ensure service continuity in the case of a positive test, but that this creates limitations as to what can be offered at any one time.

The MCR President thanked the College staff involved in setting up, arranging and delivering the Formal Dinners which had begun in 4th week for MCR and JCR members. Particular thanks were expressed to the Principal, Bursar and the Catering staff for their work to allow these to happen, and they were much appreciated by the student body.

The MCR President also extended an invitation to Fellows to join the MCR Formal Dinners if they wished. The MCR Formal Dinners are being held on Tuesday evenings for the rest of Full Term and anyone interested should contact the MCR President direct.

382. Vacation Residence in 9th and 10th Weeks

The JCR President proposed that, given the circumstances of this academic year and the expected further easing of Government restrictions from 21 June, Undergraduate students should be allowed to apply for vacation residence for 9th and 10th Weeks, without the usual requirement for academic or welfare reasons. This would allow students to enjoy the College and city in a way that they had not been able to for the rest of this year.

The Principal advised that the Entz Ban would still be in place during these two weeks as many students still had examinations or theses to complete. There were also concerns about the impact on staff of more students in College than usual at this time of year, and of a large number of students being on site as construction work began for the Maplethorpe Refurbishment Project in 10th Week. It was agreed that the JCR would help to ensure that the College remained quiet and that socialising occurred off site. Students were also reminded that they must be quiet when returning to the College at night. The JCR President agreed to help ensure that this happened and noted that the Decanal Team would still be in place during these two weeks and had been broadly supportive of the proposal.

In a formal, paper vote, the proposal that Undergraduate students should be allowed to apply for vacation residence for 9th and 10th Weeks, without the usual requirement for academic or welfare reasons, was approved.

383. Marquee

The JCR President proposed that a large marquee or canopy should be erected, similar in size to the one on the Dickson Poon Building Terrace in Michaelmas Term 2020, to allow students to socialise out-of-doors in a safe way. The marquee would be available for social events, classes and tutorials and it was hoped would remain in place until the end of the current term.

The Bursar advised that planning permission would have been required to maintain the Dickson Poon marquee, that it was never the intention of leaving the marquee for Trinity Term and that the cost was not insubstantial. The MCR and JCR agreed that they could make a contribution from their funds towards the cost, were the proposal to be approved. There were also concerns about potential noise in the evenings, despite the Entz Ban, the attraction of the marquee for large gatherings (more than the numbers that have only recently been allowed to gather) and the effect of a large marquee on the lawns and gardens.

In a formal, paper vote, the proposal for a large marquee was not approved.

384. Report and Recommendations from Finance Committee

The unconfirmed Minutes of the First Stated Meeting of the Finance Committee in Trinity Term held on 5 May 2021 had been circulated and were received.

385. Management Accounts, Period 8 – Eight Months to 31 March 2021 and Revised Forecast (8+4) to 31 July 2021 (FC 9) (GB 280, 10.03.21)

The Management Accounts for Period 8 (1 August 2020–31 March 2021) and the revised Forecast (8+4) to 31 July 2021 had been circulated and were received. The Bursar advised that the Management Accounts remained in line with the latest forecast position and the 2020-21 Budget.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Management Accounts for Period 8 (to 31 March 2021) and the revised Forecast (8+4) to 31 July 2021 were approved.

386. Budget 2021-22 (FC 10)

The Budget 2021-22, and a Commentary on the Budget, had been circulated and were received.

The Bursar advised that the next financial year would be another challenging year for the College. The proposed Budget is for an operating cash deficit of c£340k as a full recovery of commercial activity is not projected in 2021-22 or possibly beyond. The Maplethorpe Building Refurbishment Project is planned to make the College's offer more attractive and help keep it competitive in the market-place and ensure that commercial income can return to previous levels, and beyond in the longer term.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Budget 2021-22 was approved.

387. Student Rents 2021-22 (FC 11) (GB 297, 10.03.21)

A summary proposal from the Bursar, together with the proposal from the Bursar to the Finance Committee and a response from the MCR and JCR to that proposal, had been circulated and were received.

The Governing Body thanked the MCR and JCR for their thorough and comprehensive response to the College proposal and for their positive engagement with the process, and noted the linking by the student body of proposed rent increases to the perceived quality of accommodation across the College estate, suggesting a rent increase of CPIH + 0.7% = 1.5%.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the proposal to increase student rents for 2021-22 by 2.3% (CPIH + 1.5%) was approved. It was noted that this was broadly in line with previous increases (2.2% in 2020-21).

It was noted that the Finance Committee had also:

1. Approved the use of CPIH(+) as the baseline from which to propose rental increases.
2. Approved a review of the Graduate rental bandings from which the annual rental increase will apply.

388. Garage Rents 2021-22 (FC 12) (GB 326, 20.05.20)

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was agreed to increase garage rents for 2021-22 by 2.3%, compared with the 2020-21 rents agreed in May 2020, and in line with the agreed 2.3% increase in student rents for 2021-22 (see Minute 387, above).

389. MCR and JCR Subscriptions 2021-22 (FC 13) (GB 327, 20.05.20)

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was agreed to increase the MCR and JCR subscriptions for 2021-22 by 2.3%, compared with the 2020-21 subscriptions agreed in May 2020, and in line with the agreed 2.3% increase in student rents for 2021-22 (see Minute 387, above).

391. Principal's Report and Development Update

The Principal's Report and Development Update report had been circulated was received.

The Principal advised that:

Recent Events

i. Academic Lecture by Dr Amanda Smyth, 6 May 2021

Dr Smyth was thanked for her outstanding lecture 'The road to net-zero: the role of offshore renewable energy'. It was noted that 203 guests had registered for the event and that the recording will be released on the Development Team's YouTube playlist for those who had been unable to attend the original event.

ii. 'In Conversation' Event with Professor Dame Jane Glover, 18 May 2021

Alumna and Honorary Fellow Professor Dame Jane Glover DBE (Music, 1968), the acclaimed conductor and musicologist, had been guest speaker for the online event, which was part of the series of celebrations to mark 100 years of Oxford degrees for women.

Professor Westbrook and second-year St Hugh's Music student, Lucy Warm, were thanked for taking part in this successful virtual event. Lucy Warm was congratulated on taking control of the situation when the Senior Tutor's internet connection failed. Ms Catharine Rainsberry from the Development Office was also thanked for her work in facilitating the event.

392. Legacies and Donations

An update was received from the Principal. It was noted that there had been a significant gift to support outreach and that so far over 445 donors had given to the COVID-19 College Support Fund.

393. Direct Mail 2020 Campaign (GB 342, 22.04.21)

The Principal advised that the Direct Mail Campaign had now surpassed the 2019 campaign in terms of the amount raised, the amount pledged and the number of donors.

394. Annual Telethon Appeal (GB 343, 22.04.21)

The Principal advised that the virtual Telethon in March had been very successful.

395. Recruitment of a New Senior Tutor (GB 349, 22.04.21)

The Principal advised that applications had been received for the post of the Senior Tutor and that shortlisting had now taken place. Interviews are scheduled to take place on 26 May.

396. Recruitment of a New Bursar (GB 370, 22.04.21)

The Principal advised that the Bursar position was now being advertised with a closing date of 4 June. Fellows were asked to encourage any colleagues who might be interested in applying.

397. Recruitment of a New Dean (GB 260, 10.02.21)

The Principal advised that Dr Damian Jenkins had agreed to become the new Dean from October 2021. This was approved.

In line with Statute VI D, an election would take place at the 8th Week meeting of the Governing Body for Dr Jenkins to become an Official Fellow of the College.

The current Dean, Professor Perera, was thanked, along with the Decanal Team, for all their hard and difficult work during the very challenging 15 months of the pandemic.

398. Professor Garnett's New Book

The Principal advised that Professor Garnett's new book, *The Norman Conquest in English History Volume 1: A Broken Chain?* had now been published. The Governing Body congratulated Professor Garnett on the publication of this new volume.

400. Report and Recommendations from Academic Committee

The unconfirmed Minutes of the First Stated Meeting of the Academic Committee in Trinity Term held on 5 May 2021 had been circulated and were received.

401. Schools Dinners (AC 6.1)

It was noted that the Academic Committee had received a paper setting out alternative ways of celebrating the end of Finals with subject groups under the current restrictions. It had been agreed by the Academic Committee that Tutors should be contacted in the usual way and assistance be offered in arranging picnic catering or similar.

402. Teaching in History (AC 17)

A cv and reference for Mr John Merrington had been circulated and was received. On the recommendation of the Academic Committee, the appointment of Mr Merrington to a four-hour Stipendiary Lectureship for one year, in the first instance, from October 2021, was approved.

403. Teaching in Mathematics (AC 18) (GB 6, 08.10.20)

A cv for Mr Yue Liu had been circulated and was received. On the recommendation of the Academic Committee, the appointment of Mr Liu to a Non-Stipendiary Lectureship for the current term, Trinity 2021, was approved. It was noted that Mr Liu had held a five-hour Stipendiary post in Michaelmas Term 2020.

It was also agreed that Mr Yue Liu be appointed to a three-hour Stipendiary Lectureship for the 2021-22 academic year.

404. Teaching in Mathematics (AC 18) (GB 11, 10.10.19)

On the recommendation of the Academic Committee, the appointment of Ms Serte Donderwinkel to a three-hour Stipendiary Lectureship for the 2021-22 academic year, was approved.

405. Senior Research Fellowship (AC 19)

A cv for Professor Edward de Haan, and a Research Project Brief, had been circulated and were received. On the recommendation of the Academic Committee, Professor de Haan was elected to a Non-Stipendiary Senior Research Fellowship, from 1 July 2021, for three years in the first instance.

408. Election to a Fellowship by Resolution (GB 319, 20.05.20)

Mr Bruce Lawrence, the Director of Development, was elected to a Fellowship by Resolution.

409. SCR President (GB 375, 19.05.21)

The Principal advised that Professor Wong had indicated his willingness to take over as SCR President, with immediate effect, and that Prof Westbrook had seconded this nomination. In the absence of an SCR AGM, this matter was being considered by circulation.

410. Nancy Burton Prize

On the recommendation of the Prize Committee, it was agreed to divide this year's Nancy Burton Prize, awarded for the best essay submitted by any Undergraduate of St Hugh's College on a topic in Philosophy, Politics, or Economics, between Abel Hofflin (2nd year, PPE) for an essay entitled 'Rational Choice Theory and preference falsification outside the ballot box: polling-falsification by rational voters' and Shariq Haidery (1st year, PPE) for an essay entitled 'Is Western philosophy irredeemably racist?'.
The Tutor for Equality advised that the Lady Ademola Lecture would take place on Thursday, 10 June, when Professor Loretta J Ross would talk on "Appropriate Whiteness". More details will be circulated soon, but this exciting new event in the annual calendar was warmly welcomed.

411. Lady Ademola Lecture (GB 363, 22.04.21)

The Tutor for Equality advised that the Lady Ademola Lecture would take place on Thursday, 10 June, when Professor Loretta J Ross would talk on "Appropriate Whiteness". More details will be circulated soon, but this exciting new event in the annual calendar was warmly welcomed.

413. Report and Recommendations from Library Committee

The unconfirmed Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Library Committee in Trinity Term held on 11 May 2021 had been circulated and were received.

414. Report and Recommendations from Risk Committee

The unconfirmed Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Risk Committee in Trinity Term held on 11 May 2021 had been circulated and were received.

415. College Risk Matrix (RC 5)

The updated College Risk Matrix had been circulated and was received. The Bursar advised that the College Risk Matrix had been updated to take account of the continuing impacts of the pandemic. The Principal advised that Governance issues had been added as a new risk, in the light of the Governance paper from Professor Ewan McKendrick, QC (Hon).

416. MCR Motion Regarding Fossil Fuel Divestment (GB 282, 10.03.21)

The MCR President advised that the MCR had agreed a Motion to request the College to divest its investments from corporations involved in fossil fuels. It was noted that the College pursued a climate-active approach to investment, to encourage fossil fuel corporations capable of change to do so, while divesting from those not changing quickly enough. The College had recently signed off its Investment Policy and changed its fund managers, which had moved the College in a very positive direction with regard to overall ESG impact.

The Bursar advised that the Investment Committee had discussed this topic at length at its meeting in 3rd Week. The Investment Committee had noted that with the College's move to investments in climate-active funds, the College did not currently invest in any fossil fuel corporations through either of its main fund managers.

417. Equality and Diversity Issues Arising

No further equality and diversity issues were identified, other than those raised during the meeting concerning Admissions (see Minutes 378-380, above), the Budget 2021-22 discussion of salaries and the Living Wage (see Minute 386, above) and the Lady Ademola Lecture on 10 June (see Minute 411, above).

418. Environmental Issues Arising

No further environmental issues were identified, other than those raised during the meeting concerning the MCR Motion regarding fossil fuel divestment (see Minute 416, above).

419. Date of Next Meeting

The Third Stated Meeting of the Governing Body in Trinity Term will be held on Wednesday, 16 June 2021 (8th Week) at 2.00pm in Microsoft *Teams*.

This ended the business of the meeting.

PROFESSOR D DOYLE
Secretary