

## COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 September 2020

**Present:** Vice-Chancellor, Warden of New College, Principal of Somerville, Ms Boyt, Professor Sir Rory Collins, Professor Coulson, Sir Chris Deverell, Fra' John Eidinow, Professor Essler, Professor Hamerow, Mr Harman, Professor Hobbs, Professor Johnson, Mr Kroll, Professor Lahiri, Professor Nobre, Mr Ovenden, Professor Trefethen, Head of the Humanities Division (Professor O'Brien), Head of the Medical Sciences Division (Professor Screaton), Head of the MPLS Division (Professor Howison), Head of the Social Sciences Division (Professor Dame Sarah Whatmore), Senior Proctor (Professor Horobin), Junior Proctor (Professor Johnston), Assessor (Dr Swift).

**Student Member Representatives and representative of the Early Career Research Staff:** Nikita Ma (President of Oxford SU), Tucker Drew (Oxford SU VP Access and Academic Affairs) and Lauren Bolz (Oxford SU VP Graduates).

**Apologies:** Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education), Dr Gwilym Rowlands (Chair, Oxford Research Staff Society).

**Officers in attendance:** the Registrar, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Development and External Affairs), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Innovation), the Director of Finance, the Director of Legal Services and General Counsel, the Director of Public Affairs, the Executive Officer (Policy and Governance) in the Vice-Chancellor's Office, the Senior Assistant Registrar (Governance), the Assistant Registrar (Governance).

**Order of business:** the order of business was as set out in the minutes.

**Declarations of interest:** Council members were reminded to declare any interest that could give rise to a conflict in relation to any item on the agenda.

**Introductory matters:** the Vice-Chancellor welcomed Wendy Becker to her first meeting of Council as an external member.

### I. ORDINARY BUSINESS

#### (A) Unreserved

1. **Unreserved minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2020 (C(20)lxxxiii-xcii)**

The minutes were approved.

2. **Unreserved matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2020 not otherwise on the agenda**

There was none.

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3. **The Vice-Chancellor's unreserved business (above the line)\*\***

The Vice-Chancellor briefed Council on the University's response to the summer's A-level results.

4. **Covid-19**

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(a) *Update\*\**

Council **noted** the reports.

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(b) *Michaelmas Coordination Group update \*\**

Council **noted** the report.

\* The confidential or restricted designation is removed from this version of the minutes.

\*\*A brief note of the action taken by Council is included instead of a version of the minutes.

CONFIDENTIAL (c) *Finance White Paper: Timetable, Workstreams & Deliverables (C(20)113)\*\**

Council **noted** the information provided in the paper and the planned timetable.

CONFIDENTIAL 5. **Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS): consultations with USS employers (C(20)114)\*\***

Council **noted** the response to the debt monitoring consultation and the upcoming 2020 valuation consultation.

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*Items for approval or report without discussion ('below the line').*

6. **Any other unreserved business**

The embargo period having passed, the Vice-Chancellor reported that the University had been ranked no.1 in the world in the Times Higher Education Rankings.

The Vice-Chancellor asked members of Council to be proactive in encouraging a more diverse group to stand for election to Council in Michaelmas term, drawing attention in particular to the under-representation of BAME individuals on Council.

NPB/SC

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