

University of Oxford		
COUNCIL		
Minutes of the Unreserved Meeting held at 13:15 on 13 May 2024 in the MCR, OUP, Walton Street, Oxford		
Present	Professor Irene Tracy	Vice-Chancellor (Chair)
	Professor Thomas Adcock	Senior Proctor
	Professor Proochista Ariana	Elected member of Congregation
	Wendy Becker	External member
	Professor Ben Bollig	Assessor
	Professor Sir Rory Collins	Elected member of Congregation
	Professor Patricia Daley	Elected member of Congregation (Teams)
	Professor Cécile Fabre	Elected member of Congregation
	Tom Fletcher	Elected member of Conference of Colleges
	Dame Helen Ghosh	Head of Conference of Colleges
	Professor Nandini Gooptu	Elected member of Congregation
	Professor Patrick Grant	Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research, (Internal Vice-Chair) Co-opted member
	Professor Daniel Grimley	Head of Division (Humanities)
	Charles Harman	External member (External Vice-Chair)
	Professor Richard Hobbs	Elected member of Congregation
	Nicholas Kroll	External member
	Professor Conall MacNiocall	Junior Proctor
	Sharmila Nebhrajani	External member
	Professor Jim Naismith	Head of Division (Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences)
	Professor Timothy Power	Head of Division (Social Sciences)
Professor Diego Sanchez-Ancochea	Elected member of Congregation	
Professor Alex Schekochihin	Elected member of Congregation	
Professor Gavin Screatton	Head of Division (Medical Sciences)	
Professor Sam Wolfe	Elected member of Congregation	
Professor Krina Zondervan	Elected member of Congregation	
Attending	Gill Aitken	Registrar (Teams)
	Professor Alex Betts	Local and Global Engagement Officer
	Simon Boddie	Chief Financial Officer
	Elizabeth Botwright	Head of the Vice-Chancellor's Office
	James Colman	Director of Public Affairs
	Dr Stephen Conway	Interim Deputy Registrar
	Sarah Cowburn	Senior Assistant Registrar (Governance)
	Liesl Elder	Chief Development and Alumni Engagement Officer
	Danial Hussain	President Oxford University Student's Union
	Dr Markos Koumaditis	HR Director
	Andrew Mackie	Director of Legal Services and General Counsel (from item 144)
	Lara McCarthy	Head of Governance
	Richard Ovenden	Head of GLAM
	Professor David Prout	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources)
	Professor Tim Soutphommasane	Chief Diversity Officer
	Professor Anne Trefethen	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (People + Digital)
	Professor Martin Williams	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)
Antony Willott	Director of Planning and Council Secretariat	
Dr Hilary Wynne	Early Career Researcher	
Minute	Item	
140	Apologies for absence Professor Chas Bountra (Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Innovation)), Sir Chris Deverell (External member), Professor Sir Charles Godfray, Nicholas Harris (VP PG Education and Access) and Jennifer Lynam (VP UG Education and Access)	
141	Declarations of Interest (012-COUN-231030-P refers) No new declarations were made.	

Committee Governance	
142	<p>Unreserved minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2024 142-COUN-240513-C</p> <p>DECISION: Council approved the unreserved minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2024.</p>
143 Lara	<p>Matters Arising from 11 March 2024 meeting of Council not otherwise on the agenda (previously 102-COUN-240311-C)</p> <p>Access and Participation Plan (APP)</p> <p>The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) introduced this item reminding Council that the first draft of the APP had been discussed at the February 2024 Council meeting. The APP was an Office for Students (OfS) requirement that just looked at UK (home) undergraduate students and would cover the period from October 2025 to September 2029. The format was set by the OfS and the paperwork in front of Council would require further grouping and formatting. There were a number of interventions occurring across the collegiate University, involving local schools that the wider public should be made aware of.</p> <p>Council agreed that the work being done was impressive. Council also agreed that it would be good to have a broader conversation about postgraduate and international student access, and that this might be framed around consideration of the Graduate Access and Recruitment Strategy which is currently in development.</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <p>Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Noted the current draft of the Access and Participation Plan (APP). 2) Approved the targets for reducing gaps in admission rates and awarding of good (2.1 or better) degrees. 3) Approved the intervention strategies outlined in the APP. 4) Agreed to send any detailed comments and suggestions to Helen Charlesworth by 17 May 2024 5) Delegated authority to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) to approve the final version for submission to the OfS by 31 May 2024.
Chair's Unreserved Business	
144	<p>Vice-Chancellor's unreserved business and selected highlights</p> <p>Report on Chairs Action Taken– Oxford University Press and Hayes House</p> <p>The Vice-Chancellor reported that she had taken action on behalf of Council to expedite putting to Congregation a resolution on a space allocation to the Finance Division. In order to save money on rent and improve space efficiency, the University intended to surrender early its leases at Beaver House (ground floor currently occupied by the Finance Division) and to use available space within OUP as decant space for the Finance Division. The initial period of the allocation would be approximately three years from 16 September 2024. The Chief Financial Officer confirmed that this was a very positive move in terms of University finances and space efficiency objectives.</p> <p>Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vice-Chancellor updated Council on the events that had been, and would be, taking place to celebrate the Chancellor's retirement and thank him for his extraordinary service to the University, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A spectacular dinner for the Chancellor's Court of Benefactors (CCB) that had been held in the Divinity School. The Chancellor and his wife had had a wonderful time, celebrating with donors from far and wide, and had been presented with numerous gifts including a botanic rose, a CCB bonnet, a memory book, and a picture of the Handkerchief Tree planted by the Chancellor in the Botanic Garden on the occasion of the Garden's 400th birthday. ○ The Chancellor had attended the topping out ceremony for the Stephen A. Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities and the Bannister Miles events (see below) ○ Encaenia in June (ceremony and Garden Party) ○ Garden Party in June (part of the Professional Services Garden Party) ○ A celebratory dinner (21 June) to which Council members would be invited • Community and track events had been held earlier this month to mark the 70th anniversary of Sir Roger Bannister's four-minute mile. Thanks were due to the Local and Global Engagement Officer and to the OU Athletics Club and OU Cross Country Club for organising these very successful events. Two World Athletics Heritage Plaques had been awarded to honour OUAC and Sir Roger Bannister. In the elite race at the end of the event four athletes ran sub four minute miles.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The topping out ceremony for the new Stephen A. Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities had taken place earlier this month, beginning with an afternoon of cultural activities and culminating in the symbolic placement of a yew branch taken from a 379-year-old yew tree from the University's Botanic Gardens. Thanks were due to the Head of the Humanities Division and to John Fulljames, Director of Oxford University's Humanities Cultural Programme, for such a thoughtfully executed event. The Vice-Chancellor's Awards ceremony had taken place at the Sheldonian Theatre earlier this month, followed by a drinks reception at the Exams School. There had been 250 award entries this year, with 1,500 individuals included in the nominations. The opportunity to celebrate outstanding talent and commitment to excellence, at a ceremony and social event had been much appreciated by those attending. Thanks were due to Dan Selinger and his team for organising. The gift of £115m from the Uehiro Foundation for the Humanities endowment had now been received. The Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics would be re-named to be an institute and receive £100m. One college would receive a gift of £10m and another £5m. Congratulations were due to the Division, the Centre, the Development team and all those involved in securing the gifts.
For approval	
145	<p>General Purposes Committee report from 18 March 2024 and 29 April 2024 meetings.</p> <p>(i) Changes to Statute XI 145(i)-COUN-240513-P and 145(i)-COUN-240513-I</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <p>1) Approved the changes to Statute XI: University Discipline and the consequential amendments to Statute IX concerning Officers of the University and Statute XII concerning Academic Staff and the Visitation Board, and related amendments subject to further clarification of section (2)(c) relating to reputational damage, freedom of speech and academic freedom.</p> <p>Council voted: 2 abstentions, 3 against and 19 for</p> <p>2) Noted the resourcing plan.</p> <p>(ii) Changes to Statute XVI 145(ii)-COUN-240513-P</p> <p>Bodley's Librarian introduced this item, explaining that an amendment was proposed to part B of Statute XVI (intellectual property) to incorporate 'rights retention'. Rights retention was a legal mechanism that supported the University of Oxford's preference for the 'green' (or self-archiving) route to open access. It would support the University's strategic approach to open access publication by enabling immediate open access of author-accepted manuscripts of journal articles and conference proceedings. It also allowed researchers to comply with their funders' open access policies where they required immediate open access publication of journal articles and conference proceedings, but where the chosen journal did not provide a compliant route, or there was no funding to pay for open access publication charges. A growing number of Russell Group HEIs already had rights retention established in their policy frameworks and, at Oxford, it was now proposed to move forward from the pilot stage (which had been an opt-in approach, launched in January 2023) into implementation where researchers would have the option to 'opt out' of rights retention applying to individual works. The potential risks to publishers were mitigated by the broad approach being taken across the sector.</p> <p>Council was supportive of the proposals. The Head of the MPLS Division thanked Bodley's Librarian for the engagement with his division.</p> <p>DECISION: Council approved the proposed changes to Statute XVI Property, Contracts, and Trusts.</p>
Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval, without discussion	
For Approval	
146	<p>General Purposes Committee report from 18 March 2024 and 29 April 2024 meeting 146-COUN-240513-I</p> <p>DECISIONS:</p> <p>Council:</p> <p>1) Approved the draft terms of reference for the review of the part-time role of the Assessor, and the proposed membership of the review group (see Annex A)</p> <p>Council approved changes to:</p> <p>2) Council Regulations 3 of 2004, concerning the employment of University staff (see Annex B)</p>

	<p>3) Council Regulations 15 of 2002, concerning Part 2: Education Committee (see Annex C)</p> <p>4) Council Regulations 1 of 2012, concerning the Student Fitness to Study Panel (see Annex D)</p> <p>5) Council Regulations 2 of 2004: concerning membership of the Committee for the Ruskin School of Art (see Annex E)</p> <p>6) Council Regulations 15 of 2002 Part 12: Strategic Capital Steering Group and Council regulations 15 of 2002 Part 35: Planning and House Strategy Group (see Annex F)</p> <p>Council Regulations 19 of 2002, concerning regulations of Faculty Boards (see Annex G)</p>
147	<p>Report from Finance Committee: Interim arrangements for property management for Court Place Gardens 147-COUN-240513-C</p> <p>DECISIONS: Council:</p> <p>1) noted that it would be necessary to enter into interim arrangements for the letting and management of Graduate Accommodation delivered via the Legal and General JV in advance of either the operationalisation of OUPM as envisaged by the Court Place Garden project agreement or such other alternative arrangement as may be agreed by the University and Legal and General,</p> <p>2) approved delegation of the interim arrangements to the Director of Estates.</p>
148	<p>PRAC Report: Space Allocation for New Radcliffe House 148-COUN-240513-I</p> <p>DECISION: Council approved (<i>for onward referral to Congregation for approval</i>) the extension of an allocation of approximately 2,118 sqm NUA within New Radcliffe House (building 553) to the Department of Experimental Psychology, for a period of approximately five months, 21 April 2025, until 30 September 2025, or until relocation to the Life and Mind Building (building 269).</p>
To note	
149	<p>Vice-Chancellor's Unreserved Business below the line 149-COUN-240513-P</p> <p>DECISION: Council noted the report.</p>
150	<p>Q2 Forecast 150-COUN-240513-I</p> <p>DECISION: Council noted the Q2 forecast noting in particular the impact of the reduced pension contributions.</p>
151	<p>JRAAB Annual Report 151-COUN-240513-I</p> <p>DECISION: Council approved the JRAM allocations.</p>
Next full meeting of Council: 13:15 – 17:30, 13 May 2024	
<p>Items already on the agenda are listed below:</p> <p>Investment Committee Annual Report OUP Annual Report OUP Financial Statements Head of Division Annual Report – MPLS Collegiate University EDI Strategy Plan Vision Zero Working Group Strategic Review Professional Services Strategic Student Number Planning Annual Report – Head of GLAM Proctors and Assessor Demitting Address Annual Report Joint Committee on EDI Proctors Complaint Report CRDRF Annual Report</p>	