

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Scrutiny

13 February 2025; 11.30am; Council Room, Murray Edwards College

In attendance

Mr R Hopwood (Chair)
Dr R Lloyd (Secretary)
Dr S Cowley
Dr R Doubleday
Professor W Evans
Dr M Gehring
Dr N Habib
Dr M Parker Dixon
Dr J Plummer Braeckman
Dr O Rath Spivack
Dr B Spagnolo

Apologies

Dr F Mir

Guest: Professor Sir John Aston (Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research)

Ms S Greaves (Administrator)

1. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Dr F Mir.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were noted.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2024 (Paper A) were received and **approved**.

4. Matters Arising from the minutes not already on the agenda

The Board considered recent updates on the Veterinary School.

5. Guest: Professor Sir John Aston (Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research)

Professor Aston joined the meeting.

The Board welcomed Professor Aston, and the following topics were discussed:

- University rankings table and the ERC grants table;
- Loss of scholarly talent;
- The cost of research;
- The cost of making grant applications;
- Research culture;
- The balance between academic and non-academic positions within the University;
- Funded Fellowship schemes.

Professor Aston left the meeting.

6. Report from the Proctors

Dr Gehring was thanked for his report on the last Council meeting that had been circulated to Board members.

7. Any Other Business

The Board **agreed** to discuss the Council's response to their 2024 report at their next meeting.

The next meeting will be at 9.30am on Wednesday 5 March 2025 at Murray Edwards College.