

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCRUTINY

MINUTES

**Thursday 7 March 2024 11.30am
in the Pavilion Room at Newnham College and via Zoom**

Present:

Dr Rob Doubleday (Chair), Mr Rob Hopwood (Secretary), Mrs Rachel Rowe (Support Officer), Dr Charles Read (Junior Proctor), Rev'd Andrew Hammond (Senior Proctor) (via Zoom), Dr Markus Gehring (Senior Pro-Proctor), Dr Richard Lloyd, Dr Orsola Rath Spivack, Dr Stephen Cowley, Dr Judith Plummer Braeckman, and Dr Nazia Habib.

The meeting began at 11.37am.

1. Welcome and apologies:

Apologies were received from Dr Fraz Mir (Junior Pro-Proctor).

2. Declarations of Interest:

There were no new declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 29 February 2024:

The minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

4. Matters arising:

The Secretary confirmed that a meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 4 June at 11.30am for the Board to meet with the Vice-Chancellor. The meetings with Anne Ferguson-Smith and Gaynor Bagley have yet to be confirmed.

5. Updates from Working Groups:

The Board received updates from the Collegiate University, Sustainability, People and Finance working groups.

6. Guest – Ms Emma Rampton, Registry:

The Board welcomed Ms Emma Rampton, Registry, and the following topics were discussed:

- i.) An update on the progress of the Re-imagining Professional Services (RPS) programme;
- ii.) How the transition between outgoing and incoming PVCs will be managed in the summer;
- iii.) The challenges faced when recruiting professional services staff;
- iv.) The increase in professional services staff over the last few years, and ways to achieve efficiency gains;
- v.) How the University manages its human resources in the context of competitive labour markets;
- vi.) Clarity on the expected costs of estates maintenance this year;
- vii.) The level of resourcing in the EAMC and OSCCA; and
- viii.) The steps being taken to implement the recommendations in the Topping report.

7. Report from Proctors:

Nothing to report.

8. Any other business:

None.

9. Dates of future meetings:

Full Board meetings:

- Thursday 14 March, 11am with the Academic Secretary, Dr Mike Glover, invited to attend (to be held in the Pavilion Room at Newnham College). Lunch will be provided.

The formal meeting ended at 1.15pm.

Rachel Rowe (Support Officer)