

Meeting of the Corporation

Tue 09 May 2023, 18:30 - 20:30

SGMC

Attendees

Board members

Professor Colin Grant (Chair), Andy Boucher (Chair - Elect), Dave Vasse (Principal - Member), Angela Foster (Non Teaching Staff Member), James Gould (Vice Principal), Jamie Davies (Member), John Kirk (Interim Clerk), Kwame Amoako-Atta (Member), Marian Orafu (Member), Maurine Lewin (Member), Moshiur Rahman (Student Member), Anastasia Dufie (Student Member), Rosali Pretorius (Candidate), Stephen Jones (Member), Nazia Shah (Teaching Staff Member), Richard Boulton (Director of Finance & Operations), Tim Stockings (Member)

Absent: Sara Whittaker, Alastair Owens, Natalie Firth

Meeting minutes

1. Welcome, Apologies for Absence, and Quoracy

Professor Colin Grant

CG welcomed everyone and members introduced themselves.

Apologies were received from Alastair Owens, Sara Whittaker, Usha Puri-Dewage, and Natalie Firth.

The meeting was declared quorate.

2. Declarations of Interest

Professor Colin Grant

None

3. Meetings of the Previous Meeting 13 December 2022

Professor Colin Grant

Declared a true and accurate record

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record

[Minutes_Meeting of the Corporation_131222.pdf](#)

4. Matters Arising

Professor Colin Grant

None

5. Governance Matters

Information

To update the Corporation on the latest Governance matters.

John Kirk

[Membership Summary 110423.docx](#)

5.1. Election of Chair

Information

Confirmation of New Chair

John Kirk

JK reported that CG had resigned upon his appointment as Vice Chancellor - International at the University of New South Wales in Sydney.

An election was carried out as set out in section 4.5 of the Bye Laws, Andy Boucher was the sole nominee, and was duly elected by ballot by the required margin of two-thirds of the members.

AB expressed his pleasure and excitement at this new role, and praised the calibre of the college and students, whose lives were undoubtedly being changed for the better.

AB paid tribute to CG and thanked him for his outstanding contribution as Chair, and wished him all the very best in his new post.

DV also praised CG for a most professional approach, taking the helm at an important time of change and transition. DV looked forward to working closely with AB, and thanked governors for their immense contribution to the college, which is not always apparent in meetings.

CG thanked everyone for their kind words, and relayed the experience of a casual caller to his home to sell housewares. CG asked the young caller his longer term interest, which was engineering, and his goal to study at Monoux!

5.2. Natalie Firth

Resolution that Natalie Firth be appointed, or otherwise, as a member.

JK reported that NF had been recommended unanimously to the board by the Governance and Remuneration Committee.

NF had attempted, unsuccessfully, to change flights from a work commitment to be present.

It was resolved by the Corporation that Natalie Firth be appointed as an Independent Member of the Corporation until 9th May 2027

CG Congratulated Natalie (in her absence) on her appointment and welcomed her to the Corporation

 Natalie Firth - CV.pdf

5.3. Rosali Pretorius

Resolution that Rosali Pretorius be appointed, or otherwise, as a member.

JK reported that RP had been recommended unanimously to the board by the Governance and Remuneration Committee.

It was resolved by the Corporation that Rosali Pretorius be appointed as an Independent Member of the Corporation until 9th May 2027

CG Congratulated Rosali on her appointment and welcomed her to the Corporation

 CV - Rosali Pretorius General 2023[103366945v1].pdf

Decision

Maurine Lewin

Decision

Maurine Lewin

6. External Review of Governance

Notification

CG confirmed that the completed report has now been received.

DV will refer to some of the recommendations at the Saturday Development Day, though the majority of the report would be better discussed at length in June.

SJ asked when it will be circulated.

AB noted that in it would be preferable for Pauline Odulinski, the author, to have the opportunity to present the report in full to members, at a date to be decided, and to answer questions and comments.

Information

Professor Colin Grant

7. Committee Reports

To receive the minutes

Professor Colin Grant

7.1. Governance & Remuneration Committee 24 January & 25 April 2023

ML Noted that the two new members had been recommended.

There had been discussion on the procedure for appointing student governors, a matter which will be included in the ERG.

There will be four vacancies as of July, and members are asked to consider approaching suitable candidates.

RB noted that there is an online training option which might be explored.

ML thanked RB and noted a preference for personal and interactive training.

JG noted that initial safeguarding training is part of the governor induction procedure, and there will be a session on the Saturday development day.

JG also thanked ML for her assistance with the termly Safeguarding update meetings.

ML reported that a change to the FE Handbook is a new requirement for a nominated SEND governor, and Jamie Davies has kindly offered to step up. JD will work with JG and Jonathan Service in this role.

CG thanked JD for volunteering for this important post.

The Corporation received the report and the minutes.

Maurine Lewin

[Minutes_Governance and Remuneration Committee_250423.pdf](#)

[Minutes_Governance & Remuneration Committee_240123.pdf](#)

7.2. External Relations Committee 7 February 2023

To receive the minutes and

To approve the 14-16 Recruitment Policy

TS reported on the thorough discussion of the 14-16 Recruitment Policy, and its recommendation to be adopted. It is in accordance with the current provision and fits within the vision for the future of the college. It is a good example of the outworking of our strategic plan.

AB also noted that the Borough is keen for us to expand 14-16 provision.

DV noted there is a meeting tomorrow to negotiate the renewal of the current contract. There is an increasing need in the area for an expansion of this provision. The Borough has limited budget for these vulnerable young people and may otherwise be progressed into mainstream education. Direct funding from ESFA, with the Borough 'topping up' that funding to the present level would allow for an expansion of the ALP provision.

CG asked if there was any consideration of risk in the adoption of the policy.

TS confirmed there had been discussion of risk, but this adoption of policy is to enable SLT to have further discussion and negotiations.

JG noted 2 risks were identified: This provision would then be inspected by Ofsted, however, the most recent inspection by the Borough received an excellent grading.

The second risk relates to funding, but the proposed scenario will be financially advantageous for both the Borough and the College

The Corporation approved the policy.

The Corporation received the report and the minutes.

[Minutes_External Relations Committee_070223.pdf](#)

[6. 14-16 Direct Recruitment.pdf](#)

7.3. Quality & Performance Committee 21 March 2023

To receive the minutes

SJ reported that the committee had requested this meeting to hold 'deep dive' consideration of three aspects; attendance, literacy strategy impact on A Level and Vocational cohorts, and feedback to students. All of these proved very helpful for the understanding of governors.

On attendance, the latest college data suggests that the year-end position will show an improvement on last year, and above sector average, and that interventions were having positive outcomes.

The Literacy Strategy actions points were welcomed for their positive impacts.

On Teacher Feedback, Student Voice had provided some excellent comments from students, and AD especially noted the good practice in Biology.

The committee received the report and the minutes.

[Minutes_Quality & Performance Committee_210323.pdf](#)

7.4. Resources Committee 27 March 2023

To receive the minutes

AB noted that management accounts were considered, and contained nothing exceptional. Forecast income and expenditure had variances, and the agreed budget deficit may turn out to be slightly larger due to shortfalls from work experience, and some HR cost increases.

DV reported that since the meeting the position is better than expected due to funds received for T Level equipment and capital expenditure.

AB also noted that Property Strategy Group will meet 1st June, by which time it is hoped that result will be known of the capital bid.

The committee received the report and the minutes.

Decision

Tim Stockings

Stephen Jones

Andrew Boucher

7.4.1. ESFA Financial Health Grade & Dashboard Report

To receive the ESFA Financial Health Grade and Governor Dashboard Report

RB reported on the Financial Health Grade is good, and it is expected that this grade will be maintained for next year.

TS Welcomed the dashboard, and asked about the difference between actual staff costs and benchmark, and the impact of the variation on the Health Grade.

DV noted that this is always under consideration, and that governors should always hold management to account on this.

There as discussion on the extent to which this should be monitored as an indicator of staffing levels.

The committee received the report.

 108393 - Sir George Monoux College FR2022.pdf

 Monoux College Governors Dashboard Report-Nov22.pdf

7.5. Audit Committee 28 March 2023

Kwame Amoako-Atta

To receive the draft minutes of the Audit Committee

KA reported that the committee had reviewed the Board Level Risk Register in the existing format, and that this will be reformatted to provide a more readily accessible display of risk.

There was discussion on the effective monitoring of outstanding audit recommendations.

The strong assurance on Safeguarding from the internal auditors was warmly welcomed.

The committee received the report and the minutes.

 Minutes_Audit Committee Meeting_280323 (1).pdf

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Professor Colin Grant

Saturday 20 May Strategy Development Day 9.00 - 14.00

Meeting of the Corporation Tuesday 4 July 6.30pm

9. Any Other Business

Information

Andrew Boucher

Development Day, Saturday 20th May

DV will circulate papers a week before the day, with the intention of involving governors in discussion about strategy, rather than to approve a strategic plan, as that will be agreed in July.

Risk appetite, vision, and growth forecast will be discussed, with the purpose of a wider engagement of governors in strategic planning and development.

There is now a requirement to submit Accountability Statement by the end of May, the timing of which is unfortunate as it would have been more convenient to have finalised a Strategic Plan beforehand.

AB welcomed this prospect of better engagement from members.

9.1. Reserved Item

Information

Dave Vasse

NewVic Update (Verbal)

A reserved item was discussed after staff and student members had left the meeting.