

THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

COUNCIL

7 May 2024

CONFIRMED MINUTES

A meeting of the Council was held at 15:00 on Tuesday 7 May 2024 by electronic platform.

Present: Dr Susan Liautaud (Chair), Ali Nikpay (Vice-Chair and Senior Independent Director), Sir Masood Ahmed (Independent Member), Professor Pauline Barrieu (Vice-Chair of Academic Board), Dr Julia Biggane (Professional Services Staff nominee), Sonali De Rycker (Independent Member) (*from item 4*), Marie Fuchs (Students' Union nominee), Professor Tamar Gendler (Independent Member), Sir David Higgins (Independent Member), Dr Musimbi Kanyoro (Independent Member), Professor David Kershaw (Academic Board nominee), Professor Larry Kramer (President & Vice Chancellor), Professor Niamh Moloney (Academic Board nominee), Gavin Patterson (Independent Member), James Relf (General Secretary of the Students' Union), Stuart Roden (Independent Member), Dr Angela Spatharou (Independent Member), and Professor Wim Van der Stede (Academic Board nominee).

In attendance: James Aitken (Head of Executive Office and Strategy Delivery), Mike Ferguson (Chief Financial Officer), Joanne Hay (Deputy Chief Operating Officer), Professor Emma McCoy (Vice President & Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education)), Professor Susana Mourato (Vice President & Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research)), Louise Nadal (School Secretary), Professor Eric Neumayer (Vice President & Pro-Vice Chancellor (Planning & Resources)), Ben Plummer-Powell (Chief Philanthropy & Global Engagement Officer), Professor Charles Stafford (Vice President & Pro-Vice Chancellor (Faculty Development)), Dr Andrew Young (Chief Operating Officer), and Hilary Hunter (Head of Governance Services, committee secretary).

Apologies: Johannes Huth (Independent Member).

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1 QUORUM

1.1.1 The Chair confirmed the meeting was quorate.

1.2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

1.2.1 Item 7.1 concerned a proposal to amend the provision for staff members' allowable terms of office on Council so that they may be eligible for reappointment to serve a second term (this was currently restricted to one term). There was no proposal to reappoint any member provided to this meeting. There were no further declarations of interest.

1.3 MINUTES

PAPER A

1.3.1 Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2024.

1.4 MATTERS ARISING

1.4.1 There were no matters arising to report.

2. PRESIDENT & VICE CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

PAPER B

- 2.1 Council noted the paper and the oral report of the President & Vice Chancellor, which provided an update on School matters, strategic progress and sector updates.
- 2.2 **Restricted and Confidential**
- 3. CAMPAIGN: RECALIBRATION REPORT OUTCOMES AND RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS**
Restricted and Confidential **PAPER C**
- 4. LIFT OUR GAZE: AI AND EDUCATION** **PAPER D**
- 4.1 Council noted and discussed the presentation from the Vice President & Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education), which provided a survey of the AI & Education (and student experience, and associated administration) landscape across the sector globally and in the UK, and a summary of where the School is currently, together with a summary of the opportunities and risks.
- 5. HEALTH & SAFETY PROVISION** **PAPER E**
- 5.1 Council noted and discussed a presentation from the Chief Operating Officer providing an overview of Health and Safety provision at the School, including areas of strength and for improvement, specific considerations for the School (including in relation to training delivery, travel, estates-matters and mental health support), and roles and responsibilities.
- 5.2 Council received assurances from the Chief Operating Officer and School Management Committee that: the School addressed all important matters with respect to institutional health and safety obligations, including complying with relevant legal and regulatory requirements, following good practice and prioritising key areas to ensure they were robustly addressed; responsibility for health and safety was delegated to appropriately experienced/trained staff, and; rigorous oversight and accountability mechanisms were in place.
- 6. ANNUAL REPORTS ON SUPPORTING & DEVELOPING STAFF AND FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND PROGRESSION** **PAPERS F and Gii**
- 6.1 Council noted the reports.
- 6.2 Council requested a future item on the competitive landscape with regard to faculty recruitment.
- 7. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL AND NOTING**
- 7.1 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS** **PAPERS G and Gii**
- 7.1.1 Council noted the papers and approved:
- a) that both Academic Board nominated members and the Professional Services staff member should be eligible for reappointment to Council in order to serve a second term;
 - b) the revisions as set out in the paper to Council's Standing Orders in order to allow reappointments for a second term;
 - c) the appointment of Alan Samson as an External member of Finance & Estates Committee for a first term of office from 1 June 2024 – 31 May 2027.
- 7.2 BANK SIGNATORIES UPDATE** **PAPER H**

7.2.1 Council approved the updated signatory list for the School's Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) custodian investment accounts as set out in the paper.

7.3 SECRETARY'S REPORT PAPER I

7.3.1 Council noted the report.

7.4 COMMITTEE REPORTS PAPER J

7.4.1 Council noted the reports.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 There was no further business.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9.1 25 June 2024.

10. CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL

10.1 There was a closed session of Council members only.