

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

MINUTES (UNRESERVED)

2.00pm on Monday, 12 October 2020

By Zoom

Present (Reserved): Anthony, Lord Grabiner QC (Chair); Professor Jason Carroll; Dr Andrew Carter; Dr Tim Chesters; Dr Maciej Dunajski (up to and including 4(ii)); Professor John Gibson; Professor Jonathan Goodman; Dr Oliver Shorttle; The Rev'd Dr Mark Smith; Dr Jacqueline Tasioulas (Senior Tutor); and Mr Paul Warren.

Present (Unreserved): Mr Will Wood (MCR President).

In Attendance: Miss Emma Easterbrook (Secretary); Dr Tamara Follini (Dean of Students) (between 3(iv) and 3(vi); for Item (3(vi)); Mr Bill O'Hearn (Development Director (between 3(vi) and 4(iv); for Items 4(ii) and 4(iv)); and Mr Ethan Pratt (UCS representative).

1. **Apologies**

Dr Sian Lazar; and Ms Rosa Martin (UCS President).

2. **Declarations of Interest**

(i) **Item 4(iii), *The Richard Schwartz Collection*:** Mr Paul Warren is a Director and Treasurer of Cambridge in America (CAm).

3. **UNRESERVED**

(i) **Minutes of 2 July 2020 and 5 October 2020**

Approved.

(ii) **Matters Arising**

None.

(iii) **Welcome to new member**

Council formally welcomed new member, Dr Andrew Carter, and thanked outgoing member, Dr Fred Parker, for his work.

(iv)

Admissions 2019-20

- a. **Report on Admissions Round 2019-20:** The Admissions Tutor circulated the Admissions Analysis Report to the Council. The College had accepted 150 undergraduates for 2020-21. These students overall include proportions of 44:56% Science: Arts, and 52:48% Female: Male; of home students educated in the UK, 67.4% were from state schools. This was higher than the figure for the University by the Office for Students (OfS) target (64%). Regarding the specific OfS target categories (POLAR4, and IMD) the College achieved 7.3% for POLAR4 (and the target was 10-13%); and for IMD the College achieved 14.8% (and the target was 8.5%). The reason for not achieving the POLAR4 target was as a result of the way the A-level results were awarded this year. It resulted in the majority of offer holders achieving their offer grades, which then gave the College very little flexibility in reprieving those who had just missed their offer. The College's policy at present is to offer the standard University offer of A*AA for Arts and A*A*A for Sciences for successful candidates (as opposed to setting higher offers). The College also continues to make good use of the Summer Pool and Adjustment. The Admissions Tutors will continue to review the process for the coming year although the deadline for applications is on 15 October and no guidance has been issued on A-levels for next year. The process for Mathematics will remain unchanged as STEP assessments were unaffected.
- b. **Open Days 2019-20:** The July and September Open Days were conducted online this year, with large numbers participating in both. The shift to a virtual open days was enhanced by a comprehensively redesigned admissions website, through which would-be applicants could access Q&A sessions with admissions tutors, taster lectures in English and Mathematics, student testimonials, virtual tours of the College, and other electronic content on the Clare College YouTube account. Clare ran three Taster Days this year, two in the Sciences (February and May) and one in the Arts (March). The Spring sessions involved representatives from a range of subjects: Biosciences, Philosophy, Archaeology and English. The May Maths taster day was run online.

Formal thanks were given to Dr Dunajski, the Fellows who assisted with the Open Days, and the Admissions Office particularly Mrs Rachel Chiodo, Mrs Emma Comiskey-Lee, Ms Francesca d’Uva and Dr Chris Scott, who worked tirelessly to make the 2019-20 round a success.

(v) **Freshers’ Week 2020**

The Senior Tutor formally thanked the UCS and MCR Committees for their hard work for creating successful Freshers’ Weeks.

(vi) **COVID-19 Regulation**

The Dean of Students circulated an updated COVID-19 Regulation to Council after consultation with the UCS and MCR. This was in response to the type of violations over the past few weeks. The COVID-19 Regulation had been expanded to enable more flexibility in dealing with those violations and to empower those students who wished to resolve these issues with other students through informal mediation with the assistance of their Tutor or Dean of Students. Any fines imposed would be donated to the Clare College Emergency Fund in response to COVID-19. Council formally approved the updated COVID-19 Regulation, which will be circulated to the UCS and MCR.

(vii) **Register of Interests 2020-21**

The Secretary will send out the annual email together with the Register of Interests 2020-21 form to be completed by the Trustees.

(viii) **Any Other Business**

- a. *Christmas Tree*: Council formally approved the request for the Christmas Tree to be erected outside, in one of the Courts (as the Hall will be closed).

4. **RESERVED**

5. **Date of Next Meeting**

2.00pm on Monday, 16 November 2020

By Zoom

Distribution (Reserved): Anthony, Lord Grabiner QC (Chair); Professor Jason Carroll; Dr Andrew Carter; Dr Tim Chesters; Dr Maciej Dunajski; Professor John Gibson; Professor Jonathan Goodman; Dr Sian Lazar; Dr Oliver Shorttle; The Rev'd Dr Mark Smith; Dr Jacqueline Tasioulas (Senior Tutor); Mr Paul Warren; and the Governing Body.

Distribution (Unreserved): Ms Rosa Martin (UCS President); and Mr Will Wood (MCR President).

In Attendance: Miss Emma Easterbrook (Secretary); Dr Tamara Follini (Dean of Students); Mr Bill O'Hearn (Development Director); and Mr Ethan Pratt (UCS representative).

Emma Easterbrook

13 October 2020