

KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

At the Annual Congregation

held on Thursday 30 November 2023

at 09:30 in Keynes Hall and via Zoom.

Present (starred names attended on Zoom)

Dr Zoe Adams*	Professor Caroline Goodson	Dr Perveez Mody
Dr Ronojoy Adhikari	Professor Gillian Griffiths	Professor Geoff Moggridge
Dr Tess Adkins	Professor Mark Gross	Dr Kamiar Mohaddes
Professor Anna Alexandrova	Professor Chez Hall	Dr Gabriela Montejo-Kovacevich
Professor John Arnold	Professor Ross Harrison	Dr Ken Moody
Dr Nick Atkins	Dr Tiffany Harte	Dr Basim Musallam*
Dr Seda Basihos	Mr Api Hasthanasombat	Dr Rory O'Bryen
Professor Mike Bate	Dr Katie Haworth	Dr Rosanna Omitowoju
Dr Marcus Boeick	Ms Lorraine Headen	Professor Robin Osborne
Dr Giulia Boitani	Dr Felipe Hernandez	Professor Chris Prendergast
Dr Shannon Bonke	Dr Kate Herrity	Professor Mike Proctor
Professor Jude Browne	Dr Myfanwy Hill	Professor Surabhi Ranganathan
Professor Nick Bullock	Dr David Hillman	Professor Thomas Roulet
Professor Matt Candea	Professor Dame Carrie Humphrey DBE	Dr Angus Russell
Dr Keith Carne	Mr Reza Huseini	Professor Paul Ryan
Rev Dr Stephen Cherry	Dr Alice Hutchings*	Professor Hamid Sabourian*
Dr Ivan Collister	Mr Daniel Hyde	Dr Andela Sarkovic
Professor Francesco Colucci	Professor Martin Hyland	Professor Jason Sharman
Professor Anne Davis	Ms Polly Ingham	Dr Sharath Srinivasan
Professor Pete de Bolla	Professor Ian James	Professor Gareth Stedman Jones
Dr James Dolan	Professor Mark Johnson	Dr James Taylor
Professor John Dunn	Mr Peter Jones	Dr Gillian Tett
Professor George Efstathiou	Professor Barry Keverne	Professor Nicolas Tosca
Dr Elisa Faraglia	Dr Patrycja Kozik	Mr Jim Trevithick*
Professor James Fawcett	Professor James Laidlaw	Dr Marco Tripodi
Dr Tim Flack	Professor Charlie Loke*	Professor Caroline Van Eck
Professor Matthew Gandy	Professor Sarah Lummis*	Dr Rob Wallach
Professor Chryssi Giannitsarou	Professor Alan Macfarlane	Professor Godela Weiss-Sussex
Professor Ingo Gildenhard	Professor Nick Marston	Dr Tom White*
Professor Simon Goldhill	Professor Jean Michel Massing	Professor Nicky Zeeman
Dr David Good	Professor Cam Middleton	

Apologies

Dr Sebastian Ahnert	Professor Lord Tony Giddens	Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas
Professor Gareth Austin	Professor Chris Gilligan CBE	Professor Dan McKenzie
Dr Francesco Bianchini	Professor John Henderson	Dr Jonah Miller
Professor Richard Bourke	Dr Stephen Hugh-Jones	Dr Fraz Mir
Dr Katie Campbell	Professor Herbert Huppert	Professor John Perry
Dr Alexandra Clarà Saracho	Dr Malar Jayanth	Dr Ben Ravenhill
Dr Sarah Crisp	Dr Aileen Kelly	Professor Bob Rowthorn
Dr Laura Davies	Dr Phil Knox	Dr Mike Sonenscher
Professor Aytek Erdil	Dr Joanna Kusiak	Professor Bert Vaux
Dr Sebastian Eves-Van den Akker	Professor Richard Lambert	Professor Jamie Vicary
Professor Iain Fenlon	Dr Zhuangnan Li	Professor Darin Weinberg
Professor Rob Foley	Dr Cicely Marshall	Professor John Young

On Leave

Professor Richard Causton	Professor Angela Breitenbach	Dr Mirjana Bozic
Professor Bradley Epps	Professor Henning Grosse Ruse-Khan	Dr Mira Siegelberg

Open Business Only

Ms Timi Olumide -Wahab	Mr Dan Erwig	Mr Jakub Gasienica-Ciulacz
Ms Michaela Kadlecova		

OPEN BUSINESS

105. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

106. **Minutes of Open Business of the Ordinary Congregation on 16 October 2023**

Approved.

107. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

None.

Oral Reports

108. **Annual Report**

The Vice Provost drew attention to the availability of the College's *Annual Report* online, and requested Fellows to draw attention to any errors before the printed version, with obituaries, was produced in January.

The First Bursar then spoke briefly to the College's *Annual Report and Financial Statements*, and to the agenda for open business. A variety of members of College

would speak, to provide Governing Body with a comprehensive update on a variety of aspects of College life.

Principal Business

109. Report of the Senior Tutor

The Senior Tutor, Dr Hill, presented her annual report to Governing Body. The report had been retitled from the traditional 'Education Report' to the Senior Tutors Report in recognition of the breadth of the Tutorial Office's functions.

She commented upon the profile of the student body and provided an overview of Tutorial Office spending. She aims to be able to provide more granular spending data in future. She noted the financial pressures faced by students, and the increased demand that had been put on student hardship funds.

The Senior Tutor provided Governing Body with an update on exam results following the Marking and Assessment Boycott. All results had now been received but some of them too recently to enable analysis to be undertaken. She undertook to bring this matter back to Governing Body in January.

110. Report of the Graduate Tutor

The Graduate Tutor, Professor Colucci, presented his annual report to Governing Body. He provided a comparison of the King's graduate student population to the wider University, and presented data on graduate student career outcomes. He reminded Fellows that it was the postgraduate students who were actually the research powerhouse of the College, and urged Fellows to engage with the opportunities to learn about postgraduate research projects.

111. Report of the Admissions Tutor

The Admissions Tutor, Dr Adams, presented her annual report to Governing Body covering the period October 2022-September 2023.

The Admissions Tutor noted good widening participation outcomes but presented data that showed gender imbalance in admissions across subject areas. She has plans to promote Computer Science in particular, via taster sessions exploring the work of noted female computer scientists.

The Admissions Tutor also noted the high number of offers that were missed by 2023 offer-holders. Governing Body discussed whether current admissions standards are appropriate and considered the impact of the STEP examination in Mathematics.

112. Report of the Research Managers

The Research Managers, Dr Good and Professor Griffiths, presented their annual report to Governing Body. This provided an update on developments in the College's research function, including plans to employ a Research Co-Ordinator who will support the Research Managers and the College's ambitions in this regard.

113. Report of the Dean

The Dean reported orally to Governing Body on matters relating to his work and the College Chapel. This was the first report of its kind to come to Annual Congregation.

Chapel services are now at pre-pandemic levels. Services are now supported by the Chapel Manager, the new Deputy Chapel Manager, and Chapel Clerks. The Dean noted the musical life of the Chapel, recent activity of the Choir and ongoing assessment of the future of King's Voices as a vehicle for King's women to sing in Chapel. He reported that the Chapel recording label is performing well.

The Dean also commented on the physical condition of the Chapel. The Chapel's (award-winning) scaffolding would soon be completely removed. Restoration work is also happening in the interior of the Chapel, particularly to the woodwork.

114. **Report of the Domus Bursar**

The Domus Bursar reported orally to Governing Body at her first Annual Congregation. She provided an overview of the Domus Bursar's work, the teams she manages, and her priorities for the coming year. Plans include sustainability initiatives. She explained that current excavations west of Gibbs' Building were connected with the installation of the Chapel solar panels and were investigating the presence of asbestos. The Turing Sculpture will be installed in early 2024.

115. **Health & Safety Report**

Governing Body approved the Annual Health and Safety Report (2023) and agreed objectives for 2024.

116. **Visitors' Report**

Governing Body noted the annual report of the Visitors' Department, which covered the period from July 2022 to June 2023.

117. **Report of the Head of Development**

The Head of Development, Ms Headen, presented her annual report to Governing Body. She highlighted the success of the Fifty Years of Women at King's celebrations and how students and alumni had been connected by this initiative. She also provided an update on the King's Campaign, and the distribution across the range of College life of the generous gifts from donors to the College.

118. **Abstract of Accounts and Auditor's Report**

Governing Body received the College's Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2022–2023 from the First Bursar, together with the Auditor's Report.

The First Bursar spoke to Governing Body about the College's aims for 2022–23, being recovery of intellectual and social life, and continued improvements in infrastructure and on key topics, including sustainability. He noted various structural challenges that are placing a higher financial burden on the College, but was cautiously optimistic about recovery of the current operating deficit and, looking ahead, growth of the Endowment.

The First Bursar highlighted the potential for greater emphasis on research and education, with improvements in support and coordination alongside more flexible resourcing for Fellows. This would take time to develop, and the Bursar proposed to return to Council – and then to Congregation – with further thinking on how this might inform the College's future direction. As part of this,

the Bursar welcomed the suggestion that the Audit and Scrutiny Committee should be supported to assess changes in the College's performance over time.

Governing Body agreed to note the Annual Report and the Auditor's report, and to re-appoint Peters, Elworthy & Moore as the College's auditors.

119. **Investment Committee Report**

The report of the Investment Committee had been circulated to Governing Body in draft form. The First Bursar drew Governing Body's attention to key proposals. CPI would be adopted as an inflation metric (replacing RPI) and the College's spending rule would be changed to allow savings from advisory fees to reduce the operating deficit.

Governing Body accepted the Annual Report from the Investment Committee.

120. **Report of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee**

The Annual Congregation agreed to postpone discussion of this item until the Congregation in January 2024.

Governing Body agreed that at future Annual Congregations the College's Financial Statements, Auditors' Report and the report of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee should be heard first during principal open business.

121. **Data for the Audit**

This item was deferred so that it would accompany the report of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee at the next Ordinary Congregation.

Other Items for Discussion

122. **Terms of Reference Revisions (Audit and Scrutiny, Fellows' Remuneration)**

This item was deferred to the next Ordinary Congregation.

123. **Amendment to Ordinance E5**

The Vice-Provost proposed an addition to Ordinance E5 to remove a statutory anomaly. Under the current governing documents there is no provision for electing to a Life Fellowship a Fellow who has completed twenty-five years' service, and so satisfies Statute E27, but retires early on account of serious illness or disability, and so does not satisfy Ordinance E5.

Governing Body queried whether the Governing Documents should expressly account for retirement on account of caring responsibilities. The Vice Provost agreed to consider this further and bring a separate proposal back to Governing Body.

Governing Body agreed to approve for the first time adding the words 'This requirement does not apply in the case of a Fellow retiring early on account of serious illness or disability' to the end of the current Ordinance E5.

124. **USS Pensions Guarantee**

King's College School's will become a member of the USS pension scheme as a result of its legal separation from the College. The First Bursar sought Governing Body's approval to fix the Common Seal to the deed of guarantee.

Governing Body agreed:

- a) To note Council's decision that the College should agree to guarantee King's College School's obligations as a participant in the USS Pensions Scheme and that doing so accords with the College's charitable objects, and that in reaching this decision Council had regard to its obligations under the Pensions Act 2004 and the Pension Schemes Act 2021; and
- b) To, in accordance with Statute O.2, approve use of the Common Seal to execute the deed of guarantee.

Any Other Business

124. None.

The Congregation ended at 13:18.