

Governance & Nominations Committee

Tue 04 October 2022, 18:30 - 20:30

Attendees

Board members

Alastair Owens (Committee Chair), Professor Colin Grant (Independent Member), Maurine Lewin (Independent Member), John Kirk (Interim Clerk), Andy Boucher (Independent Member), Marian Orafu, in attendance 18.45.- 19.00 (Candidate), Prof Pamela Dube 19.00 - 19.15 (Candidate)

Meeting minutes

1. Welcome, Apologies for Absence, and Quoracy

Alastair Owens

AO Welcomed everyone, as this was the first meeting for CG and AB. Apologies were received from Stephen Jones. The meeting was declared quorate

2. Declarations of Interest

Alastair Owens

There were none reported

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 15 June 2022

Alastair Owens

The Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

For Approval

 Draft Minutes 15 0622.pdf

4. Matters Arising

Alastair Owens

JK noted the Governance Development Programme was appearing as AoB

There was discussion of the assessment of governors by the chair which can be linked to the Skills Audit in future.

CG asked about compliance documentation and recording of these for presentation to the committee. JK reported that this was almost complete and will be ready for the coming Corporation meeting.

5. Nominations

Alastair Owens

To consider and, if agreed, recommend candidates for approval by The Corporation

Interview with Marian Orafu @18.45

Marian was welcomed by AO and members introduced themselves.

MO explained her work history as a project manager in education, the NHS and the private sector, and currently in the NHS in retention and recruitment of professionals in North London boroughs. Training, Communication and Health and Wellbeing are key aspects of her occupation, skillsets which she could bring to the role of governor.

CG asked about motivation for so much non-executive and voluntary experience, especially in domestic violence. MO stated this has always been a passion and she is currently providing counselling and support, including active childcare and allotment facilities. Her main function is the linking up of different organisations and services to ensure the best possible support for victims to rebuild lives.

AB asked where MO found the time! MO has condensed much of this work into one role, and optimises impact by bringing different groups together.

MO asked what skillsets are we looking for? AO said this is under discussion, though there is a wide variety of skills, her passion in volunteering to support young people is an obvious asset.

AO Thanked MO for her time and explained the clerk would contact her soon with the outcome.

Interview with Prof. Pamela Dube @ 19.00

AO welcomed Pamela for an informal chat, and introductions were made.

PD highlighted her background at national governmental level in the time of transition, both in higher education, linking with private sector bodies and restructuring universities. Working with local and international partners on policy, comparing various commonwealth countries to improve local policies, especially in diversifying the skillsets, and encouraging change management.

AB commented on the very impressive CV, and asked what brought her interest in this college.

PD had been told about 6th form colleges from CG and was fascinated by the concept, as there is no similar type of institution in South Africa. There was an attraction in equipping young people with employment skills and opportunities.

ML Asked if PD could use skills learnt at SGMC in her work on Cape Town?

PD always welcomes the transfer of knowledge and skills, and building partnerships, which are mutually beneficial.

CG asked about her work as Dean of Students at UWC, especially with food shortages, and how would this relate to Monoux?

PD is very keen on a variety ways of supporting people, through growing food while treating clients sensitively, and offering other aspects of support for students who have barriers to overcome,. The goal is to help students to become self-sufficient and not reliant upon charity.

PD Declared her appointment as Vice Chancellor from January and that her change of status might have an impact on any governance role, as there may be greater constraints on her time.

AO noted that there will soon be provision for meetings to be hybrid, and therefore not a barrier

AO thanked PD for her time and explained the clerk would be in touch soon.

There followed discussion about the candidates, beginning with Marian Orafu.

CG was impressed by her passion and presence, and her alignment with the College's values.

AB was similarly impressed, and welcomed her skillset as being an enhancement to the Corporation.

There was agreement that any concerns over being married to someone on staff is not a barrier, and any potential conflicts of interest can be successfully managed. It was agreed that JK have a conversation about potential conflicts to ensure they are managed.

It was unanimously agreed to recommend MO's nomination membership to the Corporation

There was discussion about PD.

AB asked about her new commitment, and whether as an overseas resident she should be someone we liaise with not as a member, and that the college might derive greater benefit from her limited time in another role.

ML raise similar issues about time commitment.

AO noted the benefit of having considerable experience from overseas.

ML preferred the option of a co-opted member, who could participate fully in specific committees, only without voting ability in Corporation meetings

After much discussion it was agreed that a co-opted role would be more suitable, serving possibly on one or two committees, and welcome to attend Corporation meetings.

The clerk was instructed to communicate the decisions to both candidates and invite them to the meeting of the Corporation 11 October 2022.

6. External Review of Governance

To report on the meeting held earlier today with Pauline Odulinski

To make a recommendation to the Corporation on proceeding with the ERG.

Following the very positive meeting with Pauline Odulinski earlier today it was agreed to ask her to provide an initial report on various items that were discussed, with a view to undertaking the review this term, with a view to completion in the new year.

7. Self-Assessment of Governance

To reflect on the Corporation's performance during the 2021-22 year, and make recommendations to the Corporation in this regard.

To consider other options for self-assessment including the CCoGG Compliance Checklist and Governance4FE toolkit

Various self-assessment options were considered, and in view of the forthcoming External Review of Governance, it was agreed to continue with the model adopted in previous of a report on relevant specifics, which will be completed by AO.

-  CCoGG-compliance-checklist-musts-Action-Plan-1-v3 (1).pdf
-  Self-Assessment-Reporting-Toolkit-final-draft-July-2022.pdf

7.1. Governor Attendance 2021-2022

To receive the Attendance Report 2021-2022 and compare the national record

To consider governor attendance and compare national data.

Attendance was noted as being above average, and with some understandable instances being slightly less regular. It was noted that contribution from all members is to be encouraged

-  Copy of Governor Attendance 2020-21 Pivot Table - Copy.xlsx
-  Meeting Attendance (Monoux) 2021-22 190422.xlsx

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

24 January 2023 at 6.30pm

9. Any Other Business

AoC Governor Induction postponed to November
Governance Development Programme update

It was agree that CG circulate this, and encourage members to sign up.

-  Sarah Akarolo from Education and Training Foundation (ETF) has invited you to enrol in your training for the Governance Development Programme (run 1) on FutureLearn.msg

Information

John Kirk

10.