

BISHOP GROSSETESTE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
GOVERNANCE & NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 14th MAY 2013
2:00 PM IN ROOM 102, SKINNER BUILDING

Present

Mr Haydn Beeken (Chair)
Mrs Sandra Grattrick
Mr Graham Meeson
Rev Professor Peter Neil
Mrs Jasmit Phull

In attendance

Mr Rob Jones, Director of Enterprise (for item 7)
Ms Vicky Mays, Clerk to the University Council
Ms Haf Merrifield, Deputy Vice Chancellor
Mrs Emma Smeaton, Minuting Secretary

Action

The Chair welcomed the new Vice Chancellor, Rev Professor Peter Neil to his first Governance and Nominations Committee meeting.

1. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence. A full Committee was in attendance.

3. Minutes of the last meetings held on 13th February 2013

The minutes of the meeting of the 13th February 2013 were confirmed as a true record of the meeting and the Chair was authorised to sign them. The Committee agreed that as the minutes contained members' personal opinions they would remain confidential.

4. Matters arising

(i) Former Vice Chancellor's exit interview

The Chair reported that an exit interview with the former Vice Chancellor had taken place with the usual mixture of emotions. A great week was had leading up to her final day, consisting of the civic dinner and the staff and student tea party. The Committee recorded their gratitude to Muriel for all she had done for the University and wished her immense happiness for the future.

5. Appointment of Chair of University Council

A very good response to the advert for a new Chair of University Council was reported which received eight applicants of a very high calibre. The applications were shortlisted to four candidates for interview. One was unable to make the interview date even though it was publicised at advert and as it proved difficult to find an alternative date for all involved it was agreed to put the candidate on the reserve list. It was noted that the three candidates interviewed were all very different individuals, however, the panel unanimously agreed that the position be offered to Roger Mosey, Editorial Director at the BBC. The Committee noted that Roger had accepted the position and that his appointment as the new Chair of University Council had been disclosed to lay Council members only. Members felt that this was an excellent appointment and that Roger had the right skills for the role, he had started out on BBC Radio Lincs Radio 4 and more recently led the BBC Olympic 2012 broadcasting.

6. University Life Fellows

The Committee fully endorsed the three proposed candidates; former senior academic staff, Judith Laurie and Kathleen Taylor and John Rowland, who was due to finish his second term on the University Council at the end of the academic year. Judith Laurie and Kathleen Taylor had been nominated by a number of people over the past few years and although they had both retired from BG a few years ago they still continued to work on a part-time basis. They maintained good relationships with colleagues and staff who knew them spoke extremely highly of them and both were considered as very loyal, long serving members of staff. It was agreed that all three nominations would be recommended to University Council.

7. Limited Company Board Membership

The Director of Enterprise joined the Committee for this item. It was proposed and agreed that the Director of Enterprise and the Director of Resources be the named Company Directors. Annette Wood and John Hebblethwaite were recommended to be approached for members of the Limited Company Board. A University Council member would also be required for the Board and if anyone was interested they were asked to contact the Clerk. The Director of Enterprise thanked the Committee for their support.

8. Vacancies and Sub-Committee membership

(i) Vacancies

Members noted the vacancy that would be left by the current Chair had been filled by Roger Mosey. However, at the end of the academic year there would still be three vacancies; one due the departure of Julie McDonald, one for John Rowland and one for Pamela Taylor. It was agreed that the filling of these positions would be put on hold until the new Chair of University Council was in post.

(ii) Membership

Members noted that due to the departure of Pamela Taylor there would be a vacancy for Chair of the FE&GP Committee. It was agreed that the Clerk to the University Council would draft a note for the Chair to send to David Babb with regards to becoming the Committee Chair.

VM/HB

It was agreed that Sally Myers would be approached to sit on the Audit Committee. Roger Mosey would pick up the Chairing of the Governance and Nominations Committee and the vacancy on this Committee would be put on hold until the new Chair was in post. Roger Mosey would also pick up the Chairing of the Remuneration Committee and it was agreed that the Clerk would draft a note from the Chair to Philip Buckler with regards to joining this Committee.

VM

VM

Members discussed the position of Vice Chair of University Council that would be vacant due to the departure of the current Vice Chair, Pamela Taylor. It was agreed that Tony Hill would be nominated to the University Council for election to this position at the September meeting.

9. Agenda suggestions

It was agreed that now a new legal form for a charity had now been introduced the issue of governance status for the University would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

10. Any other business

The Deputy Vice Chancellor noted that the review of the Students' Union and its relationship with the University was complete and been reviewed by the FE&GP Committee. It was accepted that the Students' Union were to become an independent charity separate from the University based on a model recommended by the NUS. A lay member of the University Council plus two independent trustees; Andy Wright, who had already accepted and Alex Whitehead, who was still to confirm would be required. The constitution would go to the FE&GP Committee and then on to the University Council.

It was proposed that Academic Board's title be changed to Senate as is the case in most universities. This would involve minor changes to the Instrument and Articles. The Committee agreed that they were happy for this to be progressed.

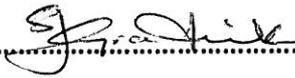
11. Key items for the Governing Body

- Limited Company;
- Academic Board;
- Students' Union Trustee Board;
- Position on holding vacancies;
- Chair of University Council;

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Governance & Nominations Committee would be confirmed as soon as possible. Draft dates had been submitted to Roger Mosey and would be circulated as soon as they were fixed.

It was noted that this was to be the last meeting of the Governance and Nominations Committee that the present Chair, Haydn Beeken would Chair. The Committee expressed their gratitude to Haydn for all he had done.

Signed  Date 16/10/13