

**APPROVED COUNCIL MINUTES
MEETING HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2025, 10AM
FSQ108, BAYES, FINSBURY SQUARE**

Members		Meeting 1 20.09.24	Meeting 2 10.10.24	Meeting 3 28.11.24	Meeting 4 20.02.25	Meeting 5 14.03.25	Meeting 6 09.05.25	Meeting 7 04.07.25
Independent Members	Professor Ian Jacobs (Chair)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Professor Sir Anthony Finkelstein (President)	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Mr Godfrey Allen	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Professor Bob Allison	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Mr Jonathan Curtiss	A	A	N/M	N/M	A		
	Mr Mark Evans	N/M	N/M	N/M	✓			
	Ms Adrienne Fresko	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Mr Josh Joshi	✓	A	✓	✓			
	Ms Rachel Lock	A	✓	✓	A			
	Ms Catherine McGuinness	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Ms Gillian Norton	✓	✓	A	A			
	Ms Julia Palca	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Mr Anant Prakash	✓	A	✓	✓			
	Mr Damian Reid	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Ms Christine Swabey	✓	✓	A	✓			
Mr Ron Zeghibe	✓	✓	A	✓				
Staff and Student Members	Ms Sandra Ashton	A	✓	✓	✓			
	Professor Leanne Aitken	✓	A	✓	N/M			
	Professor Jon Friedland	N/M	N/M	N/M	✓			
	Ms Ayla Hamzayeva	✓	✓	✓	A			
	Professor Elisabeth Hill	✓	✓	P	✓			
	Mr Joe Kenwright	A	A	A	✓			
	Professor Rich Payne	A	✓	✓	✓			
Ms Helen Watson	✓	✓	✓	✓				

Key: ✓ In Attendance A Apologies P Part Attendance N/M Not a Member S Sabbatical

In Attendance	Reason and Meeting Section
Professor Natalie Armstrong	Executive Dean School of Health and Medical Sciences
Dr William Jordan	University Secretary
Ms Sarah Lawton	Senior Governance Officer
Ms Charlotte Martin	Director of GLAS
Professor Andre Spicer	Executive Dean Bayes Business School

MINUTES SECTION A – OPEN FOR PUBLICATION

Part One – Preliminary Items

- Highlighted Items**
Council **agreed** the highlighted items.
- Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2024 were approved.
- Matters Arising**
Council noted the actions arising from past meetings.
- Conflicts of Interest**
There were no conflicts of interest relating to the matters on the agenda of the meeting. The Chair noted his position as Chair at Barts Healthcare Trust and that he would keep any potential conflicts under review.

5. Items Specially Brought Forward by the Chair

Professor David Rhind

The Chair asked Council to note the sad news of the death of Professor David Rhind, who was appointed Vice-Chancellor of what was then known as The City University in 1998 and served as Vice-Chancellor until 2007.

David Rhind's tenure had left a lasting legacy for the University. Under his watch: the Business School of the University became the Sir John Cass Business School with a benefaction from the Cass Foundation and moved to premises in Bunhill Row (2001 - 2003); the Inns of Court Law School became part of the University (in 2001), and a Schools of Arts was created bringing together Music, Journalism and Publishing, and Cultural Policy and Management (2003). The new School moved to a new Social Sciences building – the one now known as the Rhind building – in 2004.

David Rhind was a very distinguished academic: a Fellow of the Royal Society and an Honorary Fellow of the British Academy in 2002, becoming the first geographer in nearly 50 years to receive such honours.

Professor Natalie Armstrong

The Chair welcomed Professor Armstrong to her first meeting of Council as an attendee in her capacity as Executive Dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences.

General Medical Council: Update

The GMC had very recently confirmed that City St George's could now officially award medical degrees. The President noted that this had been achieved through the longstanding high quality of work at legacy St George's. Council expressed its thanks to the Programme Office and all colleagues at the Tooting campus for their work on this issue.

Health and Safety: Horton Halls

There had been discussion at the last Council meeting about Health & Safety risks and a further meeting was subsequently held with the Chair of Council and Chair of ARC, the President and the COO on this issue – and a note had been subsequently circulated to Council

Further discussion regarding fire safety at Horton Halls took place at the January Finance Committee as compliance risks remained, pending the completion of the Estates Compliance Investment Plan ('ECIP'), including a red risk for compliance with fire regulations at Horton Halls.

Subsequent discussions were held with the Chair, Chair of Finance Committee and Chair of ARC at which the Executive had provided written internal and external assurance that the mitigations in place (including fire patrols) were sufficient to protect students and staff and permit the ongoing operation of the building.

The programme of work in place would enable the interventions to be stepped down as the statutory compliance increased. All fire non-compliance in relation to compartmentation, fire doors and life safety systems would be eradicated by August 2025.

It was proposed that the matter next be considered by ARC at its next meeting on 3 March as part of the further review of the Health & Safety risk on the Risk Register. As always, ARC would report back to Council on its discussions.

The Chair acknowledged the exemplary work of the Executive Team with regard to this matter.

Mary Luckiram Retirement

The Chair thanked Mary for her long and exemplary service to the University, in her capacity as HRD at City St George's, HRD at City University and before that the equivalent role at St George's. Mary had served in these roles for over 20 years. Mary had also been the staff member on City's Council for the full admissible period of nine years.

Council wished Mary a very happy retirement.

6. Calendar

Council members noted the calendar.

7. CGNC Matters

7.1 Council Appointments

Council considered the paper and its recommendations.

Decisions

Council approved:

- The appointment of Mark Evans as an independent member of Council for a period of three years, with immediate effect .
- The appointment of Georgia Giatras as a co-opted member of Strategy & Development Committee for a period of three years, with immediate effect.

7.2 Deputy Chair(s) of Council

The role of Deputy Chair had been vacant since the merger of City and St George's on 1st August 2024 and had previously been vacant at City since February 2024. This period allowed time for consideration of how best to fill the role in the context of the merger between the two Universities.

The way forward that Council was asked to agree was that, exceptionally, for a period from 20th February 2025 through to 31st July 2027, two members of Council be appointed to the Deputy Chair role, namely Julia Palca and Christine Swabey.

The proposal, exceptionally, to appoint two members of Council to the Deputy Chair role reflected the fact that the University will still be on an integration journey over the next 2-3 years, and it was appropriate to reflect that in the corporate governance of the institution.

The paper also asked Council to agree a revised text of Ordinance A.8 which sets out the role profile for the Deputy Chair.

Decisions

Council approved:

- The appointment of Julia Palca and Christine Swabey as Deputy Chairs of Council from 20th February 2025 to 31st July 2027.
- The revised text of Ordinance A.8, the role profile for the role of Deputy President.

8. School of Health and Medical Sciences: Academic Departmental Structure

Council considered the paper and the following points were noted:

- Following discussion at Senate, which had endorsed the recommendations in the paper, this paper set out proposals for the academic department structure to form the School of Health & Medical Sciences. The proposal was for the establishment of eight departments and once approved, the Heads of Departments could be appointed in time for the beginning of the next academic year.
- This departmental structure was consistent with the Merger Transfer Agreement and integrates the existing provision at Tooting and Clerkenwell.
- A review would be undertaken in 18 months, to determine whether the departmental names were fit for purpose.
- The President noted that this process would require major changes organisationally for legacy St George's in terms of management and impact on research structures and academic functions, moving to a more established model. This would require a large management reorganisation.
- The Chair noted the thanks of Council to Prof Debra Salmon and Prof Rachel Allen for their combined hard work to reach this stage.

Decision

Council approved the proposed academic department structure.

9. **FOI Review**
Council **agreed** that no changes were required.
10. **Date of Next Meeting**
Friday 14th March 9am to 12pm.

Professor Ian Jacobs, Chair of Council March 2025