

**At Glasgow and within the Board Room of
the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland on
Friday 29 January 2016 at 10.30am**

**Being a meeting of the Board of
Governors**

PRESENT

Ms Ankna Arockiam	Dr Shonaig Macpherson
Mrs Fiona Ballantyne	Mr Donald MacRae
Dr Laura Bissell	Ms Carol Main
Professor Norman Gillies	Mr Ed Monaghan
Mrs Joyce Goodwin	Mr Gavin Reid
Mr John Hylands	Mrs Agnes Robson
Mrs Catherine Jackson	Ms Jean Sangster
Dr Paul Jourdan	Professor Jeffrey Sharkey
Mr Amin Keshmiri	Professor Norman Sharp
Mr Mark Leishman	Mrs Maria Taylor
Miss Eileen Mackay	

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Andrew Comrie
Mr Ewan Hailey
Mrs Janette Harkess
Mr Hugh Hodgart
Dr Gordon Munro
Mrs Jackie Russell
Mr Alan Smith

IN THE CHAIR Lord Vallance of Tummel

The Chairman welcomed Mr Ed Monaghan and Ms Jean Sangster to their first meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Professor Kinloch.

2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTE OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2015

The minutes of the previous meeting were **approved**.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTE NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda. All actions agreed at the previous meeting had been addressed.

4. REPORT FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Principal's report was received. Governors were supportive of the Principal's position in respect of a proposed compact that was being negotiated by Universities Scotland on behalf of the higher education sector with Scottish Government.

5. INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

A revised remit for the International Advisory Board (IAB), the creation of which had been approved at the Board's previous meeting, was received. Subject to the requirement that the IAB's membership should be approved by the Nominations Committee, Governors **approved** the revised remit.

6. REPORT FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

6.1 Board Membership

The Chairman reported that, as agreed at the Board's previous meeting, he had had a discussion with Mark Paris and, on that basis, he now recommended that Mr Paris be invited to join the Board. Governors **approved** that proposal. It was also **agreed** that Mr Paris should chair the International Advisory Board, noted at Item 5 immediately above.

The Nominations Committee was now seeking applications from potential Governors with a performing arts background.

6.2 Search for a new Chair

The Chairman and any directly interested Governor left the meeting for this item.

Mr Hylands, Senior Independent Governor, provided Governors with a progress report on the search for a new Chair. The closing date had been extended to 19 February 2016.

7. STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-20: DEFINING PERFORMANCE

A synopsis of the Strategic Plan, designed for a wide circulation, was noted.

8. STUDENTS' UNION

8.1 President's Report

The President's report was received. Ms Arockiam's contribution to a recent Association of British Orchestra's conference was commended.

8.2 Revised Students' Union Constitution

The President of the Students' Union reported that the draft Students' Union constitution required further work. A final draft would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.

9. DRAFT SFC OUTCOME AGREEMENT: 2016/17

A draft 2016/17 Outcome Agreement was received. The Outcome Agreement stated that the Conservatoire would maintain the level of SIMD20/40 recruitment for entry in 2016/17 at the same level as for entry in the current session. However, SFC colleagues had indicated that they expected the Conservatoire to increase its target in respect of SIMD 20/40 recruitment and the Conservatoire's Outcome Agreement team anticipated that SFC colleagues would press that point when they met to agree the final Outcome Agreement.

Governors, noting that Academic Board was supportive of the maintenance of SIMD 20/40 recruitment at current levels on the basis of quality considerations, **agreed** that the Conservatoire should commit to at least maintaining current levels of SIMD 20/40 recruitment. In confirming the Conservatoire's SIMD 20/40 target for session 2016/17, Governors also confirmed the Conservatoire's commitment and approach to the promotion of access and noted that the production of a 3 year Outcome Agreement in session 2016/17 would afford the opportunity to take a longer term view of that activity with the SFC.

Conservatoire staff would meet with SFC colleagues to discuss the draft on 12 February. Following that meeting, a final draft of the Outcome Agreement would be submitted to Academic Board for approval and, thereafter, it would be circulated to Governors with a recommendation for approval from the Chairman and the Principal.

10. REPORT FROM THE ACADEMIC BOARD

A report from the meeting of 13 January 2016 was received.

Governors noted Academic Board's view on SIMD 20/40 recruitment in the context of the draft 2016/17 Outcome Agreement (Item 9 immediately above refers).

Academic Board's commentary on a recent report that reviewed one-to-one teaching would be submitted to the next meeting of the Board.

11. REPORT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

A report from the meeting of 15 January 2016 was received.

Governors **approved** the TRAC Return for submission to SFC as circulated.

It was noted that any changes to the Conservatoire's investment policy would be submitted to the Board for consideration and approval.

It was **agreed** that the Committee should provide the Board with a report on staff pension options for consideration at its next meeting.

12. REPORT FROM THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

A report from the meeting of 14 January 2016 was received. The Chairman thanked Dr Sughrue for her past convenorship of the Committee.

12.1 Annual Report

The Health and Safety Committee's annual report was received. The increased incidence of mental health issues amongst students was noted.

12.2 Health and Safety Action Plan

An update on progress with the 2015/16 Health and Safety Action Plan was noted.

13. REPORT FROM THE BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

A report from the meeting of 15 January 2016 was received

Governors **approved** a proposal to develop rooms D2/R6 to provide additional one-to-one teaching and practice rooms so as to accommodate planned growth in the School of Music. The total cost of the project was projected at £2.3m, £1.1m of which was already secured. The Development Department would fundraise for the remainder and the RCS Trust had agreed to underwrite any shortfall.

14. STRATEGY AWAY DAYS: 17/18 MARCH 2016

Arrangements for the forthcoming strategy away days were noted.

15. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Governors unanimously **agreed** to offer Companion Emeritus to Sir Sandy Crombie, Joyce Goodwin and Eileen Mackay and Fellowship of the Conservatoire to Dr Cindy Sughrue.

On the occasion of their final meeting of the Board, the Chairman thanked Sir Sandy Crombie and Dr Cindy Sughrue for their efforts on behalf of the Conservatoire.

16. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting would take place on 29 April 2016 at 10.30am.

Summer Graduations would take place on Tuesday 5 July 2016.