



NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (Summary Report)

7 December 2020

COVERSHEET – Nominations Committee Summary Report

Document title:	Summary Report of Nominations Committee Meeting (7 December 2020)
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Document History:	
Paper Classification:	Open – For online publication.
Type of Paper:	For Information.
Appendices	N/A

1. Matters Arising

1.1 The Chair of Nominations Committee highlighted the issue of the Statute pertaining to ‘one third of the members of Class II shall retire each year’ and noted this to be discussed further in the Council Membership item.

2. Terms of Reference and Membership 2020-21

2.1 The Chair highlighted the need to **discuss** Council member role descriptions and tasked the Committee Secretariat to produce these for the February meeting of Nominations Committee.

2.2 The Chair highlighted that senior development did not fall within the remit of Nominations Committee and that it should be removed from the Terms of Reference. The Committee **agreed** that this assurance to Council could be provided by the Dual Assurance mechanism and an annual HR report to Council.

2.3 The Committee **actioned** the Committee Secretariat to edit the terms of reference and coordinate a process for assurance more broadly on senior development to Council via Dual Assurance.

3. University Chancellor

3.1 The committee **discussed** succession planning for the University Chancellor with the current position holder – Lord Myners of Truro, CBE – ending their time in the role in July 2021 but agreeing to continue until the end of the calendar year subject to Council approval.

3.2 **Agreed** that a selection committee needs to be convened, which will report into Nominations Committee. Additionally, the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar and Secretary would need to consider the membership of this sub-committee for approval by Council.

3.3 Key attributes for the Chancellor position were **discussed**, including the desire for EDI/Social Inclusion, Climate Emergency/Sustainability, and a commitment to Research and Innovation being added to the list of desirable attributes (linking to the University Values and Strategy).

4. Senior Independent Member

- 4.1 The Committee **discussed** the CUC Code recommendation for a Senior Independent Member of the governing body and **noted** support of the concept.
- 4.2 It was **agreed** that the context of Exeter’s Council and its three Pro-Chancellor roles, the remit of a Senior Independent Member is already covered. Therefore, they **agreed** not to recommend the appointment of this role to Council.

5. Membership of Council 2020/21 – 2021/22, Council Committees, and Appointment of Council Members

- 5.1 Nominations Committee **discussed** the membership of Council for 2020/21-2021/22, and the members who term of office is due to end in July 2022 were **noted**.
- 5.2 They additionally **discussed** the appointment of Council members and **agreed** a list of potential candidates.
- 5.3 The Committee further **discussed** the membership of other Council committees and succession planning for these boards.

6. Dual Assurance Portfolios: Update

- 6.1 Members of Nominations Committee **discussed** the Dual Assurance portfolios and noted instances of duplication in the roles held by Council members.

7. Council Skills Matrix: Update and the Developing Future Leaders Programme

- 7.1 Nominations Committee **considered** the Council Members Skills Matrix but **noted** that more guidance and definition was needed on the three-levels of expertise categories.
- 7.2 The Director of HR provided an updated on the Developing Future Leaders Programme, and it was **agreed** this would be the last such update at Nominations Committee. Instead, this information would be brought to Council annually as per the updated terms of reference of Nominations Committee.

8. Membership of Trusts 2020/21

- 8.1 Nominations Committee **discussed** the membership of trusts and **agreed** to recommend the following to Council:
- 8.1.1 Extension of Dr Michael Wykes as Trustee for St Luke’s College Foundation for another 5-year term (to 31st July 2026)
- 8.1.2 Extension of Professor Dave Hosken as trustee for the Cambourne School of Mines Trust for another 3-year term (to 31st July 2024).
- 8.2 It was **decided** that a summary report on University Trusts, explaining their background, should be brought to the next meeting of Nominations Committee.
- 8.3 It was **noted** that with the term of a trustee on the Cambourne School of Mines Trust ending in July 2021, this membership would need to be brought to Nominations Committee in March.

9. Appointment of Chair of Council

9.1 Following the Chair of Council leaving the meeting, Nominations Committee **discussed** succession planning and the committee was briefed on the timeline for the appointment and actions which need to be taken.