

## Ruskin College

### Minutes of a meeting of the Search Committee held by telephone conference on Monday 6 July 2009 at 11.00am

**Consulted:** David Norman (Chair), Carole Orgell-Rosen, Audrey Mullender, Ruth Hunt and Liz Mathews

**Also involved:** Chris Wilkes (General Secretary), Rebecca Cox (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence** **Action**  
No apologies for absence were received.
  
2. **Minutes of last meeting**  
The minutes of the last meeting of the Search Committee held by telephone conference on 5 March 2009 were approved as an accurate record.
  
3. **Matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda**
- 3.1. **Membership of Council – Oxfordshire County Council**  
**Noted:** that Tan Lea had not responded to a further approach. It would be useful to have a Youth and Community representative, as the College was very reliant on the County Council.  
**Agreed:** that another route would be pursued Clerk
- 3.2. **Co-opted membership of Council**  
**Noted:** that John Prescott MP and Carey Oppenheim, Co-Director of the IPPR, were now members. Michael Callaghan had declined the invitation due to other commitments, though would continue to work with the College on fundraising for the library.
- 3.3. **Replacement for Mike McCartney on Governing Executive**  
**Noted:** that Fiona Sloman was now a member.
- 3.4. **New member to fill general vacancy on Finance Committee**  
**Noted:** that Fiona Sloman was now a member.
- 3.5. **Membership of Audit Committee**  
**Noted:** that Pam Johnson and Jan Etienne were now members and no vacancies remained.
- 3.6. **Membership of Council**  
**Noted:** that Matt Wrack, General Secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, had declined the invitation to join Council due to time pressures.  
**Agreed:** that contact should be made with the regional officer who the College had originally made the link with to determine whether he would be interested. This should be reported back to the next meeting. LM
  
4. **Membership of Council**
- 4.1. **Nomination of Louise Richards by the Institute of Fundraising**  
**Noted:** that Louise Richards had previously represented both War on Want and Computer Aid International on Council and was now the Director of Policy and Campaigns at the Institute of Fundraising. She was very positive about Ruskin and keen to remain a member, but had in the past been a poor attender at meetings. She had indicated that she would have time to attend meetings now, and it was thought that her fundraising experience could be helpful.  
**Agreed:** that Louise Richards should be invited to become a member, but that this should be reviewed this time next year in the light of her attendance record. Clerk

## Ruskin College

- 4.2 Paul Hackett's possible nomination by The Smith Institute**  
**Noted:** that the Smith Institute was a very well-connected think-tank organisation, which carried out work around current social issues. Paul Hackett had contacted the Principal in order to forge links with Ruskin, and had visited with his research worker.  
**Agreed:** that this organisation shared Ruskin's ideals and was one that the College would welcome involvement with. Paul Hackett should be invited to become a member. Clerk
- 4.3 Help with fundraising**  
**Noted:** that when considering possible members of Council in the future, the Committee should continue to propose those who have knowledge and experience on the teaching side or trade union links, but also seek to widen the participation of those whose 'influence or affluence' may be helpful in fundraising.
- 5. Replacement for Gordon Beesley on Governing Executive and Finance Committee**  
**Received:** information regarding Anne Hock, Managing Director of Popularis.  
**Noted:** that Anne Hock had recently expressed an interest in becoming involved with Ruskin and held the College in high regard. She had a great deal of relevant experience and strong trade union and charity links. The Committee agreed that she would have a great deal to offer.  
**Agreed:** that Anne Hock should be invited to join Council in the first instance and then approached to become a member of Governing Executive and Finance Committee. Clerk
- 6. Any other business**
- 6.1. Recommendations for future meetings of the Search Committee**  
**Noted:** that a potential Council member had been suggested at the last meeting of the Governing Executive. No further information had been received, but this would be pursued further and brought back to the next Search Committee. Clerk  
**Noted:** that it might be helpful to recruit somebody with a strong media background to Council. Carole Orgell-Rosen had a potential candidate in mind and would explore this further and report back to the next meeting. C O-R
- 7 Date of next meeting**  
**Agreed:** that the next meeting would be held on 11 September 2009 at 12.30pm.

*There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.55pm.*