

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes of the **Board of Trustees** held on **Tuesday, 26th July 2022** at **17:00** in **Rogers**

22.31 WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

Attendees

Jerry Arnott (JA)	Interim Chair, Trustee
Jeff White (JW)	Vice Chair, Trustee
Dotun Olaleye (DO)	Trustee
Nafeesa Mitha (NM)	Trustee

In Attendance

Sally Glen (SG)	New Chair, Trustee
Ruth Gibson (RG)	Student Trustee
Professor Sheila Owen-Jones (SOJ)	Chief Executive Officer
Professor Carrie Weston (CW)	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Naj Riaz (NR)	Servicing Officer
Dr Biljana van Rijn (BvR)	Faculty Head

Apologies

Helen Coleman (HC)	Trustee
Kelvin Jones (KJ)	Trustee
Anita Faherty (AF)	Director of Finance

22.31.01 JA welcomed and introduced the new Chair (SG) who will take over after today's board meeting and will arrange one-to-one sessions with Trustees to share ideas.

22.32 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

22.32.01 The minutes of the Board of Trustees (BoT) meeting held on the 24th May 2022 were **agreed** as a true and accurate record.

22.33 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

22.33.01 Student Trustee and the Student Officer roles: SG and RG will pick up to clarify and get perspectives on each role.

22.33.02 DAPs: We are still waiting to hear back from the OfS, a definitive answer is required so we can deal with the implications.

22.33.02.01 **Action**: SoJ to contact the OfS for an update on our DAPs application.

22.33.03 Data expert: It was advised that progress has been made on discussions with a data expert.

22.34 STRATEGY UPDATE (DR BILJANA VAN RIJN, HEAD OF FACULTY 2)

22.34.01 BvR reported the aim of Faculty 2 is to develop high quality research and to develop excellence in practised-based research. This will be achieved through the Doctoral School and the activities of the Research Centre and the Research Clinic.

- 22.34.02 Doctoral School: The DCPsych is a very popular programme creating opportunities to work in universities, private practice and the NHS. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] We will have a bank of academics to deliver the programmes. We have 114 current students, there are 40 new students, we had 9 graduates last year and 52 are in the writing up stage.
- 22.34.03 The new DPSych programme will be validated next year to fit the new MDX research regulations and it will be delivered online. Recruitment is slow as the marketing cycle started late, currently all applications are international, we will continue to advertise, applications generally come in late and the long-term future of the programme looks healthy. The DoS has resigned due to securing a better role with the NHS but has agreed to stay on one day a week and the Senior Lecturer will take on the DoS role. There are 46 current students and 8 graduating in 2021-22. The DPpsych by Public Works had 6 graduates last year, there are 3 current students and 2 new applications.
- 22.34.04 Clinical placement merger and community clinic: has been streamlined, is managed by the Clinical Director and the team is stable. We have applied for a new grant with Ealing Borough Council for talking therapies. The community clinic deals with more complex cases and students are well supported.
- 22.34.05 Develop research activity/ impact: the MI research centre operates a range of research groups and the European projects office. The current research groups involve:
- Transactional Analysis Research Group
 - Research Clinic Group
 - Therapists as Research Informed Practitioners
 - Technology in Therapy
 - Community Engagement for Mental Health
 - Religion and Spirituality
- The European Project Office is working on Assessment for Mental Health of Refugees and Asylum seekers by Youth Workers (AMORAY), this involves partnerships with community groups in Greece, Spain, France and the UK.
- 22.34.05.01 There is a lot of good work with student involvement and partnerships. Projects are developed through ongoing networking; the Research Groups and the Research Centre activities are promoted through our website.
- 22.34.06 External visibility: BvR has been elected as President for the UK Chapter for Society of Psychotherapy Research (SPR) which is a leading international psychotherapy organisation. They have asked us to host a workshop and this will lead to further opportunities.
- 22.34.07 Challenges: Two key areas were highlighted:
- Staff recruitment and retention: the NHS offer better employment packages and higher salaries for Counselling Psychologists.
 - Accommodation has been an ongoing issue.

22.34.08 The Board commended and thanked BvR for attending the meeting. It was noted that the faculty has established a coherent growth programme of activity giving the area and the team a bright future.

22.35 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

22.35.01 Recruitment Process: JA thanked Board members for their help with the new Chair and CEO recruitment and reflected that it was an interesting process. Hannah Friend will join as the CEO from 1st October 2022 and will meet the Executive and the Board. SOJ has also agreed to stay on until the end of the first week of October to enable a smooth handover.

22.35.02 We also require new Trustees to join the Board with legal, HR and Psychotherapy expertise and are working on this in the background using free online resources and professional networks. It was noted that August is a quiet period and it will pick up in September.

22.36 CEO'S REPORT

22.36.01 Graduation: There were 171 graduates this year, the results are good, and all three graduation days went well.

22.36.02 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22.36.05 IT Performance: Aquilatec are preparing a roadmap for system updates, we are also updating the current IT asset list and warranty status.

22.37 DCEO REPORT

22.37.01 The following updates were reported:

- Faculty 1: Has been handed over to Dr Jane Hunt.
- ED&I related concerns: Several matters have been raised via the Committees and through individual student complaints and work has commenced to address these issues.
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL): The paper has been through all relevant MI Committees and has received overwhelmingly positive feedback. The next iteration of the paper will provide a plan and timeline for implementation and will be presented to Academic Board in November.
- NSS 2022: A deeper analysis of the data will be conducted. Overall student satisfaction has decreased following two years of significant increase and there appears to be a similar drop in scores across all NHS and mental health programmes in the sector.

22.38 BOARD ASSESSMENT

22.38.01 As HC was not present it was suggested to move this item to the next meeting Agenda.

22.38.01.01 **Action:** SG to follow up with HC on the refresh and enhancement of the Board self-assessment and skills matrix.

22.39 STAFF AND STUDENT FEEDBACK

22.39.01 The Board received the results of the Staff Engagement Survey and the following comments were mentioned:

- Staff feel the Board and the Executive are distant, the Board need a higher profile. Holding Board meetings on site allows Trustees to meet more staff and have a presence.
- Staff like their teams and line managers which is encouraging.
- There are plans to conduct the staff survey biannually, there was a low return as it was felt the survey was not anonymous and people could be identified due to some of the questions that were posed.
- The issues raised need to be looked at and will require a response. SG will send a letter in September and will mention the staff survey.
- It was queried what happens after the survey; HR lead on this and outcomes are reported to the SARSC, focus groups will be held and it was noted that this has given us good and timely data.

22.40 ADVANCED HE REPORT

22.40.01 The Board received an initial draft of the Trustee induction booklet and welcomed suggestions for further development. A light onboarding process is needed to provide a roadmap and good practice.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

22.42 ESTATES MANAGEMENT & HEALTH AND SAFETY

22.42.01 No business for this meeting.

22.43 EXECUTIVE & ACADEMIC BOARD UPDATES

22.43.01 The Board noted the extensive business coming through the various Committees and commended the presentation of the Academic Board updates.

22.44 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

22.44.01 Board meetings: It was advised that meetings are held virtually, and strategy days are in person. SG will keep the format flexible and will review.

22.45 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

22.45.01 The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on the 22nd November 2022.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS AND DECISIONS

22.32.01	The minutes of the Board of Trustees (BoT) meeting held on the 24 th May 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate record.
22.33.02.01	Action: SoJ to contact the OfS for an update on our DAPs application.
22.38.01.01	Action: SG to follow up with HC on the refresh and enhancement of the Board self-assessment and skills matrix.