

# CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY REPORTER

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UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

**NOTICES****Calendar**

22 October, *Saturday*. Congregation of the Regent House at 11 a.m. (see p. 75).

1 November, *Tuesday*. All Saints Day. Scarlet Day.

6 November, *Sunday*. Commemoration of Benefactors. Preacher before the University at 11.15 a.m., Lord Wilson of Dinton, Master of Emmanuel College (Lady Margaret's Preacher). Scarlet Day.

**Discussions at 2 p.m.**

8 November

22 November

6 December

**Congregations**

22 October, *Saturday at 11 a.m.*

26 November, *Saturday at 2 p.m.*

**Discussion on Tuesday, 25 October 2011: Cancellation**

*17 October 2011*

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that the Discussion announced for Tuesday, 25 October 2011, will not take place as there are no Reports ready for discussion.

**Result of election to the Chancellorship: Notice**

**Elected:** Lord Sainsbury of Turville, *K*

Details of the poll and of the transfer of votes under the Single Transferable Vote Regulations are as follows:

Number of valid votes cast: 5,558 (Quota: 2,779)

	First count	RESULT
Mr Abdul Arain	312	
Mr Brian Blessed	1,389	
Mr Michael Mansfield	964	
Lord Sainsbury of Turville	2,893	Elected
Total	<hr/> 5,558 <hr/>	

*16 October 2011*

Presiding Officer: J. W. Nicholls, *Registrar*

The text of the Instrument of Election which was sealed in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar and delivered to the Chancellor on 17 October 2011 is printed under Acta (see p. 76).

**Election to the Council: Notice**

*14 October 2011*

**Bye-election of a member in class (a) (Heads of Colleges)**

The Vice-Chancellor gives notice that he has received the following nomination for election to the Council in class (a) (Heads of Colleges) to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Master of Trinity Hall (see *Reporter*, 2011–12, p. 6), and that it has been certified to him that the candidate has consented to be nominated:

Professor DAVID YATES, Warden of Robinson College, is nominated by the Master of Trinity Hall and seconded by the Master of Fitzwilliam College.

No other candidate having been nominated, the Vice-Chancellor declares that Professor Yates is elected to serve as a member of the Council until 31 December 2012, and that the election previously announced will not now take place.

## Annual Reports: Notice

The following Annual Reports have been received by the Council and General Board and are available on the websites indicated:

Annual Report of the Scott Polar Research Institute for the year 2010	<a href="http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/about/sprireview/2010/">http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/about/sprireview/2010/</a>
Annual Report of the Health and Safety Executive Committee for the year 2010	<a href="http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/safety/publications/hsd139m/">http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/safety/publications/hsd139m/</a>

## VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS, ETC.

### Vacancy in the University

A full list of current vacancies can be found at <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/jobs>.

**Credit Control Manager in the Finance Division**; salary: £27,428–£35,788; closing date: 4 November 2011; further particulars: <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/jobs/vacancies.cgi?job=8982>; quote reference: AG08982

Any job application submitted with a *curriculum vitae* should be accompanied by a Cover Sheet for Employment (form CHRIS/6) which can be downloaded from <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/hr/forms/chris6/>, or may be obtained in hard copy from the advertising Department or Faculty.

*The University values diversity and is committed to equality of opportunity.*

*The University has a responsibility to ensure that all employees are eligible to live and work in the UK.*

## CRASSH Fellowship Competition, 2012–13: Notice

### Mellon Teaching Fellowships 2012–13

CRASSH (the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities) is now soliciting proposals from members of the University for collaborative seminar courses to be taught at CRASSH in Michaelmas 2012 or Lent 2013. Full details are available at <http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/page/1001/call-for-proposals-2011-12.htm>. The deadline for applications is Friday, 13 January 2012.

## EVENTS, COURSES, ETC.

### Announcement of lectures, seminars, etc.

The University offers a large number of lectures, seminars, and other events, many of which are free of charge, to members of the University and others who are interested. Details can be found on Faculty and Departmental websites, and in the following resources.

The What's On website (<http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson/>) carries details of exhibitions, music, theatre and film, courses, and workshops, and is searchable by category and date. Both an RSS feed and a subscription email service are available.

Talks.cam (<http://www.talks.cam.ac.uk/>) is a fully searchable talks listing service, and talks can be subscribed to and details downloaded.

Brief details of upcoming events are given below.

Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology	Chemical Engineering Departmental Seminars	<a href="http://www.ceb.cam.ac.uk/seminars.php">http://www.ceb.cam.ac.uk/seminars.php</a>
Centre for Gender Studies	Visiting Professorship Lecture	<a href="http://www.gender.cam.ac.uk/">http://www.gender.cam.ac.uk/</a>
Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit	Research Seminar series	<a href="http://innerasiaresearch.org/?page_id=18">http://innerasiaresearch.org/?page_id=18</a>
Cambridge Committee for Russian and East European Studies	Seminar series	<a href="http://www.camcrees.group.cam.ac.uk/diary.html">http://www.camcrees.group.cam.ac.uk/diary.html</a>
Centre of South Asian Studies	Annual Kingsley Memorial Lecture	<a href="http://karachi.s-asian.cam.ac.uk/seminar.php">http://karachi.s-asian.cam.ac.uk/seminar.php</a>

**NOTICES BY FACULTY BOARDS, ETC.****Annual Meeting of the Faculty of Divinity**

The Chairman of the Faculty Board of Divinity gives notice that the Annual Meeting of the Faculty of Divinity will be held at 2.15 p.m. on Thursday, 10 November 2011, in the Lightfoot Room of the Divinity Building, West Road. The business to be discussed will include the Chairman's report, the report by the Director of CARTS, and the election of two members of the Faculty Board to serve for four calendar years in class (c), from 1 January 2012.

Nominations for the posts in class (c) must be seconded and the consent of the candidate obtained in advance, and should reach the Administrative Officer, Faculty of Divinity, West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9BS, not later than 8 November 2011. Notice of any other business to be discussed should reach the Administrative Officer by the same date.

**Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II, 2012: Notice of additions to Regulation 8 options**

Further to their Notice of 9 March 2011 (*Reporter*, 2010–11, p. 594), the Faculty Board of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies give notice of the following additions to the options offered under Regulation 8 of Part II for the Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos examination in 2012:

*Paper X.9 Judaism II (Paper C.8 Judaism II from the Theological and Religious Studies Tripos)*

The examination for this paper will consist of a three-hour written paper which will be divided into two sections, A and B, corresponding to the set topics. Each section will contain at least eight questions. Candidates will be required to attempt four questions, including at least one from each section.

*Paper X.10 Islam II (Paper C.9 Islam II from the Theological and Religious Studies Tripos)*

The examination for this paper will consist of a three-hour written paper divided into two sections, corresponding to the specified topics. Each section will contain at least eight questions. Candidates will be required to attempt four questions, including at least one from each section.

The Faculty Board are content that no candidate's preparation will be affected by these changes.

**Examination in Modern South Asian Studies for the M.Phil. Degree, 2011–12: Notice**

The Centre of South Asian Studies, under the aegis of the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Human, Social, and Political Science, gives notice that the mandatory and optional modules available to study for the M.Phil. in Modern South Asian Studies (*Reporter*, 2008–09, p. 21) in the academical year 2011–12 will be:

- SA1 Debates in South Asian studies (core course):  
This will be examined by an essay of not more than 5,000 words on a topic chosen from a list approved by the Degree Committee.
- SA2 Optional course:  
This will be examined by an essay of not more than 5,000 words on a topic under either (i), (ii), or (iii) below, chosen by the candidate from a list approved by the Degree Committee:
- (i) Violence and non-violence: politics of modernity in twentieth-century South Asia
  - (ii) Modern Indian society: politics, development, and ecology
  - (iii) Mobility, circulation, and diaspora: migration, society, and politics in Modern South Asia

**Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II (Biological and Biomedical Sciences), 2011–12: Notice**

The Faculty Board of Biology give notice that the following combination of Major and Minor subjects, additional to, or amending, those previously published (*Reporter*, 2010–11, pp. 487–89 and 2011–12, p. 62) will be offered in the Natural Sciences Tripos, Part II (Biological and Biomedical Sciences) in 2011–12:

**Minor subjects:**

	<i>Minor subject</i>	<i>Examination requirements</i>
123	Development and psychopathology (Paper Psy. 4. of the Politics, Psychology, and Sociology Tripos)	One written paper of three hours' duration.
124	Psychology and social issues (Paper Psy. 6. of the Politics, Psychology, and Sociology Tripos)	One written paper of three hours' duration.
125	Gender development: biological, psychological, and clinical perspectives (Paper Psy. 7. of the Politics, Psychology, and Sociology Tripos)	One written paper of three hours' duration.

**GRACES****Graces submitted to the Regent House on 19 October 2011**

The Council submits the following Graces to the Regent House. These Graces, unless they are withdrawn or a ballot is requested in accordance with the regulations for Graces of the Regent House (*Statutes and Ordinances*, p. 107), will be deemed to have been approved at 4 p.m. on Friday, 28 October 2011.

1. That the recommendations in paragraph 11 of the Report of the Council, dated 27 June 2011, on the construction of Phase 1 of the University Sports Centre on the West Cambridge Site (*Reporter*, 2010–11, p. 994) be approved.
2. That the recommendations in paragraph 6 of the Report of the General Board, dated 6 July 2011, on the establishment of a Professorship of Medical Genetics and Genomic Medicine (*Reporter*, 2010–11, p. 997) be approved.
3. That the recommendations in paragraph 3 of the Report of the General Board, dated 6 July 2011, on the re-establishment of the Charles Darwin Professorship of Animal Embryology (*Reporter*, 2010–11, p. 998) be approved.

**Graces to be submitted to the Regent House at a Congregation on 22 October 2011**

The Council has sanctioned the submission of the following Graces to the Regent House at a Congregation to be held on 22 October 2011:

1. That the title of the degree of Master of Arts *honoris causa* be conferred under Statute B, IV upon RAYMOND MURPHY, author of English Language Teaching text books.<sup>1</sup>

That the following persons be admitted to the degree of Master of Arts under the provisions of Statute B, III, 6:

2. JAMES ANDREW DENIS BUXTON, Fellow of Corpus Christi College.
3. DAVID JAMES CHEESMAN, Senior Technical Officer in the Faculty of Clinical Medicine.
4. KENNETH PATRICK CLARKE, Fellow of Pembroke College.
5. TIMOTHY KEITH DICKENS, of Peterhouse, Computer Officer in the Department of Chemistry.
6. CHRISTOPHER VINCENT EDWARDS, Deputy Director in the Management Information Services Division of the University Offices.
7. PETER JAMES FOREMAN, Secretary of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology.
8. GURVINDER GHATAORRE-JONES, Senior Manager in the Local Examinations Syndicate.
9. JOCELYN GRANT, Administrative Officer in the Finance Division of the University Offices.
10. EMMA JANE KEENAN, Administrative Officer in the Finance Division of the University Offices.
11. HAZEL KENNARD PETTIT, Assistant Treasurer in the Finance Division of the University Offices.
12. SARAH SMITH, Departmental Secretary in the Faculty of Clinical Medicine.
13. DIANA CATHERINE STEWART, Computer Officer in the University Computing Service.
14. ANDREW WEATHERLEY, Administrative Officer in the Finance Division of the University Offices.
15. DEBRA WEST-LEWIS, Administrative Officer in the Research Services Division.

<sup>1</sup> It is expected that this Honorary Degree will be conferred at a Congregation to be held on Saturday, 21 January 2012.

## ACTA

**Instrument of Election to the Chancellorship***Monday, 17 October 2011*

The Common Seal of the University was, in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor and of the Registrar, affixed, under authority of Statute A, Chapter I, section 2, to the instrument of election of Lord Sainsbury of Turville, K, M.A., LL.D. (Hon.), Hon. FRS, Hon. FREng, Hon. FMedSci, to the office of Chancellor of the University in the following form:

OMNIBVS Christi fidelibus ad quos hoc praesens scriptum peruenerit Leszek Krzysztof Borysiewicz, eques auratus, Magister in Artibus, Vniuersitatis Cantabrigiensis Procancellarius, Doctores, Magistri, et Scholares eiusdem Vniuersitatis salutem in Domino sempiternam.

Sciatis quod nos praefati Procancellarius, Doctores, Magistri, et Scholares dictae Vniuersitatis DAVID JOHN Baronem SAINSBURY de TVRVILLE, Magistrum in Artibus, Doctorem in Iure honoris causa adscitum, cuius notissimis de uirtutibus et probata in nos benignitate et beneuolentia merito confidimus, ad munus siue officium CANCELLARIATVS Vniuersitatis Cantabrigiensis nominauimus, elegimus, constituimus, et declarauimus, et eundem per praesentes nominamus, constituimus, et declaramus CANCELLARIVM; habendum, tenendum, fruendum, et exercendum dictum munus siue officium Cancellarii praedicti una cum omnibus suis priuilegiis, honoribus, et emolumentis ad idem munus siue officium pertinentibus et spectantibus iuxta statuta, leges, et consuetudines Vniuersitatis Cantabrigiensis, tam libere et honorifice et tam amplis modo et forma prout aliquis alius praedictum munus siue officium umquam habuerit uel tenuerit aut nos illud dare aut concedere possumus, humiliter et obnixè supplicantes ut praefatus DAVID JOHN Baro SAINSBURY de TVRVILLE praedictum munus siue officium ut testimonium nostrae in illum fidei fiduciaequè certissimum a nobis accipere atque nos et Vniuersitatem Cantabrigiensem et libertates et priuilegia eiusdem in clientelam et patrocinium suum suscipere dignetur.

In cuius rei testimonium has litteras nostras patentes fieri, et sigillum commune Vniuersitatis praedictae iisdem apponi fecimus septimo decimo die mensis Octobris anno regni Serenissimae Reginae ac Dominae nostrae ELIZABETHAE Dei gratia Britanniarum Reginae, Fidei Defensoris, sexagesimo, annoque Domini bis millensimo undecimo.

J. W. NICHOLLS, *Registrar*

**END OF THE OFFICIAL PART OF THE ‘REPORTER’**

**REPORT OF DISCUSSION****Tuesday, 11 October 2011**

A Discussion was held in the Senate-House. Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Jeremy Sanders was presiding, with the Registrar’s deputy, the Senior Proctor, the Junior Proctor, and ten other persons present.

The following Reports were discussed:

***Report of the Council, dated 27 June 2011, on the construction of Phase 1 of the University Sports Centre on the West Cambridge Site (Reporter, 2010–11, p. 994)***

Ms D. LUTHER (Chair of the Sports Syndicate):

Mr Deputy Vice-Chancellor, as Chair of the Sports Syndicate, I am delighted with the recommendation of the Council that approval be given for the construction of Phase 1 of the Sports Centre.

The need for these facilities was first identified several decades ago and has only grown greater in the succeeding years. The funding plan which has now been negotiated, and which involves the Colleges in helping to support the running costs, is a pragmatic one, which has enabled the project to be taken forward without diverting resources from other priorities. That these are difficult times for the University financially does not detract from, but rather enhances, the case for building a Sports Centre.

The project resonates with a number of other important themes, including the quality of the student experience; the role of a large and diverse range of extra-curricular activities in attracting students, and in turning them into the most employable graduates in the country; the reasons

why our alumni remember their time in Cambridge with such passion, and are willing to support their Colleges and the University throughout their lives; the ways in which health and wellbeing support the academic mission of the University; and the way in which sport and exercise help to build a sense of community.

This Report is warmly welcomed by the Sports Syndicate on behalf of all those who have ever enjoyed watching or participating in sporting activities in Cambridge, and I commend it to the University.

Mr A. D. LEMONS (Director of Physical Education and Secretary to the Sports Syndicate):

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Committee appointed by the Council of the Senate to consider questions concerning sites and buildings for University sport reported to the University on 21 April 1982. Under the Chairmanship of Mr Michael McCrum, the then Master of Corpus Christi College and later Vice-Chancellor of the University, the Committee identified three main areas of need for University sport and made twelve recommendations. The first and principal of these was the need for an indoor sports centre and additional facilities for a range of activities that were not catered for within the Colleges but commonly found in other universities and even schools. A second urgent need was for a University swimming pool.

Since the report in 1982 it has been a long and protracted process with many setbacks and delays. It therefore gives me great pleasure to stand here today and welcome the Report before you as a significant step forward to achieve some of the University’s aims.

Notwithstanding that the Report seeks to approve only Phase 1 of what is hoped will be a three-phase development, and that Phase 1 will not be fully fitted out, the building

will nevertheless make a landmark change to the provision of University facilities. It will also make a very positive contribution to the development of the West Cambridge site, bringing enhanced opportunities to the academic community there. It will also relate strongly to the proposed developments on the North West Cambridge site, it being a short distance to that area of the city.

At a time when students and their families face significantly increased fees, the Centre will provide opportunities for all undergraduates, graduates, members of staff and their families to access the most up-to-date exercise and sporting facilities in the country. Designed to meet the needs of the individual, the Centre's integrated facilities and services will offer comprehensive health-related lifestyle support, providing that essential balance necessary for a healthy, progressive world-class university. The Centre will provide training and competition facilities for nineteen of the University's sports clubs and essential integrated training facilities and services for all University and College teams.

In principle, funding agreed between the Colleges and the Sports Syndicate will ensure access for all undergraduate and postgraduate students. This will, to a degree, offset the inequitable provision of sports and exercise facilities found in the Colleges and bring a sense of fairness and value for money to the student population.

There will be many generations of alumni who will view the demise of the Physical Education and Health Centre at Fenner's with nostalgia and regret. The building has served the University well and those who have spent many hours training there hold it in great affection. The requirements of a world-class university are now well beyond its capacity and it is no longer fit for purpose. The proposed facilities within the Report will engage those alumni who have done so much to sustain the University's world-wide reputation for excellence in sport which will contribute significantly to the work of our Development and Alumni Relations offices.

There is widespread enthusiasm and anticipation within the student population and the wider city. The Sports Syndicate supports the recommendations within the Report as a major contribution to the education, health, and wellbeing of the University.

Professor G. R. EVANS (Emeritus Professor of Medieval Theology and Intellectual History):

Mr Deputy Vice-Chancellor, in a climate of financial pressures where the University needs to give careful thought to its priorities and the risks it wants to take with its resources, I would just like to juxtapose two quotations from this Report:

3. Neither benefactors nor any other sources of funding have been forthcoming and the project had not progressed further since 2002.

7. The Finance Committee have agreed to make a loan of £16m to fund the project . . . The £16m loan comprises: £10m from the University Chest; £5m underwritten by the Chest until a fundraising campaign raises a £5m benefaction; and a further £1m underwritten until the sale of the Physical Education Centre building at Fenner's is completed.

This sale is expected to realize about £1m, but it cannot take place for some time.

*Report of the General Board, dated 6 July 2011, on the establishment of a Professorship of Medical Genetics and Genomic Medicine (Reporter, 2010–11, p. 997)*

No remarks were made on this Report.

*Report of the General Board, dated 6 July 2011, on the re-establishment of the Charles Darwin Professorship of Animal Embryology (Reporter, 2010–11, p. 998)*

No remarks were made on this Report.

*Report of the Board of Graduate Studies, dated 7 June 2011, on future arrangements for central consideration of Graduate Student matters (Reporter, 2010–11, p. 998)*

Mr N. M. MACLAREN (University Computing Service): Deputy Vice-Chancellor, this is a truly startling Report. Despite its anodyne title, it appears to be a proposal to change the Board of Graduate Studies from being a Board under the supervision of the Council to being a wholly-controlled sub-committee of the General Board. That is, in itself, a very plausible rationalization, but this Report has chosen a very strange way to go about it.

At present, the Board of Graduate Studies has the Vice-Chancellor or deputy as Chairman, and ten other members, four of which are appointed by the Council and four by the General Board, and reports to the Council. This Report proposes passing over its policy-making responsibilities to the General Board, but it also proposes that its chairman and six of its eight members would be appointed by the General Board, none would be appointed by the Council, and it would report primarily to the General Board. Interestingly, the Council's own web pages state that the last is already the case; see: <http://raven.intranet.admin.cam.ac.uk/committee/council/chart.aspx>.

That would make it a major anomaly among the Boards and Syndicates mentioned in Ordinances, none of which are of comparable nature, and positively bizarre where it is mentioned in Statutes. Would it not be functionally equivalent and very much simpler to transfer the responsibilities of the Board of Graduate Studies to the General Board, to manage as it thinks fit?

Even more mysteriously, I can find nothing in the Council's web pages to indicate that this Report was shown to the Council in advance. The Council is the principal executive body of the University – surely a proposal of this nature deserves execution by the Council?

Professor G. R. EVANS (Emeritus Professor of Medieval Theology and Intellectual History):

Mr Deputy Vice-Chancellor, those of us with long memories will remember that the extent of the powers of the General Board has always been a matter of concern. It used to be said that the elected Council was putty in its hands. To give the General Board the work of the Board of Graduate Studies is not a mere tidying-up exercise.

When I read a Report, I frequently find myself asking where the power will be moving to if its recommendations are accepted. The proposal is that 'matters of policy relating to Graduate Students and the qualifications for which they may be registered should be transferred from the Board to the General Board'. That is the big stuff, as listed in the Report. The Board of Graduate Studies will be left with the details, 'individual student cases' and 'operational matters'. Perhaps that is what BOGS truly

wants, but it will reduce its influence considerably in the institutional hierarchy.

On the face of it, this is a common sense proposal but one is bound to ask what the reality will be. Is this going to work better for graduate students than the present system? In a hierarchy of committees, on one committee, commonly one officer, does the 'real work' and the ones above tend to approve the proposals which emerge without much challenge. The Board of Graduate Studies has long depended for its effective working on a series of excellent Secretaries. It is proposed that the General Board should now receive proposals affecting graduate students through the Education Committee. But the Education Committee already has a lot on its plate. Who, and through what mechanisms, is really going to determine the way forward for graduate studies at Cambridge, at a time when this is academically and politically a very sensitive question?

It is good to see that review of procedures affecting students is planned but given the uncertainties about patterns of student complaint, which may be opened up by the proposed changes to higher education funding, and which are adumbrated both in the White Paper and in the BIS Technical Consultation, these may need some radical rethinking.

An annual report will be made to the Board and the General Board's Education Committee providing data on the number and types of complaint and on cases considered by the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education, and drawing out issues of general applicability that require attention by the bodies concerned with graduate education.

This is a laudable aspiration, but short of the OIA, what are the mechanisms for determining for statistical purposes when a complaint is a complaint? Complaints do not always enter the formal process, where they can be counted.

I had reached this point in drafting this speech when I happened to glance at the text of the review of the UAS, to which a link is provided in the *Reporter*. I see there that:

The Staff and Student Services section of the UAS strategy is currently being implemented methodically as a scheduled programme . . . starting with student services. This programme has an emphasis on postgraduate student administration, as undergraduate administration is largely a matter for the colleges and there is a need to rectify disparities in service for postgraduates. The MISD Business Process Improvement Team has been deployed to good effect by the Head of Student Operations, thus far mapping 50% of some 2000 processes, to identify inefficient areas most in need of reform. The intention is to create a Student Registry with adjacent comprehensive Graduate Administration, including links to other services e.g. Counselling, Disability where discrete locations are more appropriate. The programme will aim to prioritise student and staff needs over organisational neatness, mindful that core operations must continue whilst integration progresses.<sup>1</sup>

Will the Council be so kind as to explain where this fits into the jigsaw puzzle of the changes proposed in this Report? Clarity is important, not least to the students who will need to know where to go about what if they have a problem.

<sup>1</sup> <http://raven.intranet.admin.cam.ac.uk/committee/council/Council%20Meeting/2011/2011-09-26%20-%2026%20Sep%202011/Item%20C3%20UAS%20review%20report.pdf>

*Sixteenth Report of the Board of Scrutiny, dated 24 June 2011 (Reporter, 2010–11, p. 1061)*

The Revd J. L. CADDICK (Emmanuel College):  
Mr Deputy Vice-Chancellor, I speak as an elected member of the Board to commend this Sixteenth Report to the Regent House. Regents will have had a chance to read it. It deals, as is customary, with issues of finance, strategic planning, administration and governance, and also human resources issues. The issue to which the Board will certainly return in the coming year is that of research funding, which is so vital to the flourishing of the University. The Board, in common with the rest of the University, will watch with concern the impact of increased undergraduate fees on the working of the University and on the recruitment of undergraduates.

Before I sit down, I would like to put on record the Board's thanks to Professor Richard Bowring, the Master of Selwyn College, who has chaired it for the past year, and also our thanks for the tenacity and hard work of its retiring secretary, Ms Jamie Horsley, of the Department of Geography.

Mr N. M. MACLAREN (University Computing Service):  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the response of the Council to Recommendation 4 in its last Report stated that the Report on the North West Cambridge project (which was published on 12 January) would include financial and commercial assessments. In the event, it included only a proposal for the procedure, but this Report fails to note that. In response to my remarks of 25 January, the Council's Notice of 7 February stated that such assessments would be done before any proposal is brought forward. I assume they will be published when that has been done.

Dr S. J. COWLEY (Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics):  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor, to save the Board of Scrutiny looking into whether or not the Council had considered the Board of Graduate Studies Report, it was considered by the Business Committee on 11 July. So procedures have been followed.

Professor G. R. EVANS (Emeritus Professor of Medieval Theology and Intellectual History):  
Mr Deputy Vice-Chancellor, among the controversial episodes considered in the last Scrutiny Report and referred to again in this one, was a review of the attempt to make changes to Statute U.<sup>1</sup> Where confrontation becomes uncomfortable, the subtle strategist tiptoes round behind and makes adjustments whose consequences may go unnoticed by those protesting loudly at the front. I hope members of the Regent House have spotted certain proposals in the 'technical review' of the Statutes and Ordinances to which they have been invited to respond.<sup>2</sup> These include removing from Statute to Ordinance the very protections against redundancy most noisily under discussion during the Statute U reform saga, and also all the other detailed protections embodied in the Model Statute under Education Reform Act 1988 s.202, on which Statute U is based.

It is also proposed that in future only *some* Ordinances will in future to be deemed 'special' enough to be brought to the attention of the Regent House in a Report for Discussion. That needs careful watching. Is it alarmist to suggest that redundancy for academic staff could easily drop below the radar and never get reported on at all?



And there is recognition in the Report under *Human resources issues* that all is not well with the Senior Academic Promotions process. It may have been forgotten that this was moved ‘under the authority and responsibility of the General Board’ and out of the direct control of the Regent House a few years ago. I do not find it comforting to know that the General Board ‘consults with HR, which provides effective and reasonable practical advice in particular for managing the difficult circumstances surrounding the USL promotion route’. I would be happier to see a Report to the Regent House about these problems.

I was confirmed in my view that this might be wise when I read the criticisms of the efficiency of Human Resources in the review of the UAS:

Several of the respondents to the Committee’s call for evidence drew attention to problems with the processes overseen by HR, in particular the contracts section . . . the Committee noted the difficulties in maintaining sufficient and full communications between the administration and users, highlighted by this example.

And:

HR advice was often slow or disjointed.<sup>3</sup>

I am pleased to see that the Board has its eye on the ‘plans for developing international relationships with key partners throughout the world’ and that it recommends ‘that a comprehensive review of the University’s international activities be undertaken, that an international strategy be clearly articulated’. But missing from their list of *desiderata* is the most important question of all. Who has authority to bind the University of Cambridge in a partnership or collaborative agreement and to what? The dangers are obvious. LSE and the Gadaffi money come to mind.

In connection with the mention of Cambridge Assessment, I expect it has been realized that if the Government goes ahead with its proposals to allow non-teaching bodies to apply for degree-awarding powers, Cambridge Assessment would be well placed to do so? This could open up all sorts of income-generating opportunities (or a right can of worms) about the relationship of these new powers, held by Cambridge Assessment in its own right, to those held since the early thirteenth century when a body of Masters here established their own rules about the *gradus*.

Regretted in the Fifteenth Report was the flawed process by which the ugly Lift came to be installed in the fifteenth-century room now used as the Combination Room. As the present Report notes: ‘The University Combination Room has been closed and declared out of bounds for all on the grounds of security. This seems to have been done by administrative *fiat*.’ It is of course open again now, though ingress and egress is to be by Lift alone. I am surprised Elf and Safety will allow that. I noticed this morning that the red Globex Evacuation Chair requires two operators. What if the Lift breaks down and a body of people have to spend days occupying the Combination Room because they are not able to leave?

The present Report makes a constitutionally important point in this connection:

Why it is still closed is as much a mystery as why those members of the Regent House who created such an unholy and largely unproductive fuss about the infamous lift last year have remained silent.

That has prompted little comment lately, perhaps because the eye has not been regularly offended by it. But

silence, when there is something to speak about, *does* matter. Those who signed the plethora of amendments and Graces created during the spring and summer, which comprehensively failed in the ballots which took place in August, have not in the main been heard speaking in Discussions. You can send a flotilla of paper boats across a pond easily enough, but surely if an armada is really needed you have a duty to send out a properly-constructed fleet manned by sailors who actively climb the rigging and trim the sails and swab the decks. Keeping an Athenian democracy healthy does demand sustained effort, especially in this forum.

The outcome of these votes suggests that the Board was too sanguine when it signed this Report and sent it to the Council to be approved for publication, having included this note:

The Board . . . recognizes the tensions that self-governance entails, and is pleased to understand that the obvious breakdown of trust between the Regent House and the Council, which was discussed at length in the Fifteenth Report, has been a subject of debate by the Council. This is, in itself, a good sign.

The publication of the Cambridge response to the White Paper Consultation and the tenor of the Vice-Chancellor’s speech at the beginning of this academic year do, however, seem to bode well for this year.<sup>4</sup>

Finally, on these constitutional points, I am pleased to note that the Board of Scrutiny expresses concerns in this Report about the potential for confusing the historical record in the move to an electronic *Reporter*. It asks that the policy of ‘moving control of the material away from the centre to the Faculties is very carefully monitored’. I trust it will be, and that the Board will scrutinize what happens and report next year.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/2009-10/weekly/6196/section6.shtml#heading2-33>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/2010-11/weekly/6233/6233.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <http://raven.intranet.admin.cam.ac.uk/committee/council/Council%20Meeting/2011/2011-09-26%20-%2026%20Sep%202011/Item%20C3%20UAS%20review%20report.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://news.admin.cam.ac.uk/news/2011/09/30/university-response-to-he-white-paper/> and <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/reporter/2011-12/weekly/6237/section8.shtml>

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## COLLEGE NOTICES

### Vacancies

*Wolfson College*: Non-Stipendiary Junior Research Fellowships 2012; without limit of subject; tenable for one year from 1 October 2012 and renewable; closing date: midnight, 12 December 2011; further details: <http://www.wolfson.cam.ac.uk/applying/jrf/>

*Churchill College, Fitzwilliam College, Murray Edwards College, Selwyn College, and Trinity Hall*: Twelve Junior Research Fellowships, normally tenable for three years from 1 October 2012. Closing date: Sunday, 20 November 2011. Further particulars and registration details are available at the JRF Joint Application Scheme website: <http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/applying/fellows/jrf/>.

## Events

### Murray Edwards College

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Memorial Service for the late Christopher Stevenson (see *Reporter*, 2010–11, p. 1151) will take place at the Church of Our Lady and English Martyrs, Hills Road, Cambridge, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 12 November 2011.

Tea will be served at Murray Edwards College after the Service. It is essential that anyone wishing to come to the tea afterwards should please notify the College by emailing [alumnae@murrayedwards.co.uk](mailto:alumnae@murrayedwards.co.uk) no later than Monday, 7 November 2011.

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## SOCIETIES, ETC.

### Antiquarian Society

The Ladds Lecture will take place on Thursday, 3 November, at 7.30 p.m. at Huntingdon Methodist Church Hall. The next Society lecture will take place on Monday, 7 November, at 6 p.m. in the Law Faculty Building, West Road.

Further details of both lectures are available at <http://www.camantsoc.org/events.html>.

## Philosophical Society

The Society's next lecture will take place on Monday, 24 October, at 5.30 p.m. in the Bristol-Myers Squibb Lecture Theatre, Department of Chemistry, Lensfield Road. Further details are available at <http://www.cambridgephilosophicalsociety.org/lectures.shtml>.

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## EXTERNAL NOTICES

### Oxford Notices

*Department of Economics*: Nuffield Professorship of Economics; closing date: 21 November 2011; further particulars: [http://www.ox.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_university/jobs/fp/](http://www.ox.ac.uk/about_the_university/jobs/fp/)

### Centre for the Study of Muslim–Jewish Relations

A seminar given by the Centre's Visiting Fellow will take place on Wednesday, 19 October 2011, at 5 p.m. in the Old Common Room, Wesley House, Jesus Lane. Further details can be found at <http://www.woolf.cam.ac.uk/cmjr>.

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