

Glasgow Caledonian University New York College

Minutes of the GCNYU Board Meeting held on 14th September at 4pm via Online Conferencing Facilities

Present: Gordon Jack (Chair), Professor Ann Priest, Elinor Tatum, Johnnie Walker, Sylvie Freund-Pickavance, Daniel Bena, Professor James Miller, Professor Pamela Gillies

In attendance: Dr Jacqueline LeBlanc (VP GCNYC)
Kea Horvers (Secretary)

Apologies: Laura Becking, Iain Kerr

1. Declaration of Board members

1.1 This Declaration of Board members list was not circulated at this meeting. However, it has been circulated at previous meetings. The Chair confirmed that no further declarations had been received.

2. The Self-Study Report for submission to Middle States

2.1 The Board noted a presentation given by the VP GCNYC on the Self-Study Report for submission to Middle States Commission for Higher Education (MSCHE) documents. The purpose of this report is to enable GCNYC to evaluate to what extent the College has fulfilled Middle State's standards for full accreditation. As part of best practice, the Board should be involved in the compilation of this report.

2.2 The Board commended the report as impressive, detailed, comprehensive, and informative, enabling trustees to understand in more detail how GCNYC responds to staff and students' feedback.

2.3 Much of the design of the MSCHE report is prescribed and data needs to be presented within set confines. Guidance from MS requires detail to be placed within appendices. The appendices are compiled as part of the evidence inventory. Further appendices will be collated and include in the final submission. It was suggested an Executive Summary be added, that substantive, tangible, quantifiable and achievable goals be included, and that the report be checked for any unnecessary duplication. The VP GCNYC appreciated comments received from Board members both in advance and at the meeting and warmly welcomed any further submissions which members might wish to send directly to her.

3. Middle States Evaluation Team visit

3.1 The MSCHE evaluation team will 'visit' the GCNYC Campus on from Sunday 11 until Wednesday 14 April 2021. The evaluation team will meet alone with groups of students, alumni and faculty. Board members would be assigned responsibility for different areas contained within the report and asked to focus on specific standards as part of the evaluation process.

3.2 Since GCNYC applied for accreditation MSCHE have introduced a reduced set of overall standards. GCU will be one of the first colleges to be scrutinised under these standards.

3.3 On 22 October the VP GCNYC and other Board members will meet with Dr De Marco, the MSCHE evaluation team lead to discuss the full visit and any matters that should be addressed in

advance. The VP GCNYC will report back to the board once she has received any further advice from the visiting team.

4. Report on Student Recruitment

- 4.1 The VP GCNYC presented a recruitment update report on Carnegie Dartletts' (CD) inputs. At present, it is too early to anticipate the effect of the Covid pandemic on student numbers. The Board requested regular updates be provided on CD's progress.
- 4.2 A list of useful recommendations for the improvement of enrolment and marketing processes were provided by CD and GCNYC is committed to implementing these.
- 4.3 In Trimester A, a lone student was recruited to a specific programme. However, as this student attended classes alongside a continuing cadre of students, no extra costs were incurred by GCNYC.
- 4.4 There has been a change in the content of the Sustainable Fashion Master's degree which has been submitted for approval by the State.
- 4.5 It was agreed that any interesting GCU events -such as the recent Climate Justice event hosted by Dr Mary Robinson should be made available for viewing via all GCU platforms. Members of the public accessing these events should also be alerted to the range of programmes available to study at GCNYC.

5. Contribution to strategy

- 5.1 Board members had welcomed the recent opportunities to engage with discussions regarding development and looked forward to contributing to strategic decisions.

6. Next meeting GCUNYC Board meeting

- 6.2 The next GCUNYC Board meeting is scheduled for Friday 23 October 2020.