

AQUINAS COLLEGE

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Time: 4.30pm  
Venue: The College

GOVERNORS PRESENT

Dr P Beatty, Mr L Byrne, Mrs B Donovan, Mr J Horan and Dr A Smith.

Mr L Byrne in the Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D Pearson           Principal  
Mr E Moore           Vice Principal

1.     APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Ms C Calverley, Mr B Hickey, and Mrs E Rice.

2.     DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Governors and Staff were asked to declare any interest, which they may have in any of the items on the Agenda for this meeting. No interests were declared.

3.     MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2015 were agreed as a correct record.

4.     MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Student Destinations – Minute 5

Dr Beatty raised the issue of unconditional offers being made by some universities. Mr Pearson advised Governors that with the introduction of Linear A levels offers may be made on predicted grades. However, it will depend on the subjects and particular universities. It is understood that Sheffield Hallam accepted grade C and D for Law.

5.     ADMISSIONS 2015/2016

Mr Pearson advised Governors that the Welcome days had been well attended. On the first day 528 attended out of 744 and on the second day 521 attended out of 750, giving a total of 1049 attending. Another day had been arranged for 37 students. There were 67 students who were unable to attend. Out of 1163 students, 1100 students had either collected an offer letter or one had been sent to them. Mr Pearson reminded Governors that the minimum target number for September 2015 was 2050 students.

The number of students in the Upper 6 would be around 1016 moving from the Lower 6, 24 Pathway students and 1099 in Lower 6, giving a total of 2139 students. Mr Pearson felt that the

worst case scenario would be that that college had 2060 students and the best case scenario would be that there were 2135 students. An estimate of 43 students would have left by the census date. These figures are based on 5 year's data. Mr Pearson reminded Governors that the college would be funded for 2074 students for 2015/2016 and that it is important that the college does not under-recruit. In preparing the budget for 2015/2016 the two year development plan assumes a growth of 20 students each year.

On the waiting list there were 21 late category 1-4 students and 20 category 5 students. Mr Moore advised Governors that some students had a good reason for their application being late. After a full discussion it was agreed that a place be offered to all the students in category 1 – 4.

In response to a question from Mr Horan concerning the 13 students who were shown as having appealed Mr Pearson said that they had asked for their application to be re-considered, they were not appeals in the strictest sense.

RESOLVED: That the above strategies be approved.

#### 7. ANALYSIS OF STUDENT WITHDRAWALS

Mr Moore circulated a revised paper which gave details of the number students who had withdrawn from Aquinas during the 2014/2015 academic year. The analysis showed that that there were 92 early leavers compared with 118 last year.

Mr Moore advised Governors that the college will try to ensure that student are on the right course for them. The majority of the early leavers were from Lower 6.

The breakdown on the reasons for leaving early were as follows;

Full Time Education or Training	44
Further Education	15
Higher Education	1
Not In Education or Employment	3
Others Including Gap Year and Volunteering	19
Part Time Employment	2
Unemployed	1
Unknown	7

The Governors noted the paper and thanked Mr Moore for the informative report.

#### 8. CURRICULUM ISSUES

Mr Pearson advised Governors that a new course of Photography would be introduced from September 2015 as an option in Fine Art. It is anticipated that the course will be popular but it is hoped to limit it to 1 or 2 classes. Dr Smith asked if students would be able to use a dark room. Mr Pearson replied that it would be an option and that the graphic room had enough computing facilities to offer the course digitally.

A Btech in Health and Social Care had been considered but it had been decided not to offer the course. It will probably be offered for 2016/2017.

#### 9. PUBLICITY

Mr Moore reported that School Liaison and Marketing Group had been established within the college would be looking at a new prospectus for September 2016.

As a result of a Denial of Service attack on the website, the hosting of the website has changed. The matter had also been reported to the Police.

It was hoped that the website would be re-designed for September 2015 and Mr Moore indicated that a full report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

Mr Moore advised Governors that colleagues have been attached to certain schools where the number of students coming to the college has dropped i.e. Kingsway, Priestnall and St James. In addition there is a promotional video customised for each school.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

This was the last meeting that of the General Purposes Committee which Mrs Donovan (Parent Governor) would be attending. The Governors thanked Mrs Donovan for her contribution to the meetings and to the college and wished her every success for the future.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13 October 2015 at 4.30pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

Date: 6 July 2015  
Time: 4.30pm  
Venue: The College

### GOVERNORS PRESENT

Dr P Beatty, Mr L Byrne, Mrs B Donovan, Mr J Horan and Dr A Smith.

Mr L Byrne in the Chair

### IN ATTENDANCE

Mr D Pearson           Principal  
Mr E Moore            Vice Principal

#### 1.     APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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#### 2.     DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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#### 3.     MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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#### 4.     MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising that were not covered by the Agenda.

#### 5.     EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

Mr Pearson advised Governors that the Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) was now up and running with representatives from the three teaching associations plus a representative for non members. There had been two meetings recently because of the number of issues to discuss.

Mr Pearson advised Governors that a number of staff were leaving at the end of the academic year. Particular reference was made to Jane Hopcroft who was leaving to take up a post as Assistant Principal at Connell College, Eric Green who was retiring after 12 years in Pathways and Sue Snelson who was retiring after 21 years at the college. Governors were invited to celebrate their contribution to the college at the end of term celebrations on Friday 10 July 2015.

#### 6.     APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRINCIPAL

Mr Pearson reminded Governors that the Chairperson would be drawing up a timetable for the appointment of a Vice Principal to replace Eddie Moore.

#### 7.     DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13 October 2015 at 4.30pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Date \_\_\_\_\_