

RAIUL SGA STUDENT STAFF FORUM

Monday, 27 January 2020 – 6PM

Forum Minutes

1. Announcement from Phil Deans

- 1.1 A lot has been going on in the 6-8 weeks. Lots of speculation around the internet.
- 1.2 Uni was too dependent on Sir Cyril Taylor's donation. Change in government regulations forced us to have secure funding for the next 3-5 years (viability + sustainability).
- 1.3 Board of Trustees is prudent and conscious and therefore didn't have an intake in Spring 2020. The rest is business as usual. At the moment we are open for fall intake 2020.
- 1.4 Absolute worst-case scenario Richmond can transfer out student + advise them on where to continue their studies.

2 Q&A

- 2.1 President Appointment: Before making decisions over Presidency, Board of Trustees is looking to secure a partnership and the future of the university.
- 2.2 US Degree: Getting a US degree would depend on where you are going. Students are encouraged to make their own choices on where they'd like to study.
- 2.3 Transfer credits: 75 US credits can be transferred to a US institution. UK universities are more different, as the transfer criteria depends on the receiving institution. We are expecting some flexibility from our partner universities and universities in London we are in contact with.
- 2.4 Lack of communication: university was looking to solve the problem before sending out official statements. University is now in contact with a Communications counsellor.
- 2.5 Timeframe: worst case scenario at the end of this academic year. There will be definitely be more news before then.
- 2.6 Lack of transparency: issues about finances and possible partnerships are confidential for legal and commercial reasons. There isn't a lot of information that can be spread at the moment.
- 2.7 Alumni Facebook group: emergence of group has caused insecurity. University is not going to get engaged in the rumours spread by the alumni on Facebook.
- 2.8 Study abroad uncertainty for next Fall: not too certain as of yet. Transcripts however are available and protected. Richmond is keeping in contact with their partners and they have informed them of the current situation.

- 2.9 Would the Student body drop significantly even if university doesn't close? There haven't been many people wanting to transfer. Therefore it isn't a problem as of now.
- 2.10 Fall graduates: provisions have been made for extra summer classes. University is NOT expecting students who need a few classes to graduate to pay for summer courses. There will be a tuition fee waiver.
- 2.11 Partnerships: there might be changes, others might require relocation. BoT don't want to change their visions. They want to keep the Liberal Arts system.
- 2.12 Transferring: Prudent thing to do is keeping your options open. Universities are very keen to take students.
- 2.13 Visa sponsorships: university will put together a process in case of transfer.
- 2.14 Campus location: University will explore options for scholarships.
- 2.15 Minor isn't a standard option in the UK, they aren't guaranteed. But if they're in your area there might be transfer opportunity.
- 2.16 Catering in Kensington: there have been less plates in the Kensington canteen, as well as vegan options. This has been taken note of from Sodexo.
- 2.17 Communications: other options for communications through social media.
- 2.18 Wi-Fi has been patchy. There was a flood in the library during the break and IT are currently trying to fix it.
- 2.19 Questions and concerns about the current situation should be sent to support@richmond.ac.uk
- 2.20 Concerns about advising: contact Chelsea Pompadour.