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| Committee(s): | Date(s): |
| Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama | 17 November 2014 |
| Subject: Principal's General Report | Public |
| Report of: Principal | For information |
| <u>Summary</u> | |
| <p>This report updates the Board on a number of current issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards and Prizes • Admissions and Applications • Milton Court • Space Review • London Open House <p>Recommendation: that the Board receives the report and notes its contents.</p> | |

Main report

1 Awards and Prizes

Zuzanna Olbrys (MMus Harp 2014)

- won the harp place in the LPO Foyle Future Firsts competition, and first prize in the Polish National Duos Competition

Alexander Rider (MMus Harp 2014)

- won the audition for the Schleswig Holstein Summer Academy.

Marina Aldegauer (BMus Double Bass, student of Luis Cabrera)

- selected for the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment Ann and Peter Law experience scheme

Yolanda Bruno (Artist Diploma Violin)

- winner of the Grand Prize at the OSM (Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal) Standard Life Competition 2013; Winner of the Sylva Gelber Award

Michael Petrov (BMus Cello)

- selected for Echo Rising Stars 2014/15 concerts in major European venues; selected as YCAT Artist 2013

Pablo Hernán (BMus Violin) and Michael Petrov (BMus Cello)

- as members of Trio Isimsiz selected as YCAT Artists, 2013

Francesco Scelzo (MMus Guitar)

- 1st prize, Ivor Mairants Guitar Competition, London 2012

Jonathan Bloxham (MMus Cello)

- winner of the Royal Overseas League Chamber Music Prize as part of the Busch Ensemble

Ching Man Ho (MMus Harp)

- selected for the 2012 Schleswig Holstein Festival Orchestra

Daniel Mellor (MMus Violin)

- winner of the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition as part of Trio Rafale

Kornelia Radomska (BMus Violin)

- winner of the Gold Medal in the 3rd International Music Competition “Giovani Musicisti”

Rhodes Piano Trio

- winner of 2nd Prize in the Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition

Oliver Wass (BMus Harp)

- winner of the Gwenolyn Mason Cup at the 2012 Bromley Festival

2 Admissions and Applications

The admissions process this year has been exceptionally smooth, with a high proportion of on-line enrolments achieved before the start of term. The 31 October headcount figures were 970 enrolled (563 ug, 360 pg, and 47 other). The 1 November fte equivalence was 865.5 fte, 4.5 fte lower than budget, but with a £29.6k positive variance on tuition fee income. These numbers illustrate a growing proportion of part-time students in the School, a trend which is undoubtedly influenced by the impact of the new fee regime on postgraduate students.

Applications for admission in 2015 are still in train and at 3 November, undergraduate music applications were up 4% on last year and postgraduate applications were down 8% (54 applications). Potential postgraduate students who are in the system but have not paid their application fee are being chased. Music applications are being kept open in the expectation that further high-quality students will apply, as was the case last year. Drama applications are still open at a present give no cause for concern.

3 Milton Court

As at 3 November 2014, there were technically six snags remaining of the 6,098 that were formally identified at Practical Completion. In some cases Sir Robert McAlpine (SRM) are of the opinion that the remedies may make matters worse than the original snags. In other cases an issue has been identified as a snag by the architects because it doesn't comply with their drawings, but the issue isn't actually obvious to most people and isn't causing a problem. On the other hand, there are a few issues that have emerged as the building has been used that it would be expedient to address. The School, Heron and SRM are therefore now in discussion about the outstanding snags, with a view to agreeing a 'quid pro quo' on the most important issues in return for dropping the less important ones.

Actual defects discovered post completion are also reducing rapidly. The two most troublesome continue to be the heat in the fly tower and the leaking pavement lights.

Fly Tower: The solution to install fan coil units directly above the heat-sensitive automation control cabinets in the fly tower is being implemented. A full-scale trial is to be carried out on one cabinet in December to make sure that all aspects of the design are correct and that there are no acoustic issues arising, but there is a good level of confidence that this solution will work. Providing this trial is successful, installation of the remaining units and connection to the building's chilled water supply is likely to take place over the Easter vacation.

The total cost of this solution is estimated at £125,000. The Chamberlain is fully aware of the situation and is prepared for the possibility that some of these costs might fall to the City.

Pavement leaks: Following further meetings with The Highways Section of the Department of the Built Environment, the City Surveyors' Department and the Barbican Estates Office (BEO), it was agreed that the BEO would re-visit the issue of whether an alternate smoke extract system could be deployed in the car park areas so that all the offending pavement lights could be removed. After discussion with the City's Fire Officer, it has again been confirmed that the pavement lights serving the car park must remain. Conversations with Highways are now taking place to decide

how to take this forward. A comprehensive solution that waterproofs the whole pavement structure in this area will need to be designed, and which takes account of the need to re-instate at least half of the existing pavement lights. Once an effective solution has been agreed, Highways should be able to implement it without too much delay.

Again the Chamberlain is fully aware of the situation and of the likelihood that further costs will fall to the City.

Formal monitoring of all outstanding snags and defects continues to take place on a fortnightly basis at a meeting attended by the School, Heron, SRM, relevant sub-contractors, the quantity surveyor and contract administrator, the architects and other relevant members of the design team as appropriate.

4 Space Review

The senior management team has conducted a comprehensive review of space allocations and usage across the School, with three ends in view:

- to ensure that we are making the best use of the enlarged estate following the opening of Milton Court in September 2013
- to release the decant space at John Trundle Court, with subsequent annual savings in excess of £35,000 on rent and business rates
- to ensure that staff and students have regular access to all parts of the estate in the interests of preserving and enhancing the cross-disciplinary ethos of the School

In light of the review, which was supported by extensive usage statistics, it has been agreed to make some changes to space allocations in Milton Court and the Silk St building, and to encourage greater use of Milton Court by music staff and students. Not all of these changes will be wholly welcome to everyone, but they do support the three aims above. The principal moves have been agreed as follows:

- The Staff Room on level 3 of Milton Court will become a single, high-quality, social facility for all staff. A ‘short-stay’, drop-in, IT, print and copy facility, including kitchenette, will be created in room 145 at the Silk St building (previously used by drama staff) to support staff who are teaching in Silk St with only short periods between classes. These two facilities will supplement the social and catering facilities already provided in the two coffee bars, the Green Room and the lakeside Food Hall. The space vacated in the existing staff room at Silk St will be re-

allocated as office space for the Development team currently located in John Trundle Court.

- The quiet study room on level 2 of Milton Court is significantly under-used and will be consolidated with the large computer room on level 5, thus creating a single quiet study and computer space on level 5 available to all students. The study room will be re-allocated as office space for the Research and Knowledge Exchange team currently located in John Trundle Court.
- Seminar Room 2 on level 5 of Milton Court will become the new home for the Registry, including the QA staff. Teaching which cannot be accommodated in Seminar Room 1 will be re-allocated elsewhere across the campus. The existing Registry in Frobisher Crescent will be converted to create a number of 1:1 consultation rooms for Student Services.
- The wigs room on level 4 of Milton Court will be moved to the basement, in the room currently designated as an engineering workshop. The wigs room will be re-allocated as office space for the Head of Registry Services and Quality Assurance & Enhancement.
- The Vice-Principal & Director of Academic Affairs and Vice-Principal & Director of Drama will continue to share an office on level 3 of Milton Court until such time as separate offices can be identified.
- Meeting room facilities will be consolidated in the two meeting rooms on level 4 of Milton Court, thereby releasing the Board Room in Silk Street as additional office space for Junior Guildhall.
- The Director of External Affairs (to be appointed), Head of Marketing and Communications and three marketing staff will occupy the remaining offices at the north end of the east wing corridor on level 2 of Silk Street.
- Additional storage for IT will be created in the basement of Milton Court, in the room currently designated as a Music Librarian's office.
- The Trust Room on Frobisher Crescent will be returned to the Barbican Centre.

We believe that these and other, more minor, changes will result in a more efficient use of the entire estate and a better mix of activities across the component parts of the estate.

5 London Open House

The School opened Milton Court as part of the London Open House scheme this year. Over 300 visitors were received and 138 responses were collected. For over 80% of those responding, this was their first visit to Milton Court. 89% of those responding rated the tour 'excellent' and 8% 'good'. 64 new contact details were collected, 15

visitors requested information on the Guildhall Circle, 4 expressed interest in having Guildhall students perform at an event, and 16 requested a Prospectus. A sample of feedback comments is given below:

- *We were made to feel very welcome, thank you. Applying 2015 for Technical Theatre*
- *Awesome! I hope I can study here*
- *It was absolutely brilliant and fascinating. I will be applying to the acting course at Guildhall and feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to visit*
- *No specific reason attending - later opening encouraged me. Seriously the best delivered OH location! Visited 10 or so places - well presented, friendly, well-paced, informative tour. Well done!*
- *I've been a devotee of GSMD since 1982. Attended numerous events both at Silk St. and now the new Milton Court, so was interested to see the back working of the various venues.*
- *Live locally. Regular visitor to GSMD free recitals for years. Excited and interested in Milton Court development. Have already seen recital in the Hall. It was a good thing to be able to walk in on acting and performing rehearsals - seeing a working space*
- *Thank you, this is an amazing building! I studied architecture at university and also heard lots about this building*
- *A fascinating insight in to what goes on behind the glass walled streets of the city.*
- *Thorough tour by the Head of Guildhall - most appreciative that he led tours - really enjoyable*
- *Thank you to guide and students who were all so enthusiastic*
- *It would be more beneficial to see more rehearsals and talk to performing students as well as technical.*
- *Excellent to have the architect present*
- *Fabulous new facility- can't wait to come and see something here now*

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