

(President and Provost) Professor Lucie Clapp Professor David Coen Dr Andrew Gould Ms Nahid Majid Mr Mohammad Ali Mumtaz Ms Wahida Samie **Baroness Valentine** 

Mr Dominic Blakemore **Lord Clement-Jones** Dr Martin Fry Dr John Hurst Mr Simon Melliss (Treasurer) Ms Lindsay Nicholson Mr Philip Sturrock

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NUS National Union of Students MOOC massive open online course **OBL** 

Objectbased learning
(UCL) Public and Cultural Engagement
Quality Research Funding PACE

QΑ **RCUK** Research Councils UK

**REF** Research Excellence Framework

1 6 HFUHW DUthins Inhe Quinkg Woodsk place on the 190th DQQLYHUVDU\RIWKH VLJQDWXUH RI Settlement on 11 February 1826.

# **Preliminary Formal Business**

## 35 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

35.1 No interests were declared.

## 36 MINUTES

36.1 Approved: the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 November 2015 [Council Minutes 16-34, 2015-16], confirmed by Council and signed by the Chair.

## 37 MATTERS ARISING

#### 39F Innovations Fund

39F.1 The Provost drew attention to the excellent progress that had been made with the recent establishment of two innovations funds; the Technology Fund<sup>5</sup> and the Apollo Therapeutics Consortium<sup>6</sup>.

#### 39G Rent Strike

39G.1 A group of students resident at Max Rayne Hall had declared a rent strike. Their principal objection was to the rate of rent increase in recent years. 8 & / ¶ V Y L H Z Z D V that UCL rent had risen 40% since 2009 as against 48% across the UK sector. The Provost further noted that UCL had recently been commended in an NUS Unipol survey<sup>7</sup> for maintaining a high number of low-cost rooms. UCL did not make a profit from rental accommodation but needed to generate funds for reinvestment in its hall stock; there was a risk that if UCL was not permitted to charge rents at an appropriate level the private sector would take over, which would almost certainly result in significant rent increases. The Provost acknowledged a backlog in refurbishment of Student Residences, but noted that a plan was in place to address this, including an imminent £30m expenditure programme on Astor College.