



The Institute of Ismaili Studies

**Minutes of the Board of Governors  
Held on 4 February 2019 at the Aga Khan Centre  
Meeting No. 02/19**

**Governors Present:** Dr Shafik Sachedina  
Dr Mohamed Keshavjee  
Mr Naguib Kheraj  
Mr Zauhar Meghji

**Governors Absent:** Professor Afzal Ahmed  
Dr Aziz Esmail

**Quorum present:** Yes

**Others present:** Dr Farhad Daftary (permanent guest)  
Mrs Selina Ramji (permanent guest)  
Mr Aryn Kassim-Lakha (permanent guest) – by phone  
Mr Shams Vellani (permanent guest)

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Meeting was called to order at 3.00pm

Minutes of meeting no.1 held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 were approved with minor changes.

1. Conflicts of interest

There were no conflicts raised from matters to be discussed.

2. Operational Plan and Budget for 2019

2.1 The proposed operational plan and budget for 2019 was considered.

2.2 The paper requires further editing before it can be submitted to the Board of Trustees for the budget meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February.

3. Co-Director's Report

3.1 The Co-Director's report for January 2019 was considered.

3.2 The IIS' application with the Office for Students (OfS) was successful; this is a significant milestone in the life of the Institute.

3.3 Representatives from IIS and ISMC hosted a delegation from the Fondation de l'Islam de France (FIF) on 15<sup>th</sup> January which went well.

3.4 Prince Aly Mohammed Aga Khan visited IIS on 31<sup>st</sup> January to learn about our work.

3.5 The heads of departments of Finance and IT left the IIS in January and we have made interim appointments.

3.6 A short paper on the digital project in the Department of Curriculum Studies (DCS) will be presented for the BoG meeting in March.

- 3.7 Further information on the Aga Khan Library's digitisation project was requested.
- 3.8 As the Arkoun Archive project has come to completion, a report should be prepared for submission to the BoT.
4. Department of Graduate Studies (DGS) – Teaching Placement Certificate and proposal in memory of the late Mumtaz Mehboob  
Present: Dr Laila Halani and Abdul-Wahid Khan (Student Representative)
  - 4.1 The BoG noted that the design of the certificate should be consistent with other certificates
  - 4.2 The proposed recommendations to honour the memory of the late Mumtaz Mehboob were approved and should be implemented while STEP C13 are still in London.
5. Department of Academic Research and Publications: Central Asian Studies Unit (DARP CASU) – Impact analysis and collaboration note  
Present: Dr Hakim Elnazarov and Abdul-Wahid Khan (Student Representative)
  - 5.1 It was noted that the unit has a wide range of activities.
  - 5.2 The impact analysis section of the report needs further work in order to correctly capture the impact of our work in CASU. In addition, a methodology needs to be in place to assess the impact of translated publications in the field. The DARP Impact study could be used as a model.
  - 5.3 An updated report should be prepared for the June meeting.
  - 5.4 We should look at collaboration with academic and other institutions of learning in Central Asia and Russia systematically and with clear goals in mind.
6. Department of Academic Research and Publications: Constituency Studies Unit (DARP CSU) – Law in Islam
  - 6.1 The paper should be reworked as a concept note focussing on key principles and perspectives and should be no more than seven pages in length.
  - 6.2 Glossaries of key terms and individuals should be included.
  - 6.3 The revised paper should be brought back to the BoG.
7. Office for Students briefing paper
  - 7.1 The letter from the OfS confirming our registration was discussed. It was agreed that we should prepare an action tracker for the March meeting so that we can monitor progress on various requirements of the OfS.
  - 7.2 A list of OfS reportable matters should be shared with the BoG.
8. Any other business

None

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

*Selina K Ramji*  
*IIS Board Secretary*  
*February 2019*