



The Institute of Ismaili Studies

**Minutes of the Board of Governors  
Held on 2nd November 2020 on Zoom  
Meeting No. 11/20**

- Governors Present:** Dr Shafik Sachedina  
Professor Afzal Ahmed  
Dr Aziz Esmail  
Dr Mohamed Keshavjee  
Mr Naguib Kheraj  
Mr Zauhar Meghji
- Governors Absent:** None
- Quorum present:** Yes
- Others present:** Dr Farhad Daftary (permanent guest)  
Mr Aryn Kassim-Lakha (permanent guest)  
Mrs Selina Ramji (permanent guest)  
Mr Shams Vellani (permanent guest)  
Mr Hussain Jasani (invited guest for item two)  
Dr Laila Halani (invited guest for item five)  
Dr Zamira Dildorbekova (invited guest for item five)  
Ms Alisha Bardai (student rep invited for item five)  
Ms Anika Kabani (student rep invited for item five)
- Apologies:** None
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The meeting was called to order at 3.00pm.

*1. Conflicts of interest*

- a) There were no declarations of interest over and above the current standing list of interests notified to the Board.

*2. Co-Director's Report*

- a) The Co-Director's Report for November 2020 was noted.  
b) Governors inquired after the welfare of staff and students during this time.

*3. Department of Academic Research and Publications – Strategy for South Asian Studies*

- a) The paper was considered and guidance given on various aspects.  
b) A revised, shorter version of the paper should be prepared for submission to the Board of Trustees after review by the new Board of Governors.

*4. Draft handover and induction plan for the new Board of Governors*

- a) The governors endorsed the plan and confirmed their participation in the proposed handover plan. They requested for a list of commonly used acronyms to be developed and shared as part of the handover documentation.

- b) A virtual event will be organised immediately after the December Board of Governors meeting to commemorate the retirement of the Board, Dr Aziz Esmail and Shams Vellani. It was agreed that all staff and student representatives should be invited.

*5. Outstanding action points – review and way forward*

- a) A list of outstanding action points was considered and approved for handover to the new Board of Governors.

*6. Department of Graduate Studies – Teacher Development Plan*

- a) The proposal was considered and approved for further development.

*7. Any other business*

- a) The Governors sought feedback from the student representatives regarding arrangements and support from IIS in the context of COVID. The student representatives were appreciative of how IIS has supported them and facilitated continuity of the programmes. The student representatives were given an opportunity to provide any other feedback and were thanked for their contribution to the meeting.

*Selina K Ramji*  
*IIS Board Secretary*  
*2 November 2020*