

## 106<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

25th September 2021

## **THA Secretary's Report**

The 2020 AGM was hosted online from College on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September. The President, Roger McKinlay (1979), presented a proposal for the re-election of the existing Officers and Committee Members, including his own as President, with no announcement of retirements. The arguments in his paper were accepted by a majority. Later in the year Keval Shah (2012) resigned from the Committee because he had moved abroad. At least two vacancies on the Committee remain which we seek to fill.

Throughout the year Committee Members have kept in touch with each other and staff in the Alumni & Development Office. The Committee has held all of its three scheduled meetings online, enabling significant issues, one still unresolved, to be handled appropriately.

During this very difficult period, the thoughts of the THA have been with the students. We were glad of the opportunity to offer, and achieve, a £5000 challenge gift to the College's 'Give TogeTHer' campaign. Dennis Avery's generous endowment to the Association also enables us to fund THA Volunteering Awards, an important ongoing part of our engagement with, and encouragement of, our student community. The Awards support students undertaking projects of a humanitarian or community enhancing nature. Their access and scope have been widened to include postgraduate students and UK-based projects. Despite the uncertainties and restrictions imposed by Covid-19, the uptake has been good this year; all five applications for awards have been scrutinised, approved and funded. We look forward to the recipients' reports on their experiences in due course.

Live THA events have continued to be precluded by Covid-19 restrictions. However, we are looking forward to the regional dinner at Riddle's Court, Edinburgh on 13<sup>th</sup> November, which had been postponed from November 2020. Birmingham is one future venue under investigation, hopefully for 2022.

As always, we are indebted to all the staff in the Alumni & Development Office for the support they have maintained in a most unusual year.

David Billett