

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 30 September 2009 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, Registrar, Senior Lecturer, Senior Tutor, Dean of Research, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Dr C Laudet, Dr E O'Dell, Dr M Ó Siochrú, Professor J Wickham, Professor J Fitzpatrick, Dr V Kelly, Dr M Lyons, Dean of Health Sciences, Dr D Brennan, Professor M Radomski, Dr A O'Gara, Ms D Flynn, Professor G Whyte, Mr A Cooke, Ms M Furlong, Mr F Hughes, Mr A O'Callaghan, Mr N Timmon, Ms A Murphy.
<i>Apologies</i>	Dean of Graduate Studies, Dean of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Dr D O'Sullivan, Professor M McCarron, Secretary to the Scholars.
<i>In attendance</i>	Librarian, Secretary to the College, Academic Secretary, Interim Chief Operating Officer.

SECTION A

- CL/09-10/001 **Statutory Declaration** Those members attending Council for the first time made the statutory declaration.
- CL/09-10/002 **Council - Co-opted Member** The Council co-opted Professor G Whyte to membership of Council for the academic year 2009-2010.
- CL/09-10/003 **Minutes** The Minutes of the meeting of 24 June 2009 were approved and signed.
- CL/09-10/004 **Matters Arising from the Minutes** There were no matters arising.
- CL/09-10/005 **Provost's Report:** The Provost made a presentation to Council outlining the highlights of the academic year 2008-09 and a programme of work for Council for 2009-10. Trinity College's focus is on excellence and maintaining a balance between the humanities and sciences, and between research and teaching. Trinity's ambition is to remain in the top 50 THE (Times Higher Education-QS) world ranking of universities. The poor state of our public finances has put increasing pressure on the public services sector to produce more for less. The recent public sector employment embargo together with the recommendations of the 'An Bord Snip' report to further reduce public expenditure has created a climate of instability across the higher

education sector. There is a growing perception that research in the university sector is replacing teaching, and there is a strong push towards achieving rationalisation of academic programmes. The TCD/UCD Innovation Alliance established in 2008 will develop, among other things, greater inter-university cooperation and will leverage opportunities for knowledge transfer and commercialisation. An Innovation Taskforce has been appointed to advise the Government on its strategy for positioning Ireland as an international innovation hub and how to ensure that investment in science, technology and research translates into high-value jobs and sustainable economic growth.

The Provost drew Council's attention to the difficulties in maintaining quality across College's range of activities with annual reductions in core grant and the adverse impact of other external factors such as the public service employment moratorium. Key actions in 2008-09 to address risks include the establishment of the Planning Group, the initiation of a new resource allocation model and of a new strategic planning process, and the launch of the eStrategy programme and of the TCD/UCD Innovation Alliance. Major capital projects are underway including the Biosciences development, the Long Room Hub, and the refurbishment of on-campus residences. There has been good progress on establishing a Student Centre, and a tender was issued for the provision of additional student accommodation.

The Provost noted the range of policy decisions approved by Council in 2008-09, namely policies in respect of (i) student retention, (ii) access, (iii) undergraduate teaching by Professorial staff, (iv) devolution of student evaluation to School/Course Offices, (v) joint degree awards, (vi) introduction of up-skilling courses, (vii) review of committees of Council, and (viii) arrangements for the implementation of the new academic year structure.

Referring to undergraduate admissions 2009, the Provost noted that overall there is high acceptance rates across all courses. The CAO points level for the vast majority of courses have remained stable despite an increase in student numbers overall. Seven new undergraduate courses were launched this year and all of these have filled their quota. Noting concerns about duplication of programmes across the sector, the Provost proposed that in 2009-10 College should review its undergraduate and postgraduate course offerings and where possible begin to consolidate programmes. Referring to the decline in applications to engineering courses, he recommended a concerted effort to profile engineering at Trinity College, focusing on its distinctiveness and the range of career opportunities for graduates of engineering. The Provost also highlighted concerns about the decline in uptake of higher level mathematics, and felt that the university should take action to address this. He added that Trinity College should consider weighting higher level mathematics to take account of the syllabus workload and two three-hour examinations. He proposed that this matter be an item for discussion at a future meeting of Council.

The Provost informed Council of the status of the public sector employment control framework as well as developments in respect of the government's early retirement scheme. He noted the requirement to reduce staff numbers by three per cent (3%) on the 2008 figures, and the Board decision to defer staff promotions until issues in respect of the employment control framework are finalised. The Provost affirmed College's commitment to target new blood academic recruitment at junior level when the 3% reduction in head count is achieved. The Planning Group will bring forward a paper on staff recruitment in due course.

Turning to the agenda for Council for 2009-10, the Provost noted Council's role in overseeing (i) the implementation of policies approved in 2008-09, (ii) the

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implementation of relevant strategic objectives defined in the new Strategic Plan 2009-14, (iii) the development of the Academic Medical Centre and the TCD/UCD Innovation Alliance, (iv) quality review of Schools, (v) the consolidation of courses, (vi) the completion of the articulation of Learning Outcomes (Bologna), (vi) the establishment of a Foundation Programme for International Students, (vii) the development of Research Quality Metrics, (viii) the procurement of a new student administration system, and (ix) the implementation of a virtual learning environment. Referring to the research agenda, he noted developments in respect of the Programme for Research in Third-Level Institutions Cycle 5 and the European Research Council. He advised that College must be prepared for reduction in funding of the Government's Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation.

Finally, the Provost informed Council that he wishes to establish a 'Graduates' Network' to counter the negative impact of unemployment on recent graduates. It is important that College takes action to support recent and not so recent graduates, and this can be through inclusion in programmes in the TCD/UCD Academy, and access to the Library and to a range of academic programmes. He noted that he is in the process of appointing a small working group to assist him in developing this initiative.

Council thanked the Provost for a very comprehensive report and congratulated his firm but realistic approach to the employment control framework. The need to avoid government interference in the management of the university and to retain academic autonomy was stressed.

Following discussion on the presentation, Council approved the Provost's proposals that:

- (i) any engagement with the media on Council business should be through the Chair of Council;
- (ii) a campaign promoting engineering courses at Trinity College should be in place to target 2010-11 new applicants;
- (iii) the issue of weighting higher level mathematics should be considered;
- (iv) consolidation of courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels should be addressed.

CL/09-10/006 Draft Strategic Plan 2009-2014 The Draft Strategic Plan 2009-2014 was circulated with papers for the meeting. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer introduced this item noting the very extensive consultation process to-date, and invited Council to comment on the high level direction of the plan. Trinity College's vision is to be a university of global consequence and this vision fits its core purpose and direction. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer drew Council's attention to the core and enabling themes and their objectives and noted input from several College Officers in the drafting stages. The Plan's core themes are education, knowledge generation and transfer, student experience and engagement with society, and these are underpinned by administrative and support measures to enable the strategy. The main headlines include an increase of 15% in the student population by 2014, fostering an open innovation policy, greater external collaboration, and further promoting the student experience and engagement with society. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer stressed the distinction between a College Strategic Plan and individual School's strategic or operational plans. The College Strategic Plan sets out high level objectives, and Schools will define their objectives within this context. Similarly administrative and support areas will derive strategic or operational plans from the College Plan to underpin the strategic objectives for the coming five years.

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The Provost invited discussion on the Draft Plan advising Council members that the Draft has been in circulation for several months and requested high level comments and observations on its overall strategic direction. Council welcomed the Draft Strategic Plan and felt that it captures Trinity's distinctiveness and that on the whole the Plan is positive and balanced. While Council was very supportive of the tone of the Plan, some concern was expressed that perhaps some objectives may not be realised due to the downturn in the national and global economy. It was suggested a caveat should be included referencing possible limitations to fully realising the stated objectives as a result of the global economic crisis. Council commended the Plan's optimistic approach and the strong commitment to education. It was proposed that there should be an overt commitment in the Plan to reducing the staff:student ratio to 1:15 supported by a commitment to achieving greater diversification of funding streams. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer in response noted the strong commitment to diversifying funding and to achieving greater financial returns on existing assets in the section on Finance. The status of some of the Research Centres mentioned in the Plan was questioned, and a radical review of Centres was suggested. Council welcomed reference to a new policy on Intellectual Property and the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer commented that a new policy has been developed already and will be an item on the first meeting of the new Research Committee.

Council noted that a 15% increase in the student population will demand new lecture theatres to cater for larger classes. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer in response commented that in the consultation process Schools felt that more space for small group teaching was a priority. Referring to the increase in student numbers and the commitment to quality, Council noted the need to have adequate resources available to support staff implement and delivery many of the education and research objectives. In response to a concern, the Dean of Students confirmed that the Chapter on the Student Experience made explicit references to education interactions. The view was expressed that the Library should have more prominence in the Plan as it is not only a unique feature of Trinity, but is also central to attracting scholars. Responding to a comment on a Virtual Research Environment, the Vice Provost advised that reference to the Virtual Learning Environment had intended to include research and he undertook to reconsider this. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer confirmed in response to a concern, that the absence of a reference to Ireland in the research section was unintended and he undertook to redress this.

Concluding discussion on the Draft Strategic Plan, the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised that Trinity College's Strategic Plan would be a public document and stressed the importance of looking beyond the current economic crisis. Funding bodies and the public would be assessing the College's commitment to education and its contribution to economic recovery and development. The Provost on behalf of Council thanked the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer and all those involved for their input into the College's Strategic Plan 2009-2014.

CL/09-10/007 Policy on Good Research Practice A draft policy on good research practice, together with a record of the discussion on this item at the Research Committee meeting (actum RS/08-09/038) of 18th June 2009, was circulated with papers for the meeting. The Dean of Research introduced this item and provided an overview of the evolution of College Policy on Good Research Practice. At its meeting of the 20th November 2002 (actum 5/109) College adopted a policy on good research practice. This first policy document dealt almost exclusively with life sciences, and many of its provisions have been superseded by Irish legislation or government regulations in key areas. In light of this, the Research Committee in March 2009 requested the Dean of

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Research to review and update the policy. A working group with membership from across the three Faculties and key administrative and other academic staff was convened in April 2009. During a two month period the working group reviewed and redrafted the Policy on Good Research Practice and consulted Heads of School, Directors of Research, Faculty Deans, and Directors of Trinity Research Institutes. The material circulated as part of the consultation process highlighted proposed changes, and contained a specific note drawing attention to the Policy's provision for utility of human embryonic material. The Research Committee at its meeting of the 18th June 2009 (actum RS/08-09/038) agreed to recommend to Council the revised Policy on Good Research Practice.

Referring to specific provisions within the Policy, the Dean of Research noted that in reviewing the Policy the working group needed to ensure compliance with national legislation on relevant provisions. The revised Policy applies to all research conducted in or under the auspices of Trinity College Dublin, within or without the campus irrespective of where or who conducts it. The revised Policy makes explicit the issue of informed consent in human studies, particularly those involving children or vulnerable adults, and has updated the section on utility of animals in research to reflect best practice. Provision in respect of Genetically Modified Organisms research has been updated to reflect Irish legislation / regulation, and there is provision for the *utility* of embryonic stem cell lines in research in TCD within very explicit constraints.

The Dean of Research drew Council's attention to the new section on an Ethics Structure for College. The Policy recommends that the College Research Ethics Policy Group currently functioning as a standing subcommittee of the Research Committee should serve as the overarching institutional research ethics body mandated to ensure appropriate policy is in place governing all research conducted under the auspices of the College. This Group will *inter alia* ensure international compliance for funding and have ownership of College's research ethics policy. It is not, however, intended to be a review committee. The Group will define the ethics framework for College, approve the activity of units within that ethics policy framework, and will have final authority in matters of ethical conflict or dispute.

The Policy on Good Research Practice makes provision for dealing with units without review committees; for double jeopardy; and for reciprocity of approvals from other institutions. The Dean noted that the chapter on Research Integrity is largely unchanged, but under General Regulations the Policy makes it clear the actions of our researchers will not unfairly detract from the good name of the institution. The section on 'Conflict of Interest' includes a specific requirement for a Declaration of Interest document to be signed at the time of signing contracts. The section on 'Determination of Research Misconduct' was revised to align provisions with those of the University Calendar. The chapter on 'Good Publication Practice' now includes a specific recommendation on early determination of authorship. The chapter on 'Supervision of Research' was removed completely, and instead there is now a reference to College policy on this matter as issued from the Graduate Studies Office. The Data chapter was augmented through inclusion of a full appendix detailing researcher compliance issues pertaining to the Irish Data Protection Acts. In concluding the overview of the Policy, the Dean of Research thanked the working group for its achievement in developing the policy document for College.

The Provost thanked the Dean of Research for the overview on the Policy on Good Research Practice and invited comment from Council members. The view was expressed that it is no longer practical to store complex data in the classical fashion, and the need for a secure data repository that could provide clarity and transparency

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was stressed. It was suggested that this requirement should be within the scope of e-Strategy, and it was further suggested that an integrated High Performance Computing centre could be a primary repository for such data. Referring to a concern expressed about co-authorship where a student is involved, the Dean noted the section on 'Integrity' which refers to appropriation of another person's idea and also noted the reference to Plagiarism in the General Regulations of the University Calendar. In response to a query on research supervision, the Dean referred the speaker to the Dean of Graduate Studies on matters of supervision probity.

Council suggested that the College Research Ethics Group should have more than a supervisory role in highly sensitive and possibly controversial issues such as, for example, embryonic stem cell research. In such matters, it was argued that local ethic subcommittees based in or affiliated with Trinity College may not have the necessary expertise or have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the College. Referring to the reference in the Policy to stem cells derived from human embryos, it was felt that the text gives the impression that embryonic stem cell (ESC) research was operating in a legal vacuum. It was argued that it was premature for College to make a policy decision on this until such time as the constitutional status of in vitro embryos was clarified. In a judgment given on December 2006, the High Court decided that the three frozen embryos concerned in the case before it were not "unborn" as defined under the Constitution. The case has been appealed to the Supreme Court, whose judgment is expected soon. The Provost, in response, commented that if necessary the Policy on Good Research Practice would be changed to comply with the law of the land following the judgement of the Supreme Court on this case.

The view was expressed that permitting ESC research is a fundamental shift in policy. The Dean of Research explained that the driver for the policy was the growing use of induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells. Research on iPS cannot be validated and published without reference to embryonic stem cell experiments. While Trinity staff may not be directly involved in embryonic stem cells experiments, they are collaborating with staff in other institutions who are. It is the view of the Research Committee that a clear policy on stem cell research should be articulated to facilitate and protect researchers in this field. The Dean of Research in response to the extended discussion on this matter noted that the College enshrines the primacy of the scholar and that the new Research Policy recognises the role of the individual as central to its implementation, and in areas of controversy, morals relate to the individual and their personal beliefs whereas an ethical framework provides guidance for the group to which the individual belongs. This interpretative distinction was refuted by one member of Council.

Following a long discussion on the topic, Council noted the reservations of Professor Whyte who argued that embryonic stem cell research reflected a utilitarian view of the right to life that undermined the concept of the fundamental equality of each individual. Professor O'Moráin also noted his reservations with regard to the policy's provision on embryonic stem cell research.

Council approved the revised Policy on Good Research Practice noting Professor Whyte's and Professor O'Moráin's dissension in respect of the provision on embryonic stem cell research.

The Provost suggested that a separate open debate on embryonic stem cell research was necessary at College level, and thanked Council members for their engagement with this important matter.

CL/09-10/008 Quality

- (i) *Quality Review of the School of Histories and Humanities* A copy of the review report of the School of Histories and Humanities was circulated with papers for the meeting. The Provost introduced this item noting that in future the full School review report and responses from the School and the Faculty Dean will be presented to Council. Speaking to the review report, the Provost commented that the School of Histories and Humanities is considered to be a flagship of excellence and that the integration of several different departments and research centres into a single School has resulted in considerable benefits for both staff and students. The creation of the School has reduced unnecessary duplication of administration and has resulted in closer academic relations, making the ideal of a community of scholars to a large extent a reality. The School promotes interdisciplinary links between the various research centres. The review report, however, also highlights some of shortcomings such as the physical separation of the School's various constituents and inadequate lines of communication between the School and the Faculty and central administration.

Commenting on the research and scholarly activity of the School, the Reviewers report that most members of staff are research active and many of them are clearly producing scholarship that is internationally recognised. The Reviewers, however, bemoan the fact that due to time constraints they did not have the opportunity to read and assess a sample of research outputs. Referring to undergraduate programmes and teaching, the review report states that there is clear evidence of excellent undergraduate teaching in all disciplines within the School, and students are highly appreciative of the quality of teaching. With regard to postgraduate teaching, the Reviewers report that students warmly welcomed the role of the Director of Postgraduate Teaching and Learning as well as cross-school initiatives. The Reviewers found that many postgraduate students face serious financial problems, noting that the opportunity to undertake high quality research would be significantly improved with the award of even modest bursaries. Students are highly satisfied with the quality of supervision by the academic staff. The Reviewers commend the dedication and commitment of staff noting that the great majority clearly perform their responsibilities with selflessness and dedication. The Provost noted the response of the School to the review report, and invited comment from Council.

In discussing this item, Council heard that the School of Histories and Humanities was disappointed that the review team was unable to make an assessment of its research output especially in light of the resources and time spent at School level in preparing material for the review visit. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer noted that review teams always comprise leading academics in their respective field and that it was not possible to secure more than three working days of their time to devote to Trinity's quality programme. It was suggested that a review of the scope of the review process would be timely and such a review should consider how to incorporate an assessment of research within the process. In response to a concern about the nationality of the review team, the Provost confirmed that this matter has already been addressed by Council and the Quality Office. Schools nominate possible reviewers and new guidelines stipulate that nominations must comprise both a gender balance and a greater European and other

geographical spread. The Academic Secretary confirmed that all review teams are briefed on the Irish education and funding environment.

The Provost drew Council's attention to the specific recommendations of the review report and following consideration, Council approved the recommendations listed below.

- (a) In light of the College's strategy to increase postgraduate numbers, it is recommended that staffing levels should be reviewed in areas where staff are currently particularly overloaded (CGWS, Classics, History of Art, 19-20C Irish and British history).
- (b) Staff workloads should be reviewed to ensure an even balance of (undergraduate and postgraduate) teaching and to allow for appropriate levels of research activity associated with a research-intensive university. Best practice would include the institution of research days free of teaching and a cycle of sabbaticals of at least one term every four years for all research-active staff. A more formal mentoring system for probationary staff is recommended.
- (c) The Centre for Gender and Women's Studies should be further supported by the School and College, given the highly valued combination of resources and research it produces. It is recommended that another academic position be made available to support the current Director as a matter of urgency, and that the successor to the current Director be sought from any relevant discipline rather than necessarily from History.
- (d) The School should develop a research strategy and funding plan which allows for strategic focus and long-term calculations. In addition, EU funding opportunities could be more fully exploited.
- (e) The Long Room Hub is an important initiative, but there remain concerns over sustainability and focus. It is suggested that this facility could do more to encourage internal research leave and grant support as well as steering interdisciplinary research.
- (f) Language teaching (ancient and modern), which is currently a strength, requires continued support and maintenance. This provision is regarded as essential to graduate study and further recruitment. Foreign-language accessions by the Library should be enhanced as far as possible.
- (g) CAPSL course surveys should function as a review tool, and be used more consistently in sophister years. In the Panel's view this process should be mandatory.
- (h) There is a need for consistency across the School in the practice of returning coursework at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
- (i) The panel suggests that the School consider introduction of peer observation as a way of sharing good practice in teaching and learning, ensuring that it is not directly related to appraisal or promotion structures.
- (j) More resources should be made available to support staffing and reflect the inevitably more complex structure of a multi-disciplinary School.
- (k) Maintenance of the website at College and School levels requires some review: there needs to be clarification about where responsibility to maintain and update information lies. Appointment of a Communications Officer from among existing staff could help to deliver this, as well as to field student queries about course details and enhance the profile of school events.

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- (l) The university's course-approval process should be rendered less unwieldy, and that more incentives to initiate new postgraduate programmes be provided.
- (m) The College's ARAM model needs to be sensitive to the specific Arts context, and its processes need to be more clearly outlined to staff.

Council also approved the Provost's recommendations as follows:

- (n) The School of Histories and Humanities working closely with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, and other relevant Academic Officers, should consider the detailed recommendations of the Review Report and draw up an implementation plan¹ for Council approval.
- (o) College should ensure adequate support and structures for:
 1. implementing an online student evaluation system,
 2. further developing a Virtual Learning Environment, and
 3. developing and implementing academic workload models.
- (p) College and the Faculty should assess and address barriers to enabling integration and cohesion of Schools formed from two or more former Departments.

In concluding discussion on this item, the Provost drew Council's attention to a specific observation of the review team in respect of degree classification at Trinity College. The Reviewers state that the '*College and School should be aware that the current range of degree classification is low by UK standards.*' The Provost noted that this is becoming a common observation of review reports in recent years and expressed concern that grade inflation may be becoming an accepted trend in higher education. He invited the Academic Secretary to prepare a discussion paper on this matter for a future meeting of Council.

- (ii) **Implementation Plans:** Implementation plans for the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, and the School of Law were circulated. Referring to these Plans, the Provost commended Schools for their achievements in addressing recommendations of their respective quality review reports noting that Council would receive a progress report in twelve months time. He drew Council's attention in particular to the concerns of the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies about the possible impact that the introduction of a research management system would have on 'the status and importance of the lone researcher' in the School's discipline areas. The Provost stressed the fundamental importance of self directed research, but added that the concept of the lone scholar should not be in contradiction to scholars working together within and across disciplines.

CL/09-10/009 Courses delivered outside the two semesters in the new academic year A memorandum from the Academic Secretary dated 21 September 2009 was circulated. The Academic Secretary introduced this item and noted that Council policy states that university examinations should normally be confined to the University annual and supplemental examination periods as published in the Almanack. Any deviation from

¹ See *Procedures and Protocol for Quality Review of Schools 2008/09* at <http://www.tcd.ie/vp-cao/qu/qopdf/adrpack2.pdf>

these regulations will require Council approval. She invited Council to consider the proposals from the School of Medicine and the School of Engineering to conduct examinations outside the published examination period. She also informed Council that a late request was received from the School of English to conduct examinations outside the annual examination period.

Council considered and approved the requests:

- (i) from the School of Medicine to hold examinations for Senior Freshman students taking modules (i) Research Methods and (ii) Social and Personality Psychology as part of the BSc. in Occupational Therapy in weeks 33 or 34;
- (ii) from the School Engineering to hold examinations for students taking the MSc in Civil Engineering, Code TRS66 and TRS67, during weeks 32, 33 and 34;
- (iii) from the School of English to hold examinations in week 16 for students taking the module on language and palaeography as part of the M.Phil in Medieval Language, Literature and Culture.

Council heard that as part of the discussions to introduce semesterisation, it was agreed that with the exception of one-term visiting students there would not be any end of term examinations for undergraduate courses. The Provost recommended that this policy should not be changed but that it should be reviewed at the end of the academic year 2012/13. In light of this recommendation, Council did not approve the request from the School of Medicine to hold an end of term examination in week 16 for Senior Freshman students taking the module 'Conditions in Occupational Therapy' as part of the BSc. in Occupational Therapy.

CL/09-10/010 Chairs The Secretary advised Council that the preferred candidates for the Chair of Medieval and Renaissance Literature (1977) and the Chair of Theology (1980) had declined to take up the positions offered. The Council noted that discussions with the second appointable candidate for the former position are ongoing and as there was no second appointable candidate for the Chair of Theology, it would remain vacant for the present.

CL/09-10/011 Academic Appeals Committee - Meeting of 10 July 2009 The Council noted the minutes of the meeting of the Academic Appeals Committee from its meeting of 10 July 2009, as circulated and approved the Committee's recommendations.

CL/09-10/012 Any Other Urgent Business There was no other business.

SECTION B

CL/09-10/013 Student Services Committee The Council noted and approved the recommendations as set out in the minutes of the Student Services Committee from its meeting of 26 May 2009 and a draft minute on the Strategic Plan from its meeting of 22 September 2009, which had been circulated.

SECTION C

CL/09-10/014 Administrative Procedures - 13 July to 30 August 2009 The Council noted memorandum from the Secretary to the College, circulated, dated 7 September 2009. Nominations for appointment which had been approved are set out in Appendix 1 to this minute.

CL/09-10/015 University Council - Membership

- (i) **Research Staff** The Council noted the resignation of Dr F Walsh with effect from 21 September 2009 (Dr Walsh had replaced Dr K Johnson whose term of office was from 2008-2010).
- (ii) **Council Membership 2009-2010** The Council noted the list of members, as circulated.

CL/09-10/016 Higher Degrees—Reports of Examiners The Council noted and approved the reports of examiners on candidates for higher degrees, approved by the sub-committee of Board and Council on 24 June 2009 and noted by Board on 8 July 2009.

- (i) **Professional Higher Degrees by Research Alone**

MD Jennifer Catherine Donnelly; Fiona Lyons.

- (ii) **Higher Degrees by Research Alone**

PhD Daniele Baranzini; Emer Begley; Corinna Brereton; Sharon Bryan; Caroline Byrne; Ciaran Gerard Carolan; Patricia Cronin; Kieran Finbarr Cullen; Anke Christiane Dietzsch; Sarah-Jane Fennell; John Gilbert; Ciara Mary Greene; Éadaoin Griffin; Nicholas Johnson; Karen Maeve Keogh; Denise Khan; Orla Lahart; Éamonn Linehan; Toshinaro Longchar; Elaina Maginn; Kathryn McGarry; Savvas Neocleous; Caroline Marijke Nienhuis; Andrew Norris; Pádraig Ó Duibhir; Niall David O’Luanaigh; Nathan Reilly; Ivan Rungger; Jennifer Walsh; Kevin Walsh.

MSc Peter Kearney; Cathal Kennedy.

MLitt Francesca Adele Brindisi; Aoife Christina Fitzgerald.

CL/09-10/017 School of Dental Science - Distinction Grade for Diplomas in Dental Nursing and National Dental Nurse Training Programme of Ireland The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Pro-Dean of the Dublin Dental School and Hospital, circulated, dated 26 August 2009.

CL/09-10/018 School of Education - Continuing Professional Development - Diploma Name Change The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Head of the School of Education, circulated, dated 19 August 2009.

CL/09-10/019 Directorships 2009-2011 The Council noted and approved the following nominations:

- (i) **School of Business**

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- Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate): Dr J Quinn;
- Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate): Dr M Fellenz.
- (ii) **School of Mathematics**
Director of Research: Dr C Houghton.

CL/09-10/020 **Headship of Discipline - Hispanic Studies** The Council noted and approved the nomination of Dr C Cosgrove (2009-2012).

CL/09-10/021 **Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience - Officers** The Council noted and approved the following appointments:

Director	Professor S O'Mara
Deputy Director	Professor R Byrne
Director of Development	(discontinued)

CL/09-10/022 **Equality Committee - Council Representative** The Council noted and approved the nomination of Dr M Ó Siochrú as the Council's representative on the Equality Committee.

CL/09-10/023 **Labour Market Activation Courses** The Council noted that the following courses were approved for delivery in 2009-2010 by the Dean of Graduate Studies, as circulated, in response to the Government's call for Labour Market Activation Courses:

- (i) **Postgraduate Diploma in Computing with Advanced Interdisciplinary Outlook**
- (ii) **Postgraduate Diploma in Computing (Conversion) with Advanced Interdisciplinary Outlook**

CL/09-10/024 **Student Cases** The Council noted and approved the request of the Senior Lecturer for permission for two named students to repeat a year of their courses in 2009-2010 having previously repeated the Senior Freshman year and for one named student to repeat a year in 2009-2010 having previously repeated the Senior Freshman Years 5 and 6.

SECTION D

In compliance with the Data Protection Acts this information is restricted.

Signed

Date