



Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

XX = Board relevance

**Trinity College Dublin
The University of Dublin**

A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 9 May 2018 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, Registrar, Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dean of Graduate Studies, Senior Tutor, Dean of Students, Vice-President for Global Relations, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Professor D Faas, Professor A Holohan, Professor J Walsh, Professor P Wyse Jackson, Professor C Gardiner, Professor S Murphy, Dean of Health Sciences, Professor R A Kenny, Professor A M Brady, Professor M Corry, Professor M Clarke, Dr S Chandra, Professor A O’Gara, Ms S Cameron-Coen, Ms A MacPherson, Mr C O’Halloran, Mr P Shanahan, Mr M Bhargav, Ms A Walsh.
<i>Apologies</i>	Dean of Research, Professor S Garrigan, Dean of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Professor E O Nuallain, Mr R Doherty, Mr V R Paidimukkala.
<i>In attendance</i>	Academic Secretary, Secretary to the College, Librarian and College Archivist, Ms Eileen McEvoy. Ms Orla Bannon (Director of Careers) attended for item CL/17-18/190
<i>Observers</i>	Secretary to the Scholars (Mr P Lavelle).

SECTION A

The Provost requested that the Council members declare any potential conflicts of interest in relation to the agenda. The Secretary noted that Professor S Garrigan declared interest in item A.6 but, as she had sent her apologies, discussion could proceed in her absence. The Secretary also noted that Professor Anne O’Gara declared interest in item A.10 and was it was agreed that she would remain present for the item summary, and to respond to any related questions, and would then absent herself for any ensuing discussion and decision. It was further noted that Dr Susan Murphy declared an interest in item C.23. It was agreed that she would absent herself for any related discussion/decision on this item.

CL/17-18/183 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 4 April 2018 were approved and signed.

CL/17-18/184 Matters Arising

- (i) **CL/17-18/164(iii):** With reference to the M.Sc. in Development Practice, the Dean of Graduate Studies explained that he had had a follow-up discussion with the Head of the School of Social Science and Philosophy regarding the possibility of staff from that School teaching on the M.Sc. in Development Practice. He reported that the main constraint was one of resources and that, as staff were already teaching at capacity, if staff were to teach

on the M.Sc. this would create a need to find staff to replace them in their teaching within their own School. The Dean emphasised that discussion is ongoing and it is hoped that positive consensus will be reached in due course.

Responding to a query from the Dean of Health Sciences regarding whether it would be possible to bring in subject experts who could teach on the M.Sc., as happens in other disciplines, the Dean of Graduate Studies explained that the difficulty in this case is that the subject experts in question are mostly Trinity staff who do not have teaching time available to devote to the programme.

The Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences reminded Council of the importance of potential teaching staff being consulted during the development phase of programmes to ensure that availability of expert teaching staff can be considered at an early stage and such staff do not find themselves obliged to teach on programmes without prior consultation.

The Dean of Students noted that some subjects are particularly popular for integration within programmes and business subjects are among these. He suggested that the pressure this puts on teaching staff within such subjects should be taken into account.

The Provost stressed the importance of following up on this issue, highlighting that it is important that, as far as possible, all core teaching be conducted by Trinity staff with the requisite expertise.

CL/17-18/185 Provost's Report

- (i) **E3:** The Provost reported that the E3 steering committee continues to meet and it has benefitted from considerable advice and consultation, both nationally and internationally. A market analysis has been conducted by the Office of Corporate Partnership and Knowledge Exchange. This analysis indicated that there is likely to be a strong uptake for the proposed master's programme, although the undergraduate direct entry route may need further development to maximise potential applications and to meet the target numbers. The Provost noted that this was the first time a market analysis was conducted on a Trinity programme prior to approval and that it was a very informative exercise and one that we might consider doing for all new programmes in the future. The Provost further explained that the E3 education group that reports to the Steering Committee intends to provide a report on all programmes in the three component schools of E3 with particular reference to how the programmes fit within the broader E3 teaching and learning and research philosophy and whether any related adjustments may be needed to programmes.
- (ii) **Global Relations Strategy (GRS):** The Provost explained that the GRS3 process is progressing well and the intention in this third iteration of the Strategy is to endeavour to connect more directly with strategic planning at faculty and school level so that targets set by the College percolate down to individual courses.
- (iii) **Estates Strategy:** The Provost informed Council that a recent presentation from the Bursar's office indicated that, despite a perception of lack of teaching space in Trinity, at some times of the year space is underutilised and can fall to as low as 15% usage. He suggested that this is an issue that should be noted and addressed and that the Bursar , make a presentation to Council on this at a future date.
- (iv) **Development of Trinity Campus at Grand Canal Dock:** The Provost reported that plans for the development of a Trinity campus at Grand Canal Dock is progressing well. A master plan is being finalised and the campus is likely to house E3, the School of Creative Arts, student accommodation, and an industry/academic collaborative space, among other

entities. Negotiations are ongoing with the IDA, Enterprise Ireland and a number of philanthropic bodies regarding options for financing the campus.

- (v) **Sahlberg Report:** The Provost invited the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer to speak to this item. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer provided context, explaining that in 2012 the HEA commissioned a report on the higher education landscape in Ireland, chaired by Finnish education expert, Prof Pasi Sahlberg. The report recommended that smaller higher education institutions be strategically aligned with research universities to create partnerships that would benefit each institution. As a result of this process, a cluster was created including Trinity, UCD, Marino Institute of Education and the NCAD. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer noted that this cluster was the only cluster which included two universities. He explained that a review of the Sahlberg report is currently underway and Trinity hosted a meeting of the review committee on May 3rd at which the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer made the case that it may be more beneficial for Trinity to align only with Marino Institute of Education, while UCD aligns only with the NCAD. The suggestion was well received and a report on this second review is due in the forthcoming weeks.
- (vi) **Travel:** The Provost reported on a recent period spent in the US, where he visited Boston, Washington and New York. Trinity led a large delegation to Boston in March 2018, focused on learning lessons that may inform Dublin's efforts to become an innovation city. The Provost noted that the Cambridge Innovation Centre was key to the success of creating Boston as an innovation city and may also be helpful in Dublin's efforts to become an innovation city. He stated that the trip was highly successful and demonstrated the potential of the Grand Canal Dock project to representatives from both Ireland and the US. During the trip to Washington, the Provost met donors and represented Trinity at St Patrick's Day events. The New York visit involved the Provost meeting with the President of Bard College in New York, an institution with which there may be potential for Trinity to develop a beneficial collaborative relationship.
- (vii) **EU Networks:** The Provost explained that, following a speech by President Macron in late 2017, the European Commission is driving an initiative to create a number of university networks across the EU. It is anticipated that these networks will involve the establishment of joint degrees. The Provost, along with the Dean of Research and Vice-President for Global Affairs, has already visited the University of Barcelona to explore the possibility of participating together in such a network and has a number of visits to other European higher education institutions planned over the coming months. He explained that it may be that an institution can only be part of one network and it may also be that the upcoming call stipulates that networks follow a specific theme. The Provost pledged to keep the Council informed of future developments.
- (viii) **Fundraising:** The Provost reported that there have been several meetings of the Trinity fundraising campaign group and various related initiatives are ongoing, including the prioritisation of all the projects. There are several projects listed in the campaign and the Provost highlighted three that are in an advanced development stage, namely: The School of Law, which is in a feasibility study phase; the Library, which is conceptualising fundraising around two central pillars; the Cancer Institute: to climb the rankings among cancer institutes, Trinity will need to have a lot more academics involved in cancer research and clinical trials. There is an expectation that the Department of Health will issue a call for proposals in this space in the near future and work is progressing to prepare for this upcoming call.
- (ix) **Budget and Accountability:** The Provost updated the Council on a recent budget and accountability meeting he attended with the HEA. He explained that although there had been concerns that Trinity was still running a deficit, the meeting had been positive and the fact that Trinity's net revenue has increased in the last two years is seen as an encouraging sign. The Provost stressed that this positive trend needs to be maintained and

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supplemented by outputs from increased fundraising activities. A particular need to generate revenue to invest in infrastructure was acknowledged.

(x) **Awards:** The recent Provost's PhD Awards and Provost's Teaching Awards were reported as having been very positive events. The Teaching Award winners were as follows:

- Prof Dmytro Volin, School of Mathematics (Early Career Award)
- Prof Lina Zgaga, School of Medicine
- Prof David Kane, School of Medicine
- Prof Rachael Walsh, School of Law
- Prof Sarah O'Brien, School of Linguistic, Speech & Communication Sciences

Special commendations were also awarded to the following:

- Dr Julie Bates, School of English
- Mr Ronan Lyons, School of Social Sciences & Philosophy
- Dr Matthew McGovern, School of Medicine
- Dr Dermot O'Dwyer, School of Engineering
- Ms Clare Whelan, School of Medicine

(xi) **Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation:** The Provost explained that a building has been restored on Fenian Street and was recently officially launched as the new home of the Trinity Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation. He commended all those involved in the launch day and expressed satisfaction that Trinity is leading in this important area of work. He praised the work of outgoing Centre Director, Prof Sarah Smyth, and welcomed incoming Director, Prof Michael Cronin.

The Provost welcomed comments from members on his update.

A member expressed thanks to the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer for the case he made to the Sahlberg Review Committee regarding Trinity forming a cluster with Marino. The member felt this had been framed very positively and led to favourable discussion.

A student representative questioned whether the trip to Boston had uncovered any issues from which Dublin might learn in developing an innovation city. The Provost responded that a number of points became clear. These included the need for such development to include multiple local partners, the importance of a top tier university being involved, the need for entities within the innovation hub to be in close proximity to each other, and the need to be cognisant of the demographic make-up of the community within which such an innovation hub is developed and to endeavour to create as much cohesion as possible between the hub and its surroundings. The Provost explained that a manifesto for the innovation district will be launched in the coming months.

Action

CL/17-18/185.iii.1: Bursar to be invited to make a presentation to Council on space usage at a future date.

CL/17-18/186 Trinity Education Project

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer provided an update on the Trinity Education Project (TEP) via a presentation. He explained that preparations are currently underway for the promotion of phase 2 of TEP, due to begin in 2019/20, and a decision has been made to change the name from the 'Trinity Education Project' to 'Trinity Education' as it moves beyond the project phase.

He further explained that a meeting had taken place with guidance councillors in April 2018, to introduce them to the Trinity Education Project. The reforms were very well received and guidance councillors were particularly positive about the flexible pathways, capstones, and Trinity electives.

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The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer provided an overview of the revised prospectus, explaining that the layout has been enhanced, with the TSM grid being removed in favour of individual pages for each subject, listing their possible combinations. He also informed the Council regarding updates to course websites, which are being revised to ensure that they are less text-heavy and that the key elements of the Trinity Education, such as capstones and Trinity electives, are easily visible to users.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer explained that the Academic Secretary has been in contact with all programmes to ensure compliance with TEP. In response to a question from the Provost regarding what programmes being 'TEP compliant' meant in practice, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer explained that compliance related largely to providing the flexibility of pathways outlined in the new programme architecture, as well as complying with all other Council decisions regarding TEP. The Academic Secretary explained that discussions are ongoing with a small number of programmes to overcome difficulties regarding releasing credits, opening pathways, and generally endeavouring to fit their programmes to the new architecture. She commented that discussions are progressing well and engagement from programme staff has been positive.

The TCDSU Education Officer commented that the recent 'Top 5 Benefits of TEP for Students' resource, which was developed in partnership between TEP and the Students' Union, was a very positive initiative. The document has been well received among students and the process of TEP staff and the Students' Union working together on graphics and content was seen as highly beneficial to both.

CL/17-18/187 Undergraduate Studies

- (i) **Progression and Awards:** The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies spoke to a circulated memorandum, dated 25 April 2018, regarding the need to make adjustments to the Progression and Awards regulations that were approved by Council on 10 May 2017. She explained that the decision of the College Board on 28 March 2018 to approve that the implementation of modular billing be deferred in order to facilitate a full analysis of all potential revenue streams to fund it meant that previously approved Progression and Awards regulations need to be adjusted. Specifically, the following adjustments were proposed for approval:
- The wording under Recommendation 7(iii) 'Students who are required to repeat should do so on a module-by-module basis' to be changed to 'Students who are required to repeat the year will be required to repeat the year in full (i.e., all modules and all assessment components)'.
 - The General Regulations of the Calendar for 2018-19 to be adjusted to reflect this change in Progression and Awards regulations, as outlined in the memorandum.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies stressed that all other Progression and Awards regulations would remain unchanged.

Decision

CL/17-18/187.i.1: The Council approved the proposed change to Regulation 7 of the Progression and Award Regulations and amended General Regulations of the Calendar for 2018-19.

- (ii) **Single Honors Programme in Classics:** The Provost suggested that the Council take as read the memorandum, dated 2 May 2018, circulated on behalf of the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies regarding a proposal to change the name of the Single Honors

programme in Classics to Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology from 2019-20 and make a decision on approval.

Decision

CL/17-18/187.ii.1: The Council approved the request to change the title of the Single Honors programme in Classics to Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology from 2019-20.

- (iii) **Proposal for the cessation of World Religions and Theology:** The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies spoke to a circulated memorandum, dated 2 May 2018, regarding a proposal that the undergraduate course in World Religions and Theology (TR008) and the TSM subject cease to be offered in 2019-20. She explained that this proposal is based on the fact that the Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology will launch the new B.A. in Religion in September 2019. Council was asked to approve the request for cessation in order to meet the deadline for the CAO to remove this course from the CAO handbook in 2019-20.

Decision

CL/17-18/187.iii.1: The Council approved the cessation of intake to the undergraduate course in World Religions and Theology (TR008) and the TSM subject from 2019-20.

- (iv) **Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme Progress Report:** The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies sought Council's approval of the progress report of the Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme, as outlined in the circulated memorandum, dated 2 May 2018. She commented that the calibre of students had been outstanding and the process had been inspirational.

The Provost questioned whether there were any concerns regarding the balance of gender and/or faculty among selected candidates. The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies responded that the selection is based solely on the merit of candidates and that, this being the first year of the process, it may be too early to judge whether this year's selection indicates an imbalance. Prof Kenny, who had been involved in the process, explained that the selection process replicated that of other partner universities. The Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences commented that there was no imbalance among applicants, only among selected candidates. He voiced a hope that the faculty imbalance would not continue in future years and suggested monitoring the figures as the programme continues.

The Provost expressed appreciation to the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies for chairing the selection panel and to all others involved in making the programme a success.

Decision

CL/17-18/187.iv.1: The Council noted the Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Programme Progress Report and recommended that the balance of gender and faculty among applicants and selected candidates be monitored in future.

CL/17-18/188 Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer presented to the Council regarding developments within the Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology since the publication of the review of the School in March 2017. He explained that a Taskgroup had been set up to

respond to recommendations in the review. In all, 13 Taskgroup meetings have taken place and an overview was given of the context and make-up of the Taskgroup.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer reported that, responding to the recommendations of the Review, the Taskgroup has achieved the following:

- An agreed 'Purpose Statement' has been approved for the School.
- An agreement to name the School 'School of Religion', with a recommendation that a formal review of the new School structure, including the name of the School, take place in five years.
- A new organisational model reflecting the College-approved School governance structures. The existing three separate governance structures will be transitioned into a single School structure commencing 1st July 2018 and there will be two Heads of Disciplines: (i) Religious Studies, and (ii) Peace Studies.
- Agreement that the Head of School be elected by the whole School and that all academic staff will realign themselves and report directly to the Head of School. The Head of School, in consultation with the entire School, will appoint one Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning for the whole School, one Director for Postgraduate Teaching and Learning for the whole School, and one Director of Research for the whole School. He noted that the current Head was elected according to standard protocols and will therefore serve the three-year term to the end of the academic year 2018/19.
- Agreement that there will be one budget for the whole School. The Irish School of Ecumenics (ISE) and the Loyola Institute will, however, retain budgetary control of monies/funds/endowments from the Trust for Trust-specific activities in accordance with financial regulatory procedures and control. The existing benefactions associated with Religion and Theology will also be ring-fenced for agreed activities. The Taskgroup recommends that for a transitional period the School should have a Finance Committee to ensure visibility during the transition to the new budgetary structure.
- Agreement that the College invests in the School by making at least two short-term contracts permanent (as School positions). This has been achieved due to AHSS agreeing to mainstream and make permanent three fixed-term positions.
- Recognition of the importance of retaining the ISE and the Loyola Institute Advisory Boards as these are part of the legal contractual agreements between the College (not the School) and the respective Trusts and a recommendation that, in addition to the Trust Boards, one academic advisory board for the whole School be established in 2020.
- Development of the undergraduate course in Religion, based on the TEP Single Subject common Architecture, approved by the University Council in April 2018 to commence in 2019/20.
- Approval in principle of the proposed administrative structure commensurate with a single School organisation, pending HR and Faculty approval.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer explained that a number of review recommendations (related to teaching and learning and to research) were not considered by the Taskgroup as it was felt that they can more appropriately be considered by those responsible for teaching and learning and research within the new unified School, as part of their ongoing work.

The Registrar updated the Council on discussions that have taken place with representatives of the Loyola Trust and the ISE Trust. She explained that these meetings were rooted in the reaffirmation by Council, at the time of the publication of the School review, of its commitment to preserving and advancing the mission of the Loyola Institute and the mission of the ISE within a new single School governance structure. It thus became necessary to revise the legal Agreements in place with both Trusts in line with developments of the new unified School structure. To this end, discussions with the Trusts took place in parallel with Taskgroup meetings and involved the Registrar, the Academic Secretary, Dr Patrick Riordan SJ and Fr Layden SJ from the Loyola Trust, and Mr Sterling and Mr McDermott from the ISE Trust. The Registrar also explained that, because the relationship with the Loyola Trust was more recent,

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more meetings took pace with them. She also noted that representatives of the Academic Advisory Group of the Loyola Institute were also invited to provide advice on the internal management structure of the Institute. She described the meetings as very helpful and engaging.

Regarding the Agreement with the ISE Trust, Trinity's solicitors are currently drafting revised wording for discussion with ISE solicitors and ultimate agreement between the Trust and the College. Regarding the Agreement with the Loyola Trust, a review of the internal governance structure of the Institute (as per Schedule 4 of the 2012 Agreement) has been completed. Trinity's solicitors will now draft the revisions discussed for consideration by the Trustees' solicitors in preparation for ultimate agreement between the Trust and College.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer requested that Council approve:

- the recommendations of the Taskgroup with regard to the implementation of the Review of the Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology;
- an extension of the remit of the Internal Taskgroup to oversee the transitional arrangements necessary to carry out this implementation;
- that a progress report (as is the practice following a quality review) be presented to the Quality Committee, and hence to Council in March/April 2019, to show how the School has addressed the review and the Taskgroup recommendations; and
- that a formal review of the new school structure, including the name of the School, take place in five years.

Ms S Cameron-Coen retired from the meeting.

The Provost invited comments from Council members on the work of the Taskgroup and on the requested approvals.

The Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences voiced strong approval for the work of the Taskgroup and commended the dedication and diplomacy that was involved in achieving all that has been achieved within the School. The Dean of Health Sciences echoed this approval and commented that the recommendations being suggested for approval were a positive way forward for the School.

The Provost thanked the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer, Academic Secretary, Registrar, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and the Head of School for their significant contribution to a very positive step forward for the School.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer also thanked all those involved, including the staff of the School, and especially acknowledged the work of the Academic Secretary for her central role throughout the process.

Decisions

CL/17-18/188.1: The Council approved the recommendations of the Taskgroup with regard to the implementation of the Review of the Confederal School of Religions, Peace Studies and Theology.

CL/17-18/188.2: The Council approved an extension of the remit of the Internal Taskgroup to oversee the transitional arrangements necessary to carry out this implementation.

CL/17-18/188.3: The Council approved that a progress report be presented to the Quality Committee, and hence to Council in March/April 2019, to show how the School has addressed the review and the Taskgroup recommendations.

CL/17-18/188.4: The Council approved that a formal review of the new school structure, including the name of the School, take place in five years.

CL/17-18/189 Proposal for a new framework of governance and operational arrangements for students on the POLYTHEA inter-institutional doctoral project

The Dean of Graduate Studies gave a presentation to the Council regarding the circulated memorandum, dated 25 April 2018. He informed Council members of the background of the proposal for a new framework of governance and operational arrangements for students on the POLYTHEA inter-institutional doctoral project. The POLYTHEA project, which is linked to the School of Chemistry, secured European Commission funding for a collaborative doctoral research/training programme "Design and photo-optimization of Photosensitizer for Human Health and Food security applications or 'how light can save lives'". The Dean explained that the new award of Doctor in Philosophia (Conjunctim), approved by Council on 29 November 2017 (CL/17-18/058) for joint doctoral projects, was partly envisioned as a facilitator of Trinity's participation in European Joint Doctorate projects, POLYTHEA's collaborative doctoral research/training programme being one such project. He further explained that, in response to a request by Council that framework agreements specific to each partnership, detailing governance and operational arrangements, be presented to Graduate Studies Committee and to Council for consideration and approval in advance of such joint programmes being offered, the Graduate Studies Committee is presenting for approval the circulated framework document. He noted that, while this framework was developed specifically for POLYTHEA, it is intended also to serve as an operational benchmark for Trinity to develop policies and practices for other similar doctoral programmes in the future.

The Dean of Graduate Studies gave an overview of the POLYTHEA collaborative doctoral research/training programme, informing Council that Trinity will have three students as lead partner in their projects and two PhD students as secondary institution in their projects. Further, it was clarified that while, depending on the agreement with individual partner institutions, some students will receive one parchment upon graduation and others will receive two parchments, all parchments will clearly state that the award is for a joint doctorate.

In response to a query regarding whether all five PhD students will be counted as Trinity students, the Dean clarified that those for whom Trinity acts as secondary institution will be registered as Trinity students during the 18 months they will attend Trinity and the other three students will be recorded as Trinity students for the duration of their studies. It was also queried whether there are plans for more such joint doctorates, in light of the drive from the European Commission to develop European University Networks. The Dean confirmed that it is likely that more joint doctorates will be developed and the work done on this framework will be very useful in informing future related work.

The Dean of Graduate Studies stated that the programme is very welcome in Trinity and that it will be advantageous in attracting excellent students, in furthering Trinity's excellent reputation and in paving the way for future synergies with institutions in other countries. He also voiced strong praise for the work of the Academic Secretary, the Registrar and Ms. Ewa Sadowska in developing the framework.

The Registrar highlighted the different arrangements in place with respect to Dual and Joint parchments and welcomed the new award of Doctor in Philosophia (Conjunctim) and the proposed framework.

Decision

CL/17-18/189.1: The Council approved the new framework of governance and operational arrangements for students on the POLYTHEA inter-institutional doctoral project under Horizon 2020 leading to a joint award of Doctor in Philosophia (Conjunctim).

CL/17-18/190 Careers Advisory Service Annual Statistics Report, 2016-17

The Provost welcomed Ms Orla Bannon, Director of Careers, to the meeting. The Director of Careers gave a presentation to the Council summarising key findings of the circulated Annual Statistics Report 2016/17 and First Destination Statistics – Class of 2016. She explained that the

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Annual HEA First Destinations of University Graduates Survey has been running since 1982 and is carried out nine months after student graduation but that a new version of the survey is currently being rolled out for the Class of 2017, which includes slight changes in format with a view to facilitating the collection of longitudinal data.

The Director of Careers outlined the main limitations of the data, key trends for Trinity students, comparisons with national data, and sectoral and regional distributions of graduates. Key points included:

- Among all surveyed Trinity graduates, the rate of employment was 71% (68% among primary degree graduates and 80% among higher degree graduates)
- Among Trinity primary degree graduates, the proportion of graduates being employed in Ireland has stayed level at just over 50% in recent years, while the proportion of such graduates being employed overseas has decreased slightly since 2015 to just over 16%.
- Among Trinity higher degree graduates, there has been an increase in the proportion of graduates being employed in Ireland and a decrease in the proportion of graduates being employed overseas since 2015, with the figures currently at 52% and 28% respectively.
- Trinity primary degree graduates are above the national average for those in employment, including international graduates.
- Trinity primary degree graduates are marginally below the national figure for those seeking employment.
- Trinity higher degree graduates are marginally below the national average for those in employment and those seeking employment.
- The eastern region (Dublin and Leinster) provided the majority of job opportunities for those Trinity graduates obtaining employment in Ireland.
- The UK and the US were the most popular destinations for those employed overseas.
- The most common sector of employment for all Trinity graduates was the non-market services sector (e.g. employment in the public sector), followed by business, finance and insurance services. This is reflective of the national picture.

The Provost thanked the Director of Careers for her presentation and welcomed comments from the Council.

A member noted that the rate of response to the survey varied between faculties and this is something that would benefit from being attended to in future. The Director of Careers reported that work is ongoing to improve survey response rates at programme and School level. It was further suggested that alumni relations endeavours may benefit from closer collaboration with the First Destinations Survey process to ensure that communications with survey respondents are built upon for more prolonged engagement.

In response to a query regarding whether students on integrated masters programmes are considered primary or higher degree students, the Director of Careers clarified that they are recorded in the report as primary degree students.

Referring to the detail of the report, the Senior Tutor commented that the fact that 28% of Trinity graduates are working overseas, which is 13% higher than the national average of 15%, presents a good promotion opportunity for Trinity, especially in light of the impetus to support internationalisation.

Responding to a query from the Provost regarding what is being done to support those who are not yet in employment, the Director of Careers explained that the Careers Advisory Service endeavours to stay in touch with such graduates and provide support to them in finding employment, as well as working with Schools to ensure they are in a position to support and inform students so that they are well prepared to find suitable employment. The Director further explained that the Careers Advisory Service is in the process of translating the results of the report into key action points for Schools to assist them in providing the best support for students.

The Dean of Students questioned whether it was possible to capture, through the survey, the type of employment graduates secure. The Director of Careers confirmed that the new iteration of the survey will be able to capture some of this information.

The Provost noted the report and thanked the Director of Careers and her team for their work in compiling the report.

The Director of Careers retired from the meeting.

CL/17-18/191 Academic Quality Assurance: Faculties Annual Quality Report 2016-17

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer presented to the Council regarding the Academic Quality Assurance: Faculties Report for 2016/17, as detailed in the circulated memorandum, dated May 2017. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer explained that the Annual Faculty Quality Reports for the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science and the Faculty of Health Sciences were considered by the Quality Committee at its meeting on the 22 March 2018. He reported to Council on the key quality assurance activities and issues for escalation to College identified in these reports across the three Faculties in 2016/17.

External examiner return rates were reported as ranging from 73% to 91% at undergraduate level and from 80% to 92% at postgraduate level. Issues raised by external examiners at undergraduate level included the dispersion of grades, disparity of marks from overseas project supervisors, predictability of exam papers and external examiner gender balance. At postgraduate level, external examiners raised issues regarding marking transparency, resourcing of research dissertations, and high contact hours for postgraduate Taught students.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer noted that module evaluation rates are above 90% at undergraduate level and range from 83% to 100% at postgraduate level. Evaluation methods and timings were shown to impact upon these rates.

The issues mentioned by Faculties for escalation to College included:

Teaching and Learning Environment:

- Shortfall in suitable teaching/learning spaces
- Issues escalated to Bursar for consideration in the Estates strategy

Placements:

- Procedures for academic quality reviews being updated to reflect QQI requirements for QA of off-campus learning
- Difficulties securing placements highlighted in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (teaching placements) and in the Faculty of Health Sciences (clinical placements)

Library:

- Access, resources, borrowing rights for PG Certificate students and impact of UK e-Legal Deposit system
- Access issues escalated to LIPC, new and extended opening hours, sockets/USB points, improved student spaces in Hamilton

Staffing and Resources:

- Staff:student ratios not meeting requirements of accreditation bodies in Medicine and Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Staffing levels impacting undergraduate teaching and supervision in Genetics and Microbiology
- Staffing levels preventing timely feedback to students in Creative Arts and impacting tutorials in Social Science & Philosophy

Systems:

- Inability of students in two Faculties to select and register online for modules via SITS
- Constraints in Academic Registry leading to delays in responding to HSE tenders raised by Nursing and Midwifery
- Issues re sports centre charge, tailored offer letters and fee payment in two instalments for on-line students highlighted

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer noted that the issue raised regarding a shortfall in suitable teaching and learning spaces does not reflect the recent report from the Bursar indicating underuse of spaces at some times of year and this is an issue that needs to be examined further. He also noted that the staffing concerns have been addressed and the issue with SITS is currently being attended to.

The Provost thanked the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and welcomed comments from the Council.

The Dean of Health Sciences clarified that the staff:student ratio did meet accreditation standards of accreditation bodies in Medicine and Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences but that the ratio was slightly below the preferred ratio of 1:23.

A member highlighted the importance of communicating evaluation results and associated actions back to students in order to ensure students see evidence that their voices are being heard. It was felt that this would have a positive impact on response rates for evaluations in the future.

The Librarian and College Archivist reported that the e-deposit pilot has been going well. 700 ebooks have been added to the collection and an evaluation of the scheme is ongoing.

Decision

CL/17-18/191.1: The Council approved the Academic Quality Assurance: Faculties Report for 2016/17.

Mr P Shanahan retired from the meeting.

(i) Institutional Quality Review and Review of Governance of Quality at Trinity

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer spoke to the circulated memorandum, dated 1 May 2018, regarding Council consideration of planning in advance of the Institutional

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

Quality Review and the proposed Review of Governance of Quality at Trinity. He explained that Trinity's 2012 institutional quality review report included a number of recommendations directed at the governance of quality at Trinity.

They included:

- '... the role of the quality committee and its relationship with other committees' (1.3);
- '... the use of management information arising from quality assurance processes to inform strategic planning and teaching and learning at School and College level' (4.3);
- '... that Trinity College should ensure the unambiguous direction of strategic policies at College level with devolved responsibility for delivery by Faculties/School' (4.4); and
- '... In any future review, Trinity College should exploit the opportunity to undertake a more self-critical examination of the effectiveness of its quality assurance and enhancement activities' (2.1).

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer explained that, in its response to the above recommendations, Trinity committed to undertake a more self-critical examination of the effectiveness of its quality assurance and enhancement activities. While considerable progress has been made in constructively addressing the above specific recommendations, he noted that it would be timely to have an external assessment of the effectiveness of the quality assurance and enhancement activities with respect to governance of quality. He advised Council of the proposal to engage the services of SUMS Consulting (a UK not-for-profit consultancy company) to conduct the assessment and referred to the draft Terms of Reference, as circulated.

The Provost queried what was meant by point 5 in the Terms of Reference: 'Provide a competency framework for Quality Office staff that is based on an assessment of maturity'. The Academic Secretary clarified that the intention was to ensure that, with the increase in quality procedures and expectations associated with new national guidelines and policies, staff have the support and information they need to effectively action all policy requirements and recommendations. It is further hoped that an associated competency framework will create an institutional quality culture in which quality is infused throughout all workings of the institution, rather than being seen merely as a procedural endeavour.

The Provost suggested that if the supports for staff are to be assessed in this manner it may be best that, rather than the resulting report being reviewed at Quality Committee level, it should come to the Provost first, with the Quality Committee being given an opportunity to comment/respond, and then be brought to Council for review.

The Librarian and College Archivist questioned where this proposed external assessment would fit within the ongoing development of an institutional strategy. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer agreed that it is important that all ongoing strategies be aligned and it would be important that the proposed assessment feed into the strategic planning process.

The Provost suggested that it may be best to postpone the proposed assessment of governance of quality until time has been taken to determine how it can best fit with the institutional strategic planning process.

Decision

CL/17-18/191.i.1: The Council decided to postpone approval of the proposed Review of Governance of Quality at Trinity until consideration has been taken of how it will fit with the ongoing institutional strategic planning process.

CL/17-18/192 **Proposal for the Validation of a Marino Institute of Education New Bachelor of Education Course in the Irish Medium**

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies brought to the attention of Council a proposal to validate an Irish-Medium Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) at Marino Institute of Education, as detailed in the circulated memorandum, dated 2 May. She explained that, in March 2018, Marino Institute of Education was announced as the successful winner of a tender for the provision of an Irish-medium B.Ed. (Primary Teaching) Initial Teacher Education Programme.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies gave an overview of the proposed programme and explained that the conceptual framework and specified areas of study and modules of the programme are based on the Teaching Council-accredited MIE Initial Teacher Education B.Ed. Programme. The content of the programme was most recently reviewed and validated by University Council on 13 June 2012. Its focus is on immersion education and Gaeltacht education. Students on this programme will be required to undertake their final year 10-week placement in the Gaeltacht. She also highlighted that, as part of the process for tender, a full pro-forma document for the Teaching Council was requested and reviewed by an international panel along with course proposals submitted by other higher education institutions.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies informed Council that the proposal was approved in principle at Undergraduate Studies Committee and had received a very positive review from Prof Melanie Ni Dhuinn within Trinity's School of Education. The reviewer expressed satisfaction that the course proposal has been designed and structured with due regard and reference to the academic validation requirements, the Teaching Council guidelines and the Department of Education and Skill's Policy on Gaeltacht Education 2017-2022.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies explained that, due to the rigorous competitive process required in order to obtain the tender and the internal review process undertaken within the School of Education and the fact that the content mirrors the validated B.Ed. course, it was felt that external review was not necessary prior to proceeding to Council.

Prof A O'Gara acknowledged the work of Trinity School of Education and in particular Prof Melanie Ni Dhuinn. She explained that all review recommendations have been considered and actions taken where appropriate. She also noted that this is the twelfth course proposal brought to Council from Marino Institute of Education in the last 12 years and it would be a very welcome addition to the current course compliment of the Institution.

The Provost invited Council members to comment on the proposal.

A member clarified that, while the proposal mentions a need for administration staff to have fluency in Irish, this is an issue that can be decided at institutional level and does not require Council approval.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

The Provost congratulated Prof O’Gara and all others involved in the successful tender process.

Prof O’Gara withdrew from the meeting for the decision to be considered.

Decision

CL/17-18/192.1: The Council approved the proposal to validate a new Irish-Medium Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) at Marino Institute of Education.

Prof O’Gara returned to the meeting.

CL/17-18/193 Any other urgent business

There was no other urgent business.

SECTION B

CL/17-18/194 Undergraduate Studies Committee

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies drew Council’s attention to item USC/17-18/074, informing member that the date of Trinity Open Day 2018 has been changed and it will now be held on Saturday 10 November 2018.

The draft minutes of the meeting of 24 April 2018 were noted and approved.

CL/17-18/195 Graduate Studies Committee

The Dean of Graduate Studies drew the Council’s attention to three items:
 GS/17-18/190 Provost’s Project Awards: There will be a bespoke application form from next year aimed at simplifying the process and increasing its transparency. There will also be clearer marking criteria for evaluating submissions.

GS/17-18/193 Structured PhD module in “Research Integrity and Impact in an Open Scholarship Era”: The committee approved this new 5 ECTS module as mandatory for Trinity-registered incoming PhD students and Master’s students seeking transfer to the PhD register to be delivered from 2018/19 raising the pass standard to 50%.

GS/17-18/185 Matters Arising: The Dean followed-up on this item by informing Council that Genetics student, Carol O’Brien, has been accepted to the LERU Summer School.

The draft minutes of the meeting of 19 April 2018 were noted and approved.

CL/17-18/196 International Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting of 16 April 2018 were noted and approved.

CL/17-18/197 Quality Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting of 19 April 2018 were noted and approved

Decisions

CL/17-18/197.i.1: The Council approved the Implementation Plan for the Long Room Hub

CL/17-18/197.ii.1: The Council approved the Implementation Plan for the Joint Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

CL/17-18/198 Research Committee

The draft minutes of the meeting of 20 March 2018 were noted and approved.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

SECTION C**CL/17-18/199 University Council Membership and Observer**

(i) The Council noted the resignation of Mr Vikas Raj Paidimukkala as Council Observer with immediate effect.

(ii) The Council noted and approved an Observer to the University Council, as follows:

a. Observers (Postgraduate): Mr Chukwuka Okoli.

CL/17-18/200 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 4 April 2018 and noted by Board on 25 April 2018.

(i) Higher Degrees by Research Alone

PhD Niamh Aspell; Richard Ian Blythman; David Joseph Finn; Clare Fletcher; Silvia Galván-Peña; Killian Hanlon; Colm Healy; Conor Linnie; Eoin McCarney; Hitham Ahmed Assem Aly Salama; Josh Smith; Shane Timmons.

MSc James Edward Kennedy.

MLitt Margot Bellot.

D. Ed. Melanie Ní Dhuinn.

CL/17-18/201 Undergraduate Studies Business requiring Council Approval: Abridged Entry and the Award of the B.A. Degree

The Council noted and approved the memo from the School Administrative Manager, School of Engineering, circulated, dated 17 April 2018.

CL/17-18/202 Head of School

The Council noted that the Board had approved the following nominations:

(i) Professor Damian Murchan (Assistant Professor) to the Headship of the School of Education from 26 April 2018 for a three-year term to 2021;

(ii) Professor Gail McElroy (Professor in Political Science) to a second term in the Headship of the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy, for a three-year term 2018-2021.

CL/17-18/203 School Directors

The Council noted and approved the following:

(i) Nomination of Professor Ailbhe O'Neill as Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning, School of Law, for the period 1 May 2018 – 31 May 2019.

(ii) Nomination of Professor Marcus Collier as Director of Research, School of Natural Sciences, for a two-year term 2018-2020.

(iii) Assoc. Professor John Walsh's term as Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been extended for another two years (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020).

(iv) Assoc. Professor Helen Sheridan's term as Director of Research, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been extended for one year (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019).

(v) Professor John Gilmer's term as Director of Postgraduate Teaching and Learning, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, has come to end and he will be replaced by Professor Cristin Ryan for two years, beginning 1 July 2018 and ending 30 June 2020.

CL/17-18/204 Head of Discipline

The Council noted and approved the following:

- (i) nomination of Professor Aonghus McNabola as Head of Discipline of Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering, for a three-year term 2018-2021;
- (ii) nomination of Professor Melissa Sihra as Head of Discipline of Drama for a term of two years (with an optional extension for 1 year), for the period 1st July 2018 – 30 June 2020;
- (iii) Professor Anne Fitzpatrick (Associate Professor) to the Headship of Near and Middle Eastern Studies for the period 1 July 2018-30 June 2021;
- (iv) Professor John Murray (Assistant Professor) to the Headship of Russian and Slavonic Studies for the period 1 July 2018-30 June 2021;
- (v) Professor Eoin MacCárthaigh (Associate Professor) to the Headship of Irish for the period 1 July 2018-30 June 2021.

CL/17-18/205 Chair of Trinity International Development Initiative (TIDI)

The Council noted and approved the memorandum from Dr Michelle D’Arcy, outgoing TIDI Chair (Acting), circulated, dated 17 April 2018.

SECTION D

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

Signed

Date