

**THE UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN
TRINITY COLLEGE**

The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of 19th October 2005

PRESENT: Provost (in the Chair), The Bursar, Professor J. Parnell, Mr H. Kearns, Mr J. Mannion,
The Senior Lecturer, The Secretary, The Treasurer

IN
ATTENDANCE: The Deputy Treasurer

APOLOGIES The Registrar

The Minutes of the Meeting of 5th October 2005 were approved and signed.

Section A

No Items

Section B

FN/05-06/20 Research and Related Accounts of Professor W. Blau
(Minute FN/05-06/07 of 5 October 2005 refers)

Professor W. Blau attended for part of this item.

The Head of School of Physics, The School Director of Research, Dean of Research and Research Accounting Manager attended for this item.

The Committee had been circulated with a memorandum dated 13 October 2005 in connection with the accounts of Professor Blau as requested by the last meeting of the Finance Committee. The Treasurer outlined for the Committee the audit and accountability framework within which the financial affairs of the College are carried out regardless of the source of the funding, the historical background to the issues now being considered, the principles and practice which had underpinned research grants, best practice factors to be followed and the risks associated with any failure to address the issues now raised.

The Director of Research in the School of Physics presented a memorandum and addressed details in relation to work undertaken by the School, the issues identified by the School, and actions which had been taken.

Professor Blau addressed the Committee in relation to his views on various issues and how the current situation had occurred. Professor Blau responded to the questions of the Committee and then withdrew from the meeting.

Following detailed consideration of all the matters at hand the Committee agreed the course of action to be addressed by specified individuals within agreed timeframes.

The Committee noted that the Board would be briefed on this issue as the matter progressed.

FN/05-06/21 Risk Activity-Risk Assessment
(Minute FN/05-06/04 of 5 October 2005 refers)

The Committee was informed that the Executive Officers group had decided that a small group would be invited to give consideration to

- a) The most appropriate structures to facilitate inter-institutional activity which may be of fixed term or longer duration. It should also include consideration of separate legal entities.
- b) Consideration of the risks and legal issues associated with contractual conditions associated with funded research.

It was noted that the Finance Committee would consider in a holistic way both reports to be brought forward by the Dean of Research in Hilary Term 2005 and the Committee expressed its preference that the report be available for its meeting of 8th February 2006.

Action:

21.1 Dean of Research to bring forward report.

Section C

FN/05-06/22 Science Foundation Ireland – Indirect Costs

The Committee noted correspondence to SFI from the Dean of Research dated 3 October 2005 along with the Overhead Investment plan (OIP) submission for 2006.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee has been arranged for 2nd November 2005 at 2.00 pm, in the Board Room.

PROVOST.....

DATE.....

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