



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

**Trinity College Dublin
The University of Dublin
Global engagement Committee Meeting
6th March 2024**

Present: Dr E Stokes (Vice President for Global Engagement), Dr A Bray (Global Director School of Education), Ms B Walls (Director of Student Services), Prof C Bergin (Global Director School of Medicine), Prof D Sullivan (Global Director School of Dental Science), Dr F Boylan (Global Director School of Pharmaceutical Sciences), Dr F O'Toole (Global Director School of Social Sciences and Philosophy), Dr I Warntjes (Associate Dean of Research), Mr L Molnárfi (Student Union President), Dr M Otto (Global Director School of English), Mr N Murphy (Head of Accommodation), Dr N Ni Chiarain (Global Director School of Linguistic Speech & Communication), Prof P Geoghegan (Global Director School of History & Humanities), Dr R Walsh (Global Director School of Law), Dr R Porter (Dean of Students)

Apologies: Prof A Phelan (Global Director School of Nursing & Midwifery), Prof A Mc Nabola (Global Director School of Engineering), Dr B C Browne (Global Director School of Religion), Dr C Barbour (Global Director School of Languages, Literature & Cultural Studies), Dr C Conlon (Global Director School of Social Works & Social Policy), Prof C O'Farrelly (Global Director School of Biochemistry & Immunology), Prof D Shepherd (Senior Lecturer), Dr D Zaitsev (Global Director School of Mathematics), Dr E Nixon (Global Director School of Psychology), Prof I Rozas (Global Director School of Chemistry), Dr K Maguire (Global Director School of Physics), Prof M Smith (Dean of Graduate Studies), Dr M Sihra (Global Director School of Creative Arts), Dr M Huggard (Global Director School of Computer Science and Statistics), Prof R Jayasekera (Global Director School of Business), Mr S Williams (Director of Global Engagement & Enterprise)

In Attendance: Ms A Févry (Secretary to the committee)

Ex Officio: Ms D Shirt (Executive Assistant to VP Global), Dr J Johnston (Policy & Research Advisor), Ms L Staunton (Associate Director, Trinity Global Experience), Ms N Burke (Associate Director, Partnerships & Global Mobility)

GEC/23-24/Mar.1

Welcome and Update

The Vice President for Global Engagement (VP Global) welcomed committee members to the meeting.

VP Global provided an update on the status of the Global Relations Strategy (GRS3) and noted the approval, at Planning Group in December, to extend the strategy by one year aligning GRS3 to the College strategic plan timelines. VP Global noted that this extension will not impact on schools or on the roles of Global Directors.

GEC/23-24/Mar.2

Applications & admissions for 24-25

VP Global provided an update on the Applications and Admissions for 24-25 by way of presentation.

Committee members were reminded of the weekly snapshot reports issued by Academic Registry and were encouraged to request their inclusion to the mailing list.

VP Global highlighted the continuation of a post-Covid trend which saw an increase in applications for Non-EU undergraduates, Non-EU postgraduates and EU postgraduates. Strong interest remains from India, China, the USA and within Ireland.

VP Global highlighted the following projects currently taking place in collaboration with Academic Registry:

- (i) The creation of a joint role between Academic Registry and Trinity Global focusing on admissions,
- (ii) A pilot activity using country expertise to review the Chinese applications and their supporting documents.

Discussion:

The importance of strategic planning for the recruitment of students was discussed. Points addressed included College capacity, fee structures, and the status of PGRs in receipt of stipendiary rather than salaried income.

The committee welcomed the announcement of the two projects, which will support the management and review of applications.

GEC/23-24/Mar.3

PGT Student Survey

VP Global provided an update on the PGT student survey conducted in January-February 2024 by way of presentation.

Committee members were advised that the data presented can be extracted at faculty, school and course level.

Discussion:

The committee were advised that only around one in ten current PGTs are alumni of the College. It was discussed that further data and research would be required to identify the reasons for this, particularly given the context of broadly similar PGT fee regimes across the Irish sector and at comparator institutions; it was proposed that the SU might source additional data. The impact of Brexit on and the College's data recording mechanisms for PGT applications and status of students from the island of Ireland (e.g. both from within and outside of the State) were also discussed.

Prof C Bergin (Global Director School of Medicine) and Dr R Porter (Dean of Students) joined the meeting at this point.

GEC/23-24/Mar.4

Pathway to belonging and Update on "Goin" app

Ms L Staunton provided an update on the Pathway to Belonging by way of presentation.

She noted that "Goin" is a peer-to-peer service available in all jurisdictions and was piloted this year as a pathway to belonging for global students. Its usage and uptake have been more successful than expected with students continuing using the app post-arrival and taking on the role of champions in promoting the service.

The service is promoted as a QR code in the pathway to belonging communications issued to global students upon the acceptance of their offer.

Requests to extend the service to other cohorts (CAO, outbound PG & PhD) were raised. A review of costs and a focus on the moderation of the service as well as benefits would need to be considered ahead of an extension of the service.

4.1 Trinity Global will discuss further with the Director of Student Services and the Dean of Students

GEC/23-24/Mar.5

Global Incident Response Unit (GIRU)

Ms L Staunton provided an update on the Global Incident Response Unit by way of presentation.

Discussion

Trinity's response to the November riots and the communication to the student's community was acknowledged.

In response to a concern raised about the lack of action by the GIRU in relation to expressing a political and strategic stance on geopolitical conflicts, the committee was reminded of the nature of the GIRU as a purely operational unit and specifically that GIRU's remit and ToRs do not extend to issuing statements on behalf of the institution.

Dr F O'Toole (Global Director School of Social Sciences and Philosophy) left the meeting at this point.

GEC/23-24/Mar.6

Trinity Global Footprint

VP Global provided an update on the Trinity Global Footprint by way of presentation.

Committee members were advised that the data was being updated and would be live again towards the end of the month.

GEC/23-24/Mar.7

AOB

VP Global updated on the following items:

- Trinity Global's engagement with school guidance counsellors as part of the Shared Island Project,
- Informal consultation meetings on Global Engagement post-GRS3 will commence in coming months,
- A communication on the Global Mobility team structure and the Key Action 2 project will issue,
- A review the ToR of GEC will be done in consultation with committee members.

GEC/23-24/Mar.8

Next Meeting

The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for Wednesday 12th June 2-3.30pm and will take place via Zoom.