

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

A special meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 10 May 2006 at 9.45 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost, Senior Lecturer, Registrar, Senior Tutor, Dean of Graduate Studies, Dean of Arts and Humanities, Dr J Nash, Dean of Engineering and Systems Sciences, Dr A Kokaram, Acting Dean of Health Sciences, Dr A W Kelly, Dean of Science, Dr N M Marples, Dean of Social and Human Sciences, Ms M L Rhodes, Mr D McCormack, Mr R Kearns, Mr S Hall, Mr C Larkin.
<i>Apologies</i>	Professor E O'Halpin, Dr P C Conroy, Professor D M Singleton, Dr C J Benson, Ms F M Haffey.
<i>In attendance</i>	Librarian, Secretary, Acting Academic Secretary.
<i>Observers</i>	Dr S P Wilson, Professor C M Begley, Dr M L Brennan, Dr N M Claffey.
<i>Student observer</i>	Ms N McGarrigle.
<i>By invitation</i>	Bursar.

Section A

CL/05-06/152 **ARAM** A special meeting of the Council was convened to discuss issues relating to ARAM. A progress report on ARAM dated May 2006 was circulated. The Bursar, who attended for this meeting, introduced the paper, noting that the ARAM progress report has been discussed by Board and the Heads' Committee. The Heads' Committee has established a sub-committee to identify ARAM policy issues for consideration, and this sub-committee has liaised with the Bursar, the Treasurer and the Dean of Research on several operational and policy issues. The Bursar noted that other representative groups and individuals are in communication with the ARAM Taskforce, and that, on the whole, there is considerable engagement with the process. He remarked that the ARAM is a tool to support academic restructuring and on-going administrative and support services renewal.

The Bursar brought Council through the progress report, highlighting salient points. He explained that the 2003/04 and 2004/05 data used in the model are historical and do not reflect the academic restructuring. He highlighted briefly the background to the introduction of the ARAM and the rationale for and scope of the report. He noted the current status of ARAM in the Schools and Vice-Deaneries and reported that all Schools and Vice-Deaneries, with the exception of two Schools, have satisfied the ARAM Task Force that they have reached their 10% targets. Discussions are on-going with the two outstanding Schools. The Bursar noted that the process of checking the ARAM data

was time consuming and the nature of enquiries are more detailed, because more staff are involved in the process who are becoming familiar with the data and the model.

The ARAM Taskforce was reconstituted in February 2006 to assist in the refining of ARAM and in supporting the process. Three refinements were made in the method of calculation for ARAM 2004-05 draft data prior to distribution, and these related to the FTWA costs, costs of Research and Innovation Services and the Research Section of the Treasurer's Office for externally-funded research activity, and the status of students who are 'live' on the student register solely for the purpose of thesis submission. He noted that it was always expected that refinements would be made.

The Bursar drew Council's attention to Table 1 of the report and showed that over two years, ARAM produced a stable overall result, noting, for example, that fifteen Schools and Vice-Deaneries have stable or improved ratios with six having disimproved ratios. In 2004-05 there was a decrease in State grant income due to the unsupported costs of FTWA, and an increase of €16.2 million in all costs. Indirect costs rose by 6% of the Indirect Cost Base and Schools' Direct Costs rose by 14% of the Direct Cost Base.

The Bursar noted concerns about the increase in indirect costs and he identified the source of these costs. He undertook to forward a copy of the ARAM Explanatory Booklet, which provides detailed information on the process, to Council members. He noted that the main contributors to the increase relate to the costs of development of the Student Administration System (SAS) and the salary costs of extra personnel funded by the SFI AOIP scheme in the Treasurer's and Staff Office. The costs in relation to the SFI AOIP scheme are covered by income from this scheme which is distributed to Schools.

The ARAM Task Force has already identified costs which will be included in the 2005-06 ARAM data as they are already included in the 2005-06 estimates and expenditure as a result of decisions taken by the HEA and College. The ARAM progress report addressed the perception in College that administrative and support services have increased their staff complement at the expense of academic areas. The report provided evidence that costs did not increase above the increases in activity supported, and when pay inflation is taken into account they have decreased in nearly all areas. In addressing the concern that the Personnel and Appointments Committee has approved more new posts in administration and support service areas than in academic areas, the Bursar referred to the data that confirmed this was not the case. The Bursar noted, however, that it is College policy that administration and support service areas must live within their 2004-05 budget baselines with allowance for pay awards in so far as they are funded from State grant or tuition fee income. There are fluctuations in the ARAM outcomes, and these can be explained in terms of Schools having reduced student numbers and /or reduced research expenditure.

The Bursar referred to the timing of provision of ARAM data in the future, and noted that it was the intention of the ARAM Task Force to distribute draft data to Schools in the third week of December, noting that this was the earliest time possible after the end of year accounts were finalised.

As part of the strategic planning process the ARAM Taskforce and the Resource Management Committee are addressing the 40% targets for 2006-07. Some Schools will require support to assist them realise their 40% target, and the Bursar presented four options for consideration by Board: (i) implementation of ARAM outside the overall context of the purpose of restructuring, new external funding opportunities and challenges - in other words, an over-funded School would be required to reduce its expenditure in line with over-funding, regardless of the long-term consequences for the

School; (ii) implementation of ARAM over longer than a four-year period, with concomitantly smaller percentage targets per annum; (iii) consideration of loans for some Schools which cannot plan a strategy for reduction in over-funding; (iv) implementation of ARAM with regard to the changing environment, namely the Government's Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF) and the National Research Plan. The fourth option would allow College to continue with a four-year implementation cycle for ARAM and academic change, and it is expected that this would also have a beneficial effect on all Schools. The scale of the funding required is in the region of €4 million.

The Bursar informed Council that the next steps in managing the process involve identifying any necessary refinements in ARAM, and Schools' ability to achieve their 40% ARAM savings. He concluded by advising that the input of the College community was an important and necessary part of this process.

The Provost thanked the Bursar for his presentation and invited the Senior Lecturer to address the meeting. The Senior Lecturer opened his address by noting the relationship between ARAM, the change process, planning and academic development. ARAM was introduced to stimulate change and development in all academic areas, and it was always intended that ARAM should reflect College policy and strategy. Schools' strategic plans are important features of the process of ongoing development of academic areas, and the ARAM model provides useful data and greater transparency on how College's resources are deployed as well as details of direct and indirect costs associated with academic activity.

Schools decide on their preferred strategic direction on the basis of, among other things, the availability of funds relative to their use of College's resources. College's overall strategy is then agreed following an alignment of strategic objectives from a bottom-up and top-down process. The ARAM is a management tool used in conjunction with strategic planning and serves to highlight strengths and weaknesses in the funding position of academic units. ARAM informs decisions, but does not dictate policy. Recent decisions to appoint Chairs in Latin, Greek and Early Irish attest to this. College must be mindful of the changing external environment and take into consideration changes in trends in students' interests and economic and social developments. For example, there has been a steady decline in the take-up of languages at second-level in Ireland and this directly influences the provision of languages at third-level. The application of ARAM merely reflects such changes, it does not cause them. The new School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies, despite its over-funded ARAM position, is in a stronger position than individual departments are to address these changes.

The Provost opened the discussion to the floor. The meeting sought clarification on the HEA funding model. It was explained that the HEA model is an allocation and not a funding model. The HEA allocates a fixed amount of resources among the HEA funded higher education institutions and does not take into account the actual cost of delivering specific courses, unlike the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) model which determines the costs of delivering a particular course within price-groupings and distributes funding accordingly.

The Vice-President of the Graduates Students' Union (GSU) made a presentation on the perceived academic implications for students of ARAM. Using statistical data sourced from the Senior Lecturer's Annual Reports and extracts from Board meetings on ARAM and academic restructuring, the Vice-President of the GSU suggested that ARAM has a detrimental effect on students' learning. A high proportion of students are in over-

funded Schools, and even if all Schools were clustered into three super faculties, the problem of overfunding for many disciplines would not be resolved. He referred to some past suppositions of Board on the implications of the new structures on student life, and highlighted, among other things, that the Board has agreed that there should be scope to revise ARAM if after a limited period it were not functioning correctly. He contended that the aspirations of College's Strategic Plan 2003-08 have not been met, asserting that there is no transparency, responsibility or accountability in the review of College's resource allocation model.

The Vice-President of the GSU reiterated some of the risks identified at Board meetings especially in relation to small academic units. He argued that particular issues now identified by Schools would have adverse implications for students, such as (i) service teaching commitments, (ii) 'impossible' commitments to meet in 2005/06, (iii) discrepancy between HEFCE and ARAM weightings, (iv) fear of bankruptcy, (v) loss of less favoured subject options, (vi) low morale, and (vii) a fundamental threat to the academic ecology of Trinity College.

The Bursar in response to the Vice-President of the GSU remarked that College is in the process of refining the ARAM model, and that there has been a healthy and open debate on the matter to-date, as well as active engagement by the Heads of School and other representative groups, and it is, therefore, difficult to accept the claim that the process is not transparent. In response to a comment made by the Vice-President of the GSU on the imminent closure of the Chemistry department in a U.K. university arising from the application of a resource allocation model, the Bursar confirmed his understanding that it is not the case that the department in question is to be closed. He further noted that the strategic planning process is extremely transparent and there is considerable opportunity for student input into the process at both School and College level through the committee structures.

The meeting sought clarification on why the excess in the overfunded and underfunded balances do not balance, and the Bursar explained that this is because of accounting complexities associated with historical data and deductions for FTWA liabilities. Concern was expressed that some Schools may not be able to meet their 40% ARAM targets, and it was felt that such Schools have a bleak future as it is difficult to plan strategically when they are in a financial straitjacket. In such instances, it is difficult to defend the argument that the ARAM does not dictate policy if overfunded Schools cannot work their way out of debt. The Bursar responded that the Board will consider options to assist overfunded Schools improve their financial positions, and any options decided upon should be consistent with the School's and College's overall strategic plan.

An option of clustering Schools into bigger units was proposed and it was suggested that bigger units would contribute favourably to the reduction of volatility, would achieve greater economies of scales, especially in the delivery of administrative and support services, and would encourage greater inter-School cooperation in securing research grants and non-EU students. This option secured support from several Council members. The Bursar agreed that larger divisions would create more favourable opportunities for all Schools and would enable the administrative and support services to provide more efficient and cost-effective services to underpin academic activities.

It was suggested that there is a perception that ARAM drives policy, and if, as attested, the contrary is the case, College may need to reconsider its overall strategic objectives. Some of the principles driving the ARAM model may need to be reconsidered, such as

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the bias towards research at the expense of teaching. It is important to protect the biodiversity of College, and there may be no social utility in having policies that do not reflect a School's existing and future strength. There is an urgent requirement to interrelate Schools' strategy with ARAM.

The Provost, in drawing the meeting to a close, thanked the Bursar for attending Council. He noted that the process of restructuring is on-going, and that College must respond sensibly to the new funding environment, while at the same time determine its strategic directions based on its current and future strengths.

Signed

Date

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The University of Dublin

Trinity College

A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 10 May 2006 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost, Senior Lecturer, Registrar, Senior Tutor, Dean of Graduate Studies, Dean of Arts and Humanities, Dr J Nash, Dean of Engineering and Systems Sciences, Dr A Kokaram, Acting Dean of Health Sciences, Dr A W Kelly, Dean of Science, Dr N M Marples, Dean of Social and Human Sciences, Ms M L Rhodes, Mr D McCormack, Mr R Kearns, Mr S Hall, Mr C Larkin.
<i>Apologies</i>	Professor E O'Halpin, Dr P C Conroy, Dr C J Benson, Ms F M Haffey, Librarian.
<i>In attendance</i>	Secretary, Acting Academic Secretary.
<i>Observers</i>	Professor D M Singleton, Dr S P Wilson, Professor C M Begley, Dr M L Brennan, Dr N M Claffey.
<i>Student observer</i>	Ms N McGarrigle.
<i>By invitation</i>	Dean of Research (for CL/05-06/159 and CL/05-06/160).

SECTION A

- CL/05-06/153 Minutes** The minutes of the meeting of the 12th April and 28th April 2006 were approved.
- CL/05-06/154 Matters Arising from the Minutes** A number of matters arising from the Minutes were discussed and have been minuted under appropriate headings hereafter.
- CL/05-06/155 Statutes – Chapter XIII (See Actum CL/05-06/125)** The Registrar informed Council that the Fellows have not as yet returned a result on the revised Statutes.
- CL/05-06/156 Modularisation and Semesterisation (See Actum CL/05-06/126)** The Senior Lecturer reported that the first meeting of the working group on modularisation and semesterisation is scheduled for the 10th May 2006. In response to a question, he confirmed that the working group will be considering its composition.
- CL/05-06/157 Heads' Committee (See Actum CL/05-06/134)** The Senior Lecturer reported that a follow-up meeting with the Students' Union Education Officer and the Vice-President of the Graduate Students' Union was held to clarify the various items of detail in the Heads' Committee minutes of the 28th February and the 4th April 2006. The Students' Union Education Officer felt that issues of policy that have direct implications for

students are being discussed at the Heads' Committee and recommendations are being made without student input. As a result of this, he believes that the role of student representatives is being compromised. It was agreed to work with student representatives to find a constructive solution to the issues raised.

CL/05-06/158 Provost's Report The Provost commented that there were no new developments to report.

CL/05-06/159 Approval Process and Criteria for Trinity Research Centres The Dean of Research attended Council for this item. A paper dated 31st March 2006 outlining the approval process and criteria for establishing a Trinity Research Centre was circulated. Introducing this item, the Dean of Research reminded Council of the policy on research groupings, which was approved by Council at its meeting of the 12th April 2006. The aim of the approval process is to streamline processes for recognition to become a Trinity Research Centre and the mechanism by which financial planning for Centres can be integrated into the annual School strategic planning process, while keeping administration light. He noted that if a Centre has already been granted Centre status by Board prior to the release of the application form in Spring 2006, it will be automatically entitled to an initial three year period with Centre status. Such extant Centres are required, however, to submit the mandatory governance and financial agreement documentation described in Section III of the application form. Aspirant Centres are required to complete the entire application form. The application form seeks information on the aspirant Centre's staff, history, strategy and objectives including external research funding as well as the perceived benefits of obtaining centre status.

In discussing the approval process, Council sought clarification on the criteria for a Trinity Research Centre. The Dean of Research explained that the *governance* criterion is a system of controlling activity; the *record* criterion seeks to ensure that a Centre has a track record in, for example, publications and that those involved in the Centre have attained scholarly excellence in their discipline; the *uniqueness* criterion seeks to ensure that the Centre has a purpose that is different from the Schools involved and from scholarly activity in other Schools, and the Dean clarified that the use of 'elsewhere' in this criterion referred to elsewhere within College. Council considered the *external funding* criterion, and after some discussion it was agreed that in recognition that the research activity of some Centres do not require external funding, reference to external funding should be removed and the criterion should state that a Trinity Research Centre 'should be financially viable.' Council also agreed that to be granted the status of a Trinity Research Centre, an aspirant Centre should fill most, but not necessarily all, of the attributes as stated in the criteria.

Council noted and approved the approval process and criteria for Trinity Research Centres subject to the funding criterion being changed to state that Centres should be financially viable, and the overall requirements being changed to state that aspirant Centres should satisfy most of the criteria listed.

CL/05-06/160 Establishment of CRANN as a Trinity Research Centre A proposal dated December 2005 to establish CRANN (Centre for Advanced Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices) as a Trinity Research Centre and a memorandum dated 5th April 2006 from the Dean of Research were circulated. The Dean of Research noted that the proposal to establish CRANN as a Research Institute is consistent with the recent Council and Board approved policy on research groupings, and that the Research Committee will be the reporting line from CRANN to the College Board. He explained that CRANN's objective is to make a significant impact on nanoscience and that it is at the forefront of

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the subject in selected areas. He commented on CRANN's governance structure and its links to high-tech companies and other third level institutions, and noted that its primary source of funding comes from SFI (Science Foundation Ireland).

The Dean of Research commented that the financial arrangements, which are extremely complex, have not been finalised, but that discussions are ongoing. Large Research Institutes, such as CRANN, are central to the College's strategy and it is vital that matching funding is secured.

Council discussed the proposal to establish CRANN as a Trinity Research Centre. In response to a question, the Dean of Research confirmed that the composition of the Board is in line with the agreed policy on Research Institutes. It was noted that all postgraduate students are involved in the participating Schools and that the academic administration in respect of these students takes place in the Schools. The Dean recognised that the ARAM relationship between CRANN and participating Schools has yet to be resolved.

Council noted and approved, subject to financial arrangements being finalised, the proposal to establish CRANN as a Trinity Research Centre.

CL/05-06/161 Graduate Studies Course Proposals Three M.Sc course proposals dated 2nd May 2006 were circulated. The Dean of Graduate Studies in introducing these proposals, noted that it is general practice to have all postgraduate course proposals reviewed by an external reviewer, to use a standard template, and to show ECTS values of course modules.

- (i) **Proposal for M.Sc. Course in Neuroscience** The M.Sc in Neuroscience is one-year in duration, full-time, and will be delivered by the School of Medicine. The proposed annual intake is twelve EU and non-EU students, increasing to eighteen over four years. The course aims to provide multidisciplinary training in the neurosciences, in topics ranging from molecular to behavioural, and will equip graduates with the skills to progress into a career in pharmaceutical, biomedical or neuropsychological research, or to embark on a doctoral programme. He drew Council's attention to elective modules, noting that the electives in (i) Molecular Basis of Development, (ii) Executive Functions and Working Memory, and (iii) Neurodegenerative Disorders are undergraduate modules that may be taken only if the course director feels that the module in question will clearly fill a gap in the student's knowledge. Students may only take one elective module, which carries three ECTS credits.

The Dean of Graduate Studies informed Council that a report on the external review of the course was received, and the course's academic merits are considered to be very positive. The external reviewer made some recommendations which were accepted by the course committee and included in the proposal. The course has been approved by the Library Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee and is expected to be considered at the meeting of the Finance Committee on the 10th May 2006.

Council approved the proposal to establish an M.Sc in Neuroscience.

- (ii) **Proposal for M.Sc/P.Grad.Dip. (exit only) Course in Palliative Care:** The proposed M.Sc in Palliative Care will be delivered by the School of Nursing and Midwifery part-time over two years with provision for a postgraduate diploma exit award. The proposed annual intake is fifteen EU and non-EU students. The aim of the course is to strengthen and develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the participants in the area of palliative care. This course is timely

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and will provide the necessary trained staff to cater for the expected increase in cancer patients due to earlier diagnosis, improved treatment and longer survival. Approximately 95% of patients availing of specialist palliative care services in Ireland suffer from cancer. The M.Sc in Palliative Care fits within College's major research theme of 'meeting the challenges of establishing and applying new health sciences and health management.'

The Dean of Graduate Studies informed Council that a report on the external review of the course was received, which was very positive about the course's academic merits. The external reviewer made some recommendations of changes to the course proposal and these have been included in the final document. The course has been approved by the Library Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee and it is expected that the proposal will be considered at the June meeting of the Finance Committee.

Professor Begley drew Council's attention to a correction in the admissions criteria, noting that the criteria should read that candidates with 'equivalent qualifications' and not a 'lower class degree' as stated in the proposal. Some concern was expressed about the number of contact hours attached to this course as well as with the significant differences in contact hours across M.Sc courses in general. The Dean of Graduate Studies confirmed that this matter was considered by the Graduate Studies Committee and it was felt that while it is desirable that there is a degree of uniformity across similar disciplines, it was also felt that College should not be prescriptive about contact hours.

Council approved the proposal to establish an M.Sc./P.Grad.Dip. (exit only) Course in Palliative Care.

- (iii) **Proposal for M.Sc./P.Grad.Dip. (exit only) Course in Biodiversity and Conservation** The Dean of Graduate Studies noted that there is no postgraduate course in biodiversity or conservation biology in Ireland. The proposed course will be delivered full-time over one year with provision for a postgraduate exit. The course can cater for a maximum of 25 full-time EU and non-EU students, and the target intake for the academic year 2006/07 is fifteen. Biodiversity and conservation form one of the key research themes of the School of Natural Sciences and the School has significant research capacity and expertise in this field. The course will also contribute to future developments at an inter-School level and to policy development of the College's Strategic Plan.

The Dean of Graduate Studies informed Council that a report on the external review of the course was received, which was very positive about the course's academic merits. The external reviewer made some recommendations on the course proposal and these have been incorporated into the final course proposal. The course has been approved by the Library Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee and will be considered at a meeting of the Finance Committee on the 10th May 2006.

In considering this course proposal, Council discussed the merits of existing practice of not awarding distinctions for outstanding achievement in taught Master's courses. It was noted that some courses award a prize for the best dissertation and that this might be an alternative to awarding distinctions.

Council approved the proposal to establish a M.Sc./P.Grad.Dip. (exit only) Course in Biodiversity and Conservation.

CL/05-06/162 Taskforce 2 – Organisation and Reporting Structures in College’s Administrative and Support Structures A report dated April 2006 from Taskforce 2 on organisation and reporting structures in College’s administrative and support services was circulated. The Provost noted that the report was not presented for approval, but for information and discussion only at this stage. The Senior Lecturer explained the background to this report, noting that its terms of reference were to examine and report on organisation and reporting structures with specific reference to (i) the role of the academic annual officers, (ii) appropriate portfolios, and (iii) reporting arrangements. The Taskforce did not find it appropriate to frame specific proposals for change because of a possible conflict of interest as the membership included a number of senior academic and administrative officers. In light of this, a decision was taken to identify the main issues involved and agree a set of broad proposals for further consideration. A small group of officers close to the Provost, and including an external change management consultant, has been charged with the brief to consult with interested parties, and to bring forward firm recommendations for change, using the proposals outlined in the report as a basis in the consultation process.

The Senior Lecturer drew the meeting’s attention to proposal 4 which states that ‘College should consider strengthening the Provost’s Office to include a Deputy Provost - Academic Affairs and a Vice Provost – Administrative Affairs.’ The strengthening of the Provost’s Office to create a more focussed, effective and strategic team at the apex of College’s management structure is seen to be essential not only to manage change but also to manage the strategic objectives of College. The Senior Lecturer argued that if the strengthening of the Provost’s Office were achieved as a first step, discussions on and decisions about the role of academic officers, appropriate portfolios, and reporting arrangements would flow from this. He concluded by informing the meeting that the external consultant, Mr Behan, has commenced a series of one-to-one consultations with heads of administrative areas, and that the Senior Lecturer has begun the process of consulting with Heads, other academic staff, and student representatives with a view to developing some firm recommendations to present to Board for consideration.

Council made a number of observations on the report. It was asserted that the report and the consultation process presuppose that the proposal to strengthen the Provost’s Office will be endorsed, and there is no provision for a rejection of this in the report. The Senior Lecturer remarked that the report does not pre-empt a positive or negative outcome, and there is an inherent assumption that the consultation process will bring about refinements. It was felt that the proposals added another layer of administration, and that it was not clear how the options for reporting arrangements within the administrative support services would improve existing structures. It was suggested that the reporting lines of administrative and support staff should be determined before a decision on the top layer of management is made; that the Treasurer should not report to the Vice-Provost – Administration as this would compromise the Office’s independence; that the title Vice-Provost should not be conferred on a purely administrative role as this title is more commonly used for academic appointments. The Provost commented that nomenclature and titles are secondary to achieving the best management structures. The Senior Lecturer noted the challenges in introducing change, and the Taskforce felt that it is important to first agree the broad principles and to attempt to implement change step-by-step in a structured way, recognising that there will be sensitive industrial relations issues to be managed.

The College Secretary confirmed that the proposals will not have any implications arising from national legislation, the Statutes or the University Senate. Any changes arising following due process will be assessed and implemented within legislative provisions. He further confirmed that proposal 4 assumes that the Treasurer and the College Secretary will report to the Vice-Provost – Administration.

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It was noted that the report did not make mention of the Senior Tutor in the portfolio of academic officers, and the reporting line of student services is not addressed. The Senior Lecturer remarked that these would be considered in the second phase of the review of organisation and structures.

The Provost thanked Council for its comments on the report of Taskforce 2 on organisation and reporting structures in College's administrative and support services.

CL/05-06/163 Dean of Graduate Studies – Annual Report for the Academic Year 2004-05 and Admissions Data for 2005-06 The Graduate Studies Annual Report for the academic year 2004-05 was circulated. The Dean of Graduate Studies introduced the report highlighting a number of salient trends in the postgraduate applications. There has been an increase in the number of postgraduate students registered over the period 2002/03 to 2004/05, and a steady increase in the number of postgraduate courses on offer in the same period. The report provides details of the number of external examiners involved in the examination of research and the number of examiners appointed in 2004/05 increased by 42 relative to the number of examiners appointed in the previous year. The average thesis examination period in 2004/05 was seven and a half months, and of the 284 research examinations, eleven percent involved examination periods of more than one year. Over the period 2002-03 to 2004/05 the number of applications for category I and II Ussher awards have decreased.

Appendices to the annual report provide comprehensive statistical data on applications and registered student numbers for full-time and part-time research and taught Master's degrees and part-time diplomas; this data is presented by gender breakdown and country/county of origin of students.

2005/06 admissions data show total applications and offers made in respect of postgraduate taught and research courses in each of the new Schools / Vice-Deaneries. The Dean highlighted in particular data in Appendix 12 on research admissions and standing, noting that a high percentage of students are in year 5+ of their studies; for example, 25 students in Computer Science, 19 in Physics, 12 in Clinical Medicine, 14 in Sociology and 16 in English. This pattern has significant ARAM implications for the Schools involved. He noted that a significant proportion of these students are registered as part-time and are permitted to remain on the register for seven years. College does not have a part-time fee and part-time students are treated as full-time students for the purpose of ARAM.

In the discussion that followed, the Provost noted the importance of such statistical data for both management purposes and the development of policy. It was felt that College should address ARAM issues in respect of students on the part-time register. Concern was expressed that the ARAM disadvantages those students who take longer than four years to complete their degree.

The Provost thanked the Dean of Graduate Studies and all those involved in preparing the Graduate Studies Annual Report.

CL/05-06/164 Heads of School Committee The minutes of the meeting of the Heads' Committee of the 25th April were circulated. The Senior Lecturer referred Council to a number of items.

HC/05-06/124 The Senior Lecturer noted that the sub-committee of Heads' on ARAM presented an interim report to the Heads' Committee on the 25th April 2006, and it is now intended that the sub-committee make firm recommendations to the Heads' Committee at its meeting of the 23rd May 2006. Following discussion, the Heads' Committee will agree

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policy recommendations to be forwarded to the ARAM Task Force. The ARAM Task Force will consider these recommendations together with recommendations from other sources and will formulate policy decisions for consideration by the Resource Management Committee (RMC). The RMC will report to Council and Board on final ARAM policy recommendations.

HC/05-06/126 The Senior Lecturer noted that Dr P Walsh presented an interim report of the working group on interdisciplinary and service teaching to the Head's Committee, and following revisions, a final report will be presented for Council consideration.

CL/05-06/165 Nominations for Appointment Dr B Foley retired from Council for this item. Council noted and approved the appointment of Dr B Foley to the position of Director (part-time) of CAPSL. Council also noted and approved the circulated information (see Appendix 1).

CL/05-06/166 Any Other Urgent Business There was no other business.

Section B

CL/05-06/167 Information Policy Committee Council noted minutes of the Information Policy Committee meeting of 31st March 2006.

The Vice-President of the Graduate Students' Union stressed the importance of maintaining the Research Support System.

CL/05-06/168 Personnel and Appointments Committee The Council noted and approved minutes of the Personnel and Appointments Committee meetings of 12th and 26th April 2006.

CL/05-06/169 Research Committee The Council noted minutes of the Research Committee from its meeting of 6th April 2006.

SECTION C

CL/05-06/170 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 3 April 2006 and noted by Board on 3 May 2006.

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

MD Ifidon Emmanuel Eguare; Alexander Duncan Fraser; Corrina Barbara Beverley McMahon.

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

PhD Sivakumar Balakrishnan; Samuel Baron; Deirdre Ann Coffey; Ruth Collins; Brendan Peter Doggett; Robert Paul Fagan; Frances Fahy; Emma Finlay; Justin Patrick Foley; Grace Jordan; Emma Kerr; Torsten Krug; Robert James Legg; Anthony Loughman; James McCarry; Davida

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Suzanne Smyth; Declan Paul Stack O'Sullivan; Adam Pole; Amornrat Prajaksood; Matthew John Saunders; Georgios Stefanou; Izabela Costa Brochado; Emer Elizabeth Coveney; Fergal Davis; Eoghan Enda Garvey; Áine Cáitríona Heneghan; Kay Alexandra Inckle; Elish Kelly; Francis Paul Vincent Leneghan; Peter Mackay; Sandra Andrea O'Connell; Kate Frances O'Malley; Myriam Perregaux

MSc Margaret Rachel Flynn; Nicola Jean; Fred Tottenham; Ryan Van Roode.

MLitt Takashi Shoji.

MDentCh Edward O'Reilly.

CL/05-06/171 Graduate Studies Committee – Business Requiring Approval of the University Council The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Dean of Graduate Studies, circulated dated 2 May 2006.

CL/05-06/172 Medical Students admitted directly to the 4th Medical Year in 2003-2004 (Calendar page N3, section 9) The Council noted and approved the recommendation of the School of Medicine Executive Committee that the following students, admitted directly to the 4th Medical Year in 2003-2004 be permitted to receive the degree of BA in order that they may be conferred with the degrees of MB, BCh and BAO at the First Summer Commencements:

03105997	Chermaine Deepa Anthony
03103463	Oxana Bailey
03104265	Karen Vinodhini Davies
03103536	Ajit Kurian
03105989	Hwei Ping Esther Loh
03104192	Ketan Shah
03104010	Kuan Joo Voon

CL/05-06/173 School of Dental Science – Change of Award Status: Diploma in Dental Technology and Certificate in Dental Nursing The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Dean of the Dental School and Hospital, circulated dated 26 April 2006.

CL/05-06/174 Electronic and Electrical Engineering – Headship of Discipline/Department The Council noted and approved the nomination of Dr M J Burke to the headship of the Discipline/Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering for three years with effect from 13 July 2006.

CL/05-06/175 Nominating Committee The Council approved the membership of the following committees:

- (i) **School of Biochemistry and Immunology/TCIN – Lecturer in Neuroscience (5 year contract)**
Dean of Science
Dr T Connor
Dr G Davey

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

Professor M A Lynch
Professor L A J O'Neill
Professor S M O'Mara
Dr C Herron (UCD)

- (ii) **School of Biblical and Theological Studies – Lecturer in Jewish Studies
(permanent)**

Dean of Arts and Humanities

Professor N Biggar

Dr A Fitzpatrick

Dr D M Abrahamson

Professor P Alexander (Manchester)

Signed

Date

Appendix 1 to Actum CL/05-06/165

Nominations for Appointment

Department	Post	Name and Qualifications	Start date	Termination date (if contract)
Biochemistry & Immunology	Research Fellow	DUNNE, Padraic, B.Sc. (Applied Sciences) (Dubl.), M.Sc. (D.I.T.), Ph.D. (Lond)	01-08-2005	31-07-2008
Biochemistry & Immunology	Research Fellow	VOGEL, Andre, Dip. in Biology, Doctor Rerum Naturalium (Friedrich Schiller University)	01-08-2005	01-01-2008
Botany	Research Fellow (Part-time)	KIMBERLEY, Sarah, B.Sc. (NUI), M.Sc. (Dubl.), Dip. Stats. (Dubl.)	01-04-2006	01-04-2010
Botany	Research Fellow	MILBAU, Ann, M.Sc. (Antwerp), M.Sc. (Ghent)	01-05-2006	31-07-2007
Centre for Language & Communication Studies	Visiting Academic	ALCON SOLER, Eva, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. (Valencia)	01-06-2006	30-09-2006
Chemistry	Research Fellow	LOCOS, Oliver Brett, B.Sc., Ph.D. (Qld.UT)	15-05-2006	14-05-2007
Children's Research Centre	Research Fellow (Part-time)	CARR, Nicola, B.A. (Herts.), P.G.Dip. (Dubl.)	18-04-2006	17-10-2006
Children's Research Centre	Research Fellow	MURPHY, Sile, B.A. (NUI)	03-04-2006	03-07-2006
Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering	Research Fellow	CAULFIELD, Brian, B.Sc., Dip.Stats., M.Sc. (Dubl.)	02-05-2006	01-05-2007
Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering	Research Fellow	LAWLER, Myles, B.A., B.A.I., Ph.D. (Dubl.)	03-04-2006	30-06-2006
CRANN	Visiting Research Fellow	SADER, John Elie, B.Eng., Ph.D. (NSW)	15-05-2006	17-07-2006
Dental School	Lecturer	POLYZOIS, Ioannis, M.Dent.Ch., D.M.D. (Sammelweis), M.Med.Sci. (Sheff.)	03-10-2005	02-10-2008
IIS	Visiting Research Fellow	RICKARD, Stephanie, B.A. (Roch.), M.A., Ph.D. (Calif.)	02-05-2006	30-06-2006
Nursing & Midwifery	Lecturer	McBENNETT, Padraig, B.Sc., M.Sc. (NUI)	01-09-2005	31-08-2008
Paediatrics	Part-time Lecturer	COGHLAN, David, MB BCh BAO (NUI), MICGP (RCPI), DCH, FRCPI, FRCHCH (RCPI)	01-05-2006	30-04-2009

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

Paediatrics	Part-time Lecturer	McDONALD, Denise Gerrarde Mary, MB BCH BAO (NUI), DCH (NUI), MRCPI, MD (NUI)	01-10-2005	30-09-2008
Pharmacology & Therapeutics	Visiting Research Fellow	LAMBERT, Michael, B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D. (Dubl.)	01-04-2006	31-03-2009
Physics	Research Fellow	MANAI, Giuseppe, M.Sc. (University of Sassari)	01-04-2006	31-03-2007
Physiotherapy	Clinical Tutor	McNULTY, Kate, B.Sc. (RCSI)	01-10-2005	30-09-2008
Psychiatry	Senior Lecturer/ Consultant Psychiatrist	CORVIN, Aiden, MB BCh BAO (NUI), MRCPsych. (RCP, London), Ph.D. (Dubl.)	01-07-2006	Permanent
Senior Lecturer's Area	Director, Centre for Academic Practice & Student Learning (Part-time)	FOLEY, Brian, B.E. (NUI), M.A., M.E.E. (T.U.Eindhoven), Ph.D.	01-09-2006	31-08-2009
Social Sciences & Philosophy	Lecturer	MUHLAU, Peter, B.A. (Philipps-Universitat Marburg), M.A. (Bielefeld), Ph.D. (Groningen)	01-09-2006	Permanent
Surgery	Lecturer Registrar	RAMACHANDRA RAO, Gopinath Bussa, MBBS (Bangalore), MS, BJ (Pune)	01-04-2006	31-03-2007
Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience	Research Fellow	HOLAHAN, Eimear, B.Sc. (NUI), Ph.D. (Edin.)	05-06-2006	04-06-2007