



TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
ANNUAL REPORT 2006 - 2007



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Members of the Board of Trinity College Dublin during the 2006/07 academic year were:

Ex-Officio Members

Provost, Dr John Hegarty (Chair)
Vice-Provost, Professor Ruth Byrne
Senior Lecturer, Professor Colm Kearney
Registrar, Professor David Dickson
Bursar, Professor Clive Williams

Elected Fellows and Fellow Professors

Professor Nigel Biggar (2005-2010)
Professor Werner Blau (2005-2008)
Professor John Kelly (2005-2008)
Professor Marina Lynch (2005-2010)
Professor Jagdish Vij (2006-2010)
Professor Eunan O'Halpin (2005-2008)
Professor John Parnell (2005-2008)
Dr Amanda Piesse (2005-2010)

Elected Non-Fellow Academic Staff

Dr Andrew Butterfield (2005-2008)
Ms Mary Coffey (2005-2008)
Dr Alison Donnelly (2005-2010)
Dr Eoin Mac Cárthaigh (2005-2010)
Dr Donal O'Donovan (2005-2008)

Elected Non-Academic Staff

Mr Henry Kearns (2005-2010)
Ms Mary Leahy (2005-2008)
Dr Kieran J McGinley (2005-2008)

Student Representatives

President Graduate Students' Union,
Ms Ruth Pe Palileo (2006-2007)
President Students' Union,
Mr David Quinn (2006-2007)
Education Officer Students' Union,
Mr Robert Kearns (2006-2007)
Welfare Officer Students' Union,
Ms Denise Keogh (2006-2007)

External members

Mr Brian Sweeney,
nominated by Trinity College Dublin (2005-2010)
Ms Geraldine Clarke,
nominated by the Minister for Education and Science
(2005-2010)

In Attendance Ex-Officio

Secretary, Mr Michael Gleeson
Treasurer, Ms Grace Dempsey
Assistant Secretary, Ms Anne FitzGerald



Foreword

This Annual Report outlines the College's position and highlights our achievements during the academic year 2006/07.

Trinity College Dublin has been ranked in the top 100 world universities and top 25 European universities by the Times Higher Education Supplement's world university rankings. The College earned 78th place in the world rankings and is the only Irish university to make it into the top 100. This is the highest ranking the College has ever achieved. Such a high ranking is an outstanding achievement for a university in a small country, competing internationally with much larger and better-resourced universities.

We aim to build on our reputation as Ireland's number one university and our ambition, as articulated in the *Strategic Plan 2003-08*, is to be among the top universities in the world. Our strategic priorities are aligned to the highest academic values and to the national social, cultural and economic goals.

The College had a good year in 2006/07. It remained the first choice of the majority of high achieving students from the second level sector. Trinity was highly successful in securing funding for research activities – income to support all research activities continued to grow strongly.

However, along with other Irish universities, the College is facing serious funding difficulties. One of the biggest challenges facing the College is the uncertainty in relation to future funding levels, particularly with the recent indications from the HEA of further real reductions in core State funding in the coming years due to the expected deterioration of the public finances coupled with the new HEA Recurrent Funding Model. The current adverse financial situation is not sustainable and issues related to this are outlined in Section 10 of this Annual Report.

I wish to thank all the staff of the College, academic, administrative and support, for their part in our achievements – these could not have been attained without their dedication throughout the year.

I would also like to thank the Taoiseach, the Minister for Education and Science and the many Government Ministers whose support is greatly valued. The College is also indebted to the Board and Executive of the Trinity Foundation, the Higher Education Authority, Science Foundation Ireland, the Health Research Board, IRCHSS, IRCSET and the many other agencies and individuals, public and private, who have supported the College.

John Hegarty,
Provost.







1. Introduction

The academic year 2006/07 was another very successful year for the College:

- The College was the only university in the State to feature in the top 100 universities worldwide, placed 78th, and the top 50 European universities (25th) in the Times Higher Education Supplement's world university rankings
- Trinity researchers across all disciplines received international and national recognition for their achievements
- Research grants and contracts income amounted to a record €70.6 million
- The College continued to attract the top achievers in the Leaving Certificate and equivalent examinations
- A new academic structure of three faculties was approved
- Twelve professorial appointments were made, four of which were to newly-created Chairs
- 4,121 students had their degrees conferred
- Nine new postgraduate and two new undergraduate courses were introduced
- 28 patent applications were filed
- The College's largest building project, the final phase of the North East Corner Project consisting of the Naughton Institute and the Sports Centre, was completed.

2. Academic Developments

2.1 Academic Restructuring

Trinity College commenced a programme of restructuring during the 2005/06 academic year following an 'Agenda for Change'. In July 2006, the Board approved in principle the establishment of a federal academic structure with three or five clusters of Schools to facilitate meaningful devolution of decision-making and budgets to Schools. Following College-wide debate and consultation during Michaelmas Term 2006, the Board approved the institution of a three-faculty governance model as follows:

- Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science
- Faculty of Health Sciences

A Restructuring Advisory Group was established to facilitate the implementation of the three faculty structure. In July 2007, following extensive consultation across the College, the Board approved the Group's proposals on: (i) Role and Responsibility of Faculty Deans (ii) Procedures for the Selection of Faculty Deans (iii) Budgeting Arrangements for new Faculties (iv) Guiding Principles for new Faculty Governance (v) New Faculty Office and (vi) Central Management and Administrative and Support Service Reform.

2.2 Modularisation and Academic Year Structure

A Working Group on Modularisation and Academic Year Structure, formed to examine the case for and against adopting a modular course structure and/or a different academic year structure, engaged in a process of communications and consultation with the College community and produced a report in April 2007. The proposed academic year structure of a twelve-week Michaelmas term, a twelve-week Hilary term, and Trinity term devoted to preparing for, and conducting, the examination process, to take effect from the academic year 2009/10, was approved in principle by the Board, on the understanding that a further proposal regarding its implementation and associated details will be presented for approval in the 2007/08 academic year.

2.3 Strategic Innovation Fund

In July 2006, the Higher Education Authority issued a call for proposals for funding under the Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF), as established by the Minister for Education and Science. This was the first call for proposals and €42 million was available for allocation.

The key objectives of the SIF were:

- to enhance the delivery of core activities of education and research, through effective and creative institutional and inter-institutional collaboration and including, where necessary, appropriate internal restructuring and rationalisation efforts
- to support enabling measures to prepare for the expansion and development of post-graduate education (including expansion and development of graduate schools), including both intra- and inter-institutional collaboration
- to support innovation and quality improvement in teaching and learning, including enhanced teaching methods, programme restructuring, modularisation and e-learning
- to support access, retention and progression both at individual institutional level and through inter-institutional, sectoral and inter-sectoral collaboration.

Trinity collaborated with NUI Galway and UCC in the first phase and funding received has contributed significantly to two main areas of focus in College (i) change management/restructuring and (ii) building 4th Level capacity.

A second call for proposals under SIF was issued by the HEA in August 2007 with €130 million available for allocation. An institutional bid was submitted by the College which focused on (i) information systems (ii) increasing 4th Level capacity (iii) continuing restructuring (iv) enhancement of learning (v) widening participation and (vi) internationalisation.

2.4 THES World University Rankings

Trinity College Dublin was the only university in the State to feature in the top 100 universities and the top 50 European universities in the 2006 Times Higher Education Supplement's world university rankings. The College was ranked 78th place in the world and 25th in Europe.



The THES university rankings list the world's top 200 universities measured on peer review, number of citations per faculty member, ratio of students to staff and the number of international students and staff.

The College's continuing improvement in these world-wide university rankings illustrates ongoing international recognition from academics and employers as Ireland's premier university. Such high rankings are excellent accomplishments for a university in a small country, competing internationally with much better-resourced and larger universities.

2.5 Trinity Academic Medical Centre

Plans to establish a new integrated advanced medical centre, the Trinity Academic Medical Centre (TAMC), in collaboration with its major teaching hospitals, St James's and the Adelaide and Meath Hospital Dublin Incorporating the National Children's Hospital at Tallaght (AMNCH) were announced by the Board in July 2007. The first of its kind in Ireland, the TAMC will combine best practice in patient care with cutting edge research and teaching in a single governance medical model based on world-leading healthcare centres. This new single cohesive entity is a radical new departure from the current practice, where the three institutions deliver these activities separately, operating independently of one another.

3. Educational Matters

3.1 Student Body

Representing every county in Ireland and more than 85 countries, the College's student population is diverse in nationality, social class and age.

In total, there were 15,492 registered undergraduate and post-graduate students in 2006/07. Of these, 7% were from EU countries other than Ireland, 3% were from Northern Ireland, 3% were North or Central American and 3% were from other parts of the world.

The College is committed to increasing the number of non-traditional students admitted to undergraduate programmes, including those from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and mature students. In 2006/07 the College made further progress in achieving the goal of reserving 15% of CAO quotas for non-traditional students when, in 2006, 14% of all CAO places were filled by non-traditional students. Sixty-six percent of the non-traditional students registered in 2006 were mature students.

3.2 Admissions Statistics/Entrance Exhibitioners

In 2006, Trinity attracted a substantial proportion (11%) of first preference applications in the CAO system.

The College continues to attract the highest number of

academically talented students. A total of 535 first-year students were awarded special 'Entrance Exhibition Awards'. The students receiving these awards each achieved 545 points or higher (more than 6 A2 grades) in their Leaving Certificate examination or equivalent second level examination. The students represented 260 schools from all 32 counties in Ireland as well as from other EU schools. Of a total of 50,955 CAO Leaving Certificate candidates, 1,691 achieved 545 points or more and approximately 26% of this talented group of students chose Trinity College to pursue their third level education.

3.3 Scholarships



Chrissy Cleary, student in Early and Modern Irish, celebrates with her friends after being awarded Scholarship

Trinity Foundation and Non-Foundation Scholarships have long been a measure of academic achievement. Undergraduate students, at the end of their second year (or third year in the case of medical students), sit a special examination and only those who achieve first class honors are awarded a scholarship for a period of up to five years. In 2006/07, seventy-six students were awarded these prestigious scholarships on Trinity Monday 2007.

Recipients of the scholarships were representative of all faculties: the Faculty of Arts and Humanities (10); Faculty of Social and Human Sciences (14); Faculty of Engineering & Systems Sciences (6); Faculty of Health Sciences (19); Faculty of Science (14); and Multi-Faculty (13).

3.4 The Curriculum - New Undergraduate and Postgraduate Courses

The College responded to the development of new knowledge, new directions within disciplines and curricular innovation as well as to the changing needs of students and emerging opportunities by approving the following courses for delivery in 2006:

Undergraduate

Degree

Bachelor in Midwifery

B.Sc. Nursing – Children's and General Integrated



Postgraduate

Degree

MSc in Applied Psychology

M.Ed. (revised)

MPhil in Comparative Literature

Master in Palliative Care*

MSc in Neuroscience

MSc in Chemical and Biological Techniques*

Master in Biodiversity and Conservation*

Diploma

Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Psychotherapy

Higher Diploma in Children's Nursing

** These courses were approved by Council towards the end of Trinity Term 2005/06 and there was insufficient time to recruit adequate student numbers and prepare the courses for launch in 2006/07.*

The academic year 2006/07 saw the highest number of students (514, representing 95% of the 539 students registered as at 16 October 2006) complete the Broad Curriculum cross-faculty courses since the Broad Curriculum initiative was launched in 2002/03 with the support of seed funding from Atlantic Philanthropies. The thirteen courses, spanning a range of subjects in the arts, humanities, social and earth sciences, attracted students from most undergraduate programmes in College (excluding the Health Sciences) including some 66 visiting students. The courses are designed to promote breadth of reading at undergraduate level and the qualities desirable in a Trinity graduate.

Engagement with the Bologna process continued. A further review of European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) credit weightings got underway at the start of the year in the context of the decision of the University Council in June 2006 to standardize the credit weighting of all undergraduate and postgraduate taught course components/modules in units of 5 ECTS, or multiples of 5 ECTS, with effect from the 2007/08 academic year. This involved substantial re-calibration of undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses throughout the system, and also involved a re-weighting of certain course-years to take account of the new HEA funding model which caps funding for a full-time student at a course year credit volume of 60 ECTS credits, or 90 credits for most full-time taught masters programmes. In all, this amounted to a re-definition of the credit size of modules and a re-articulation of the structure of many courses.

3.5 Commencements, Firsts and Gold Medal Awards

A total of 4,121 degrees were conferred (2,754 primary degrees and 1,367 higher degrees) in 31 separate Commencement ceremonies in 2006.

Three hundred and thirty-seven students received first class honors at the degree examinations in 2006 and, of these, 61 were awarded Gold Medals. Honorary conferring took place at the Commencement ceremonies on 15 December 2006 and 6 July 2007. At the Winter Commencements, Neil Jordan, Peter Ndimbirwe Mugenyi and Jean O'Hara were honored. Recipients

of honorary degrees at the Summer commencements were Louise Asmal, Carol Bellamy, Gyan Johari, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Mark Pigott and Sir Michael Rutter.



Poet Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill and Louise Asmal, a founder of the Irish Anti-Apartheid Movement, two of the Honorary Degree recipients at the 2007 Summer Commencements

3.6 Trinity Access Programmes

The Trinity Access Programmes (TAP) are a range of initiatives aimed at increasing the participation rate at third level of young adult and mature students from under-represented socio-economic groups. TAP is a clear demonstration of the College's social mission in action.



Second level students participating in the TAP Summer School 2007

TAP owes its continued success to a network of highly productive partnerships with schools, further education colleges, families, students, Trinity staff, businesses, community groups and other Higher Education institutions nationally and internationally.

TAP receives its funding from the Higher Education Authority through the Strategic Initiatives Fund, the Department of Education and Science and a number of individual and corporate donors. These funds support the following initiatives:





- The Primary and Second Level Programmes
- The Pre-University Preparation Courses: Young Adults and Mature Students, TCD
- The Partnership Courses in Liberal Arts: TCD and City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee Colleges (CDVEC)
- The Post Entry Progression Programme.

3.6.1 Primary and Second-Level Programmes

The Primary and Second-Level Programmes link Trinity College with schools that have little or no tradition of progression to third level. The Primary Schools Programme links with 19 primary schools. In 2006/07 TAP was assisted by some 30 College departments in delivering activities including the Mathematics and Science Exploration Programme for sixth-class pupils and 'Take the Lead' for fifth-class pupils. The Second-Level Programme links TCD with 20 second-level schools in disadvantaged areas and seeks, through a variety of outreach supports, to increase the number of students in these schools who progress to third level. A combination of over 4,000 students, parents and teachers participated in on-campus activities with the Primary and Second-Level Programmes in 2006/07.

3.6.2 Foundation Course for Higher Education – Mature Students

This one-year foundation course, which seeks to counteract educational disadvantage, had 26 students registered in 2006/07. Twenty-one students successfully completed the course obtaining a Certificate in Foundation Studies for Higher Education. Fifteen of these progressed to undergraduate courses in TCD.

3.6.3 Foundation Course for Higher Education – Young Adults

This is a one-year foundation course that caters for young adults (17-20 years old) who have academic potential but who require an additional year of education to prepare for third level. Students submit applications and supporting documentation and are assessed in order to ascertain their level of socio-economic disadvantage. In 2006/07 twenty-seven students registered on this course, and 25 of those successfully completed the course. Nineteen of them progressed to undergraduate programmes in Trinity.

3.6.4 Higher Education Access Route

Students from schools affiliated with any one of the access offices from TCD, DCU, NUIM, UCC, UCD and UL are eligible to apply to the Higher Education Access Route. The scheme targets those who, for a variety of social and economic reasons, are under-represented at third level. The applicants are required to meet the minimum academic standards for entry into Trinity. However, the entry level for admission (i.e. Leaving Certificate points) is lower than the competitive academic entry level. Eighty-three students entered College through this route in 2006. Total acceptances were 86, but three students deferred their places.

3.6.5 Partnership Foundation Course

As part of College's efforts to meet the 15% quota of non-traditional students in undergraduate programmes, an arrangement has been .

entered into with three City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee (CDVEC) Colleges to develop and co-deliver a Liberal Arts College Preparation Course for access to a range of undergraduate courses in TCD. The CDVEC colleges, supported by Trinity College, successfully negotiated with the Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC) for accreditation within the National Qualifications Framework. Twelve students from this scheme progressed to undergraduate courses in Trinity College in 2006.

3.6.6 Post-entry Progression Programme

TAP has developed a range of post-entry supports in response to student needs. These include a two-week pre-university programme, financial and personal support, extra tuition, a Writing Resource Centre, a Maths Help Room, the Studio (learning resource centre), a supported accommodation scheme and end-of-term review workshops. TAP also works closely with other support services in College including the Library, Student Counselling, the Disability Support Service, the Health Service, Accommodation and the College Tutorial Service to ensure that the transition to third level is smooth and to support the successful completion of degree programmes by TAP students.

3.7 Provost's Teaching Awards



Mr Mark Monahan, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Dr David Tombs, Irish School of Ecumenics, and Dr Eric Finch, School of Physics, recipients of the 2006/07 Provost's Teaching Awards

The Provost's Teaching Awards are College's principal means of recognising those academic staff who have made an outstanding contribution in the pursuit of teaching excellence in TCD. Recipients of the 2006/07 awards were: Dr Eric Finch, School of Physics, who received a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his sustained commitment to teaching excellence and his influence on physics teaching both within the College and through his external work. Mr Mark Monahan, School of Nursing and Midwifery received an Early Career Award for his dedication to the development of experiential and reflective modes of learning in psychiatric nursing. Dr David Tombs, Irish School of Ecumenics, was the third recipient for his outstanding contribution to the scholarly development of lifelong and self-directed learning in the area of reconciliation studies.



3.8 Academic Appointments

Twelve appointments to Professorial Chairs were made in 2006/07.

Newly Established Professorial Chairs

Professor of International Business and Development (2006)
Professor Frank Barry
Professor of International Financial Economics and Development (2006)
Professor Patrick Honohan
Professor of Comparative Immunology (2006)
Professor Cliona O'Farrelly
Thomas N Mitchell Professor of Cognitive Neuroscience (2006)
Professor John O'Doherty

Personal Professorial Chairs

External

Professor Richard Reilly
Research Chair of Neural Engineering (2007)

Internal

Professor John McGilp, Physics
(Professor of Surface and Interface Optics)
Professor Michael Marsh, Political Science
(Professor of Comparative Political Behaviour)
Professor Alan Matthews, Economics
(Professor of European Agricultural Policy)
Professor Patrick Prendergast, Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
(Professor of Bio-Engineering)
Professor Michael Rowan, Pharmacology & Therapeutics
(Professor of Neuropharmacology)
Professor Igor Shvets, Physics
(Professor of Applied Physics)
Professor Ken Benoit, Political Science
(Professor of Quantitative Social Sciences)

In addition, two Senior Lecturers and 87 Lecturers were appointed. The College's Strategic Plan 2003-2008 identifies the quality of academic staff as one of the College's major strengths.

4. Quality

The Quality Office facilitated the quality reviews of the School of Business, the School of Mathematics, and the School of Social Work and Social Policy in 2006/07. A review of the Tutorial Service and the School of Chemistry was planned for the academic year 2006/07, but due to scheduling difficulties, these review visitations did not take place until November 2007.

5. Seanad Election

The Seanad Electoral Office, located in the Alumni/Proctors' Office, conducted the election to Seanad Éireann in 2007. Ballot papers, together with other forms, were issued to an electorate of approximately 48,880. The count took place on 24 and 25 July 2007 and was conducted under detailed regulations contained in the Seanad Electoral (University Members) Act, 1937.

Ivana Catherine Bacik, LL.M., David Patrick Bernard Norris, M.A., and Shane Peter Nathaniel Ross, B.A., were elected representatives of the University of Dublin in Seanad Éireann, 2007.

6. Research Activities

6.1 Research Themes

Trinity's research strategy encompasses all major academic disciplines and is committed to world-class research activities in key areas across science, engineering, social sciences, medicine and the arts. The College's strategic focus is on five key areas – European & International Integration, Culture & Creative Arts, Materials & Intelligent Systems, Biosciences & Translational Research and Transport, Energy & Environment. In each of these areas Trinity has significant research activities, linked nationally and internationally, building on a cornerstone of interdisciplinarity to deliver research of global consequence.

6.2 Research Funding

In 2006/07, Trinity was extremely successful in securing funding for research activities. Income to support all research activities continues to grow, reaching a level of €70.6 million for the year, which represents a significant increase over 2005/06 when the figure was €58 million. The contribution to indirect costs from research activity, however, continues to be below the full economic cost of hosting the research, resulting in the teaching budget cross subsidising research activity. This position is not sustainable.

The number of research accounts stands at 1,552, on par with the previous year.

Over the last number of years, there has been a shift in sources of research funds away from EU/foreign sources to Irish sources, largely driven by Science Foundation Ireland and HEA-funded PRTLl initiatives. Research activity supported 1,448 employees in 2006/07.

Source of Research Activity Funding	Year ended 30 Sept 2007
Science Foundation Ireland	44 %
Enterprise Ireland/Bioresearch Ireland/PATS	5 %
Higher Education Authority	12 %
Commission of the European Communities	8 %
Others	31 %

6.3 Trinity College's New Research Initiatives

Trinity's major research institutes and centres in areas such as neuroscience, globalisation, immunology, molecular medicine, nanoscience, telecommunications and the Trinity Long Room Hub for the arts and humanities are firmly established among the international leaders in their fields.

In addition to Trinity College's ongoing research initiatives in these



areas, the following new projects were launched during 2006/07:

Trinity Immigration Initiative



Provost John Hegarty, IBEC Director General, Turlough O'Sullivan and Olabomi Ogundeyi, Discovery Choir at the launch of the Trinity Immigration Initiative

Ireland's largest immigration research programme, the Trinity Immigration Initiative (TII), a four year project addressing the key challenges of immigration in Ireland and helping Irish society develop policies in relation to these issues, was launched in January 2007. The multidisciplinary research programme will focus on the areas of employment, social policy, culture and language and will provide a detailed picture of immigrants living in Ireland. It will chart their career aspirations, integration into Irish communities, educational needs as well as their cultural and religious activities.

New Centre for Women in Science & Engineering Research

Trinity College's new Centre for Women in Science & Engineering Research (WiSER) which aims to increase the representation of women in science and engineering research in Ireland was launched in November 2006 by the Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Mr Micheál Martin TD. International and national research shows that women are not progressing along the academic career ladder in the areas of science and engineering. The new TCD Centre is one of three new national projects funded by Science Foundation Ireland which is addressing this issue.

Irish Film & TV Research Online

A new TCD research project, Irish Film & TV Research Online, a website designed to bring together the wide diversity of research material relating to Irish-made cinema and television as well as Irish-themed audio-visual representations produced outside of Ireland, was launched.

6.4 Research Links with Other Institutions

All-Ireland Collaborative Research Partnership between TCD, UCD & QUB

An all-Ireland collaborative research partnership between

universities North and South – Queen's University Belfast, Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin – was signed in April 2007 by the three university presidents. Building on a new collaborative accord executed between the two Dublin institutions, TCD Provost, Dr John Hegarty, and UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady, each signed bilateral collaborative agreements with QUB President and Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Gregson in Dublin. These agreements will promote and consolidate cooperation in education and research between the three universities.

European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ECRIN)

The Dublin Molecular Medicine Centre (DMMC), a collaboration between Trinity College Dublin, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and University College Dublin, in partnership with the Medical Schools of University College Cork and NUI Galway, announced in October 2006 that the recently formed Irish Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ICRIN) formally joined the European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network (ECRIN). The ECRIN Consortium is a European not-for-profit platform for the support of trans-European clinical research projects.

New Strategic Partnership between Trinity and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Trinity College Dublin and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland have agreed a new strategic collaborative research partnership in medicine. This bilateral agreement will enable the institutions to build collaborative and complementary strengths in medicine. The primary focus of this initial partnership concerns medical and biomedical research and will include collaboration in areas such as obstetrics, systems biology, clinical trials and drug discovery among other areas.

Humanities and Bioengineering Partnership between Trinity and NUI Galway

TCD and NUI Galway agreed a new strategic collaborative research partnership in the humanities and bioengineering. The bilateral agreement will enable the institutions to build collaborative and complementary strengths. The primary focus of this collaboration concerns research in the arts, humanities and areas of social studies. It paves the way for the creation of an East-West Arts and Humanities Research Corridor in Ireland, linking Trinity's Long Room Hub initiative with the Moore Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Studies at NUI Galway. The other element of the agreement builds upon existing bioengineering partnerships between the National Centre for Biomedical Engineering Science (NCBES) at NUI Galway and the Trinity Centre for Bioengineering.

6.5 Scholarship and Award Success for TCD's Researchers

Trinity staff members continued to excel in research achievements and received national and international distinction. Awards received by members of the research community in the College include:

€22.7 million in funding for TCD research programmes under the Government's Programme for Third Level Research in Third Level Institutions – PRTL Cycle 4 was announced by the Minister for





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Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, in August 2007. Particular highlights include funding for the humanities to deliver the Trinity Long Room Hub initiative, funded under the collaborative programme 'Humanities Serving Irish Society' which was awarded €10.7 million. Another principal beneficiary was the Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN) and nanoscience research which was awarded €6.2 million as part of the 'Nanoscience and Nano scale technologies for Ireland programme'.

The Royal Irish Academy enrolled five TCD academics as new members in 2007: Prof Ruth Byrne, Vice-Provost and Professor of Cognitive Science; Prof Samson Shatashvili, Chair of Natural Philosophy and Head of the School of Mathematics; Prof Philip Lane, Professor of International Economics and Director of the Institute for International Integration Studies; and Emeritus Fellows, Prof John Bartlett, School of Religions and Theology and Prof Victor Dixon, Department of Hispanic Studies.

Dr Anil Kokaram, Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, received an 'Oscar' (Academy Award) for the development of visual effects software for the film industry at an Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science ceremony in Los Angeles in February 2007.



Dr Anil Kokaram with his 'Oscar'

In February 2007, TCD researchers were awarded €2.5 million by Science Foundation Ireland to create a virtual Dublin on a scale and level of realism never seen before. Metropolis is a novel interdisciplinary project combining computer graphics, engineering and cognitive neuroscience research, in which researchers will create a simulated lifelike city, where real people will be able to move around and experience total immersion in a computer generated Dublin.

TCD researchers in the School of Biochemistry and Immunology were awarded €1.2 million in funding by the European Union in 2006 to study how mitochondria control neurodegeneration in the brain.

A team of scientists, led by Dr Padraic Fallon in the School of Medicine, were awarded €1.68 million by Science Foundation Ireland to develop new potential treatments for allergic diseases in August 2007.

Prof Michael Gill and Dr Louise Gallagher, Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine will lead a €12 million Global Autism Genome Project, of which €5 million has been received from the Health Research Board, as well as an additional €7 million from a variety of international organisations. Prof Gill is the principal investigator of the global research project and he is joined by three co-investigators: TCD's Dr Louise Gallagher and UCD's Prof Andrew Green and Dr Sean Ennis. The Irish researchers will participate in a leading international consortium that aims to find the gene responsible for causing autism.

Dr Brian Lucey, School of Business, was elected Academic Director of the Midwest Finance Association (MFA). He is the first non-USA based academic to be elected by the members of the association to its board, and is the only non-US based academic to hold office in any US-based finance association.

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) funds a President of Ireland Young Researcher Award (PIYRA) Programme to support the development of a new generation of cutting edge researchers in fields that are critical to Ireland's economic and social prosperity. Trinity obtained two of four PIYRAs awarded in 2006. TCD will also host an ETS Walton Visitor in 2007/08. In addition, SFI recommended funding for 45 Research Frontier Programme 2007 applications from TCD. These programmes of work span a variety of discipline areas.

Health Research Board awards received by TCD researchers in 2006 include the following schemes: Research Fellowships for the Therapy Professions; Research Project Grants; Clinical Research Training Fellowships; Postdoctoral Research Fellowships; Health Services Research Fellowships; Clinical Research Training Fellowships in Nursing and Midwifery; and Translational Research Awards.

TCD researchers applied to the latest round of funding from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) including the Doctoral Scholarship, Masters Scholarship and Research Fellowship schemes.

Since summer 2006, 15 Proof of Concept Proposals were funded in Trinity by Enterprise Ireland. Individuals or small groups worked on short applied projects to develop a product concept through to a stage where a route to commercialisation is clear.

Trinity College was awarded four Walsh Fellowships from Teagasc.

The Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS) awarded the College 26 Postgraduate Research Scholarships, ten Postdoctoral Fellowships and four Senior Research Fellowships. The Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology (IRCSET) awarded TCD 13 Embark Initiative Postdoctoral Fellowships and 47 Postgraduate Research Scholarships.

Trinity College's Graphics, Vision and Visualisation Research Group was selected as a winner of the IBM Shared University Research (SUR) award. The College is among ten universities worldwide and only two in Europe to win the IBM Cell Broadband Engine (Cell BE) technology donation. The donation will be used to research technology for human animation in the video game and movie industries.



In addition, TCD will also collaborate on these research projects with IBM's Emerging Software Systems team based in IBM's Watson Research Lab. This collaboration will build stronger ties between TCD and IBM researchers in Ireland and the US, allowing both parties to gain insights into emerging technologies, exchange market trend information and accelerate innovation in the exciting area of digital media.

Prof Thorfinnur Gunnlaugsson, School of Chemistry, was awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry Bob Hay Lectureship at the UK Macrocycles and Supramolecular Chemistry Group annual meeting. This is the first time that this prize has been awarded to a recipient who works outside of the UK.

The only journal specialising in biomedical materials, *The Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials*, an international, scientific journal was launched in February 2007 and will be edited by Prof David Taylor, School of Engineering.

7. Innovation and Commercialisation

7.1 Intellectual Property

Trinity Research & Innovation is responsible for knowledge transfer, including Intellectual Property capture and protection, marketing of Intellectual Property, post-contract commercialisation of research outputs, negotiation and development of partnerships with stakeholders to ensure the effective commercialisation of research outcomes.

In order to capitalise on the results of research, the intellectual property must be captured and protected. As an indicator of the College's success in this area, Trinity filed 28 patent applications and issued a number of commercial licenses during 2006/07.

7.2 University and Industry Collaboration

The focus of the new Research Consortium on Neurodegeneration, a Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience and Glaxo-Smithkline Beecham research consortium (2007-2012), is on diseases associated with brain ageing, especially Alzheimer's disease. The Consortium plans to use the knowledge its staff have about basic brain function and bring it into the clinic in the most direct and rapid manner possible. In parallel, the researchers want to explore, using their unique and special laboratory models, the underlying causes of these diseases and disorders in order to understand what has malfunctioned in the brain at the level of cells and networks of cells. The neuroscience of the future will deliver new and innovative healthcare and this will be the outcome of the combined work of the clinician, the laboratory researcher and industry. Society requires the development of these medical treatments and some of that future is captured in this world-leading collaboration, which brings together diverse talents and expertise to drive the development of these medical treatments.

7.3 Campus Companies

Dr Chris Horn, IONA Technologies' founding member and vice-chairman was presented with the Trinity College Innovation Award by the TCD Provost, Dr John Hegarty, at an Entrepreneurship

Seminar in Trinity College in September 2007. Dr Horn was cited for leading a company with innovative products and for creating an innovative environment that saw more than 20 companies spin out of IONA during the past 15 years. IONA Technologies was founded in the IDA-backed TCD Innovation Centre, by three former TCD lecturers from the Department of Computer Science. Following its incubation period, the team gained an investment from the Californian-based Sun Microsystems, and the company was later launched on the NASDAQ exchange in New York.

7.4 Entrepreneurship and Innovation

The College's Entrepreneurship Training Programme for postgraduate researchers entered its fifth year: more than 60 contributors from among past entrepreneurs, state agencies, venture capital houses, principal investigators and staff members of the College are involved in delivering this programme. A specialized version was devised and delivered for the European Union Nutrigenomics Network NuGO, in collaboration with UCD, and with a British and a Swiss entrepreneur complementing the workshops. TCD partnered UCC and NUIG in preparing pilot HEA funded SIF modules on Entrepreneurship for postgraduates, based on the colleges' previous experiences.

Wesley Cooper, TCD School of Statistics and Computer Science, and Alan Foy, TCD School of Business won the College of Engineering Section of the Idea to Product® Global University competition at the University of Austin, Texas (USA) on 11 November 2006. They also came second to Imperial College London in the overall competition. Their project, Clear Deal, was sponsored by the TCD Entrepreneurship Programme at the Trinity Technology and Enterprise Campus. Clear Deal is an automated vision and tracking system designed to monitor the game of blackjack within strict State of Nevada casino regulations. 12PTM is an international competition for early stage technology driven projects prior to the business planning stage. This year, 16 university teams from nine countries were invited to participate in the competition.

8. Capital Development Programme

Key capital developments during the 2006/07 academic year include the completion of the Sports Centre and Naughton Institute, the opening of the new Pearse Street East Pedestrian entrance, the refurbishment of the Provost's House Stables to house the Trinity Irish Art Research Centre, the refurbishment of the BATTERY Bar and Café, and the advancement of planning on the proposed Biosciences and commercial development on the An Post site. In addition, a vast range of other projects took place from grounds improvements projects to the creation of facilities for SFI researchers.

8.1 Completed Projects

Trinity Irish Art Research Centre

Work was completed on a €1.5 million project to restore the stables adjoining the Provost's House to provide accommodation for the Trinity Irish Art Research Centre (TRIARC). The project, funded by a private donation, houses a new research and teaching facility including a teaching/exhibition space, study area and



ancillary services at ground floor level and a reading/archive room and offices at first floor level. Accommodation is provided for five staff and up to 15 readers, with classroom space for up to 18 students.

North East Corner project

The College's largest, and probably the most challenging, building project – the final phase of the North East Corner project – was completed during the summer of 2007. It consisted of two elements, the Naughton Institute and the Sports Centre.

Sports Centre



The Climbing Wall

The new sports complex has been in use since April 2007. Built at a cost of almost €30 million, it provides 6,500 sq.m. of modern, purpose built recreational space, housing a 25m, six-lane swimming pool with adjoining sauna and steam room. The building is distinguished by a spectacular climbing wall which runs for almost the entire height of the building on its Westland Row elevation and can be seen from the street through a full height glass façade. The swimming pool has a floating floor allowing the depth to be adjusted to cater for a wide range of activities from beginners' lessons to scuba training and water polo. Other facilities include two sports halls, a substantial fitness theatre, an aerobics studio together with accommodation for sports clubs and spaces for reflexology and other holistic treatments. The building has separate high quality changing areas for wet and dry sports.

Naughton Institute

The country's first purpose-built nanoscience research institute, the Centre for Research on Adaptive Nanostructures and Nanodevices (CRANN), known as the Naughton Institute in recognition of a major donation from Dr Martin Naughton, Chairman of the Glen Dimplex Group, will house 150 scientists, technicians and graduate students in a state-of-the-art facility and will provide them with the technology required to explore the world of nanoscience.

Science Foundation Ireland has committed €21 million to the

project to date, with almost €10 million being used to fund research activity and €11 million for the construction of specialised vibration-free laboratory facilities. Projected to cost some €30 million, researchers and scientists at the Institute will be able to develop apparatus and techniques to build new structures and devices atom by atom, which generates endless possibilities for biotechnology, information and communications technologies.



The Naughton Institute

The building also includes an innovative public venue, the Science Gallery, the first of its kind in the world. Fitted out and operated with assistance from state and private funding, the Gallery will engage the public with major current and future issues in science through interactive exhibitions, events, discussion and debates. It is scheduled to open in early 2008.

The new Pearse Street East pedestrian entrance opened on 28 March 2007.

8.2 Proposed Construction Projects

Biosciences development

This site, between Cumberland Street and Sandwith Street, which is currently used as a surface car park, is to be redeveloped to provide a mixed development of academic and commercial space. The development is under appeal to An Bord Pleanála, the Planning Appeals Board, and a decision has been postponed until early 2008. The academic facilities to be housed in this development include a Biosciences Institute with supporting facilities and additional third level teaching and research accommodation. The commercial space will include shops, office accommodation and laboratory space. The development adjoins Pearse Railway Station and the design incorporates a new entrance to the Station. Subject to planning permission, the project is scheduled to start on site early in 2008.

Pearse Street Development

The College's plan for the redevelopment of its Pearse Street property is the outcome of an international architectural competition held in 2002. The development comprises a phased development strategy for new buildings on the north side of the College sports grounds and refurbishment of retained nineteenth





century terraced houses along the College's northern boundary. The proposed area of the completed development is scheduled at 18,400 sq.m. (including 4,400 sq.m. of refurbished/retained building area).

The majority of the accommodation will be provided in two new buildings to be built on a site north of the Rugby Pitch. These buildings will be linked by walkways at two levels to the houses on the Pearse Street terrace which are to be refurbished to provide residential accommodation at the upper levels. The ground floor spaces will be used to house a mix of recreational and academic activities, including shops and cafes that will enliven Pearse Street.

Discussions are under way on the first phase of this development, the conversion of the former sports facilities in the Luce Hall to a new Students' Centre, which is consistent with the College's Strategic Plan. This space will include an events venue, social spaces and accommodation for the Students' Union, student societies and a number of student support services.

Trinity Centre, Tallaght Hospital, Phase 2

Planning permission has been received from South Dublin County Council for a 5,000 sq.m development to be built alongside the existing Trinity Centre at Tallaght hospital. The proposed building, estimated to cost €20 million, will complete the College's accommodation for the Nursing degree programme and will provide 4,000 sq.m. of research space.

Long Room Hub

The Trinity Long Room Hub initiative will facilitate the College's strategic development of research in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences through the fuller exploitation of the College's outstanding research collections and the creation of a community of scholars across a range of disciplines. It will seek to answer questions about human identity in global contexts, focusing research energies and thereby helping to realise the creative potential of Trinity College as a great national and international institution.

Physical space is essential if we are to create a 'living community of scholars' around the Long Room Hub and assist towards a goal of doubling the number of postgraduate students by 2012. Planning has started on a project to provide physical accommodation for a Reading Room, Visiting Researchers' rooms, a Knowledge Exchange, a Video Conferencing suite and a Digitisation area.

Construction Industry Innovation Centre

With the generous support of developer Mr Bernard McNamara, Trinity has established the Michael McNamara Chair in Construction Innovation and intends to construct a centre to house a Construction Innovation Research Centre as part of a new purpose design for Civil, Structural and Mechanical Engineering. It is intended that design work will start in 2008 with a planned construction period from 2009 – 2011.

8.3 Energy Conservation

During the 2006/07 academic year, Trinity consumed more than

33 million kWh of electricity, over 29 million kWh of natural gas and almost 0.5 million cubic metres of water. Costs were just under €6 million for all utility related costs for the year.

The College is involved in an on-going programme of energy conservation. This takes two forms – targeted measures in specific buildings and a programme of periodic communication and education of building users. The energy reduction programme set up a monitoring and targeting system for selected buildings and then worked to reduce energy consumption in them. The first phase covered seven buildings and showed a 7.2% reduction in energy consumption at the end of the programme in 2006. This represents a greenhouse gas reduction of 462 tonnes of CO₂. Phase 2 commenced in 2007 and tackles ten buildings targeting a 10% reduction over three years.

TCD participates with UCD, DCU and DIT in the E3 Group. Supported by Sustainable Energy Ireland, this Group co-ordinates the purchase of electricity and gas for these Colleges through competitive tendering from suppliers. In addition it coordinates a range of targeted energy conservation projects in the Colleges. The bulk of Trinity's electricity is sourced from Airtricity. Using such a 'green' energy supplier is a fast and cost effective way to reduce CO₂ emissions substantially.

As energy costs are influenced by global factors outside local control, utilities' costs continue to rise as a percentage of total expenditure, in spite of continuing work on energy conservation. The unit cost of electricity has risen by over 46% in the last four years. Unit gas costs have more than doubled in the last three years. Another factor influencing utilities costs is the complexity of the newer buildings on campus which have significantly higher than average requirements for electricity and cooling. This is particularly evident in the three buildings constructed recently in the north east corner.

9. Fundraising

The future of Trinity College depends primarily on its staff and students, and investment in its teaching, research, innovation and outreach. Significant funding is required if the College is to confirm its position as one of the world's leading universities.

To this end, Trinity Foundation raises funds from the College's alumni and friends to support the College as it aims to play a pivotal role in helping Ireland be the most productive place to invent, work and learn, and the most civilised place to live and contribute to local and global society.

The College cannot rely on State funding alone - securing private support is essential to TCD's future. In the period 1 October 2006 to 30 September 2007, €31 million was secured in private donations. The benefits of this private support can be seen throughout the College, highlights of which include:

Health – healthier people living in a healthier society

- Centre of Excellence for Successful Ageing at St. James's Hospital (both capital and recurrent funding)
- Ten new staff in the area of Ageing Research including support for TILDA – The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing



Wealth – *creating the tools to build a new economy*

- One Chair in Construction Innovation
- Capital and recurrent funding for the Science Gallery

Wisdom – *nurturing the creative mind*

- One Lecturer in American History
- Housing and operational funding for Trinity's Irish Art Research Centre in the refurbished Provost's Stables
- Numerous library acquisitions

Confidence – *strategic thinking to support Ireland's role in the world*

- One Chair in International Finance & Development and one Chair in International Business & Development (IIIS)

Participation – *active citizenship, social inclusion and a sustainable society*

- Four postdoctoral researchers and six PhD studentships for Trinity's work on immigration
- Two new positions in the National Institute of Intellectual Disability
- Over 100 new student scholarships for the Trinity Access Programme.

Trinity's alumni have continued to support the Save the Treasures Campaign which has funded the preservation of over 64,000 books in the Long Room.

Planning for the next phase of the College's fundraising is underway. Priority projects include:

- A major capital development – Biosciences Building on Pearse Street
- Refurbishment of the Long Room with expanded Humanities Research facilities
- New Business School building
- Establishment of a new Student Centre.

Central to the College's fundraising success is the outstanding contribution of the Board of Trinity Foundation, chaired by Mr David Went. Board members give their time, strategic input and considerable financial support, for which TCD is extremely grateful.

10. Financial Position

The Funding Statements for the year ended 30 September 2007, prepared on an agreed harmonised basis for the Irish University sector, were approved by the Board on 23 January 2008 and represent Part I of the financial reporting requirements of the Universities Act. The College's external auditors KPMG have issued an unqualified audit opinion on the Funding Statements. These statements report the core teaching/research and research grants and contracts activity in the Income & Expenditure Account. Part II of the financial reporting requirements is the Consolidated Financial Statements prepared in accordance with

generally accepted accounting standards. These statements cover all College activities (both core teaching and research and self funding activities) in the Income & Expenditure Account and are currently on hold awaiting clarification from the Higher Education Authority (HEA) and other relevant Government Departments regarding the technical accounting treatment of pension liabilities.

The deficit for the year amounted to €2.1 million (Appendix I) which resulted in the College's accumulated deficit increasing to €8.86 million at 30 September 2007 in the Funding Statements. The financial deficit continues to grow mainly due to the cost of compliance with the Protection of Employee (Fixed Term Work) Act 2003 (FTWA) to date for which substantial provision has been made in the accounts with no additional funding for this legislative obligation being received from the Government. The Net Assets of the College at 30 September 2007 as set out in the Balance Sheet (Appendix II) amount to €643 million, an increase of €25 million in the current year. Similar to last year, the pension funds of the University sector continue to be the subject of ongoing discussions with the HEA with regard to contribution rates, FTWA issues and State guarantees. The resolution of this issue is critical to bringing certainty to financial planning and management of the College.

In contrast to teaching, the funding environment for research is strong with Research Grants and Contracts income amounting to €70.6 million for the year (Appendix I), which represents a significant increase over 2005/06. The contribution to indirect costs from research activity however continues to be below the full economic cost of hosting the research. This position is not sustainable.

The financial situation continues to be a cause of serious concern and presents significant challenges for the College in the years ahead. One of the biggest challenges is the uncertainty in relation to future funding levels, particularly with the recent indications from the HEA of further real reductions in core State funding in the coming years due to the expected deterioration of the public finances coupled with the full implementation of the new HEA Recurrent Funding Model. This model is effectively an allocation mechanism for the core grant where there is no control over the standard unit of resource and where the funding per student declines as overall student numbers increase in the sector. As indicated last year, the College continues to find itself in a financial straitjacket in the absence of base funding levels and the OECD recommended multi-year funding, both of which are needed to provide higher education institutions with a secure platform for financial planning on a year-to-year basis. The continuing real reduction in State funding runs counter to the goal of achieving the efficient knowledge-based economy that Ireland strives to achieve.

The continued erosion of core funding coupled with the impact of the growth in research without full cost recovery has undoubtedly adversely affected the College's financial well-being, its capacity to address serious risks and its ability to invest in a strategic manner. The College finances are now on a trajectory which threatens its long term financial stability. However the College is currently working with the Irish Universities Association to develop a funding strategy and framework for the sector that combines both public and private financing in a sustainable manner.



11. Conclusion

Trinity College performed well in 2006/07, notwithstanding the pressures caused by a difficult funding environment.

The College's cost base is driven largely by issues over which it has limited control. In parallel with other universities' experience in Ireland, this has resulted in real reductions in the levels of State funding for core activities. This runs contrary to the goal of securing the efficient knowledge-based economy that Ireland endeavours to accomplish.

Notwithstanding these funding difficulties, the College continues to plan for a bright future. The College has set new goals for itself in the *Strategic Plan Update 2006*. This review of the strategic plan identifies the pillars of research activity on which the College's international reputation will be further enhanced. It also reinforces its strategies for ensuring that its undergraduates and postgraduates continue to receive a world-class education in all the fields of academia which the College offers, and continue to contribute to, and share in the Trinity Experience.

These are the College's ambitions as it faces the future with confidence.

Appendix I: Income and Expenditure Account, year ended 30 September 2007

Income and Expenditure Account Year ended 30 September 2007

	2007 €'000	2006 €'000
Income		
<i>State Grants</i>	104,854	90,874
<i>Student Fees</i>	76,039	69,848
<i>Other Income</i>	19,773	16,988
	200,666	177,710
<i>Research Grants and Projects</i>	70,604	57,572
TOTAL	271,270	235,282
Expenditure		
<i>Academic Schools and Faculty Offices</i>	104,833	97,244
<i>Academic and Other Services</i>	23,318	21,457
<i>Premises</i>	27,232	25,166
<i>Amount Allocated for Capital Purposes</i>	5,847	-
<i>Central Administration and Services</i>	15,726	15,080
<i>General Educational Expenditure</i>	8,530	7,850
<i>Student Services</i>	5,214	5,005
<i>Miscellaneous Expenditure</i>	9,795	8,079
	200,495	179,881
<i>Research Grants and Projects</i>	72,961	60,525
TOTAL	273,456	240,406
(Deficit) for year	(2,186)	(5,124)





*Appendix II: Balance Sheet for the year ended
30 September 2007*

Balance Sheet
Year ended 30 September 2007

	2007 €'000	2006 €'000
Fixed Assets	675,731	639,004
Financial Assets	92	112
Current Assets		
<i>Bank and cash balances</i>	149,521	103,874
<i>Debtors and prepayments</i>	62,050	86,448
<i>Stocks</i>	314	455
	<u>211,885</u>	<u>190,777</u>
Current Liabilities		
<i>Creditors and accrued expenditure</i>	(188,938)	(157,605)
<i>Bank balances</i>	(1,443)	(217)
	<u>(190,381)</u>	<u>(157,822)</u>
Net current assets	21,504	32,955
Long term liabilities		
<i>Creditors due after one year</i>	(53,905)	(53,290)
	<u>643,422</u>	<u>618,781</u>
Represented By:		
<i>General reserve</i>	652,258	625,422
<i>Investments</i>	25	34
<i>Revenue reserve</i>	(8,861)	(6,675)
	<u>643,422</u>	<u>618,781</u>



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