Minutes of Board Meeting of 25 February 2015

Present

Provost (Dr P J Prendergast), Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Professor L Hogan), Bursar (Professor G J Lacey), Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies (Professor G Martin), Registrar (Professor S P A Allwright), Vice-President for Global Relations (Professor J Hussey), Dr O Braiden, Mr F Cowzer, Professor W J Dowling, Professor S Draper, Professor E Drew, Mr D Frost, Mr J Gallagher, Mr G J Garrahan, Ms M Lee, Professor B Lucey, Professor C McCabe, Professor J F McGilp, Mr D McGlacken-Byrne, Mr I Mooney, Professor D O’Neill.

Apologies

Ms K Byrne, Professor P Coxon, Ms S Dunphy, Professor C. O’Farrelly, Professor M Ó Siochru, Professor D R Phelan.

In attendance

Assistant Secretary to the College (Ms Victoria Butler).

(ex officio)

Secretary to the College (Mr John Coman), Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (Mr Ian Mathews).

(by invitation)

Interim Chief Operating Officer (Ms Geraldine Ruane). Representative of the Auditors (Mr Sean O’Keefe) for BD/14-15/151 and BD/14-15/152. Representative of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Mr Shane Carton) for BD/14-15/151. The Deputy Chief Financial Officer (Ms Louise Ryan) for BD/14-15/151 and BD/14-15/152.

SECTION A

BD/14-15/150 Statement of Interest

The Interim Chief Operating Officer declared a statement of interest in relation to item D.2 Nominations for Appointment. It was agreed that she would absent herself from the meeting for this item.

Mr Cowzer declared a statement of interest in relation to item B.16 Audit Committee minutes. It was agreed that he would remain in the room and take part in the discussions on this item.

BD/14-15/151 Consolidated Financial Statements

The Provost welcomed Mr Sean O’Keefe, Mr Shane Carton and the Deputy Chief Financial Officer to the meeting and noted the apologies of the Chair of the Audit Committee.
Committee. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer introduced the item advising the Board that the Consolidated Financial Statements for both 2012 and 2013 had been previously considered by the Finance Committee and the Audit Committee and that the minutes from these meetings were included under Section B of the Agenda.

The Board noted the following documents which had been circulated for consideration under this item:

(i) Memorandum from the Chair of the Audit Committee, dated 17 February 2015;
(ii) Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2012 and year ended 30 September 2013;
(iii) Proposed Letter of Representation to KPMG concerning the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2012, dated 25 February 2015;
(iv) Proposed Letter of Representation to KPMG concerning the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2013, dated 25 February 2015;
(v) Proposed Letter of Representation to the Comptroller and Auditor General concerning the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2012, dated 25 February 2015;
(vi) Proposed Letter of Representation to the Comptroller and Auditor General concerning the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 30 September 2013, dated 25 February 2015;
(vii) Report from KPMG on the Audits of the GAAP Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended 30 September 2013 and 30 September 2012, dated 5 February 2015.

The Deputy Chief Financial Officer invited Board’s attention to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended 30 September 2012 and 30 September 2013. The key details were outlined under the following headings:

- Financial Reporting Requirements
- Audit Status
- Pension Issues
- Depreciation of Land and Buildings
- Consolidation of Endowment Funds
- Consolidated Financial Statements - Outcome

The Deputy Chief Financial Officer advised Board that the College’s external auditors (KPMG) had issued a qualified audit opinion arising from non-compliance with accounting and disclosure requirements of Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 12 “Provisions, Contingent Liabilities & Assets”. She informed the Board that this qualification is a technical qualification which arises due to a lack of sufficient evidence from the State to satisfy KPMG that pension liabilities in respect of the Model and Supplementation schemes are guaranteed by the State.

The Deputy Chief Financial Officer invited Board’s attention to the financial performance for both years. She advised the Board that for the year ended 30 September 2013, while the College is running a planned deficit as a result of investment in income generating strategies, when appropriately adjusted, an operational breakeven position is achieved.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings
The Deputy Chief Financial Officer advised Board of the challenges faced by the College in terms of its capacity to plan strategically as a result of a series of factors which include the global economic uncertainty, visibility of future State funding levels and the reliance on the State for a large portion of core and research funding, the lack of a dynamic State funding model and uncertainty around the reintroduction of tuition fees.

The Deputy Chief Financial Officer then invited Board’s attention to the Income and Expenditure Account and key figures from the Balance Sheet, noting the comparisons with the previous year’s accounts. She advised the Board that the main sources of movement between the Consolidated Financial Statements deficit and the Funding Statements surplus are due to a number of differences in accounting treatments between the two formats and that explanatory notes were set out in the reconciliation provided. The Board noted the decrease in State grant and research income which was offset by increases in other operating income, academic fee income, interest income and the amortisation of deferred capital grants.

Professor McGilp, noting the apologies of the Chair of the Audit Committee, invited Board’s attention to the memorandum from the Chair of the Audit Committee, dated 17 February 2015. He advised Board that the Audit Committee had considered the Consolidated Financial Statements for each of the years ended 30 September 2013 and 30 September 2012 and had reviewed with the External Auditors, KPMG, and with the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) the results of their audits for those years. It was noted that the Audit Committee was not aware of any issues or concerns which would preclude Board approving the financial statements and the Letter of Representation for the years under review and recommended the approval of the Financial Statements.

Mr O’Keefe, representative of KPMG, present by invitation, advised Board that as a result of the audit which had been conducted, no weaknesses in internal financial systems had been identified. He informed the Board that it was the auditors’ intention to issue a qualified audit opinion solely in relation to non-compliance with accounting and disclosure requirements under FRS12, as previously noted by the Deputy Chief Financial Officer.

Mr Carton, representative of the Comptroller and Auditor General, advised the Board that the Comptroller and Auditor General had not issued a qualification in this regard, as the recognition of the pension funding asset in respect of the Model Pension Scheme and Pension Supplementation anticipates that funding will be provided by the State to meet pension liabilities as they fall due.

In response to a query from a Board member, the Deputy Chief Financial Officer clarified that a breakdown of consultancy costs was available if required and that there were no issues of concern in relation to the level of costs which remained stable from 2012 to 2013.

In response to a query from a Board member, the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer informed the Board that he had recently attended a meeting with the Higher Education Authority (HEA) regarding the pension liability issue and that he would continue to engage with the HEA on this matter. In addition, he noted, that discussions may also be required with the Department of Finance to get clarity on the matter. He advised

*Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings*
the Board that KPMG, following approval by Board, would be signing off on the Financial Statements. Following a related query from a Board member, the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised the Board that this issue had not caused any financial difficulties for the College to date in respect of borrowing.

The Board noted the memorandum from the Chair of the Audit Committee, dated 17 February 2015. The Board approved the Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended 30 September 2012 and 30 September 2013 and the associated letters of representation. It was agreed that the Financial Statements should be signed by the Provost and the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer on its behalf.

The Provost thanked Mr Carton who left the meeting at this point.

BD/14-15/152 Trinity Endowment Fund Financial Statements – 15 months to 30 September 2015

The Deputy Chief Financial Officer introduced the item noting the change in name from ‘Trust Funds’ to ‘Trinity Endowment Fund’ along with the change of financial year-end to align with the College’s financial year end. She advised the Board that the Endowment Fund Financial Statements had been considered by the Investment Committee.

The Deputy Chief Financial Officer then invited the Board’s attention to the highlights of the Fund’s performance for the 15 month period ended 30 September 2014. She advised the Board that the Fund had achieved a total return of 18.5% for the 15 month period and, that from an income perspective, the Fund had achieved a return of 5.7% for the 15 months. In addition, the Deputy Chief Financial Officer informed the Board that the market value of the Fund had increased by €20 million in the 15 month period to 30 September 2014.

Professor McGilp informed the Board that the Audit Committee had considered the Financial Statements of the Trinity Endowment Fund for the 15 month period ended 30 September 2014 and had reviewed with the External Auditors, KPMG, the results of their audit for that period. He advised the Board that the Committee was not aware of any issues or concerns that would preclude the Board approving the Financial Statements and letter of representation for the period under review and that the Committee recommends that they be approved as presented.

Mr O’Keefe advised the Board that, following an audit of the Financial Statements of the Trinity Endowment Fund, there were no issues which he wished to bring to the attention of the Board.

Following concerns which were expressed by a Board member in relation to a large percentage of the Bond portfolio being concentrated in Ireland, the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised the Board that the Investment Committee was currently reviewing this issue with a focus on risk management and that the portfolio had performed well to date. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer also advised the Board that a further increase in investment in property by the Fund was not envisaged. The Provost advised the Board that 2% of the total operating budget to College is generated by the Endowment Fund and that it is envisaged that this would grow with the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings
In response to a query, the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer informed the Board that there would be a degree of associated risk should the amount of capital in the Fund be reduced. He advised the Board that there is currently a restriction on the Fund which permits the allocation of income only, however, legal advice was currently being sought on this matter and that this would be considered by the Investment Committee.

Following comments from a Board member, The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised the Board that articles on the performance of the Fund had been included in Trinity Today, the alumni magazine, and that he was liaising with the Director of the Foundation regarding other ways of communicating the performance of the Fund to the wider College Community. It was agreed that a communications campaign to showcase the performance of the Endowment Fund should be developed and would be brought to a future meeting of the Board.

The Board noted the memorandum from the Chair of the Audit Committee, dated 17 February 2015. The Board approved the Trinity Endowment Fund Financial Statements (formerly Trust Fund (Benefactions)) for the 15 month period ended 30 September 2014 and the associated letter of representation. It was agreed that the Financial Statements should be signed by the Provost and the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer on its behalf.

The Provost thanked Mr O'Keefe and the Deputy Chief Financial Officer who left the meeting at this point.

**BD/14-15/153 Minutes of 28 January 2015**
The minutes of 28 January 2015 were approved and signed subject to the following amendment:

**Minute BD/14-15/125 Employment Control Framework:** amend the last sentence to read ‘In response to a comment from a Board member, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised the Board that if the College were to breach the Employment Control Framework a moratorium on recruitment would be the likely outcome’.

**BD/14-15/154 Matters Arising from the Minutes**
There were several matters arising from the minutes and have been recorded below.

**BD/14-15/125 Employment Control Framework**
The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised the Board that the grant letter had been received from the Higher Education Authority which contained a reference to the Employment Control Framework. She informed the Board that clarification regarding the exact implications of the provisions of the letter was being sought.

**BD/14-15/126 Provost’s Report - HEA Governance Proposals**
The Secretary to the College advised the Board that an extension of the deadline for a response to the HEA Governance proposals had been requested and that the IUA were due to meet to discuss a sectoral response to this item on 26 February 2015. The proposals had been discussed by the Executive Officer Group and the Secretary to the College provided to the Board a summary of the main points which the College would seek to have included in the sectoral response.

*Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings*
BD/14-15/128 Quality – Implementation Plan for Accommodation and Catering Services
It was agreed that the Interim Chief Operating Officer would include proposals regarding catering facilities at locations other than the main campus in the Implementation Plan.

BD/14-15/131 Any Other Urgent Business - Marriage Equality
The Senior Lecturer advised the Board that a Public Forum on Marriage Equality is being organised for April 2015 and that the Registrar had agreed to Chair this Forum.

BD/14-15/144 Memorandum of Understanding St James Hospital-Pharmacy Education
The Secretary to the College advised the Board that he had received confirmation that no other Memoranda of Understanding in relation to Pharmacy education were in place.

BD/14-15/155 Provost’s Report
The Provost provided an update to Board members on the following items:

(i) Proposed amendment to the Universities Act, 1997
The Provost advised Board members that the College, both on individual grounds and as part of a sectoral response, had made strong representations to the Minister of Education and Skills regarding the proposed amendments to the Universities Act, 1997. The contents of those representations had recently been reported in the media. On behalf of the sector, the Irish Universities Association had engaged with the Department of Education and Skills with a view to modifying the proposals. The Provost informed the Board that a meeting between IUA representatives, including himself, and the Minister is currently being scheduled and that an update would be provided to a future meeting of the Board. The Provost also informed the Board that Senator Barrett had prepared a Private Members Bill which had been debated with the Minister in the Seanad. The Secretary to the College further informed the Board that while the proposals in Senator Barrett’s Bill had not been accepted the minister had indicated that there was the possibility that some of the proposals would be included in future Bills aimed at reforming the Higher Educational Sector.

The Provost welcomed suggestions from Board members as to a proposed response and it was noted that the Secretary to the College would circulate details of the forthcoming Fellows’ event on the issues scheduled to take place during Trinity Week.

(ii) Dublin/Leinster Pillar 1 Cluster
The Provost updated the Board in relation to a recent planning meeting which had been held for members of the Dublin/Leinster Pillar 1 Cluster, chaired by Mr Tom Boland of the HEA.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised the Board that an application for funding had been submitted to the HEA to support joint academic planning and pathway development amongst members of the Cluster. While noting that...
this Cluster had less potential for student progression pathways than other clusters, due to its composition, the Provost emphasised to the Board the commitment of the College to ensuring the successful implementation of this piece of Government policy.

BD/14-15/156 Planning Group Report # 12
The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer introduced this item advising the Board that this report covers the period from mid-June 2014 to mid-February 2015. She informed the Board that in this period the Planning Group had focused on the following:

- the implementation process for the Strategic Plan 2014-2019;
- monitoring the business plans for the strategies incorporated in to the Strategic Plan (Global Relations, Online, Commercial Revenue Unit);
- analysing the financial forecasts and student number projections (including Global Relations Strategy (GRS), Online and Singapore);
- reviewing and revising the Annual Budgetary Cycle 2015/16 including a re-affirmation of the underlying principles;
- monitoring the use of strategic investments;
- providing opportunities for early drafts of human resource policies to be considered and assessed from the perspectives of academic and administrative/support units
- reviewing progress in achieving the ECF targets and their impact.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer then invited the Board to consider the three recommendations as outlined in section 9(I) of the report.

Noting the importance of achieving the targets of the income generating strategies for the College, and the overall successful implementation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, the Provost thanked the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and opened the item for discussion.

In response to a query from a Board member, the Provost advised that as START had now concluded, a benefits realisation project is planned, and that the introduction of a voluntary severance scheme will have a significant impact on the outcomes of this project. The Interim Chief Operating Officer advised the Board that discussions with the Department of Education and Skills are on-going but that it is envisaged that a voluntary severance scheme may be in place for the coming academic year.

In response to a comment from a Board member regarding funding for capitated bodies, the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised the Board that there was clear visibility of the funding allocated each year and that this was overseen by the Finance Committee and reflected in the annual Financial Statements. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer also clarified for the Board that it was at the request of the Capitation Committee that capitated bodies had been included in the Annual Budgetary Cycle.

In response to comments from a Board member, the Vice-President for Global Relations clarified that the business case for the Global Relations Strategy II had been considered at the previous meeting of the Board and actions to enhance supports available to international students had been approved.
In response to queries from Board members, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised the Board that there may be scope to develop a redeployment and re-training programme within College by means of managing staff numbers. She also informed the Board that a review of the Overheads Policy and the financial sustainability of each research institute was underway and that she would seek an update from the Dean of Research as to when the findings of this review would be available.

Following a query from a Board member in relation to the issuing of Specific Purpose employment contracts, it was agreed that this issue is to be discussed by the Human Resources Committee.

It was noted that work was on-going in relation to Recommendation 1 in the Planning Group Report #10; to ensure that College has sufficiently robust line-management structures in Faculties and Schools and that an update would be provided to a future meeting of the Board. The Provost advised the Board that a reorganisation of the Trinity Foundation was also underway to ensure the appropriate structures are in place to maximise philanthropic funding and fulfil donors’ pledge expectations.

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, dated 18 February 2015 and approved the recommendations in Section 9(I) of the memorandum.

*Mr Jackie Gallagher left the meeting at this point.*

**BD/14-15/157 Online Education Project II**

The Secretary to the College invited the Board’s attention to a memorandum, dated 18 February 2015, and summarised the process to date in relation to the proposed establishment of a subsidiary company to provide services for the design and delivery of Online programmes. The Associate Dean for Online Education had provided his apologies for not being able to attend. The Secretary advised the Board that the draft Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company were presented for approval and noted that a copy of the draft agreement between the company and the College would be brought to a future meeting of the Board. He also informed the Board that, following consideration by the Identity Management Committee, it is proposed that the name of the subsidiary would be ‘Trinity Online Services Ltd’, although the name of the company would not be highly visible to online students.

In response to comments from Board members, the Secretary to the College advised that a very competitive quote had been received in relation to the provision of payroll services and that legal advice regarding possible charitable status designation was being pursued.

Following a comment from a Board member in relation to student representation on the Board of the subsidiary company, it was noted that the board of the company would be reporting to the Board of the College on which there is already student representation. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised that a governance group is to be established for the online education project.
The Board noted and approved the Memorandum from the Associate Dean for Online Education and the Secretary to the College, dated 18 February 2015 and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company ‘Trinity Online Services Ltd’.

BD/14-15/158 Singapore Legal Entity
The Provost welcomed Professor John Gormley, who joined the meeting for this item. The Secretary invited the Board’s attention to the memorandum, dated 18 February 2015, and summarised the process to date in relation to the proposed establishment of a separate legal entity in Singapore. He advised the Board that the draft Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company were presented for approval and noted that a copy of the draft agreement between the company and the College would be brought to a future meeting of the Board. He also informed the Board that, following consideration by the Identity Management Committee, it is proposed that the name of the subsidiary would be ‘Trinity Asia Services Ltd’.

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Vice-President for Global Relations and the Secretary to the College, dated 18 February 2015 and the Memorandum and Articles of Association for the subsidiary company ‘Trinity Asia Services Ltd’.

Professor Gormley left the meeting at this point.

BD/14-15/159 Quality – Progress Report on HR
The Interim Chief Operating Officer introduced this item. Noting the restructuring of the Human Resources Department, she provided the Board with an update in relation to the 12 key recommendations and 3 Provost’s recommendations which had arisen from the Review of Human Resources. The Interim Chief Operating Officer also advised the Board that the recruitment process for the position of Director of Human Resources had commenced.

It was noted that the Human Resources Strategy will be brought to a future meeting of the Executive Officer Group and of the Board.

The Board noted and approved the Progress Report for Human Resources.

BD/14-15/160 Fellowship 2015
The Board approved the nominations for Fellowship and Honorary Fellowship as presented by the Provost.

BD/14-15/161 Honorary Degrees
The Registrar invited the Board’s attention to a memorandum, dated 25 February 2015, which was tabled at the meeting. She advised the Board that in light of a considerable number of nominations for human rights champions and in light of the 65th anniversary of the UN General Assembly’s proclamation on Human Rights, the Advisory Committee on Honorary Degrees proposes that a special human rights ceremony will be held on 27 November 2015. She also reminded the Board of the confidential nature of the memorandum and asked for all copies to be returned.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings
The Board noted the memorandum from the Registrar dated 25 February 2015 and approved the nominations contained within.

**BD/14-15/162 Visitors**
The Board noted the verbal update provided by the Secretary to the College in relation to a recent hearing of the Visitors.

**BD/14-15/163 University Council**
The Board confirmed the draft Acta of the meeting of 11 February 2015.

In response to a comment from a Board member regarding the IUA’s Task Group on Reform of University Selection and Entry, the Senior Lecturer advised that the introduction of new grade bands is envisaged for the Leaving Certificate in 2017. In addition to this a move towards broader entry routes in to third level and the simplification of matriculation and minimum entry requirements across the universities was likely. The Board supported the proposal, as had been agreed at Council, that Trinity’s matriculation requirements should continue to include Mathematics and a language other than English.

In response to a query from a Board member, the Provost advised the Board that it is envisaged that the Trinity Education Project will take approximately 18 months to complete and that a steering group will be established, subgroups of which will include student representation.

**BD/14-15/164 Any Other Urgent Business**

**Director, Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute**
The Provost invited the Board’s attention to a memorandum from the Interim Director of Human Resources, dated 23 February 2015, which was tabled. He advised the Board of the nomination of Professor Orla Hardiman as the Director of the Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute, replacing Professor Luke O’Neill.

The Board noted and approved the Memorandum from the Interim Director of Human Resources, dated 23 February 2015 and the nomination of Professor Hardiman.

**Section B**

**BD/14-15/165 Board Business**

(i) **Callover**
The Board noted the Board Callover from the meeting of 17 December 2014.

(ii) **Outcomes**
The Board noted the Board Outcomes from the meeting of 17 December 2014.
BD/14-15/166  Audit Committee
Professor McGilp drew the attention of the Board to a number of items which had been highlighted in the draft minutes. In relation to a contract issue under the Departures from Pay Framework, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer confirmed that the necessary amendments will be in place within a week or so. Professor McGilp also referred to the minutes regarding implementation of Audit Committee Recommendations, Risk Management, Amber Review, FIS Implementation Review and Audit Tender. The comments from Professor McGilp were noted. The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the meeting of 12 February 2015, including the recommendation for an extension for two years of the services contract with KPMG.

BD/14-15/167  College Safety Committee
Following comments from Board members, it was agreed that the Safety Committee is to further review the lone working and after-hours access policies to recognise the diversity of activity which takes place across the College.

The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the meeting of 17 October 2014 and the University of Dublin Policy on Smoking, which now extended to e-cigarettes.

BD/14-15/168  Equality Committee
The Chair of the Equality Committee informed the Board that a special meeting of the Equality Committee was held on 18 February 2015 to consider the issue of the upcoming referendum on marriage equality. She informed the Board that the committee had taken a stance in support of a yes vote in the referendum on marriage equality and a statement on behalf of the committee had been prepared and was now presented to the Board for consideration. She invited the Board’s attention to the draft statement and welcomed comments on the proposed wording.

The Provost noted that a public forum on marriage equality is currently being organised, as was agreed by the Board at the meeting of 28 January 2015 (BD/14-15/131). He then invited the Secretary to the Board to comment in relation to the proposed statement.

The Secretary to the College advised the Board that in keeping with the Board decision of 28 January, some amendments should be made to the draft statement prior to Board approval. He then proposed the following amendments:
- rename the statement to read ‘Statement on Marriage Equality’;
- delete the first sentence;
- delete the last sentence of the second paragraph;
- delete ‘and advocating for a yes vote’ from the first sentence of the third paragraph.

In response to comments from Board members, the Provost noted that it had been agreed at the last meeting that the Board would be respectful of the full range of views of the College community by not adopting a particular stance on the issue. He also noted that it had been agreed that the College would encourage and facilitate debate so that staff and students may make an informed decision at the time of referendum.
Following comments from Board members, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised the Board that it would not be unusual for a committee, such as the Equality Committee, to take a particular stance on an issue and that the Equality Committee was now seeking Board approval of the proposed statement. She also advised the Board that the Chair of the Equality Committee was in agreement with the proposed amendments, having discussed the proposed changes with the Secretary to the College.

The Board approved the draft minutes of 18 February 2015 and approved the statement, subject to the amendments as outlined by the Secretary to the College, in keeping with the Board decision of 28 January 2015 (BD/14-15/131).

*The Vice-President for Global Relations left the meeting at this point.*

**BD/14-15/169 Finance Committee**

The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2015.

**SECTION C**

**BD/14-15/170 Foundation Scholarship**

The Senior Lecturer outlined the proposed amendments to the Foundation Scholarship Examination process as contained within her Memorandum dated 17 February 2015. The Board approved the proposed changes noting that they had previously been considered by the Undergraduate Studies Committee.

**BD/14-15/171 Higher Degrees**

The Board noted Higher Degrees, approved by the sub-committee of Board and Council on 11 February 2015, as circulated.

**BD/14-15/172 Prizes and Other Awards**

(i) **School of Engineering – MAI Stream Prizes**

The Board noted a memorandum from the School Administrator, circulated, dated 4 February 2015 and approved the introduction of prizes for the best MAI students in all streams of the Engineering/Engineering with Management programmes, value €300. The Board also approved a *Calendar* entry.

(ii) **School of Medicine Prizes and Medals 2013-2014**

The Board noted and approved a memorandum from the Medical Student Co-ordinator, Sophister Years, School of Medicine, circulated, dated 30 January 2015.

**BD/14-15/173 Calendar Entry – Establishment of the John Kirker Memorial Lecture in Epilepsy**

The Board noted a memorandum from the School Administrative Manager, School of Medicine, circulated, dated 6 February 2015 and approved the establishment of the above Memorial Lecture, together with a *Calendar* entry.

**BD/14-15/174 Chaplaincy - Church of Ireland**

The Board noted that the Revd Hilary Dungan has been nominated as Interim Church of Ireland Chaplain from January to June 2015 pending a nomination of a successor to the Revd Darren McCallig, who has resigned.
Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings

BD/14-15/175 Senate Business
   (i) **MA (jure officii) – Staff on Contracts of Indefinite Duration**
   The Board noted a memorandum from the Registrar, Chair of the Schedules Working Party, circulated, dated 17 February 2015 and approved that staff on contracts of indefinite duration should be eligible to apply for the degree of Master in Arts (jure officii). The Board also approved a revised Calendar entry.

   (ii) **Recommendations for the award of the degree MA (jure officii)**
   The Board noted and approved a memorandum from the Registrar, circulated, dated 18 February 2015.

BD/14-15/176 Trinity Ball 2016
   The Board noted and approved the request of the Trinity Ball Committee for permission to hold the 2016 Trinity Ball on Friday 8 April 2016.

BD/14-15/177 Committees
   (i) **Equality Committee**
   The Board noted and approved the nomination of Professor Martine Cuypers as a member of the Equality Committee, in place of Professor Leo Stassen, to 21 October 2016;

   (ii) **Technical Staff Committee**
   The Board noted and approved the nomination of Mr Raymond Keaveny, Constituency Two and Mr James Cumiskey, Constituency Four as staff representatives on the Technical Staff Committee for the review period 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

BD/14-15/178 Head/Dean of School of Business
   The Board noted and approved the appointment of Professor Andrew Burke as Head/Dean of the School of Business from 1 March 2015 until the end of Trinity Term 2019.

BD/14-15/179 Consolidated Financial Statements and HEA Funding Statements for the year ended 30 September 2014 – Revised Timeline
   The Board noted and approved a memorandum from the Chief Financial Officer and the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, circulated, dated 18 February 2015. The Board also noted that the meeting scheduled for 31 March 2015 has been cancelled and will be rescheduled for Trinity Term.

   The Board noted and approved a memorandum from the Chief Financial Officer, circulated, dated 18 February 2015.

**SECTION D**

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

Signed: .................................

Date: .................................

*Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Board meetings*