

**Incorporating any amendments made at subsequent Council meetings**

**XX = Board relevance**

**Trinity College Dublin  
The University of Dublin**

**A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 13 February 2019 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.**

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, Registrar, Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dean of Graduate Studies, Senior Tutor, Dean of Research, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Vice-President for Global Relations, Professor D. Murchan, Professor S. Alyn Stacey, Professor P. Wyse Jackson, Professor C. Gardiner, Professor S. Murphy, Professor A.M. Brady, Professor M. Corry, Dr. S. Kerr, Ms. S. Cameron-Coen, Ms. A. Connolly, Professor R.A. Kenny, Professor A. Long, Mr. S. Murray, Ms. S. Donnelly, Ms. S.A. McCarthy, Mr. G. Falia, Mr. R. Carey.
<i>Apologies</i>	Dean of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Dean of Health Sciences, Dean of Students, Professor C. Kelly, Professor D. Shepherd, Professor E. Nualláin, Ms. N. Hussaini, Ms. F. Ní Ghráiligh, Professor M. Clarke
<i>In attendance</i>	Academic Secretary, Secretary to the College, Librarian and College Archivist, Director of Student Services, Assistant Academic Secretary
<i>Observers</i>	Secretary to the Scholars: Ms. S. Donnelly

**SECTION A**

The Provost welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that no statements of interest were received in relation to the agenda items.

**CL/18-19/109 Declaration**

A new member made the required statutory declaration.

**CL/18-19/110 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 were approved and signed.

**CL/18-19/111 Matters Arising**

**(i) Revision of language requirements for undergraduate admissions (CL/18-19/060.2)**

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies highlighted that Council had deferred a decision on the proposal for revision of language requirements for undergraduate admissions at its meeting on the 28 November 2018, until the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies had an opportunity to provide feedback to the proposers (CL/18-19/060.2). Confirmation was received from the School on the 6 February 2019 that the proposal had been reviewed and a minor amendment suggested to Section 2: Matriculation, as follows:

Original sentence: *"We request that USC endorse a second language exemption in cases where a non-EU applicant is required to present an English Language Proficiency Qualification such as IELTSii, TOEFLiii or the PTE Academic"*

Proposed change “We request that USC endorse the introduction of an exemption from the second-language requirement for non-English Language Proficiency Qualification such as IELTSii, TOEFLiii or the PTE Academic” (p4).

**Decision:**

**CL/18-19/111.i.1:** Council approved the derogation on the revision of language requirements for Undergraduate Admission with the proposed change in wording.

**(ii) Creating opportunities for Students in Direct Provision (CL/18-19/093)**

The Registrar referred Council to the decision made at its last meeting on the establishment of a small working group to make recommendations on supporting potential students in Direct Provision to attend courses in Trinity (CL/18-19/093.1).

She advised that a working group has been established whose focus will be on a pilot project to examine the possibility of admitting undergraduate students from direct provision centres who have earned a place through the CAO.

The Registrar highlighted that the remit of the proposed working group is to:

- examine the systems and administrative requirements
- examine the possible scope and entry routes
- examine the supports required upon admission
- propose a mechanism for a way forward.

Proposed membership of the working group comprises the Registrar as Chair, the Senior Lecturer and Senior Tutor, representation from Student Finance (Academic Registry), the Trinity Access Programme (TAP), Academic Services Division (ASD), and the Students’ Union President.

The Provost thanked the Registrar and the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies for progressing the item.

**Decision:**

**CL/18-19/111.ii.1:** Council approved the establishment of the working group to examine the possibility of admitting undergraduate students from direct provision centres who are in commuting distance from the College and who have earned a place at Trinity through the CAO.

**CL/18-19/112 Provost’s Report**

The Provost advised that as he had provided an extensive report at the last meeting of Council there was not a need to provide a report at this meeting.

**CL/18-19/113 Trinity Education Project**

The Provost invited the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer to report on the Trinity Education Project (TEP).

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer highlighted that 27 Trinity Electives for students across all disciplines were approved for 2019/20, and an additional eight Trinity Electives have been approved for 2020/21. The Trinity Electives website will go live on the last week of March 2019 with student online enrolment opening in early April. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer played a video developed by the School of Biochemistry and Immunology on the Trinity Elective ‘Vaccines – Friend or Foe?’. The short video presented by Professor C. Gardiner introduces students to the learning outcomes, content and assessment components of the Trinity Electives.

The Provost stated that he is delighted to see the diverse range of Trinity Electives for 2019/20 and invited members to comment and provide feedback.

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A member highlighted a concern in relation to the demands that Trinity Electives would place on departments and the availability of personnel for teaching departmental programmes. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer responded that an overall teaching load is a School matter and not a Council matter and that Trinity Electives are developed and signed off by Schools.

The Provost thanked the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer and stated that the strengths of the Trinity Electives are that they link the undergraduate curriculum with all College offerings and provide students with the opportunity to experience content from different disciplines.

#### **CL/18-19/114 Quality Review of the School of Creative Arts**

The Provost invited the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer to present the Quality Review of the School of Creative Arts to Council.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer stated that the Review took place from the 27-29 November 2018 and that a strong Review Team from Harvard University, the University of Glasgow, the University of East Anglia and the University of Warwick undertook a comprehensive examination of the School. The recommendations proposed by the Review Team are very detailed and comprehensive.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer highlighted that the Terms of Reference involved assessing and making recommendations on:

- New administrative and governance structure proposals to underpin the unification of the School of Creative Arts.
- Proposals to further integrate provision of School-wide courses and research.
- Enshrining practice-based teaching and research within the School.
- Consideration of the relocation of the School to the proposed Trinity Technology Enterprise Campus (TTEC) housing all three disciplines and the Arts Technology Research Laboratory (ATRL).

The Review Team identified a number of challenges facing the School and these included, the location of the School across four different sites, some of which are regarded as 'not fit-for-purpose'; the three subject areas within the School functioning independently of one another with a duplication of administrative functions across the subject areas; and the lack of necessary staff and leadership resources within the School to facilitate and support the next phase of its development. A key challenge for the School is to rationalise the delivery of its curriculum to achieve additional capacity.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer presented the four recommendations of the Review Team to Council for approval. The recommendations are:

- Addressing staffing and leadership in the School by prioritising the appointment of a Professor of Creative Arts to take on the role of Head of School, engaging with the re-appointment of a Chair in Music, appointing a Technical Manager and a temporary Development Officer.
- Consolidating the structure of the School by revising reporting lines so that administrators report to the School Manager; undertaking a review of administrative roles and to eliminate duplication of roles across the three subject areas; locating the Head of School and School Manager adjacent to one of the School's departments and to schedule School-wide discussion and planning through annual away/planning days.
- Undertaking a process of curriculum review to drive efficiencies and rationalise the curriculum by identifying areas where cross-disciplinary modules can be introduced; reducing the overall number of modules offered to relieve pressure on staff and to clarify the place of practice-based teaching in the School and reviewing the relationship of the School with LIR and RIAM.
- Addressing the space issues in the School by undertaking necessary renovations, re-locating the Music Department to the Samuel Beckett Creative Arts Centre and Film

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Studies to ATRL in the short to medium term, and actively engaging in the Grand Canal Innovation District planning process to access the opportunities offered by a new building to address the needs of the School.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised that the challenges facing the School cannot be addressed by the School itself and there needs to be a College response to these challenges. He therefore recommended that a Task Group be established to support the implementation of the Review recommendations. The proposed membership of the Task Group comprises the outgoing Head of School, the incoming Head of School, the Faculty Dean (AHSS), the Academic Secretary, two external members from the Review Panel and the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer as Chair.

The Provost invited comments on the Review.

The AHSS Dean stated that he endorsed the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer's proposal on creating a Task Group. Some challenges facing the School are internal to the School and administrative in nature and are matters for the Head of School to address. The Chair of Creative Arts is a very exciting proposal, one which he supports. Space and location are significant issues for the School and these need to be addressed by College.

The Dean of Research stated that she would value the opportunity to provide an input to any research discussions that the Task Group may have. This was welcomed by the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer.

Members providing additional feedback welcomed and endorsed the establishment of a Task Group. It was recommended that the Task Group engage with and keep in contact with the very committed and dedicated staff of the School. It was highlighted that programmes offered by the School have the potential to attract significant interest from non-EU students, and it was felt that there are opportunities for the School to actively engage and involve the local community in its activities and performances.

In response to a query the Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer confirmed that the School has a Strategic Plan, however, he acknowledged that it needs some work and refinement.

#### **Decision**

**CL/18-19/114.1:** Council approved the Review Report of the School of Creative Arts and the establishment of a Task Group to support the implementation of the Review recommendations.

#### **CL/18-19/115 Postgraduate Course Proposals**

The Dean of Graduate Studies presented Council with three postgraduate course proposals for approval:

(i) **Postgraduate Diploma in Healthcare Innovation**

The Postgraduate Diploma in Healthcare Innovation leads to a National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) level 9 major award and is a key deliverable for the Health Services Executive (HSE), Enterprise Ireland and Trinity. The course proposed by the School of Medicine, is a one-year full-time blended programme comprising eight taught modules. The course has the potential to develop into a Masters programme at a later date and may attract non-EU students. The aim of the course is to transform the innovation mindset within the Irish healthcare landscape and it delivers on a key pillar in Trinity's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Strategy. The course will commence in September 2019.

(ii) **M.Phil. in Identities and Cultures of Europe**

Identities and Cultures of Europe is a one-year full-time programme leading to an M.Phil. NFQ level 9 award with a postgraduate exit award. The programme is proposed by the School of

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Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies and replaces the M.Phil. in Textual and Visual Studies and the M.Phil. in European Studies. It will offer students the opportunity to learn about the complex and varied challenges posed by shifting notions of identity and their real life consequences. The course consists of 90 ECTS, 30 credits of which are allocated to a dissertation. The course also includes an internship and a study trip to the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe and is aligned with College priorities set out in the College's Strategic Plan. The course will commence in September 2019.

The Provost thanked the Dean of Graduate Studies for his presentation of the course and invited feedback from Council. A member expressed surprise in relation to the absence of a module on any language and the Provost queried the rationale for this. The Dean of Graduate Studies stated that he was not aware of the reasons for this and undertook to feed comments back to the School.

(iii) M.Sc. in Immunotherapeutics

Immunotherapeutics is a new one-year full-time programme leading to an M.Sc. award in Immunotherapeutics and a postgraduate diploma exit award. The programme, developed by the School of Biochemistry and Immunology will commence in September 2019 once approved by Council.

The M.Sc. is aimed at science, medical, veterinary and engineering graduates as well as employees in the pharmaceutical/biotech sector who wish to develop industry-relevant research skills. The M.Sc. is the only national postgraduate degree in the field of immunotherapy and is supported by the biopharma industry. A key component of the course is a 40 ECTS project consisting of a six-month research placement and a dissertation. The Dean of Graduate Studies stated that it is anticipated that there will be a huge demand for the course.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer queried whether students exiting with the Postgraduate Diploma would take the two taught 5 ECTS modules offered as part of the 40 ECTS project and the remaining modules totalling 50 ECTS. The Dean of Graduate Studies confirmed that this was the case.

**Decisions**

**CL/18-19/115.i.1:** Council approved the proposal for a course in Healthcare Innovation leading to a Postgraduate Diploma in Healthcare Innovation with a first intake in 2019/20.

**CL/18-19/115.ii.1:** Council approved the proposal for a course in Identities and Cultures of Europe leading to an award of M.Phil. with an exit award of P.Grad.Dip., with a first intake in 2019/20. Council also approved the cessation of the Textual and Visual Studies course and the European Studies course leading to M.Phil. awards.

**CL/18-19/115.iii.1:** Council approved the proposal for a course in Immunotherapeutics leading to an award of M.Sc. in Immunotherapeutics with an exit award of P.Grad.Dip., with a first intake in 2019/20.

**Action:**

**CL/18-19/115.ii.2:** The Dean of Graduate Studies to advise the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies of Council's observation that a module on Irish language and culture was not offered on the course.

**CL/18-19/116 The Library of Trinity College Dublin Annual Report 2017/18**

The Provost invited the Librarian and College Archivist to update Council on the third year of implementation of the Library Strategy.

The Librarian and College Archivist advised that she would take the report as read. She highlighted that the 2017/18 report presents the Library at the mid-point through its ambitious

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Strategy (2015-20) which dovetails with the College Strategy (2014-19), and highlighted that the results have been very positive. The year was characterised by planning and piloting for 2018/19 and beyond, and by partnerships.

The Librarian and College Archivist presented the five pillars of the Library Strategy Implementation Plan which are underpinned by three areas (communications, operations, and training and development):

#### Pillar 1 - integrated space

Highlights include, a programme of reimagined contemporary library spaces and the conservation of the Long Room and the Old Library. In 2017/18, a project of new information carriers in the Long Room produced very interesting results and is a pilot for the Old Library Conservation programme, which will be a key component of Trinity's forthcoming Capital Campaign.

#### Pillar 2 - integrated digital

Digital preservation and archiving, developing resources for online learning, research data management and UK and Irish e-legal deposits are the main components of Pillar 2. In 2017/18, the new laptop loans service was introduced and was very popular with students, being the most borrowed items in the Library. The Librarian and College Archivist noted that UK e-legal deposit material could be accessed on the laptops, and also reminded Council of the other initiatives to address the legislative restrictions to access of this material. She noted the pilot of 'Readers' Choice', and a Patron Driven Acquisitions (PDA) scheme.

#### Pillar 3 - teaching, learning and research

Investment in library expertise to catalyse research, collection, content and e-resource management, and the user experience are the main focus of Pillar 3. Inspired by TILDA, and in partnership with the School of Education, in 2017/18 a guide to the Library for students with intellectual disabilities was produced through funding from the Trinity Equality Fund.

For the centenary of women's suffrage in Ireland in 2018 Trinity partnered with Children's Books Ireland in the BOLD GIRLS celebration of women and girls in children's books. The project included Story Spinners, a physical and online exhibition co-curated by students reading the M.Phil. in Children's Literature (led by one of the Ussher professors partnered with the Librarian) and Librarian staff.

#### Pillar 4 - prioritised funding

Funding characterises pillar 4 and involves profile-raising including outreach events, exhibitions and philanthropic support. A highlight of pillar 4 was the exhibition of 'What is Life' by Oscar Wilde in partnership with Professor Luke O'Neill's symposium of Schrodinger's 'What is Life'. Another successful exhibition was of the Oscar Wilde material held by Trinity, which is the only Oscar Wilde material held by a public institution on the Island of Ireland.

#### Pillar 5 - policies programme

Pillar 5 comprises key policies and programmes. In 2017/18, the Librarian has continued to advance and accelerate its capacity to create, catalogue, preserve and deliver digital content. To enable the TLRH series 'Beyond the Book of Kells' curated by one of the Ussher professors partnered with the Librarian, The Book of Armagh was successfully digitised, made available online. A digital copy of the Book of Armagh was also presented to the Armagh Robinson Library (Public Library) with whom Trinity has an MOU.

The Librarian and College Archivist highlighted the diagram summarising the apportioning of Library acquisitions across the Faculties in 2017-18. The PDA scheme proved to be very popular and recommendations led to the purchasing of additional books and print journals; the majority were requested by the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS), which meant that spending for AHSS was slightly higher than for other faculties. The Librarian and College Archivist drew attention to the trend in increasing costs for outsourced storage and

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retrieval services. This is a significant external commercial storage cost and is an area for which the Library needs to plan. Redevelopment of the offsite Santry Book Repository is required and preparatory in situ work is beginning on this.

The Librarian and College Archivist concluded her presentation by highlighting a number of challenges and opportunities facing the Library Strategy. These include challenges posed by Brexit and US trade tariffs, a trend of decreasing State funding, and increasing student numbers over the next decade. Opportunities include, the launch of the University Philanthropic Campaign, and Trinity's activity as part of the League of European Research Universities (LERU). Trinity is also hosting the League of European Research Libraries (LIBER) 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in partnership with CONUL (Consortium of National and University Libraries), which will be held for the first time in Ireland in June 2019.

The Provost thanked the Librarian and College Archivist for her presentation and invited members to raise questions and provide feedback. Members acknowledged the excellent work that is progressing through the Library's Implementation Plan. A concern was raised by a member on the shortage of undergraduate volumes space in the Library. It was agreed that this be raised directly with Library staff.

The College's and Library's commitment to supporting people with disabilities was acknowledged, and the Library was commended for taking the initiative in reaching out to work with the School of Education. The Librarian and College Archivist advised that the Library is exploring an initiative on supporting students with autism and making suitable spaces available for these students.

The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer commended the very positive work of the Library and highlighted that a big challenge facing the Library and College is offsite storage. The Librarian and College Archivist observed that the Estates Strategy identified storage as a key enabler of the reconfiguration of contemporary Library spaces. She stated that there is an urgent requirement to replace existing poor quality storage facilities at the Santry Book Repository, compounded by the increasing cost of commercial off-site storage, and the high percentage of collections in unsatisfactory environmental conditions, as previously outlined in the Stewardship Strategy. This is highlighted as a near-term priority in the University's Estates Strategy.

The Provost noted that significant expenditure is reported for e-resources in the percentage breakdown of overall expenditure on resources. The expenditure on e-resources accounts for 85% of spending, and observed that ten years ago this would not have been the case. The Librarian and College Archivist noted that the cost of UK legal deposit material is not included in the resource figures, but even so, the percentage of e-resources is substantial and increasing. She further noted that Trinity is part of the Irish Research Electronic Library (IREL) consortium which negotiates for electronic resources on behalf of all the Irish Universities. There was discussion about the current business model of scholarly publishing, and the fundamental shifts inherent in Open Access etc. The negotiations with publishers are ongoing.

The Provost asked that Council be kept informed of developments relating to the negotiations, and concluded with the observation that there are major issues and challenges to be addressed.

The Provost thanked the Librarian and College Archivist and her staff on implementing the Library Strategy and warmly welcomed the increased and simplified borrowing entitlements.

#### **Decision**

**CL/18-19/116.1:** Council approved the Library of Trinity College Dublin Annual Report 2017/18.

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## **CL/18-19/117 Admissions Feasibility Study**

The Provost invited the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies to present this item.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies began his presentation by providing a background to and rationale for the Trinity Admissions Feasibility Study (TAFS). He stated that TAFS was developed in the context of a national discussion on access to higher education. Trinity launched TAFS to support the development of national policy by exploring if a fairer and better mechanism for admitting students to Higher Education exists. The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies highlighted that TAFS was not designed to be an additional access route as several access routes to Higher Education exist through HEAR, DARE, Mature Student and Further Education entry.

TAFS was approved by Council in 2012 for an initial two-year period with the first cohort of students entering courses in History, Law and Medieval History in 2014/15 (CL/12-13/027). Three modalities were initially used to assess applicants – the applicants' CAO points, their relative performance rank (RPR), and personal and contextual data provided by the applicant.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies highlighted that an interim report on TAFS was submitted to Council in 2015. Council approved an extension of the study to the end of 2016/17 (CL/14-15/169) and the use of the personal statement as a qualifier only with the applicants' CAO points and RPRs equally weighted (CL/15-16/034). Subsequent extensions to the study were approved by Council until the end of 2017/18 and 2019/20 with TAFS to end as a feasibility study at that stage (CL/15-16/211).

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies presented the findings of the study highlighting that it has operated as designed, the calculation of the RPR of applicants has been possible, and that complete anonymity of students has been maintained. In terms of the student profile he reported that there has not been a difference in the geographical spread of students; that there is a higher percentage of students from DEIS schools (9% versus 5%) and a higher percentage of students from fee-paying schools (31% versus 24%); and the CAO points achieved by TAFS students range from 300 up to 540. On average, TAFS students have 30-60 CAO points lower than Trinity students and that TAFS student progression is on par with their peers.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies reported a number of limitations of the study including, the sample size, participation of three courses in the study, the cost and time to administer and the subjectivity of the assessment of the personal statement.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies drew Council's attention to two proposals referred to USC for consideration and recommendation to Council at its June 2018 meeting (CL/17-18/220.ii.2). The proposals put to USC were to:

- Option A: Compile a comprehensive report on lessons learned from the TAFS study to inform future admissions policies at institutional and/or national level but do not take the admissions route explored within the TAFS any further in Trinity.
- Option B: Embed the admissions route explored within the TAFS in Trinity across more programmes.

At its meeting of 22 January 2019 USC considered reports on TAFS, including the potential for diversification of the student body through new QQI FET entry routes, and recommended that:

- The entry mechanism used by TAFS be discontinued (the last year of entry being 2019/20) USC/18-19/044.2
- Data from TAFS be provided to the IUA Task Group on Reform of University Selection and Entry (TGRUSE) which has been reactivated and inform other national discussions on the reform of the Leaving Certificate USC/18-19/044.1.

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The Provost thanked the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies and invited discussion from Council.

In the discussion that followed a number of points were raised. Concern was expressed that an unintended outcome of TAFS was the increase of students from fee paying schools. There was also a significant increase in the number of students from DEIS schools, though it was acknowledged that care is needed in interpreting the data from such a small sample. The importance and significance of the long-term impact of the College experience on students from DEIS schools, though a relatively small number, cannot be underestimated and for this reason the study warrants further investigation. The Trinity Access Programme (TAP), which supports students from a number of DEIS schools in accessing places in Trinity, does not have the capacity to work with all DEIS schools and the TAFS offers students from DEIS schools another pathway to College.

The merits of RPR were discussed and the Provost highlighted that this is a methodology employed by a number of other countries, including some US States. He added that the Netherlands, for example, provides places to students through a points system and random allocation. Despite high entry CAO points to some disciplines in College the best students are not necessarily offered places. Trinity in deciding its entry requirements can play a role in providing another pathway to College other than high CAO points. The Vice Provost/Chief Academic Officer suggested that by taking a different approach Trinity has an opportunity to be at the forefront of Universities in Ireland by sharing its experiences of the TAFS. There is a role for Trinity to lead and contribute to a national discussion on the Leaving Certificate.

The Provost queried whether the USC had fully considered the scope of expanding the study. The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies reported that USC did consider expanding the study, however, members concluded that as the study had such a small sample size and involved only three courses there wasn't sufficient data to make a strong case for expanding and continuing the study. The cost of expanding the TAFS in its existing format was also regarded as prohibitive.

A question was raised by a member in relation to the costs of RPR. The Academic Secretary reported that she had contacted CAO on this matter and was advised that there are two flat charges. These charges relate to the transmission of data from the Department of Education & Skills (DES) and consequent software adjustments to CAO, and the CAO then having to make manual intervention due to the small number of courses participating in the Study. CAO is unable to provide costs for expanding the scheme but stipulated that this would need careful consideration and an understanding of the impact of the CAO process overall. She noted that there is also considerable manual intervention by Academic Registry required.

Educational research requires time to establish impact and a question was raised as to whether sufficient time had been devoted to the Study in this context. It was reported that the Study had been positively received by the Media and the public at large and that if the study was expanded the potential benefits could be seen over time. A further observation was that the study had symbolic significance in that it did not focus solely on Leaving Certificate points.

A discussion ensued on expanding or discontinuing the study and it was broadly acknowledged that the study would either need to be expanded or discontinued and that there would be little point in retaining it in its current form for another year beyond 2019-2020. The Provost highlighted the significant finding re TAFS students performing as well as students who were offered College places through the CAO. He stated that Trinity had demonstrated that students with less Leaving Certificate points can succeed at College and this presents a rationale for expanding the Study. However, the conclusions and recommendations of USC and the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies had to be considered and taken into account.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies raised the possibility of exploring other mechanisms to facilitate students with lower Leaving Certificate points to access College

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places. He also advised Council that the alternative routes of HEAR and DARE for access students shows that students with lower points succeed. The 2017 CAVE Report highlighted students' performance in relevant Leaving Certificate subjects as a possible performance ranking system. The existing TAFS modalities may not offer the best assessment methodologies and alternatives would be worth exploring. A member added that Trinity could look to the UK system where Admission Officers are located in each University department and they review the profiles of students who were not offered places initially.

There was a general consensus that some time was needed to explore the feasibility of expanding the Study and gathering data on a larger scale. In the event that it was decided to expand the Study, CAO would need to be consulted to ensure an automated system was in place. It was acknowledged that as post-primary schools did not seem to be aware of the Study, the Study would need to be promoted more intensively were it to be expanded.

The Provost noted that there were diverse views amongst Council members and further discussion on the TAFS is required at the next Council meeting.

#### **Decision**

**CL/18-19/117.1:** Council deferred a decision on approving the recommendation of USC to discontinue the TAFS until the next meeting.

#### **CL/18-19/118 Any Other Urgent Business**

There was no AOB.

### **SECTION B**

#### **CL/18-19/119 Undergraduate Studies Committee**

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies advised that USC had approved a revised proposal from the School of Nursing and Midwifery to award 5 ECTS to its international school (USC/18-19/043.2). He advised that three proposals for Trinity Electives had been approved by USC (USC/18-19/046.1).

The minutes of the meeting of 22 January 2019 were noted and approved.

#### **Decision:**

**CL/18-19/119.1:** Council noted and approved the proposal to award 5 ECTS for the International School in the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

**CL/18-19/119.2:** Council noted and approved the proposals for the three Trinity Electives – 'A World to Discover: Travel Memoirs and Memorabilia at Trinity', 'Impact Evaluation for Global Development', and 'Design Thinking'.

#### **CL/18-19/120 Graduate Studies Committee**

The Dean of Graduate Studies referred Council to a Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) discussion on the 1252 award scheme (GS/18-19/255). There are twenty-five 1252 award schemes offered by College with the twenty fifth award located in the Dean's Office. The 1252 award scheme's low stipend was discussed at GSC and it was agreed that members consult with their Schools regarding this prior to discussion at the next GSC meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of the 24 January 2019 were noted and approved.

#### **CL/18-19/121 Quality Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of the 1 February 2019 were noted and approved.

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**Decision:**

**CL/18-19/121.1:** Council noted and approved the Progress Report for School of Histories and Humanities.

**CL/18-19/122 International Committee**

The minutes of the meeting of the 10 December 2019 were noted and approved.

**SECTION C**

**CL/18-19/123 College Fitness to Practice Committee – Membership**

The Council noted the memorandum from the Secretary to the College, circulated, dated 12 February 2019.

**CL/18-19/124 School Directors of Global Relations**

The Council noted and approved the memorandum from the Director of Internationalisation, circulated, dated 6 February 2019.

**CL/18-19/125 Higher Degrees**

The Council noted and approved the reports of examiners on candidates for higher degrees, approved by the sub-committee of Board and Council on 16 January 2019 and noted by Board on 30 January 2019.

**Higher Degrees by Research Alone**

**M.D.** Claire-Louise Marie Murphy; Walid Hosam El Kininy

**Ph.D.** Zahra Al Nasser; Nicole Campbell; Patricia Dominguez Castro; Martha Anne Finnegan; Mary Josephine Kenny; Jeremiah Lynch; Amy Danielle Lynes; Margaret McAdam; Kate McCarthy; Magdalena Maria Szkarlz Mathis

**D.Ch.Dent** Lubna Basheir Mohamed Gazal; Mark Joseph McLaughlin

**M.Sc.** Stephen Rogers; Stephen Shovlin

**SECTION D**

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

Signed .....

Date .....