The University of Dublin
Trinity College

Minutes of Research Committee Meeting, 04 November 2014

Present:

Professor Vinny Cahill, Dean of Research (DoR) and Chair
Professor Gemma Donnelly-Cox in place of Professor Paul Coughlan, Director of Research, School of Business
Professor Lorraine Leeson, Director of Research, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences
Professor Paul Scanlon, Director of Research, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy
Professor Aoife McLysaght, Director of Research, School of Genetics and Microbiology
Professor Gary Moran, Director of Research, School of Dental Science
Professor James O'Donnell, Director of Research, School of Medicine
Professor Gabrielle McKee, Director of Research, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Professor Lorraine O'Driscoll, Director of Research, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Professor Juergen Barkhoff, Director, Trinity Long Room Hub
Professor Carol Newman, Director of the Institute for International Integration Studies (IIIS)
Professor Daniela Zister, Director of Research, School of Biochemistry and Immunology.

In attendance:

Ms Doris Alexander, Research Development Manager, Trinity Research & Innovation
Mr David O'Shea, Acting Research Acc. Manager, Financial Services Division
Mr John Murphy, Director of Information Systems Services
Dr Fiona Killard, Research Strategy Officer, Trinity Research & Innovation and Rapporteur to the Committee
Mr Tony Flaherty, International Funding RDO, Trinity Research & Innovation (item RS/14-15/17 only)
Professor Shane Allwright, Registrar and Beibhinn Coman, Marketing Manager (item RS/14-15/18 only)

Apologies:

Professor Paul Coughlan, Director of Research, School of Business
Professor Aileen Douglas, Director of Research, School of English
Professor Blanaid Clarke, Director of Research, School of Law
Professor Martin Hegner, Director of Research, School of Physics
Professor Shane O'Mara, Director of Research, TCIN
Professor Jane Stout, Director of Research, School of Natural Sciences
Professor Frank Boland, Director of Research, School of Engineering
Professor Micheál Ó Siochrú, Director of Research, School of Histories and Humanities
Ms Megan Lee, President, Graduate Students Union

Not present:

Dr Diarmuid O'Brien, Director of Trinity Research & Innovation (TR&I) and Secretary
Professor Wolfgang Schmitt, Director of Research, School of Chemistry
Professor Andrew Pierce, Director of Research, School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics
Professor Clemens Ruthner, Director of Research, School of Languages, Literatures & Cultural Studies
Professor Mike Peardon, Director of Research, School of Mathematics
Professor Martin Adams, Director of Research, School of Drama, Film & Music
Professor Colette Murphy, Director of Research, School of Education
Professor Luke O'Neill, Director of Research, TBSI
Professor Stefano Sanvito, Director of Research, CRANN
Professor Aideen Long, Dean of Graduate Studies
Professor Ruth Byrne, Director of Research, School of Psychology
Professor Daniela Zisterer, Director of Research, School of Biochemistry and Immunology
Professor Carl Vogel, Director of Research, School of Computer Science and Statistics
Professor Trevor Spratt, Director of Research, School of Social Work and Social Policy
Dermot Frost, Acting Chair, Trinity Research Staff Association (TRSA)

RS/14-15/14 Minutes of 07 October 2014

The minutes of last meeting were accepted with minor revisions.

RS/14-15/15 Matters Arising from the Minutes

The DoR reported meeting apologies.

The Dean also noted that Council had approved the evolution of the IIIS (see RS/14-15/06).

Further feedback from members on the HRB strategy and policy consultation was requested (see RS/14-15/11).

The members were informed that a College document commenting on the benefit of Ireland (nationally) joining CERN had now been drafted and submitted with input from the School of Mathematics (RS/14-15/11).

RS/14-15/16 Dean of Research Update (DoR)

The DoR informed members that eleven applications had been submitted to the ERC Advanced Grant programme by College PIs, and a further three applications listed Trinity PIs as team members.

The members were also updated on the initial results of SFI's Investigator Programme. It was noted that 10 out of 26 TCD applications have progressed to the second stage of the evaluation

for this programme. This represents a 38% progression rate for Trinity, where the overall progression rate nationally is 30%. It was further noted that approx. 20% of all applications came from TCD.

The TR&I Research Development Manager also reported on the launch of the *Epigium Online Research Leaders Development Course,* which is a professional development programme that supports researchers wishing to develop an independent research career. Initially this programme will be rolled out as a pilot in online form, with scope for the future development of workshops and other blended learning initiatives. It is anticipated that the pilot will commence in January 2015 and will involve approx. 15 PIs from across all faculties. Participants will devote 50 hours to the programme and will require the support of a mentor. This initiative will be run in conjunction with the Staff Development Office, and a certificate may be offered upon completion.

RS/14-15/17   International Funding Opportunities - Clarification on Policy

The International Funding Research Projects Officer (RDO) requested clarification from the Research Committee on dual use research (i.e. research that has both civilian and potential military/defence application). A proposal was put to members whereby research applications would be judged based on the intent of work proposed, its contribution to mankind, and on the assessment of the DoR and two members of Research Committee (a sub-committee). This process would be undertaken only for applications that require a 'statement of military relevance'. The International Funding RDO also prepared an internal pro forma for potential applicants. It was noted by a member that the Research Committee sub-group would need to ensure a swift turn-around on reviewed applications. It was further pointed out that the sub-committee should see the same statement of military relevance as that included in the proposal for funding and that Research Committee be informed of any sub-committee decisions. It was further suggested that an extra layer of checks should be added whereby the sub-committee must approve an application unanimously, or the application would revert to Research Committee for a decision. Research Committee members requested the International Funding RDO to consult further with members and provided a redrafted memo.

Action: International Funding RDO to consult with committee members concerning the process to be followed to approve dual-use applications

RS/14-15/18   Trinity Visual Identity

The Registrar and Marketing Manager updated Research Committee on the progress of the College's Visual Identity project. The need for a new logo in an increasingly competitive national / international market was discussed. It was also noted that there is a need for consistency in the use of the College's logo and the institutes/centres/units also need to use a College logo. The

members were presented with draft versions of potential logos, which were developed following student, staff and public surveys on the perception of Trinity College. The Registrar clarified that the formal name is to remain as "Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin". Elements of the shield are also to remain the same, however, the blue proposed will be revised. The Marketing Manager circulated a number of images. The options presented were discussed at length and a vote was taken by members of Research Committee. The "University of Dublin" logo in the lighter shade of blue was the preferred option for Research Committee members. It was further agreed that it was an absolute imperative that every activity of the College should be branded correctly.

RS/14-15/19 H2020 Update

The Research Development Manager updated members on H2020 activities. It was noted that H2020 and International funding targets (inc U.S. funding targets) had been set, and the Research Development Manager provided an overview of these and the current status of these applications in a presentation to members. It was noted that there would be efforts made to increase ne number of ERC successes, the average size of H2020 grants and the number of H2020 coordinator participations. The Research Development Manager also reported that there are now nine local-based RPOs, a centrally-based H2020 participant Research Officer, H2020 coordinator support and an ERC support. Slides from this presentation will be circulated to members.

Action: Research Development Manager to circulate copies of the slides presented at the meeting.

RS/14-15/20 Items for Discussion at Future Meetings

The Committee was informed that the College IP Policy and the College overheads policy would be brought before the members at future sittings of the Committee.

RS/14-15/21 AOB
None recorded.