



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Board Meeting 9 October 2024

This meeting was held in the Trinity Board Room

Present: Chairperson (Mr P Farrell), Provost (Dr L Doyle), Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Professor O Sheils), Professor I Arnedillo Sánchez, Mr Hamza Bana, Professor M Cunningham, Ms T Doyle, Ms I Goggin, Dr N Hardiman, Professor D Jones, Professor A Kahane, Dr M Kelly (Deputy Chairperson), Ms J Maguire, Ms R Mathews McKay, Ms O Muldoon, Professor A Nolan, Dr D Thornhill, Professor J Walsh, Mr A White, Dr J Wyse.

Apologies: Ms D Caden, Professor A Dignam, Professor C O' Farrelly, Dr N Hardiman, Professor C Leahy.

In attendance

(ex officio) Secretary to the College/Director of Governance (Ms V Butler), Bursar/Director of Strategic Innovation (Professor E Denny), Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (Ms L Ryan).

In attendance

Chief Innovation and Enterprise Officer (Dr M Olmstead), Deputy Secretary to the College (Ms AM O'Mullane)

BD/24-25/001 Statements of Interest

The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance advised the Board that she had received a statement of potential conflict of interest from Dr Michelle Olmstead, Chief Innovation and Enterprise Officer in respect of agenda item 25, Board Attendee. Having discussed the item with the Chief Innovation and Enterprise Officer, the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance proposed, and it was agreed, that she would leave the meeting for the duration of the item should the item be discussed.

The Chair advised the Board that he had received a statement of potential conflict of interest from the College/Director of Governance in respect of agenda item 29, Establishment of Working Group to Review the Appointment Process for Future Provosts. Having discussed the item with the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance, the Chair proposed, and it was agreed, that she leave the meeting for the duration of the item should the item be discussed.

The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance advised the Board that she had received a statement of potential conflict of interest from Ms Louise Ryan, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer in respect of agenda item 37, Financial Signatories. Having discussed the item with the Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance proposed, and it was agreed, that she would leave the meeting for the duration of the item should the item be discussed.

BD/24-25 002 New Members' Declarations

At the invitation of the Chairperson each of the new Board members made the declaration in the language of their choice.

The Chairperson reminded all Board members that they were to act in the best interests of the University as a whole for now and in the future. The Chairperson reminded members of their obligations regarding confidentiality and that Board members should not disclose the opinions and discussions of members of the Board or sub-groupings of the Board.

SECTION A.1 POLICY AND STRATEGIC MATTERS

BD/24-25/003 Minutes

- (i) The Board approved the draft minutes of 19 June 2024.

BD/24-25/004 Matters Arising from the Minutes

The following matters were raised under matters arising:

BD/23-24/264 New Governance Structure – Lessons Learned

The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance, Ms Victoria Butler thanked Board members for participating in the External Review of the Board. The draft Report had been received and would be shared with the Board at its next meeting on 6 November 2024.

Professor Darryl Jones joined the meeting at this point.

BD/24-25/005 Provost's Report

The Provost provided a verbal report under four main headings.

(i) Budget 2025

The Provost provided an update on the key provisions in Budget 2025 for the third level sector and noted that the University had participated in a sustained sectoral approach to raising awareness of the funding gap in higher education in the run up to Budget 2025. There were several positive aspects in Budget 2025 including the principle of committing to the provision of additional funding on a multi-annual basis. There would be additional core funding in 2025 with a pledge by the government to increase this steadily to 2029. There will be an allocation in 2025 to cover government-agreed national pay awards, however, the shortfall in pay budgets for the current year had not been addressed in Budget 2025, and work on a government supplementary budget to address this was underway.

It was noted that there would be a one-off €1k reduction in the student contribution fee. The Provost welcomed the fact that the PhD stipend had been increased to €25k per annum funded from the National Training Fund (NTF). The Provost commended members of the University for being involved in a sustained effort to increase that stipend level. Other welcome provisions included additional funding from the National Training Fund (NTF) up to 2030 to cater for extra provision in healthcare, veterinary and other key national skills areas that required capital expenditure.

Ms Matthews McKay and Professor Arnedillo Sánchez joined the meeting at this point.

(ii) Taighde Éireann - Research Ireland

The Board noted that Taighde Éireann - Research Ireland was established on 1 August 2024. Professor Valeria Nicolosi had been appointed to the Board of Taighde Éireann - Research Ireland. The Board congratulated Professor Nicolosi on her appointment.

It was noted that since the establishment of Taighde Éireann - Research Ireland, the pre-proposal applications that had been made to the SFI Centres call were now being addressed under the Research Ireland Centres Programme. It was also noted that, of the 21 pre-proposal applications made for Centres nationally, 15 of these applications had moved to the Full Submission stage, of which 7 were from Trinity, and this was testimony of the strong research culture at Trinity.

(iii) Appointment of Government Science Advisor

The Provost informed the Board that Professor Aoife McLysaght, Chair of Evolutionary Genetics at Trinity, had been appointed as Government Science Advisor and would chair the new National Science Advice Forum. The Board congratulated Professor McLysaght on her appointment.

(iv) EU updates

The Provost advised that Ms Ekaterina Zaharevia (Bulgaria) had been announced as Commissioner designate for Startups, Research and Innovation. It was noted that there are many questions remaining about the future of the funding Framework programme and this would require the Research Office to monitor and assess Trinity's position in respect to the uncertain position.

Dr Don Thornhill and Ms Tara Doyle joined the meeting.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer advised that there would not be a second round of the Human Capital Initiative.

In response to a question from a Board member about the multi-annual approach to provisions in the budget and the security of those commitments, the Provost advised that reassurance had been received in relation to the multi-annual approach to additional core-funding. It was noted that a legislative change would be required to implement the multi-annual commitment for capital expenditure funding to support research infrastructure/capacity and it is unclear what impact the general election and future government formation may have on the commitments made in Budget 2025.

Action/Decision

005.01 The Board received the verbal report from the Provost.

BD/24-25/006 Task Force – Terms of Reference

Professor Eoin O'Sullivan, Senior Dean, joined the meeting for this item.

The Senior Dean introduced the draft Taskforce Terms of Reference with reference to his memorandum dated 3 October 2024 which had been circulated in advance. The University had committed to establishing a Taskforce and the paper included a draft Terms of Reference for the Taskforce on Academic and Institutional International Links and Related Matters and a proposed membership. It was proposed that the Taskforce would be Chaired by Mary Irvine, former President of the High Court of Ireland. The Taskforce would operate on a time-limited basis in order to develop a set of ethical principles to inform and guide other parts of the University. Experts on particular conflicts would give evidence rather than being members of the Taskforce given no one conflict was the focus of the Taskforce's work. Council would consider the matter on 16 October 2024 for input, consideration and approval and a further update would be brought to Board about the Task Force at its meeting on November 6 2024.

In response to a query on the definition of violations of international law as referenced in the draft terms of reference, the Senior Dean advised that advice would be sought from the Chair how this would be defined. A number of Board members recommended an amendment to the first bullet point of the terms of reference to clarify that the taskforce would develop a set of principles in the context of armed conflicts and/or where there were violations of international law.

Following discussion regarding the optimal approach to the College Officer nominee role on the Taskforce it was agreed that where a College Officer nominated an individual, that individual would be a permanent nominee. In addition, the Chair of the Taskforce must approve the nominee joining the Taskforce.

In response to a question, about the confidentiality of the item, the Chair advised the Board that it was important to respect Council's role in considering the matter. It was recognised that this was a

matter important to many members of the community and a statement would be drafted that could be shared as appropriate.

Action/Decision

- 006.01** The Board approved the draft terms of reference and proposed membership for the Taskforce on Academic and Institutional Links and Related Matters subject to:
- (i) an amendment being made to the end of the sentence of the first bullet point of the terms of reference replacing “and there are violations of international law;” with “and/or there are violations of international law;” and
 - (ii) an amendment being made to the membership to reflect that the Chair must approve a College Officer nominee. The nominee of the College would be a member of the Taskforce for the lifetime of the Taskforce.

BD/24-25/007 Renaming the Library

Ms Helen Shenton, Librarian and College Archivist joined the meeting at this point.

The Senior Dean introduced the item with reference to his memorandum dated 3 October 2024 which had been circulated in advance. The Senior Dean is Chair of the Trinity Legacies Review Working Group (TLRWG) introduced the item Renaming the Library and provided a background to the proposal to rename the Library after de-naming the Library in 2023. The Senior Dean outlined the extensive process undertaken by the working group to identify options for a new name for the Library and set out the deliberations of the TLWRG that had resulted in the TLWRG recommending to the Board their preferred option of renaming The Library The Eavan Boland Library. The Senior Dean referred to the paper on Eavan Boland as prepared by TLRWG member Caitriona Crowe with input from Méabh Scahill. Given the significance that no building in the Trinity city centre campus had to date been named after a woman, the paper set out that the renaming of The Library to The Eavan Boland was the optimal choice given that it would bring a poetic, scholarly and feminist reputation to a building dedicated to the humanities.

The Librarian and College Archivist advised there are plans for a potential exhibition in the Library about the process undertaken around the de-naming and re-naming of the Library about Eavan Boland should the Board approve the preferred option of the TLWRG.

A query was raised about the University’s approach to potential philanthropic naming of buildings. It was noted that this was a separate matter to the proposal being considered by the Board and that the useful distinction between honorific naming and philanthropic naming of buildings would be examined in the future.

In response to a question from a Board member, the Provost outlined the next steps that would take place should Board approve the renaming of the Library to The Eavan Boland Library which included liaising with the Boland family. The Board welcomed the proposal to rename the Library The Eavan Boland Library which would result in the first Trinity building in the city centre campus being named after a woman. The Board commended the TLWRG for their work on this process.

Action/Decision

- 007.01** The Board approved the proposal to rename the Library, The (Eavan) Boland Library, subject to the agreement of the Boland family.

Professor O’Sullivan and Ms Shenton left the meeting at this point.

Major Strategy Item

BD/24-25/008 Strategic Plan Update

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer introduced the Strategic Plan Update with reference to a draft document for discussion which had been circulated in advance. The Vice-Provost/CAO thanked the Board Working Group for their efforts over the Summer and provided details on the stakeholder

consultation and benchmarking that had taken place. The Vice-Provost/CAO provided an overview setting out the landscape, core values and the potential enablers which could strategically change the way the University operated. The Vice-Provost/CAO set out the current core values and work in relation to the articulation of five potential core values based on the unifying theme of belonging. The one new theme identified as Being Nature Positive. There were some additional suggestions for values but it was suggested that as these are our core values, perhaps we should retain the current values and include Sustainability. The Vice-Provost/CAO advised that the plan did not exist in isolation and would incorporate elements of previous plans to which the University remained committed, and newer strategic areas such as the Sustainability Strategy already endorsed by Board. Information was provided on those commitments as well as the potential goals that could be included in the plan. Information was also provided on modelling student numbers, approved business plans and loan repayment details over the lifetime of the new strategic plan.

Ms Fedelma McNamara, Director of Academic Services Division joined the meeting.

Board Members welcomed the presentation. A number of Board members welcomed the inclusion of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in the Teaching & Learning Goal, however, noted that the current focus was perhaps too narrow. It was noted that the work around EDI was wider than gender equality work and this should be reflected. A Board member advised that it was important to be explicit about the diversity of the student community.

In response to a query from a Board member regarding the proposed change to the values to include “courageous, fierce and provocative”, the Vice-Provost/CAO advised that the suggestion reflected the perception for a need to be more fierce in advocating for the sector and that it came from several constituencies. The nature positivity value was welcomed by a Board member. There was a recommendation that a set of five values be brought back to the Board for further consideration.

There was discussion about the consultation that had taken place with students and external stakeholders. The Vice-Provost/CAO agreed to further engage with the Students’ Union on the draft Plan. Full details on engagement with external stakeholders would be shared with Board members once they had all taken place.

A Board member queried the steps being planned to address the challenges in financial performance projected to occur in future years. The Vice-Provost/CAO advised this conversation had started and would involve such matters as the composition of the student body and potential other revenue streams.

Board members noted that online learning, utilising AI and digital transformation required infrastructure and specialised skills to support cohorts and may involve significant start-up costs. In this context it would be important for the Board to be fully informed of the any Strategic Plan commitments. A Board member noted that discussions around lifelong learning had taken place in the context of catering to the changing needs of society. Another Board member advised that further iterations of the draft plan would need to be clear in relation to how digital transformation and an AI enabled university would be taken forward.

In response to comments from Board members the importance of understanding the implications of any proposed commitments in the new plan, including unintended implications on working patterns, mental health and well-being was acknowledged.

There were recommendations that academic freedom should be placed prominently in the strategic plan and that the partnership agreement with students should be enhanced in the plan. The importance of continuing to address staff and student mental health and wellbeing was acknowledged.

In response to a question about Trinity Inclusive Curriculum (Trinity Inc.) the Vice-Provost/CAO clarified that the activity had not been terminated, rather it has been assimilated into the Senior Lecturer's portfolio. It will reside within the remit of Trinity Teaching & Learning so that the activity may be mainstreamed across college. The Vice-Provost/CAO welcomed the feedback provided by Board members and advised that there would be a focus on Enablers at the next meeting.

The Chairperson thanked the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer.

Action/Decision

008.01 The Board received and noted the Strategic Plan update from the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer.

Ms McNamara left the meeting at this point.

Critical Infrastructure Matters

BD/24-25/009 Strategic Capital Projects Dashboard

The Bursar/Director of Strategic Innovation introduced the Capital Projects Dashboard dated 23 September 2024 referring to the presentation which had been circulated in advance.

009.01 The Board received the updated Capital Projects Dashboard dated 24 September 2024.

BD/24-25/010 Portal and Laidlaw Building

Mr Colin Brogan, Capital Projects Manager, Estates & Facilities and Mr Stephen Walsh, Programme Manager for Strategic Projects, E&F joined the meeting at this point.

(i) Portal Vision

The Chief Innovation and Enterprise Officer (CIEO) introduced the Portal Vision presentation dated 9 October 2024 that had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Portal was a gateway for access to Trinity's world-renowned research, innovation and enterprise activities comprising of physical and virtual spaces across Trinity's main campus, Trinity East and St James's Hospital. Portal@Trinity East was envisioned as an enabling and activating space, Innovation and Enterprise hub for Trinity where industry, academic, startups and the wider community could meet, co-create and innovate. This involved development of space in Building 3 (3GCQ) and Building 4 (4GCQ).

Action/Decision

010.01 The Board received the Portal Vision.

(ii) 4GCQ Portal Business Case

The Chief Innovation and Enterprise Officer introduced the Portal Market Analysis & Revenue Generation presentation as circulated to Board. The 4GCQ building would allow the University to showcase its research, engage in partnerships and deliver impact and incubate research enabled activities at the University. The CIEO outlined a number of updates to the operational model and advised that the building would open Q2 2024 supported by a membership model for stakeholders who wanted to partner with Trinity. Modelling anticipated profit over the first 25 years and the initial start-up cost would be absorbed as much as possible. The CIEO advised that there was a risk to the capital project due to the fragility of the operating model.

In response to a question whether the space was appropriate for typical incubating activity such as prototyping, the CIEO advised that the space was not designed for wet labs or prototyping. It was a space to complement this type of activity. In response to a question about the approach to supporting student spin-out activity, the CIEO advised that students who were undertaking start-up activity as part of a programme would not be charged but would be subject to charges if the start-up company was not part of a programme; existing student provision would not change with the introduction of this space. In response to a query, it was clarified there were no breakout spaces provided for users of the building but the building could not be taken in isolation given the

redevelopment taking place elsewhere on the site.

A Board member queried how researchers would be incentivised to use the space and encourage the interactions between corporates and think tanks as envisaged as part of the revenue generation plan. The CIO advised there would be a focus on events, seminars as well as a three-tiered approach to membership with the offer of enabling spaces. There was currently no other space for this type of activity on campus.

A number of Board members raised concerns in respect of the marketing analysis and sought further information on potential risks noting that the type of membership model envisaged sometimes tended to have large churn. It needed to be set out why being physically present benefited the activity intended for these spaces. In response to a number of questions from Board members about the business plan CIO confirmed there had been a failure rate built into the plan, confirmed the occupancy rate and advised that there is a focus on securing anchor tenants as well as other types of memberships. A Board member noted that this project had a long history and requested a short memo setting out the background and context, further details on the market for the building, how the building would be marketed to potential future occupants and how internal staff undertaking or planning to undertake innovation activity would be incentivised to utilise the space. The Provost and CIO undertook to prepare a summary and bring back to a future meeting of the Board.

Action/Decision

010.02 The Board received and provided feedback on the Portal Market Analysis & Revenue Generation and the 4GCQ Portal Business Case.

010.03 The Board requested a memo be provided to a future meeting addressing any risks identified with the business plan.

(iii) 3GCQ Laidlaw Capital Business Case

Mr Brogan and Mr Walsh introduced the 3GCQ Laidlaw Capital Business Case presentation dated 9 October which had been circulated in advance. This would deliver the Laidlaw Research & Innovation Library which would be fully funded by the Laidlaw Foundation. Consideration had been given to an appropriate contingency level for the project given comparisons with similar projects at Trinity. It was noted that there were challenges with operating costs that required further work. Board was requested to approve the Preliminary Business Plan, establishment of an Integrated Project Team (IPT) and the draw down of IDT fees for Stage (i) and (ii)a.

A number of Board members requested further details on the Library operating costs and business plan and whether there would be any operating costs that the University would need to absorb. In response to comments from Board members, it was noted that there would need to be a coherent operating model and sufficient information on operating costs for future approvals to be granted by Board.

The Provost outlined the significant range of activity that took place at Trinity East including SFI Research Centre activity noting that the Board had taken a number of decisions in relation to 4GCQ and 3GCQ over a period of time. The Provost and CIO undertook to come back to Board with the background and context to the project, further information on operating costs and a business model to a future meeting of the Board. The Chair also requested information on how existing research activity at Trinity East would be impacted by building work.

Action/Decision

010.04 The Board approved the 3GCQ Preliminary Business Case;

010.05 The Board approved the appointment of an Integrated Project Team (IPT) for the design and management of the project following an open tender procedure;

010.06 The Board approved the draw down of IPT fees for Stage (i) and Stage (ii)a.

010.07 The Board noted the top three ranked tenderers total fee range.

010.08 The Board noted that the project would return to Finance Committee shortly seeking

approval to appoint the Emerging Preferred Tenderer within the free range noted by the Board.

Mr Brogan and Mr Walsh left the meeting at this point.

Professor Jones left the meeting at this point.

Environmental and Sustainability Matters

BD/24-25/011 Trinity Climate Action

Professor Jane Stout, Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action, Mr Mike Clark, Director of Campus Infrastructure and Ms Jane Hackett Sustainability Manager joined the meeting at this point.

(i) Trinity Climate Action Roadmap

The Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action (VPCA) introduced Trinity's 2024 Climate Action Roadmap with reference to her memorandum dated 1 October 2024 which had been circulated in advance. The Climate Action Roadmap articulated Trinity's targets for reducing direct carbon dioxide equivalent emissions (scope 1) as well as indirect emissions from electricity (scope 2) as well as outlining how Trinity will increase energy efficiency and tackle emissions from procurement (scope 3).

Board members welcomed the Trinity Climate Action roadmap and commended the work that had already taken place. A Board member queried how the activity of the University could best be shared in public discourse.

In response to a question, the VPCA advised that she understood Professor Karen Wiltshire, CRH Chair of Climate Science, was working on compiling a register of the climate research taking place across the University. The VPCA Action clarified the timelines for the Trinity College Sustainability Strategy 2023 – 2030, 2023 – 2026 Action Plan and the Climate Action Roadmap 2024. A Board member noted that the digital energy burden needed to be highlighted to the University community. A Board member also noted the importance of student involvement and the University needed to be mindful of the partnerships it entered into from a climate perspective.

In response to a question on the cost involved in bringing buildings up to standard, Mr Clark advised that costs would depend on whether a light or deep retrofit of spaces took place and the decant plans in place and a rough estimate would be between €200m – €400m. In response to a question, the VPCA Action confirmed there was currently no definition set by government for scope 3 emissions.

Action/Decision

011.01 The Board considered and approved Trinity's 2024 Climate Action Roadmap.

(ii) Update

The Vice President for Biodiversity and Climate Action introduced a Trinity Climate Action presentation which had been circulated in advance. The presentation included details on Trinity's targets and the projects that had been delivered under scope 1 and 2 and the engagement that has taken place and the challenges that existed with delivering Trinity's Climate Action.

Action/Decision

011.02 The Board noted Trinity's Climate Action update.

Professor Stout, Mr Clark, and Ms Hackett left the meeting at this point.

Finance/Audit Matters

BD/24-25/012 Quarterly Financial Review and Forecasts Q3 2023/24

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (CFO) introduced the Quarterly Financial Review and Forecasts

Q3 2023/24 with reference to her presentation dated 2 October 2024 which had been circulated in advance. The Treasurer/CFO provided the Board with a summary of the key highlights of the financial performance for the third quarter of the financial year 2023/24 and the full-year forecast to 30 September 2024.

In response to a question about cashflow in Q3, the Treasurer/CFO explained that cashflow position changes quarter to quarter reflecting the cyclical nature of the University's operations (e.g. most academic fees income received from September – December and spend down over the academic year) and the reduction in cash balances noted in Q3 was within normal parameters. In response to a question on the variance between budget and FY23/2 Q3 Actual for Academic Fees, the Treasurer/CFO advised that this had been as a result of a different profile of students than that budgeted for.

Action/Decision

012.01 The Board noted and discussed the presentation from the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer dated 2 October 2024.

BD/24-25/013 Science Gallery Dublin

Professor Gerard McHugh, Dean of Development, joined the meeting for this item.

The Dean of Development introduced the item with reference to his memorandum dated 7 October 2024 which had been circulated in advance. He outlined a range of options for the Board to consider regarding the University's approach to public engagement in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) following the closure of the Science Gallery Dublin on 27 February 2022. The Dean of Development set out the context and background to the options presented to Board, noting that a creative entity had been engaged to work up the future options which included engagement with stakeholders and outlining the financial implications for the University for each of the possible options. The Dean of Development noted that he had already actively engaged with a range of stakeholders but it had proved impossible to find a funding source capable of providing long term guaranteed Sustainability of the Science Gallery Dublin.

The Dean of Development provided an overview of the funding models and performance of Science Gallery International network members in response to a question from a Board member. Board members recognised that the Science Gallery Dublin had been an opportunity for the University to communicate the work of the University in the areas of art and science to the public through the outward presence on Pearse Street. However, Board members recognised that neither the re-opening the Science Gallery on a revised operating model or moving to an event-based model would be financially sustainable and that the University was not in a position to allocate resources to meet the associated operating costs for either option. In addition, a number of Board members considered the potential risks associated with the options.

It was noted that at the time when the Science Gallery Dublin had been established there had been concern about childrens' interest in STEM, that concern had abated but it was important to reconsider the options for STEAM engagement within a financially prudent envelope. There had been some very successful engagement events recently, for example, European Researchers Night and Child Health Research Festival. These events showcased the University's strengths in engagement activity and there was an opportunity to build on this. A Board member noted that it would be important to share the University's Climate Action research with the public given it was one of Trinity's research strengths and priorities. In response to a comment from a Board member it was noted that future consideration would need to be given to the space formerly occupied by the Science Gallery.

Action/Decision

013.01 Following consideration of the options set out in the memorandum, the Board agreed not to reopen the Science Gallery Dublin or move to the operation of the Science Gallery Dublin on an

event-based model.

Professor Gerard McHugh, Dean of Development, left the meeting at this point.

BD/24-25/014 Draft Annual Board Work Plan 2024/25

The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance introduced the Draft Annual Board Work plan 2024 with reference to her memorandum date 2 October 2024 which had been circulated in advance. A provisional meeting of Board and Council had been scheduled for May 2025 when it was anticipated that the Strategic Plan would be considered.

Action/Decision

014.01 The Board noted the Draft Annual Board Work Plan 2024/25.

BD/24-25/015 Proposed Changes to the 2010 Consolidated Statutes – Schedules 1 and 2 to the Chapter on Committees (Finance Committee and Detailed Provisions Relating to Committees)

Professor Neville Cox, Registrar joined the meeting at this point.

The Registrar introduced the Proposed Changes to the 2010 Consolidated Statutes, Schedules 1 and 2 to the Chapter on Committees (Finance Committee and Detailed Provisions Relating to Committees) with reference to his memorandum dated 2 October which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The proposed changes followed on from the annual committee review process and comprised of correction of area or staff titles, the composition of certain committees and the duration of terms. Changes were being proposed in relation to Finance Committee, Risk and Compliance Committee, Environmental and Sustainability Committee, Graduate Studies Committee, Undergraduate studies Committee, Safety Sub-Committee, Equality Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee, Remuneration Committee, and the Quality Committee.

Action/Decision

015.01 The Board approved the proposed changes to the 2010 Consolidated Statutes, Schedules 1 and 2 to the Chapter on Committees.

015.02 Board noted the linkage between this item and item 27 Membership of Committees of Board and Council under Section C and the work being undertaken to fill external member vacancies for the Audit Committee and Finance Committee.

BD/24-25/016 Honorary Degrees

The Registrar introduced the Honorary Degrees item with reference to his memorandum which had been tabled at the meeting and summarised the proposed nomination as contained within Board members were reminded about the confidentiality of the item.

Action/Decision

016.01 The Board approved the recommendation for the award of an Honorary Degree set out in the tabled paper.

016.02 The Board approved a request to vary the Honorary Degree procedures to remove the option for self-nomination and to introduce the ability for the Registrar and Chancellor to agree and strike out applications that did not meet the criteria.

Professor Cox left the meeting at this point.

SECTION A.2 POLICY MATTERS ALREADY CONSIDERED BY PRINCIPAL COMMITTEES

BD/24-25/017 Business Continuity Policy

The Board noted and approved the draft Business Continuity Policy.

BD/24-25/018 Revised Parent's Leave Policy

The Board noted and approved the proposed changes to the Parent's Leave Policy introduced in response to legislative changes. Implementation of statutory requirements.

BD/24-25/019 Marino Institute of Education Institutional Quality Review Report

The Board noted and approved the Marino Institute of Education Institutional Quality Review Report.

BD/24-25/020 Trinity College Dublin Subsidiary Governance Guidelines

The Board noted and approved the draft Trinity College Dublin Subsidiary Governance Guidelines.

SECTION B – MINUTES FROM PRINCIPAL COMMITTEES

BD/24-25/021 Board Business Callover

The Board noted the Board Business Callover updated to 19 June 2024.

BD/24-25/022 Critical Infrastructure Committee

The Board noted and approved the minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2024.

BD/24-25/023 Environmental and Sustainability Committee

The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2024.

BD/24-25/024 Finance Committee

The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2024. Following a request from a Board member, the Treasurer/CFO University undertook to update and circulate a benchmarking analysis to Board members.

BD/24-25/025 Risk and Compliance Committee

025.01 The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the Risk and Compliance Committee meeting held on 18 September 2024.

025.02 The Board noted and approved the draft minutes of the Risk and Compliance meeting held on 23 September 2024.

SECTION C

BD/24-25/026 Board Attendee

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 2 October 2024.

BD/24-25/027 Administrative Procedures in the Summer Session

The Board noted the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 2 October 2024.

BD/24-25/028 Membership of Committees of Board and Council

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Registrar dated 1 October 2024

BD/24-25/029 Updates to Terms of Reference of Principal Committees

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 4 October 2024.

BD/24-25/030 Establishment of Working Group to Review the Appointment Process for Future Provosts

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Registrar and the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 2 October 2024.

BD/24-25/031 Establishment of Review Group on Student Conduct and Capacity

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Registrar dated 1 October 2024.

BD/24-25/032 Committee on Student Conduct and Capacity – Report

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Registrar dated 1 October 2024.

BD/24-25/033 Prizes and Other Awards – Gold Medal Nominations

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies dated 24 September 2024.

BD/24-25/034 Related Entity Financial Reports

The Board noted the memorandum from the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer dated 26 September 2024.

BD/24-25/035 Dublin City Council Audit Committee Nominee

The Board noted and approved the nomination of Mr David O’Shea, Director of Operations, Trinity Development and Alumni to the Audit Committee of Dublin City Council.

BD/24-25/036 Technical Staff Committee – Update to Membership

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Secretary, Technical Staff Committee, dated 23 September 2024.

BD/24-25/037 Change in Company Directorships – Trinity Brand Commercial Services Ltd

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Governance Manager dated 1 October 2024.

BD/24-25/038 Financial Signatories

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 2 October 2024.

BD/24-25/039 Chaplaincy

The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 2 October 2024.

SECTION D

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

Signed:

Date: