Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Board Meeting 13 May 2026

This meeting was held in the Trinity Board Room

Present: Chairperson (P Farrell), Provost (Dr L Doyle), Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Professor O Sheils), D Caden, Professor M Cunningham, Professor A Dignam, T Doyle, A Duffin, I Goggin, Professor D Jones, Professor A Kahane, Dr M Kelly (Deputy Chairperson), Professor C Leahy, G McNally, O Muldoon, Professor A Nolan, Dr D Thornhill, Professor J Walsh, A White, Dr J Wyse.

Apologies: D Leahy, Professor C O'Farrelly, Dr N Hardiman, Professor I Arnedillo Sánchez.

In attendance (ex officio): Secretary to the College/Director of Governance (V Butler), Chief Operating Officer (N Gorman), Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer (Professor E Denny), Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer (L Ryan).

In attendance: Deputy Secretary to the College (AM O'Mullane).

BD/25-26/204 Statement of Interest

The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance advised the Board that a statement of potential conflict of interest had been received from Paul Farrell, Chairperson of the Board, in relation to Item C19, Board Membership. Having discussed the matter with the Chairperson of the Board, the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance proposed and it was agreed, that the Chairperson of the Board would not be present in the meeting for the item.

The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance advised the Board that a statement of potential conflict of interest had been received from the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer in relation to Item A.13, Annual Officers. The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance, having discussed the matter with the Officers, proposed and it was agreed, that the Officers would not be present in the meeting for that item.

The Chairperson reminded Board members of their obligations regarding confidentiality and noted that should any member wish to discuss any Board matter with other colleagues or peers that they should raise this at the Board meeting for decision on how best to deal with the matter.

BD/25-26/205 Board Membership

Paul Farrell left the meeting for the duration of this item. Mary Kelly, Vice-Chairperson, assumed chairing the Board meeting for the duration of the item.

This item was taken next at the meeting.

(i) Professional, Technical, Administrative and Support Staff Member

Board noted that Andrew Duffin was to be a member of Board for the remainder of Rachel Mathews-McKay's term to the end of the 2027/28 academic year. Andrew Duffin fulfilled the criteria set out in the Consolidated Statutes, 2010, as the candidate from the same constituency who achieved the highest number of votes, without being elected, having received votes equivalent to at least one-third of the quota for that constituency.

Andrew Duffin joined the meeting.

(ii) **External Member**
The Board approved the recommendation that Mr Farrell be re-appointed as an external member of the Board, with effect from the start of the 2026/27 academic year, in accordance with the Universities Act, 1997 as amended.

Paul Farrell re-joined the meeting at this point.

BD/25-26/206 New Members' Declarations
At the invitation of the Chairperson the new Board member made the declaration in the language of their choice and was welcomed to the Board.

SECTION A.1 POLICY AND STRATEGIC MATTERS

BD/25-26/207 Minutes
(i) The Board approved the draft minutes of 25 March 2026.
(ii) The Board approved the minutes of 20 April 2026 (Trinity Monday).

BD/25-26/208 Matters Arising from the Minutes
The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance advised the Board that with reference to minute BD/25-26/154, Provost's Report, the National Student Accommodation Strategy was on the agenda.

BD/25-26/209 Provost's Report
The Provost provided an update under the following headings:
- Trinity landscape – internal matter of note
- National landscape – funding and political perspectives
- International perspectives – broader issues impacting the university
- Any other urgent points requiring the attention of the Board

The Provost updated the Board on the recent celebration of 30 years of the School of Nursing & Midwifery and its recent top ten QS World University Ranking, which reflected the hard work and ambition of the entire School. The Provost had attended the Venice Biennale where the Irish Pavilion had been curated by Georgina Jackson, Gallery Director of the Douglas Hyde Gallery with Trinity being a lead partner. The Provost updated the Board on a recent incident, on its impact and Trinity's response.

The Provost updated the Board on the pre-budget submissions process and emerging narratives around undergraduate offerings and admissions. The Provost also provided an update on the possible approach Taighde Éireann - Research Ireland will take to funding PhDs. The Provost noted the University's preparations for the EU Presidency.

Dr John Walsh joined the meeting.

Board members discussed the opportunities and challenges involved with administering PhD funding. The Provost confirmed that no approach had been confirmed yet by Research Ireland to PhD funding, but the administrative burden was being highlighted. In response to a question from a Board member, the Provost also provided an update on the INSPIRE Research Infrastructure Programme. Board discussed opportunities for challenging narratives around undergraduate offerings and admissions.

Alex White left the meeting.

Action/Decision
209.01 The Board received the Provost's report.

Major Strategy Item
BD/25-26/210 All Campuses Masterplan
Kieran Brassil, Head of Space Management and Workplace Strategy, joined the meeting for this item.

The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer introduced the item with reference to her memorandum dated 5 May 2026 and the accompanying University's All-Campuses Masterplan (hereafter Masterplan) presentation which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer noted the Board had been provided with a two-hour online briefing on 29 April 2026 and advised that the Masterplan was a strategic framework and toolkit to guide future estate development and investment decisions over the next 30 years. The masterplan allowed Trinity to plan holistically and provided a toolkit with which to assess Trinity's future needs. It also highlighted a series of potential opportunities which could be considered for further exploration.

The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer also explained the implications of approving the Masterplan. For example, it did not constitute approval of any individual capital project identified nor did it confer authority to commit funding or proceed to delivery. The Masterplan did not predetermine the future occupants or decant of any particular space nor preclude other opportunities which may arise over the course of the next 30 years. Individual project opportunities which may be considered from the Masterplan over the next 30 years would be subject to the University's normal governance processes, including detailed feasibility work, affordability assessment, prioritisation, and separate Board approval at the appropriate stage. Approval of the Masterplan would enable proactive planning while preserving full Board oversight and control of individual investment decisions.

The Board welcomed the Masterplan, the presentation and congratulated those involved in its development. A Board member noted that the Masterplan allowed one to view the campus holistically as citizens of the campus, to reflect on how the spaces hung together and turned our view outward. A Board member noted that the Masterplan provided the Board with a framework for making hard decisions.

A Board member advised that they expected to see more opportunities identified for student accommodation given the critical need for it. The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer provided reassurance that the Masterplan team looked specifically at student accommodation and a chapter in the Masterplan identified development zones that could be used for student accommodation.

In response to a question on how the Masterplan would be shared with the college community and a recommendation for holding an exhibition, the Provost provided details on engagement points and planning for an exhibition. The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer concluded the item by thanking all of the teams involved for the extensive work and engagement in delivering the Masterplan, and in particular, thanks were extended to the Head of Space Management and Workplace Strategy.

Action/Decision
210.01 The Board considered and approved the memorandum from the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer dated 5 May 2026, and the accompanying University's All-Campuses Masterplan as a strategic framework and toolkit for the long-term systematic planning of the University estate; and
210.02 The Board endorsed the overall direction of travel set out in the Masterplan and noted that identified development opportunities were indicative only and will require further development and separate approvals.

The Head of Space Management and Workplace Strategy left the meeting at this point.

Financial/Audit Matters

BD/25-26/211 Quarterly Financial Review and Forecasts Q1 2025/26

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer introduced the item with reference to her presentation dated 13 May 2026 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer provided an update across the following headings:

- Financial Performance Q1 FY25/26 and Full Year Forecast to 30 Sep-2026
- Q1 FY25/26 – Key Issues to note this Quarter
- FY25/26 Financial Summary I&E Dashboard – Full Year Forecast versus Budget & Prior Year
- Q1 FY25/26 – Financial Summary Dashboard
- Trinity's Gearing - Loans/Debt Profile – 31 December 2025
- Trinity's Gearing/Cashflows – Existing & New Debt Repayment Commitments

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised that financial performance versus budget in Q1 was largely driven by budget phasing and timing issues and noted an uplift in research income was offset by shortfall in other operating costs. Operating costs had increased by 8% year-on-year and were 7% higher than budget. The University's underlying EBITDA remained positive, indicating a continued strength in core operations. The Board was advised that the Q2 reforecast would provide a clearer view of the expected year-end position and noted that pay costs were expected to be largely in line with budget for the full year.

The Board noted the new slide "Key Issues to note this Quarter". The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer updated on the annual HEA Budget meeting that took place on 30 March 2026 and the 2026 HEA Grant Letter and the work underway in Financial Services Division (FSD) validating projections and funding assumptions of impacted research centres, as part of a wider project being led by HR. The Board noted the change to the full-year forecast net surplus was largely driven by increases in non-pay costs and welcomed the fact that cost management continued to be a priority with Planning Group considering a series of cost management initiatives under its remit.

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised that recurrent cash had decreased year-on-year due to increased staff costs, higher debt repayments and delays in HEA pension and recurrent funding receipts. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer had written to the HEA regarding this pension under-funding and advised that increased sustained annual funding was required; and noted this was an ongoing risk for the University.

A number of Board members noted Trinity's finely balanced finances and queried the impact of budget phasing and timing of income and expenditure on the Q1 result versus budget and whether any further actions were required around cost management at this stage.

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer noted that budget phasing and timing of expenditure was a key factor in the variance to budget at Q1 and outlined other key concerns; the increase in non-pay costs across a number of cost categories and the delay and level of funding for pensions by the HEA noting that the pension shortfall was being funded from cashflow which was not sustainable. She also confirmed that Planning Group was considering several cost management options for implementation in relation to pay and non-pay costs.

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer advised that she would include further detail on the budget phasing and timing issues, as well as cost management initiatives in the Q2 financial update. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer also offered to provide a briefing on pensions to the Board in the Autumn. Board members welcomed these proposed actions.

The Board discussed options for communicating the impact of the funding shortfalls. The Board requested the following information in a future financial reporting pack: historical and forecast gearing ratios and a visual representation of the level of state grant income over a 10+-year period. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer agreed to include this information in the next presentation.

Action/Decision

211.01 The Board received the Quarterly Financial Review and Forecasts Q1 2025/26.

BD/25-26/212 Stack B Loan Refinancing

Mr Mike Clark, Director of Campus Infrastructure, and Mr Paul Coote, Project Appraisal Manager, joined the meeting for the duration of this item.

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer introduced the item with reference to the memorandum from the Director of Campus Infrastructure, Chief Financial Officer and Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer dated 1 May 2026 setting out a proposal to re-finance a loan on the Stack B building, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. She presented across the following headings:
- Background & Context
- Current use and Academic Importance
- Loan Expiry and Proposed Refinancing
- Request of Board

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer provided the background on the Stack B building, which had been rented since 2016 by the University prior to its acquisition in 2020. She outlined that the original strategy had assumed disposal of the building on completion of other key capital projects, and noted the value, structure and term of the original loan along with rental savings arising since the purchase. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer also outlined market changes in the intervening period and set out details on the current use and occupancy level of the building, as well as the specialist facilities on site that could not be accommodated in the E3LF. The Director of Campus Infrastructure provided details of the external professional advice supporting the current valuation along with the opportunity to enhance value of the property.

Alex White returned to the meeting.

The Project Appraisal Manager set out details of the existing loan agreement, which was due to expire in August 2026, along with the outcome of market soundings in terms of re-financing the loan, noting the indicative interest rates received and outlined for the Board the actions being requested as well as the feedback of Finance Committee.

The Chairperson of the Board agreed to engage with the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer and Director of Campus Infrastructure to better understand the context and governance around the original purchase of Stack B. Board members expressed support for the re-financing of the existing loan and discussed decision-making on its future retention in the context of the All-Campuses Masterplan as well as the opportunities for decant. The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer noted that this building was relatively well-performing from an energy efficiency perspective. A Board member advised that future decisions regarding capital expenditure on rental buildings should be made in the context of the Masterplan.

Board members advised that they would welcome data on usage of space across Campus more broadly. In response to a question on the interest rate factored into the budget, the Project Appraisal Manager provided details and also noted the difference in annual cost should the interest rate rise by a further 0.5%. A recommendation was made for FSD to assess the financial implications of longer repayment terms to ascertain whether they would be more appropriate for this building.

Concerns were raised by some Board members whether the opportunity identified to enhance value would deliver on the intended strategy should it be pursued. The Director of Campus Infrastructure advised that it was not unreasonable to expect that pursuing this option would enhance the value of the property and set out the reasons for this view, noting that Estates & Facilities (E&F) would manage any process.

Action/Decision
212.01 The Board approved the proposal to refinance the existing loan.
212.02 The Chairperson of the Board would engage with the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer and Director of Campus Infrastructure to better understand the context and the business case for the original purchase of Stack B.
212.03 The Board noted that the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer would review the available loan structures to identify the optimal lender, term and interest rate, in consultation with the Provost and Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer once bank terms and rates were confirmed with lenders, and would make a recommendation to the Board for approval at the next meeting, subject to this approach to approval not adversely affecting the University achieving the best rate.

BD/25-26/213 Fee Certainty Proposal and Academic Fees for Multi-Annual Students 2027/28 to 2031/32

Ms Jillian Heery, Financial Operations Manager, joined the meeting for this item.

The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer introduced the item with reference to the memorandum from the Financial Operations Manager dated 5 May 2026 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. She outlined the background on fee certainty which was first introduced in 2018 and applied to multi-year Postgraduate (PG) students and non-EU Undergraduates (UG) as well as the fee-certainty model and core principles agreed in 2021. The current five-year fee certainty period (AY22/23–AY26/27) was approved in 2022. Fee certainty enabled students to plan their financial commitments over the duration of their studies.

While Board members supported fee certainty for a few years ahead, many Board members expressed reservations about the length of the period set out in the framework as Trinity would be taking on the risk of economic uncertainty under this model. Board members supported consideration of limiting fee certainty to a two-year horizon. A number of Board members also favoured consideration of an alternative approach whereby fees are set annually for each incoming cohort, providing students with certainty for the duration of their programme while allowing the University flexibility to adjust rates for new entrants each year.

The Provost noted that the fee certainty proposal had been developed in consultation with the student body and there was a fee derogation process available to Faculties & Schools seeking to adjust individual course fees. However, the approach of derogations was considered by some Board members to not be sufficient for the level of risk to be borne by the institution for the proposed length of time. There was discussion about whether further consideration should be given to the approach taken in subsequent years including a broader review of external market factors and potential financial impacts and the Board requested further presentation to come forward in due course which provided alternatives for Board to consider.

Action/Decision
213.01 The Board approved the continuation of fee certainty for multi-annual programmes for AY2027/28 and in light of ongoing economic uncertainty agreed that further consideration be given to this approach in subsequent years and requested a further presentation to come forward before the end of 2026.

Don Thornhill left the meeting at this point.

Critical Infrastructure Matters

BD/25-26/214 Strategic Capital Projects Dashboard

The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer introduced the Capital Projects Dashboard dated 6 May 2026 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting, which included an overview of the University's large capital portfolio. She provided an update on Darty and E3 Learning Foundry.

Action/Decision
214.01 The Board received an update from the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer.

BD/25-26/215 Old Library Redevelopment Project

Professor Eoin O'Sullivan, Senior Dean, Ms Edwina Hegarty, Programme Manager for Strategic Projects, Ms Charlotte Daum, Project Manager Old Library Redevelopment, and Ms Beatrice Moran, Project Manager Capital Projects, joined the meeting for this item.

This item was taken next at the meeting. Professor Eoin O'Sullivan, Senior Dean, introduced the item with reference to the presentation from the Senior Dean, Programme Manager for Strategic Projects and Project Manager Capital Projects dated 5 May 2026 which set out an update on the Old Library Redevelopment Project (OLRP) and had been circulated in advance of the meeting. He advised on the status of Stage 2a deliverables as it drew to a close, noting the design for the comms room and high-pressure water mist tanks was still ongoing.

The Programme Manager noted positive engagement with Dublin City Council and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and provided details on the deliverables for Stage 2b and Stage 2c. She noted the outcome from the survey of the roof which was found to be in good condition with a thirty-year life expectancy.

Action/Decision
215.01 The Board approved the presentation from the Senior Dean, the Programme Manager for Strategic Projects, Project Manager for the Old Library Redevelopment and the Project Manager Capital Projects dated 5 May 2026 stage 2a close out

request and approved progress to Stage 2b and 2c and the specific approvals set out in the presentation.

BD/25-26/216 National Student Accommodation Strategy 2026-2035

The Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer introduced the item with reference to the memorandum from the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer and the Chief Operating Officer dated 5 May 2026 providing an overview of the National Student Accommodation Strategy 2026-2034 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Strategy explicitly acknowledged the viability gap between the cost of delivering Purpose Built Student Accommodation (PBSA) and the price that buyers or renters were willing or able to pay, and that directly State-funded PBSA was no longer fiscally sustainable. The Strategy envisages that future delivery will rely primarily on private capital, facilitated by higher education institutions and there were ambitious targets set out in the Strategy. The Board noted the initial steps taken to assess the implications of this National Strategy for our medium and long-term accommodation planning.

Action/Decision

216.01 The Board noted the memorandum from the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer and the Chief Operating Officer dated 5 May 2026.

BD/25-26/217 Report of the Working Group on the Provost Appointment Process

Professor Neville Cox, Registrar, joined the meeting for this item.

Professor Neville Cox, Registrar, introduced the item with reference to the memorandum from the Registrar and the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 5 May 2026 and the accompanying report of the Working Group on the Provost Appointment Process, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Registrar noted the current process for appointing a Provost in Trinity College Dublin and outlined the methodology of the Working Group. He then summarised the various recommendations of the Working Group. The Registrar noted that most of the substantive rules in the Statutes relating to the appointment of the Provost are set out in the Chapter on the Provost. Accordingly, should the Board decide to act on any of the recommendations in this Report, the appropriate course would be to indicate to the Statutes and Schedules Working Party the nature of the changes that the Board would wish to sponsor.

The Registrar advised that a number of the recommendations that were made related to matters that were urgent in that unless these matters were resolved, it would be difficult to organise a Provost Appointment Process in the manner envisaged in the Statutes. In particular and following the Board restructuring brought about by the Higher Education Authority Act 2022 as it is no longer possible to constitute the committees connected with the Provost Appointment Process in the manner envisaged by the Statutes. The Registrar recommended also that it would be prudent to make provision for handling tied votes in any round of the election.

Board members expressed support for retaining the election element as part of the appointment process of a Provost. Board members noted that there was no definitive evidence that an interview only process was demonstrably a superior approach. The election element of the appointment process ensured the democratic nature of the process and was appropriate given the Provost's unique role as CEO and Head of the College.

A number of Board members expressed support for the expansion of the electorate for equity and collegiality purposes. Support was also expressed for an accompanying narrative if such expansion was to be on a weighted basis. In response to a question, the Registrar explained that whereas the recommendations on expanding the franchise in the Report would not appear, unintentionally, to exclude cohorts of staff, equally the report recommended that Board keep this under review and having regard to altered approaches to hiring. The Registrar explained that the decision to include members of Board and Council within the '70% weighting category' was to maintain the current significance of their votes and especially those of students. Finally, and in relation to the recommendation that all members of the electorate (other than members of Board and Council) would have passed through probation periods, the Registrar noted that HR had confirmed that the move is to standard probation periods of no more than one year.

Following a query from a Board member on the action being requested of the Board, the Registrar clarified that the requested action of the Board was to consider the recommendations and advise the Statutes and Schedules Working Party on the recommendations that they wished to implement.

Board requested a shorter paper with an executive summary outlining the actions that must be taken by the Board as well as the pathways of options available.

Action/Decision
217.01 The Board received the report from the Registrar and the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance, on behalf of the Working Group on the Provost's Appointment Process dated December 2025 and approved the retention of the election process as part of the appointment process.
217.02 The Board requested that the Registrar and Secretary to the College/Director of Governance provide an executive summary, outlining the recommendations that must be taken as well as a pathway through the other recommendations set out in the Working Group Report.

BD/25-26/218 Honorary Degrees
The Board approved the memorandum from the Registrar dated 11 May 2026 which had been tabled at the meeting. Board members were reminded about the confidentiality of the item until the nominations were approved by the University Senate.

The Registrar left the meeting at this point.

BD/25-26/219 Annual Officers
The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer left the meeting.

The Board approved the memorandum from the Provost dated 11 May 2026 which had been tabled at the meeting.

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and the Bursar/Chief Strategic Developments Officer rejoined the meeting.

SECTION B MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

BD/25-26/220 Board Business Callover
The Board noted the Board Business Callover updated to 25 March 2026.

BD/25-26/221 University Council
The Board approved the draft acta of the meeting of 8 April 2026.

BD/25-26/222 Critical Infrastructure Committee
The Board approved the minutes of the meeting of 17 February 2026 and noted the accompanying executive summary.

BD/25-26/223 Finance Committee
The Board approved the draft minutes of the meeting of 23 April 2026 and noted the accompanying executive summary.

SECTION C MATTERS FOR NOTING AND APPROVAL

BD/25-26/224 Consolidated Statutes, 2010, Assent of the Fellows
The Board noted the memorandum from the Registrar dated 11 May 2026.

BD/25-26/225 Faculty Dean
The Board noted and approved the nomination of Professor Padraic Fallon as the Dean of Health Sciences from 1 June 2026 to the end of Trinity Term 2031.

BD/25-26/226 Heads of School
The Board noted and approved the following:
(i) Professor Nicola Carr as the Acting Head of the School of Social Work and Social Policy from 20 January to 21 August 2026
(ii) Professor Graeme Murdock as the Head of the School of Histories and Humanities from 1 June 2026 to end of Trinity Term 2029.
(iii) Professor Gillian Wylie as the Head of the School of Religions, Theology, and Peace Studies, for a second term of one year, until the end of Trinity Term 2027

BD/25-26/227 Higher Degrees
The Board noted the Higher Degrees approved by Council on 8 April 2026.

BD/25-26/228 Prizes and Other Awards - Establishment of the AtkinsRéalis Prizes in Engineering
The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the School of Engineering dated 23 April 2026.

BD/25-26/229 Library Loan Request – Ricemarch Psalter/Sallwyr Rhygyfarch (TCD MS 50)
The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Librarian and College Archivist dated 28 April 2026.

BD/25-26/230 Sealings (This information is restricted due to commercial sensitivity)
The Board noted the Sealings (attached as Appendix 1 to this minute).

BD/25-26/231 HEA Review of the Governance, Oversight and Rationale for Subsidiaries, Foundations and Trusts in Designated Higher Education Institutions
The Board noted the memorandum from the Deputy Secretary to the College dated 6 May 2026.

BD/25-26/232 HEAnet CLG renamed Asiera CLG
The Board noted the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance dated 5 May 2026.

BD/25-26/233 Dates of Board meetings 2026/27
The Board noted and approved the memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance, and the Governance Manager, dated 7 May 2026.

SECTION D PERSONNEL MATTERS

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

Signed: ………………………………

Date: …………………………………