



**Trinity College Dublin  
The University of Dublin**

**A meeting of the University Council was held on 1 November 2023 at 11.15am in the Trinity Board Room, Trinity Business School.**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <i>Present</i>       | Provost, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dean of Graduate Studies, Dean of Research, Senior Tutor, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, Dean of Health Sciences, Professor L. Carson, Professor P. O'Grady, Professor D. Romelli, Professor L. O'Driscoll, Professor A.M. Malone, Professor J. Coleman, Professor B. Fitzgerald, Dr. O. Gobo, Mr. M. McAndrew, Ms. C. Arnold, Mr. E. Gilroy, Ms. R. Emakpor, Mr. R. Saulnier. |
| <i>Apologies</i>     | Registrar, Vice-President for Global Engagement, Dean of Students, Professor G. Watson, Professor K. Neenan, Professor A. Gibson, Professor J. Wyse, Professor B. Daly, Ms. D. Alexander.  |
| <i>In attendance</i> | Chief Operating Officer, Secretary to the College/Director of Governance, Librarian and College Archivist, Academic Secretary, Assistant Academic Secretary, Education Policy Developer.   |
| <i>Observers</i>     | Mr. A. Burgess.  |

**SECTION A.1: Policy Matters**

The Provost welcomed everyone to the first Council meeting of the 2023/24 academic year and officially welcomed and congratulated Ms Victoria Butler on her appointment as Secretary to the College/Director of Governance. She informed Council that Ms Linda Darbey, Assistant Academic Secretary will be leaving Trinity to take up a position in the Higher Education Authority (HEA) in the New Year. She extended her thanks and appreciation to Ms Darbey for her service to Trinity, and welcomed Ms Elizabeth Donnellan to Council, who will be acting as minute taker from 29 November 2023.

The Provost requested that Council members declare any potential conflicts of interest in relation to the agenda. The Secretary to the College/Director of Governance noted that the Assistant Academic Secretary: Academic Affairs had declared a conflict of interest for item A.12 'Quality Review Implementation Plans (i) Academic Affairs,' and following discussion with her it was agreed that she remain at the meeting.

**CL/23-24/001    Declarations by new Members and Observers**

The new members of Council made the required statutory declarations.

**CL/23-24/002    Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of Council on 7 June 2023 were approved and signed.

**CL/23-24/003 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies drew Council's attention to minute CL/22-23/224 on the proposal to conclude the Northern Ireland Feasibility Study (NIFS) and the Trinity Admissions Feasibility Study (TAFS) and advised that the final student intake to TAFS was in September 2023/24 and that the final intake to NIFS will be in September 2025/26.

Referring to decision CL/22-23/227.1 on the approval of a proposal that a member of the Heads of School Committee attend meetings of University Council in the academic year 2023/24, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer informed Council that the secretariat from the Heads of School Committee will advise the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance of its nomination in due course.

Professor Jane Stout, Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action joined the meeting.

**CL/23-24/004 Trinity Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan**

The Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action explained that the Trinity Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan were developed following extensive stakeholder consultation within and outside Trinity during 2022-23, benchmarking with comparative organisations, and consideration of the Trinity Strategic Plan 2020-25 and other university strategies and plans. The Strategy, which applies to all Trinity's campuses, addresses how environmental sustainability will be addressed through four focus areas, namely, 1) Education – that is provided for all students and staff, 2) Research – how Trinity conducts research and how knowledge is transferred and used for the benefit of the planet and people, 3) Operations – day-to-day operations on all Trinity sites, and 4) Communities – partnerships, collaborations, and engagements with the community within and outside of Trinity. The four focus areas, she explained, are aligned with best practice and are consistent with the four overarching areas presented in the EUA 'A Green Deal roadmap for universities' (October 2023) – 1) Research and innovation, 2) Education and students, 3) Staff and operations, and 4) Public engagement and societal impact.

The Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action informed Council that while environmental challenges require urgent action the Strategy takes a long-term view and includes targets to 2030 and 2040. It will be implemented via shorter-term Action Plans, the first of which includes actions to 2025. She highlighted that Irish public bodies are required by the Irish Climate Action Plan to reduce their GHG emissions by 51% by 2030 and that Trinity's first priority is to meet this target. Trinity is required to complete annual progress reports on meeting the requirements of the Climate Action Mandate. Referring to the upcoming European Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), she advised that the CSRD will require Trinity to prepare non-financial reports alongside financial ones based on European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). As these targets will be embedded into Irish law in the coming years Trinity's second priority is to become nature positive and work towards the protection and restoration of species and ecosystems. She emphasised the need to develop adaptation approaches to reduce the impacts associated with the increasing frequency and severity of climate change events, including mental, physical, and social health stress. A holistic long-term approach embedding a nature-positive and health-promoting culture is required to ensure that Trinity is prepared for the next 20+ years.

Speaking to the Education focus area of the Strategy, the Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action reported that objectives presented for Education are aligned with the UNESCO Roadmap on Education for Sustainable Development 2030. Funding from the HEA Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (SATLE) initiative has been used to recruit and appoint five part-time Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Fellows who will progress the development and implementation of an ESD Plan across Trinity. The plan will

see the mapping of existing ESD provision in Trinity, creation of a shared vision for ESD as part of Trinity undergraduate and postgraduate education, and the identification of competences for sustainability and pedagogical approaches to support their development. The ESD Fellows will lead the development and delivery of an ESD foundational module which will be piloted by two Schools with undergraduate students from 2024/25. The Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action explained that the Research focus area of the Strategy will progress actions on enabling research to be conducted in a way that reduces resource use and generates less waste and enables campus-related research to inform Trinity's own Biodiversity and Climate Action.

Speaking to governance, the Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action highlighted that this will comprise the Environmental Sustainability Principal Committee of Board, which will act as the main decision-making body on strategic issues and will review and update Trinity's Sustainability Policy; a Sustainability Management Team, which will be responsible for the implementation and reporting on the Sustainability Action Plan 2023-2025; and a Green Campus Committee, which will act as a forum representative of the campus community consisting of staff and student representatives.

Concluding her report, the Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action informed Council that the Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan had been approved by the Undergraduate Studies Committee (USC), the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC), and the Executive Officers Group (EOG), and following Council consideration and approval will be presented to Board for consideration.

The Provost thanked the Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action for her report and invited questions and comments.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies and the Dean of Graduate Studies welcomed and highlighted their support for the Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan, with the Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies noting that actions 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5 on developing ESD themes in the undergraduate curriculum will require further consideration and exploration. Responding to a question from the Academic Secretary on the duration of the Strategy and Action Plan, the Provost clarified that while the Strategy is a long-term Strategy the Action Plan is a three-year plan which will require significant investment over time.

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/004.1:** Council approved the Trinity Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan.

The Vice-President for Biodiversity and Climate Action left the meeting.

Ms Breda Walls, Director of Student Services joined the meeting.

**CL/23-24/005      Thematic Review Report on Student Mental Health Services and Implementation Plan**

XX

The Director of Student Services extended her thanks to all who were involved in the Thematic Review of Trinity's Student Mental Health Services, including the members of the external review team. Three Student Services, namely the College Health Service, the Disability Service, and Student Counselling, were reviewed as part of the thematic review, which took place from 27-30 March 2023. The terms of reference of the review comprised:

- i. The internal quality assurance of each of the Service areas under review.
- ii. The collaborative efforts/initiatives on which the Services areas act to maximise the impact of student mental health services and the sustainability of such provision for both staff and systems.
- iii. The effectiveness of the three Services in providing support to College Strategy in three areas – student specific issues such as case management and risk assessment, institutional infrastructure in relation to mental health, and policy development and delivery.

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

- iv. Internal and external impact of each of the Service areas under review.
- v. Benchmarking with similar institutional services nationally and internationally.

Presenting the high-level findings of the review report, the Director of Student Services remarked that the review team were 'convinced of the commitment and competency of the leadership and staff in all three Services,' and were impressed with the level of collaboration across Trinity. In their report the review team acknowledged the 'exceptional and incredibly important College Tutorial System' and that the majority of the actions from the last reviews had been implemented. These include, a new fit-for-purpose premises for College Health and the Disability Service, a disability module built within SITS (LENS reports), a commitment of Trinity to WHO Healthy Campus/Health Promoting University Status, and the implementation of the Reasonable Accommodation Policy for students with disabilities. Concern was expressed by the review team on the risk to service provision arising from increased demand, especially in relation to the volume and complexity of mental health cases.

The Director of Student Services welcomed the ten recommendations presented in the review report, which are as follows:

1. Publish statement of Services.
2. Prioritise staff well-being working in the three Services.
3. Strengthen cross-service collaboration.
4. Improve information and data sharing.
5. Optimise resources across Services.
6. Data informed decisions.
7. Embed mental health in the Trinity Healthy Campus Initiative.
8. Build capacity in mental health literacy and health promotion.
9. Consider relocation non-clinical student support (S2S and SLD).
10. Increase student involvement in the Services.

The Provost thanked the Director of Student Services and invited comments and questions.

The TCDSU Education Officer welcomed the report and the review team's praise of the three Services. She highlighted the need for timely appointments to be allocated to students going off-books and an improved College Health medical staff to student ratio as areas requiring attention. The Director of Student Services acknowledged the need to review the requirements for students going off-books and highlighted that due to the expansion of the government free contraception scheme in 2023 there was scope to increase staffing in the College Health Service. Responding to a comment from a member regarding recommendations on improving information and data sharing across Services and data informed decisions that ensure decisions are responsive to the changing needs of the student population, the Director of Student Services highlighted that she and the Directors of the three Services are working closely with the College Data Protection Officer on progressing these recommendations.

Responding to comments made by the Postgraduate Student Support Officer and the Senior Tutor on the need for a greater emphasis to be placed on the development of mental health literacy across College and a whole of College approach to mental health promotion, the Director of Student Services agreed to consider ways in which the College community could have a greater involvement in supporting the wellbeing and mental health of students. The Librarian and College Archivist highlighted the role that the Library played in supporting student wellbeing during the Covid pandemic and the support provided to students by subject librarians.

Addressing the concern expressed by a TCDSU member on recommendation 1, that Services focus their efforts and resources on what they are mandated to provide rather than trying to fill gaps, the Director of Student Services explained that student wellbeing is of prime concern to all College Health professionals and that they will work within resource constraints to ensure that students are supported. The Provost highlighted the scope College has to interpret and

respond to the recommendations and noted how the recommendations align with the Trinity Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan.

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/005.1:** Council approved the Thematic Review Report on Student Mental Health Services and the action plan.

Ms Jennifer Pepper, Director of Academic Registry joined the meeting.

**CL/23-24/006 On Campus Examinations Pilot – Semester 1**

XX

Providing an overview of the background to the On Campus Examinations Pilot, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer highlighted that following a review of the RDS as an examination's venue it was decided to scope and plan for a phased return of examinations to campus. The Continuity of Learning and Student Activities Working Group (COLSAG) was reconvened over the summer to consider and plan for a return of on campus examinations and following a consultation process with all Schools concluded that approximately one third of all in-person exams could be accommodated in the pilot.

Extending her thanks to all involved in planning and implementing the Pilot, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer noted the need for more engagement with Schools if Trinity is to increase the number of On Campus examinations. She invited Council members to engage with their respective School constituencies on assessment, namely modes of assessment, the duration and length of examinations, and importantly the number of assessments that students are asked to undertake.

Presenting the On Campus Examinations Pilot to take place in Semester 1, the Director of Student Services outlined the proposal to move 32% of in-person examinations to campus, which will involve 6,496 student exam sittings/100 modules. Exams held under the pilot have been prioritised by Schools for inclusion in the pilot, will be of two-hours duration, and will comprise modules with less than 400 enrolled students. She highlighted that the examination period will be from 12-16 December 2023 with three contingency days (7-9 December) and will see students take a maximum of two exams per day. Students will not move between campus and the RDS on the same day.

Responding to concerns expressed by a member on the limited number of examination venues listed and the two-hour time allowance for examinations in the pilot, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and the Director of Student Services advised that the list of exam venues was agreed following consultation with all Schools in August 2023 and took account of the capacity of the Academic Registry (AR) to organise, manage, and support the on-campus exams. The limitations of the current system determined the number of exams that could be held on-campus, and the two-hour duration of exams was selected to maximise the number of assessments that could take place on campus.

The need for different modes of assessment was highlighted by the TCDSU Education Officer who stressed the impact of over-assessment on student health and wellbeing. Noting the impact of semester 1 exams on Junior Fresh students, the Senior Tutor asked for consideration to be given to alternative forms of assessment for these students. A member highlighted the requirements of accrediting bodies for professional programmes, noting that these can be quite prescriptive and that examinations are often a mandatory requirement.

The Provost thanked the Director of Student Services and the AR for their work on the pilot highlighting that the On Campus examinations pilot was a step in the right direction.

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/006.1:** Council approved the On Campus Examinations Pilot – Semester 1.

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

The Director of Student Services and the Director of Academic Registry left the meeting.

**CL/23-24/007 Consolidated Annual Faculty Quality Report 2021/22**

XX

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer highlighted that the presentation of the Consolidated Annual Faculty Quality Report 2021/22 to Council was deferred from June 2023 due to that meeting having a full agenda. The report, which concerns the 2021/22 academic year presents key findings from the Annual Faculty Quality Reports and highlights measures undertaken by Schools to improve the student experience. Speaking to the key issues identified by Schools presented in the Consolidated Annual Faculty Quality Report, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer reported that these were as follows:

1. Infrastructure and Systems. Issues reported included, (i) the standard of IT infrastructure in teaching spaces and the need for readily accessible IT technical support for academic staff; (ii) inflexibility of IT systems to support key processes such as the External Examiner System and student module evaluation; and (iii) the concern that the new Research Ethics Application Management System (REAMS) is not fit for purpose and is generating additional work. The Deans' recommendations to address the issues were to (i) review the current external contractor system for IT technical support, (ii) consider a pilot study for a central system for evaluation and data collection in support of the External Examiner process and student module evaluation.
2. Maintenance of Learning Spaces. Issues identified were a poor quality of some teaching and learning spaces, the lack of appropriate social spaces in the East End of College, and the need for clarity on the responsibility for the funding of ongoing maintenance of shared spaces. The recommendation by the Deans to address the issues were to address the recurrent funding, quality and maintenance issues with key teaching and learning spaces in all three Faculties.
3. Senior Sophister Capstone Project. Issues identified were the lack of financial support from College to support Senior Sophister capstone research projects, which were typically funded via PI research grants, and an increase in undergraduate student numbers in some programmes which has exacerbated the situation and poses a threat to standards. The Deans' recommended that College should provide finance to support Senior Sophister Capstone Research Projects.

Concluding her presentation, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer reported that other ongoing issues identified by Schools were the Academic Year Structure (AYS) which has led to increased exams and greater pressure on External Examiners and Schools to meet the tight turnaround time for marking and conduct Court of Examiners, and reduced numbers of Irish and EU PhD students (STEM), which provide a pipeline for research students and essential teaching support.

The Provost thanked the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer and invited questions and comments.

The Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (AHSS) thanked the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer for her excellent summary of the issues presented in the Annual Quality Faculty Reports and extended her thanks to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for addressing issues raised in previous reports relating to student registration and online module enrolment. Responding to a comment by the Dean of AHSS on the need for College to review the demands on office space due to increased staff numbers and to consider how space is allocated taking account of blended working, the Provost remarked that some Schools have started to share spaces and that the Trinity Sustainability Strategy addresses this point.

Speaking to the issues relating to Senior Sophister Capstone Projects and IT Infrastructure and Systems, the Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) commented

that the length of time required of staff to supervise Capstone Projects was also problematic and that while the REAMS upgrade had improved, some user experience issues remained, including a lack of access to retrospective reports.

Responding to members' comments, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer noted that there had been improvements to REAMS through the recent upgrade, acknowledged the demands placed on services, staff, and infrastructure by greater student numbers, and agreed that more social spaces were required across College. Commenting on the TCDSU's mandate on audio-visual support in lecture recordings and hybrid learning to be transferred to in-house staff, the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer invited the TCDSU Education Officer to engage with the COO on this.

The Provost acknowledged the need for significant work and enhancement of College IT infrastructure and systems and informed Council that College had recently recruited a Programme Director - Digital Transformation to establish and deliver new strategic initiatives to accelerate, transform, and optimise the student and staff digital experience.

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/007.1:** Council approved the Consolidated Annual Faculty Quality Report 2021/22.

**CL/23-24/008 Northern Ireland Deferral Scheme**

XX

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies informed Council that a new scheme to increase student enrolment from Northern Ireland applying through CAO was approved by USC on 19 September 2023. The Scheme will be launched prior to the opening of CAO applications in November 2023 allowing students receiving CAO offers in September 2024 to avail of it. He noted that the Northern Ireland Feasibility Study (NIFS) introduced in 2014 to increase enrolment from Northern Ireland had not succeeded due partly to the timing of CAO offers which are issued significantly later than offers to UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) through UCAS. The new Scheme aims to overcome the timeline incompatibility by allowing a larger number of students (up to 15% for any course) to defer their places to the following academic year. He noted that UK students are more inclined to avail of a GAP year than Irish students.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies informed Council that the recommendations of the Universities Ireland working group examining A-Levels and Leaving Certificate equivalency are due shortly and may to some extent address the decrease in Northern Ireland student numbers.

Responding to a concern expressed by the TCDSU Education Officer on the discontinuation of NIFS and the isolation of Northern Ireland students due to systemic issues, the Provost acknowledged the concerns raised and reminded the member of the Council decision (CL/22-23/224.1) to conclude NIFS in June 2023.

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/008.1:** Council approved the proposal to introduce an expanded deferral quota for Northern Irish students from September 2024.

**CL/23-24/009 Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer's Report**

The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer extended her congratulations to the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) team on the silver institutional Athena Swan Award for advancing gender equality in Trinity. She informed Council that a paper on the Admissions Strategy will be presented to Council at its next meeting.

Speaking to the Senior Academic Promotions Review, she reported that the review report recommendations were being progressed and that College is looking to develop a mechanism that would clear the backlog of staff who were deemed promotable but where funding was not available. She highlighted that HR has commenced work on the recognition and rewarding of professional staff and on patterns of employment. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer emphasised the need to progress work on each of the three initiatives simultaneously.

**CL/23-24/010 Provost's Report**

Speaking to the funding of the higher education sector in Ireland, the Provost highlighted that government commitment to address the €307 million deficit in core funding has not yet been realised. The €40 million and €60 million provided by government over the past two years to address the deficit, she explained, has largely been used to fund national pay awards. She extended her thanks to members of the College Community who had contacted their public representatives on foot of an email she sent to all staff and students on this matter. The Provost highlighted the need for equity in the distribution of funding across the university sector to ensure that it reflects student numbers rather than the type of university. She urged Council members and their constituencies to continue raising the funding of higher education with their public representatives in the lead up to the local and national elections in 2024 and 2025.

**CL/23-24/011 Any Other Urgent Business**

There was no any other urgent business.

**SECTION A.2: Policy Matters which have already been considered by Committees****CL/23-24/012 Quality Office Review Report****Decision:**

**CL/23-24/012.1:** Council approved the Quality Office Review Report.

**CL/23-24/013 Quality Review Implementation Plans****Decision:**

**CL/23-24/013.1:** Council approved the (i) Academic Affairs and (ii) Careers Service Quality Review Implementation Plans.

**CL/23-24/014 Graduate Studies Committee – Revised Terms of Reference****Decision:**

**CL/23-24/014.1:** Council approved the Revised Terms of Reference for GSC.

**CL/23-24/015 Postgraduate Renewal Programme****Decision:**

**CL/23-24/015.1:** Council approved the (i) Revised Terms of Reference for Thesis Committees and implementation of the enhanced Annual Review Report and Confirmation Report templates effective from 2023-24, and (ii) the proposal on Postgraduate Taught Programme: Course



Structures to create pathways for Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma students to progress to a higher award.

**CL/23-24/016 Postgraduate Courses**

**Decisions:**

**CL/23-24/016.1:** Council approved the proposal for a one-year full-time/two-year part-time strand on Theatre Producing to be added to the existing validated Masters programme in Fine Arts leading to a Master in Fine Arts award and Postgraduate Diploma exit award (60 ECTS) at NFQ level 9 offered by the Lir Academy, with a first intake in September 2024.

**CL/23-24/016.2:** Council approved the proposal for the one-year full-time Masters programme in Responsible Business and Sustainability from the Trinity Business School leading to a Master in Responsible Business and Sustainability (90 ECTS) and Postgraduate Diploma exit award (60 ECTS) at NFQ level 9, with a first intake in September 2024.

**CL/23-24/017 Appeals Policy (Academic Progress) Revised**

XX

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/017.1:** Council approved the revision to the Appeals Policy (Academic Progress).

**SECTION B – Reports from Committees**

**CL/22-23/018 Global Engagement Committee**

The consolidated minutes of 19 and 26 May 2023 were noted and approved.

**CL/23-24/019 Graduate Studies Committee**

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/019:** Council noted and approved the minutes of the meeting of 14 September 2023 and the draft minutes of the meeting of 12 October 2023.

**CL/23-24/020 Quality Committee**

The minutes of 21 September 2023 were noted and approved.

**CL/23-24/021 Undergraduate Studies Committee**

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/021:** Council noted and approved the minutes of the meeting of 19 September 2023 and the draft minutes of the meeting of 17 October 2023.

**CL/23-24/022 Research Committee**

**Decision:**

**CL/23-24/022:** Council noted and approved the minutes of the meeting of 9 May 2023 and the minutes of the meeting of 12 September 2023.

## SECTION C

### CL/23-24/023 Administrative Procedures in the Summer Session

The Council noted the circulated memorandum from the Secretary to the College/Director of Governance – Designate, dated 23 October 2023, including:

- (i) Additional Postgraduate Calendar Changes for 2023/24
- (ii) Suspension of Postgraduate Courses in Child, Adolescent and Family Mental Health, and Midwifery Practice and Leadership
- (iii) Additional Undergraduate Calendar changes for 2023/23
- (iv) Head of School
- (v) Heads of Discipline
- (vi) School Directors
- (vii) Membership of the University Council
- (viii) Summary of Staff Appointments
- (ix) Nominations for Appointment
- (x) Confirmation of Academic Staff in Post Following Probation
- (xi) Senior Academic Promotions Committee (SAPC): change in committee membership; recommendations for retention; recommendations for the award of adjunct titles.
- (xii) Junior Academic Progression Committee (JAPC): Merit Bar Review 2021; Final Tenure Review 2023.

### CL/23-24/024 Council Business Approved by Written Procedure

The Council noted that the circulated documents were approved by Council via written procedure on 2 October 2023:

#### (i) Higher Degrees List for Approval dated 27 September 2023

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>M.D.</b>  | Niamh Mary Allen; Declan Byrne; Helena Ann Louise Ferris; Patrick John O'Donoghue; Mairead Therese O'Donovan.   |
| <b>Ph.D.</b> | Zainab Khalifa Al Kindi; Fatimah Alsaggaf; Isaac Alshaikh; Angelos Athanasopoulos; Livia Autore; Xavier Barceló Gallostra; Sudipta Lal Basu; Isabella Batten; Laura Isobel Bogue Edgerton; Jenny Rose Bortoluzzi; Irene Bottero; Peter Brown; Lucius Nabil Bushnaq; Shane Ronan Byrne; Marc Brunet Cabré; Chiara Caldinelli; Lorraine Carroll; Daniel Casey; Cecilia Chiaracane; Chloe Chi Shan Choi; Emma Louise Cooke; Alexandra McKenzie Core; Brendan Patrick Dee; Johanneke Iza De Laet; Ipen Demirel; Thomas Dinneen; Fabio Massimo Delle Grazie; Benjamin James Errington; Samantha Fazekas; Andrea Finocchio; Elizabeth Catherine Foley; Federico Fabio Frattini; Dáire Gannon; Ciara Henderson; Patricia Hannon Barroeta; Conor Hayden; Paula Harrison; Andrew Martin Hill; Dominik Valter Horváth; Ann Caroline Humphrey; Tim Hurley; Marie Angela Hyland; Ali Irannezhad; Laura Kane; Shirley Mary Kavanagh; Edana Keavney; Alanna Kelly; Mark Kelly; Mary Kennedy; Mischa Kleis; Brenda Lee; Angeliki Lima; Emmanouil Lioudakis; Ana Lopez Garza; Liming Jiao; Marvin Chang Jui Lim; Yi-Shu Lin; Sinead Allison Maguire; Hamad Sikandar Mahar; Emmanouil Markantonis; Sarai Martínez Pacheco; Michele Panza McArdle; Michael McDermott; David Peter McDonagh; Fionnuala McGrath; Sean Everett McGrath; Mary Clare |

Síle McKenna; Dovydas Mickus; Jean-Baptiste Noël-Marie Monteil; Laura Muñoz Blanco; Jamie Murphy; Eimear Mylod; Albert Navarro Gallinad; Andrew Neill; Rebecca O'Brien; Aoife Kathryn O'Callaghan; Fiona Martina O'Connell; Claire O'Connor; Siobhán O'Connor; Babatunji Omoniwa; Anita Lorena Ortega; Moyinoluwa Victor Otubela; Thomas Phelan; Monika Anna Pilch; Emanuele Raffaele Giuliano Plini; Samuel David Preston; Alex Randles; Cian Michael Reid; Eoghan Paul Ross; Conor Rossi; Charlotte Anne Rossiter; Tristram Alexander Ryan; Iwona Beata Sadowska; Andre Sanchez Pacheco; Johannes Antonius Sake; Jessie Santoro; Kadek Ade Sawitri; Giulia Saydon; Ajith Kumar Selvaraj; Shane Sheehan; Adrienn Mária Szűcs; Guillaume Charles Jacques Thuery; Mary Bernadette Turley; Caitlin Ann White; Alexandra Zaborowski; Ofer Zalberg; Elena Zioga.

**D.Ch.Dent.** Tashia Moodley; Gabrielle O'Donoghue.

**D.Ed** Gemma O'Sullivan

**M.Sc.** James Davis; Shannon Raftery Dennehy; Edward Byron Gannon; Emily Keenan; Anna Davis Manjaly; Kate O'Brien; Fionn Timothy Noel O'Leary; Mikhail Timofeev.

**M.Litt.** Katie Brown; Dawn Adelaide Seymour Klos.

**(ii) Derogation Requests for Examinations to run outside the formal 2023/24 assessment sessions**

Memorandum from the Manager of Assessment and Progression dated 18 September 2023.

**CL/23-24/025 Membership of Academic and Compliance Committees of Council**

The Council noted and approved the circulated memorandum from the Registrar dated 25 October 2023.

**CL/23-24/026 Higher Degrees – Reports of Examiners**

Speaking to the item the Dean of Graduate Studies drew Council's attention to two PhD candidates on the list of Higher Degrees (page 3) who had the same Supervisor and External Examiner. Referring to the External Examiner Policy – Research Programmes, the Dean noted that the criteria for the appointment of External Examiners specified that External Examiners were not to have any existing or recent professional relationships with Trinity or have been appointed as a research theses examiner for the same Supervisor until at least five years had elapsed since the end of their previous appointment. Following investigation it emerged that the Supervisor, who has since left Trinity, had been unaware of the criteria relating to the appointment of Examiner Examiners. The Dean of Graduate Studies informed Council that the School concerned has put measures in place, including a database to record the appointment of External Examiners, to ensure that this does not occur again. She asked Council to approve the Higher Degrees concerned, advising that the two candidates had been allocated different internal examiners.

The Council noted and approved the circulated reports of examiners on candidates for higher degrees (Higher Degrees List) dated 1 November 2023

**M.D.** Conan Laurence Brady

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Ph.D.</b>       | Eman Abboud; Bisola Aloba; Reem Aljuaidi; Rong Bao; Florentine Marie Elisabeth Barbey; Síle Carney; Igor Chudin; Feng Deng; Christina Fitzsimons; Serena Shuk Yeng Foo; Peter Daniel Garry; Lucia Hughes; Sinead Impey; Ruchita Ingle; Alexander Eton Kelleher; Helen Margaret Kelly; Xuan Kou; Parth Sanjay Kumavat; Hussein Kurdi Nakra; Patrick Bernard McDonagh; Sinead Niamh McLoughlin; Sara Naimimohasses; Amy Anne O'Neill; Seán Ryan; Katharine Ann Schulmann; Jennifer Orna Scott; Nikolina Stipaničev; Vasile Mihai Sularea; Robert Toth; Emilio Voza; Sarah Wallace; Chelsea Wilkinson; Goksu Yamac; Elysée Natalie Yhuel. |
| <b>D.Mus.Perf.</b> | Conor Linehan  |
| <b>D.Ch.Dent.</b>  | Michael Donnelly; Leah Finan.  |
| <b>M.Sc.</b>       | Philip Francis Corcoran; Cian Fogarty; Marianne Rica Garcia; Lisa Sheridan; Francis Michael Spellman.  |
| <b>M.Litt.</b>     | Helen Clare Litton   |

**CL/23-24/027 Title of Personal Chair**

The Council noted and approved the circulated memorandum from the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer dated 19 October 2023.

**CL/23-24/028 School Directors**

The Council noted and approved the following nominations:

- (i) Professor Ed Lavelle as Director of Research, School of Biochemistry and Immunology, for a second term from 11 September 2023 to end of the end of Trinity term 2025.
- (ii) Professor Rachel McLoughlin as Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate), School of Biochemistry and Immunology for an interim term from 4 September 2023 to 10 September 2024.
- (iii) Professor Derek Nolan as Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate), School of Biochemistry and Immunology, from 11 September 2023 to 10 September 2024.
- (iv) Professor Cliona O'Farrelly as Director of Global Engagement, School of Biochemistry and Immunology, for a second term from 11 September 2023 to end of the Trinity term 2025.
- (v) Professor Aileen Douglas as Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate), School of English, for an interim term from 28 August 2023 to 22 January 2024.
- (vi) Professor Elaine Moriarty as Programme Director for the PPES Programme, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy, from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2025.
- (vii) Professor Lorraine Swords as Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate), School of Psychology, for an interim term from 1 January 2024 to 1 July 2024.
- (viii) Professor Juan Pablo Labrador as Director of Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate), School of Genetics and Microbiology, to continue his current term until 30 June 2024
- (ix) Professor Siobhán O'Brien as Director of Global Engagement, School of Genetics and Microbiology, from 1 September 2023 to 30 June 2026.
- (x) Professor Sean McClenaghan as Course Director of the of the B.A. (Moderatorship) in Geography and Geosciences, School of Natural Sciences, from 1 September 2023 to 30 August 2026.
- (xi) Professor Philip Lawton as Course Director of M.Sc. in Smart and Sustainable Cities, School of Natural Sciences, from 1 August 2021 to 31 August 2026.

- (xii) Professor Nicholas Payne as Course Director of M.Sc. in Biodiversity and Conservation, School of Natural Sciences, from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2026.
- (xiii) Professor Carlos Bruen as Course Director of M.Sc. in Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, from 28 August 2023 to the end of Trinity term 2026.
- (xiv) Professor M Felicity Daly as Course Director of M.Sc. in Global Health, School of Medicine, from 11 September 2023 to the end of Trinity term 2024.
- (xv) Professor Sara Burke as Director of the Centre for Health Policy Management, School of Medicine, from 28 August 2023 to the end of Trinity term 2026.
- (xvi) Professor Cuisle Forde as Director of Online Education, School of Medicine, from 1 September 2023 to 30 June 2026.

**CL/23-24/029 Heads of Discipline**

The Council noted and approved the following nominations:

- (i) Professor Vincent Kelly as Head of Discipline of Biochemistry, School of Biochemistry and Immunology, from 11 September 2023 to 10 September 2026.
- (ii) Professor Clair Gardiner as Head of Discipline of Immunology, School of Biochemistry and Immunology, from 11 September 2023 to 10 September 2026.
- (iii) Professor Deirdre Murphy as Head of Discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, School of Medicine, from 11 September 2023 to 31 August 2026.

**SECTION D**

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