

**Trinity College Dublin**  
**The University of Dublin**  
**Global engagement Committee Meeting**  
**28<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Present:** Dr E Stokes (Vice President for Global Engagement), Dr C Cunningham (Global Director School Biochemistry & Immunology), Dr E Nixon (Global Director School of Psychology), Dr F O'Toole (Global Director School of Social Sciences and Philosophy), Dr S McCaughren (Global Director School of Social Works and Social Policy), Mr S O'Leary (Students Union President), Mr N Murphy (Head of Accommodation), Dr R Hobbs (Global Director School of Chemistry), Prof V Wade (Senior Lecturer), Dr A Bray (Global Director School of Education; Dr B Broderick (Associate Dean of Research), Dr N niChiarain (Global Director, School of Linguistics); Dr Tim Persoons (Global Director, School of Engineering), Dr Nessa O'Connor (Global Director, School of Natural Sciences), Dr Daniela Tropea (School of Medicine)

**Apologies:** Ms Breda Walls (Director of Student Services) (with a request for hybrid unable to be facilitated), Prof C Bergin (Global Director School of Medicine), Dr D Zaitsev (Global Director School of Mathematics), Dr C Ehrhard (Global Director School of Pharmaceutical Sciences), Dr I Polyzois (Global Director School of Dental Sciences), Prof M Smith (Dean of Graduate Studies), Dr E Vybralouva, (Global Director School of English), Dr M Sihra (Global Director School of Creative Arts), Prof P Geoghegan (Global Director School of History & Humanities), Dr R Porter (Dean of Students), Prof R Jayasekera (Global Director School of Business), Dr S Smith (Senior Tutor); Dr C Barbour (Global Director School of Languages, Literature & Cultural Studies), Dr M Huggard (Global Director School of Computer Science and Statistics), A Févry (Secretary to the Committee) Dr B C Browne (Global Director School of Religion), K Maguire (Global Director School of Physics), Ms J Whelan (Global Director School of Nursing and Midwifery), Dr N O'Connor (Global Director School of Natural Sciences), Dr R Costello (Global Director School of Law)

**In Attendance:** Dr J Johnston (Policy & Research Advisor) / Acting Secretary to the committee

**Ex Officio:** Ms A Byrne (Future Students Strategy Adviser), Ms B Coman (Director of Marketing), Mr D Coogan (Associate Director, Student Recruitment, ), Ms L Staunton (Associate Director, Trinity Global Experience)

**GEC/24-25/Oct/1      Welcome**

**GEC/24-25/Oct/2      Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were approved.

VP Global provided clarity on the Sanctuary Fund (a community-based fund). Sample projects outlined include English-language courses for refugees and displaced persons and x2 Irish language and culture projects. VP Global advised that a call would likely be forthcoming in the near future from the Chair of the Sanctuary Fund.

VP Global provided additional information on specific cohorts of displaced students who have been welcomed to the College since late spring and the additional challenges by this cohort.

VP Global provided an update on a 3-year School of Medicine led initiative through the Erasmus programme seeking to support students with access to clinical experience.

The need for involvement of the Counselling Services to support these students with necessary dispensations was highlighted; VP Global provided additional context in the shape of sector-wide engagement and advocacy.

**GEC/24-25/Oct/3**

**Matters arising – annual report**

VP Global spoke to the annual report

A query on China Scholarship Council activity was raised.

Challenges around the availability of Irish Residence Permit were raised noting that students cannot be paid for work until they receive their IRP. VP Global highlighted that there is ongoing advocacy at sectoral level to Department of Justice and DFHERIS to support. Associate Director for Trinity Global Experience, Ms Louise Staunton, highlighted supporting roles within the Global Experience function.

The visibility/joined-upness of Coimbra Group activity in College was raised. VP Global spoke to termly calendar and membership for visibility.

*Annual report approved in current format.*

**GEC/24-25/Oct/4**

**Trinity Global Framework**

VP Global spoke to high-level slides of Trinity Global Framework, highlighting its embeddedness in the overall Thrive strategic plan. VP Global highlighted that the Framework aims and goals are not about business-as-usual, but rather focusing on future activities, revising governance to ensure fitness-for-purpose, and highlighting new departures in coming years.

**GEC/24-25/Oct/5**

**Open Questions**

Business-as-usual: discussion on Admissions Pilot for students presenting with Chinese and Indian qualifications looking at delegated decision making. Request from School of Education for clarification on lack of continuation. VP Global spoke to challenges of budgeting and staffing currently due to GRS+1 as holding pattern.

**GEC/24-25/Oct/5**

**Any Other Business**

The need for academic representation at Open Day (29<sup>th</sup> November) was raised. Discussion around Open Day operations and planning.

*12.20 – Meeting finished.*