



Quality Committee	
Meeting Date	Thursday 29 January 2026 14.00 – 16.00 Online via Zoom
Present	Professor Orla Sheils, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer (Chair); Ms Victoria Butler, Secretary to the College/Director of Governance; Professor Vincent Wade, Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies; Professor Martine Smith, Dean of Graduate Studies; Ms. Patricia Maguire, Academic Secretary; Professor Sylvia Draper, Dean STEM; Dr. Michael Cleary-Gaffney, Interim Quality Officer; Ms. Breda Walls, Director of Student Services (nominee of the Chief Operating Officer); Prof. David O’Regan, STEM Representative; Prof Graeme Watson, Head of School Representative; Mr. Patrick Magee, Director, IT Services (CSD delegate); Ms. Anne Marie O Mullane, Deputy Secretary, Secretary’s Office;
Apologies	Ms Jessie Kurtz, Deputy Librarian; Mr Noel Gorman, COO; Professor Carmel O’Sullivan, AHSS Dean; Professor Brian O’Connell, HS Dean Professor David Fennelly, FAHSS representative; Professor Emma Stokes, Vice- President Global Engagement; Mr Buster Whaley, Education Officer, Trinity Students' Union
Vacant	External Member Chief Risk Officer Graduate Student Representative
Visitor/In - attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Ciara Muldoon, Administrative Officer: Quality Office • Professor Nathan Hill for QC/25-26/025 <i>Quality Implementation Plan – School of Linguistics, Speech and Communication Sciences</i> • Dr Seán Delaney, for QC/25-26/026 <i>Marino Institute of Education Academic Policies</i>

Agenda item		Actions/Decisions
	Key points arising from discussion	
QC/25-26/023 Quality Committee Minutes		Decision 023.01 The QC minutes of the 27 th November 2025 were approved.



Agenda item		
	Key points arising from discussion	Actions/Decisions
<p>QC/25-26/024 Matters Arising from the Minutes</p>	<p>The following items will be considered by Council on February 11th 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QC/25-26/017 <i>Quality Implementation Plan – School of Social Science and Philosophy</i> • QC/25-26/018 <i>Quality Review Report – School of Mathematics</i> • QC/25-26/019 <i>Quality Implementation Plan – School of Engineering</i> 	
<p>QC/25-26/025 Quality Implementation Plan – School of School of Linguistics, Speech and Communication Sciences</p>	<p>The Head of School, Professor Nathan Hill, presented an overview of the School’s proposed Implementation Plan (IP) to address the twelve recommendations made by the External Review Team.</p> <p>Professor Hill noted that actions arising from four recommendations had been completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a dedicated ISL interpreter within the School • A Director has been appointed to the Centre for English Language Learning and Teaching. • Enhancements have been made to existing space to support an improved student experience and community engagement. • PhD students are actively encouraged to present their research at the School’s Research Seminar Series. <p>Professor Hill highlighted that four recommendations are scheduled to be actioned by 2026. In particular he drew the committee's attention to:</p>	<p>Decision 025.01 The Quality Committee recommended the School of School of Linguistics, Speech and Communication Sciences Quality Implementation Plan, dated 19th November 2025, to Council for approval.</p>



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Diversification: A diversification plan is being finalised in collaboration with Trinity Global to support a broader and more diverse postgraduate taught (PGT) applicant base and to reduce reliance on a limited number of recruitment regions. • Sustainability: The School is implementing the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme to support the evaluation, reporting, and enhancement of its environmental impact, with the aim of improving overall environmental performance within the School. <p>Professor Hill noted that some recommendations would be actioned over a longer time frame:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PG Dip in ISL Interpreting: The School is continuing to explore the potential development of a Postgraduate Diploma in ISL Interpreting, taking into account existing provision within the School, including the Bachelor in Deaf Studies, and the viability of introducing a postgraduate pathway. • Blended Learning and Micro-Credentials: The School recognises the potential of blended learning programmes and micro-credentials to complement its existing portfolio and align with the University Strategic Plan by supporting flexible learning, lifelong learning, and Continuing Professional Development. Further development of new programme offerings will be informed by, and aligned with, institutional frameworks for lifelong learning at College level. <p>Members commended the School's progress to date in implementing the external reviewers' recommendations. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer suggested the</p>	



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	School should seek support from Marketing which is housed in Global Engagement to better understand market demand for a proposed PG Dip in ISL and in further broadening and strengthening recruitment across postgraduate taught programmes.	
QC/25-26/026 Marino Institute of Education Academic Policies	<p>The MIE Registrar, Dr Sean Delaney, presented an overview of three policies under consideration. He noted that the policies had been developed to support MIE’s TrustED application. He outlined that amendments were proposed to two existing policies (<i>English Language Policy</i> and the <i>Admissions, Access and Transfer Policy</i>) and that a new <i>Recognition of Foreign Qualifications Policy</i> had been developed. It was noted that draft versions of the policies had been reviewed by colleagues in Academic Registry and Academic Affairs at Trinity, and that their recommendations had been incorporated by MIE.</p> <p>Members advised that, for both the <i>English Language Policy</i> and the <i>Admissions, Access and Transfer Policy</i>, it should be explicitly stated that, for the International Foundation Programme (IFP), Trinity manages the marketing of the programme and the admission and recruitment of learners onto the IFP. Members also noted that Trinity had recently revised proficiency scores for some standardised English language tests and recommended that MIE review the proficiency scores outlined in the appendix of the <i>English Language Policy</i> to ensure continued alignment with Trinity.</p>	<p>Decision 026.01 The Quality Committee recommended the three policies to Council for approval, subject to the identified changes being made.</p> <p>Action 026.02 MIE to make explicit, at the outset of both the <i>English Language Policy</i> and the <i>Admissions, Access and Transfer Policy</i>, that Trinity is responsible for the marketing of the International Foundation Programme and for the admission and recruitment of learners to the</p>



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		International Foundation Programme. 026.03 MIE to review the proficiency scores accepted for English language tests to ensure continued alignment with those accepted by Trinity
QC/25-26/027 Annual Quality Report to QQI	<p>The Interim Quality Officer, Dr Cleary Gaffney, outlined that Part A of the Annual Quality Report (AQR) sets out Trinity’s Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) system and the policies and procedures that support it. He noted that Schools with Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) requirements are invited to use the Annual Quality Report as supporting documentation when undergoing review or re-accreditation, as it outlines Trinity’s approach to the implementation and ongoing monitoring of quality across the University. An overview of enhancement activities, outlined in Part B of the report and undertaken during the AQR reporting period (2024/25), was presented and discussed by members of the Quality Committee.</p> <p>A member noted that the supports provided by the Centre for English Language Learning and Teaching should be included under the section “Supports for Learners” in Part A of the report. Members further noted that future AQR could usefully identify specific areas requiring enhancement, with a corresponding focus during the year on</p>	Decision 027.01 The Quality Committee recommended the AQR to Council and Board for approval, prior to submission to QQI.



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	<p>progressing improvements in the selected area. The VP/CAO welcomed the suggestion and suggested that recurrent issues identified through the Annual Faculty Quality Report could provide a basis for identifying target areas for enhancement. The VP/CAO also noted that the Quality Committee is invited to identify areas across College where enhancements activity could be focussed.</p> <p>The Academic Secretary noted that it would be beneficial for the next Annual Quality Report to be presented to the Quality Committee at an earlier stage, to enable the Committee to consider and agree the proposed structure of the report and to advise on quality enhancement themes.</p>	
<p>QC/25-26/028 Any Other Business</p>	<p>The below Royal Irish Academy of Music Non-Academic Policies were presented to Quality Committee for noting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maternity Leave Policy (Revised)• Domestic Abuse Leave Policy• Surrogacy Leave Policy• Volunteer Policy• Volunteer (Time Off) (administrative staff)	<p>Decision 28.01 Quality Committee noted the RIAM non-academic policies.</p>