

**The University of Dublin
Trinity University**

Minutes of Research Committee Meeting, 28 April 2015

Present:

Professor Vinny Cahill, Dean of Research (DoR) and Chair
Dr Diarmuid O'Brien, Director of Trinity Research & Innovation (TR&I) and Secretary
Professor Paul Coughlan, Director of Research, School of Business
Professor Balazs Apor, Director of Research, School of Languages, Literatures & Cultural Studies
Professor Paul Scanlon, Director of Research, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy
Professor Trevor Spratt, Director of Research, School of Social Work and Social Policy
Professor Andrew Pierce, Director of Research, School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics
Professor Daniela Zister, Director of Research, School of Biochemistry and Immunology
Professor Wolfgang Schmitt, Director of Research, School of Chemistry
Professor Donal O'Mahony on behalf of Professor Carl Vogel, Director of Research, School of Computer Science and Statistics
Professor Aoife McLysaght, Director of Research, School of Genetics and Microbiology
Professor Mike Peardon, Director of Research, School of Mathematics
Professor Gary Moran, Director of Research, School of Dental Science
Professor James O'Donnell, Director of Research, School of Medicine
Professor Shane O'Mara, Director of TCIN
Professor Carol Newman, Director of IIIS
Ms Megan Lee, President, Graduate Students Union

In attendance:

Ms Doris Alexander, Research Development Manager, Trinity Research & Innovation
Dr Fiona Killard, Trinity Research & Innovations, Rapporteur to the Committee
Mr. Keith Creedon, Full Economic Costing (FEC) (item RS/14-15/69 only)
Dr. Margaret Woods, Policy on Student Intellectual Property (item RS/14-15/67 only)

Apologies:

Professor Martina Hennessy, Associate Dean of Research (ADoR)
Professor Lorraine Leeson, Director of Research, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences
Professor Luiz Da Silva, Director of Research, School of Engineering
Professor Jane Stout, Director of Research, School of Natural Sciences
Professor Lorraine O'Driscoll, Director of Research, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Professor Gabrielle McKee, Director of Research, School of Nursing and Midwifery

Professor Orla Hardiman, Director Designate of TBSI
Mr David O'Shea, Acting Research Accounting Manager, Financial Services Division

Not present:

Professor Martin Adams, Director of Research, School of Drama, Film & Music
Professor Andrew Loxley, Director of Research, School of Education
Professor Aileen Douglas, Director of Research, School of English
Professor Micheál Ó Siochrú, Director of Research, School of Histories and Humanities
Professor Blanaid Clarke, Director or Research, School of Law
Professor Ruth Byrne, Director of Research, School of Psychology
Professor Martin Hegner, Director of Research, School of Physics
Professor Stefano Sanvito, Director of Research, CRANN
Professor Juergen Barkhoff, Director, Trinity Long Room Hub
Professor John Walsh, Director or Research, School of Education
Professor Aideen Long, Dean of Graduate Studies
Dr Michael Cooke, Chair, Trinity Research Staff Association (TRSA)
Mr John Murphy, Director of Information Systems Services

RS/14-15/63 Minutes of 31 March 2015

The minutes of last meeting were accepted.

RS/14-15/64 Matters Arising from the Minutes

The DoR reported meeting apologies.

The DoR informed members that the Pathfinder 2015 (RS/14-15/40) evaluations had been completed and that the sub-committee had selected eleven projects out of over 110 for funding. The DoR subsequently sought co-funding from the Schools and ultimately 14 proposals received either partial or full funding. This represented a success rate of almost 13%. The DoR commented that there was clearly substantial demand for this kind of funding, but pointed out that the impact of these awards will not be known for at least 12 months. The DoR informed members that the successful projects were drawn from the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy, the School of Medicine, the School of Psychology, the School of Biochemistry & Immunology, and the School of Chemistry and the Trinity Access Programmes (TAP).

The DoR noted that he had only received one submission that had been made to the 'Call for Dreams' (RS/14-15/50). The DoR encouraged members to forward any further submissions that had been made to his office.

ACTION: Members to forward submissions for the 'Call for Dreams' to the DoR.

The DoR informed members that the Research Committee item regarding the Impact of Maternity Leave on Research Productive Status (RS/14-15/50) was due to go to the April Council meeting. The DoR was unable to attend this meeting, however, as he was attending an important HEA event on future research strategy. The Committee was

informed that this item will now go before the May sitting of Council. The DoR will put forward a request to Council that the current policy on Research Productivity be amended to address maternity leave or major administrative duties. The DoR will also request an amendment on co-authored publications as requested by committee members.

The DoR informed members that a memo on the Clarification of International Policy (RS/14-15/57) will also go to before May's Council meeting.

The DoR noted that there were few developments to report regarding the second Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation (RS/14-15/49). This delay was attributed in part to a change in personnel at Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and the volume of submissions received.

RS/14-15/65 Dean of Research Update (DoR)

The DoR informed members that a competition has been opened to students on the naming of the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Hub. The results of this competition are not yet known and the prize is an Apple watch.

The DoR reported that since the last Research Committee meeting Prof Poul Holm had been awarded an ERC Advanced Grant bringing the University's total to eight ERC awards in the first full ERC round of H2020. The DoR further commented that this was an excellent outcome for the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. The University received almost half of the ERC H2020 awards secured nationally, which is a testament to the quality of the University's staff.

The DoR noted that the five SFI Investigator 2014 awards had been secured by Trinity researchers: Prof. Stefano Sanvito, Prof. Anne-Marie Healy, Prof. Michael Rowan, Prof. Seamus Martin, and Prof. Marco Ruffini. The Committee were informed that 26 applications were submitted by Trinity Researchers, with ten progressing to the second round of evaluations. Five of these proposals secured funding representing a success rate of c.19% in round one of evaluations and 50% in the second round of evaluations. This was a reasonably good result for University as overall 23 awards were made nationally.

The DoR informed members that an event called 'Trinity Fusion' would be hosted in Boston on the 28 May. The aim of this event, which is aligned with the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers (NAFSA) conference, is to highlight Trinity's research. The event will be hosted and launched by the Provost and the Minister for Education Jan O'Sullivan and will provide an excellent opportunity to promote Trinity research. The DoR asked members to nominate invitees from their network of contacts and collaborators. A further event will also take place in Washington on the 1st of June to highlight Trinity as a gateway for EU.

ACTION: Directors of Research to nominate invitees to the Trinity Fusion event.

RS/14-15/66 Trinity Translational Medical Institute (TTMI)

The Director of Research for the School of Medicine, Prof. James O'Donnell presented a proposal for a Trinity Translational Medical Institute (TTMI) for consideration by the Committee. The DoR further noted that a presentation on the proposed new institute had previously been made to Research Committee and was supported by Research Committee following the 2013 review of the School of Medicine, which had endorsed the proposal. The Director of Research for the School of Medicine had circulated documentation to Committee members which included the report from an external review of the TTMI proposal, which took place last year in line with the University's guidelines for establishing an Institute, along with responses to the review from the Head of the School of Medicine, the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the DoR.

Prof. O'Donnell spoke to the TTMI presentation and informed members that one of the objectives of the TTMI will be to develop an SFI centre possibly in the area of personalised/precision medicine. The TTMI would act as a pathway to this SFI funded centre and would be based on the St. James' campus.

Prof. Aoife McLysaght agreed that the TTMI concept is very strong and has the advantage of facilitating the leveraging of philanthropic and industrial funding.

The Director of TR&I posed a question regarding the engagement of clinicians as this can be challenging. Prof. O'Donnell commented that the TTMI would provide a framework for all clinicians engaged in research. This would reduce fragmentation and enable associated researchers to unite under a core theme. Prof. O'Donnell noted that this model has worked well in other instances and commented that an SFI centre award would add value and facilitate the leveraging of additional funding.

Prof. O'Donnell informed members that TTMI branding would be used on all publications.

The Head of the Research Development Office raised a query regarding insurance issues and how the TTMI intends to deal with this as University insurance does not cover clinical trials. Prof. O'Donnell informed her that all clinical trials are currently run through Wellcome, HRB and CRF and are covered through St. James' Insurance. Subsequent to the establishment of the TTMI a 'new' insurance policy will be put in place.

Research Committee formally approved the TTMI.

The DoR informed members that the TTMI application will proceed to Finance Committee, Council and then Board for final approval. The DoR noted that EOG has already approved the TTMI application with some revisions which will be incorporated into the proposal that goes before Council and Board.

RS/14-15/67 Policy on Student Intellectual Property

The Technology Transfer Manager provided members with a statement on how the University's IP Policy is applied to intellectual property created by students and also informed the Committee about a derogation from the Policy for those involved in LaunchBox.

It was explained that, because students in LaunchBox receive a LaunchBox stipend from the University, they are viewed as "staff" and thus TCD would own the IP generated, however this goes against the ethos of LaunchBox. Therefore in this case, the derogation provides for students to own the IP which they generate in LaunchBox. A graduate student who is developing a business idea resulting from their previously-funded research at TCD would require a licence from the University to exploit the background IP, while the student owns any 'new' IP generated in LaunchBox.

Prof. Moran raised a query regarding the students in the Dental School that are jointly funded by Trinity and the Dublin Dental School. Dr. Woods indicated that the co-created IP would be covered by a joint ownership and management agreement.

The DoR also sought clarification under section A ownership of IP indicating that the slides presented used a different wording than the Policy document. Dr. Woods clarified that the provision applied to students engaged in research for third parties in the context of a contract between that party and the University. The statement has been expanded accordingly.

RS/14-15/68 Any Other Urgent Business

No other urgent business was discussed.

RS/14-15/69 Full Economic Costing (FEC)

The Head of Financial Planning, Resource Allocation & Risk Management made a presentation to members on Full Economic Costing. Members were informed of the resources involved in generating FEC data and asked to consider the benefits, if any, in generating a School-specific FEC overhead rate. Such a model would only be developed for Schools if the effort is justified i.e. that the additional data produced will be of strategic use to Schools.

ACTION: Members to consider the benefits of developing a School-specific FEC-model.

RS/14-15/70 Research Committee Meeting Dates 2015-16

Members were provided with a list of Research Committee meeting dates for the next academic year.

RS/14-15/71 Any Other Business

An AoB was raised on behalf of the ADoR regarding an up-coming lecture by Prof Lee Kok Onn on the cultural differences between east and west in terms of Stem Cell research. Members were also reminded that the next Ethics Committee meeting would take place on Wednesday 29 April.

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