

# Developing the campus

**Professor Veronica Campbell, Bursar & Director of Strategic Innovation**

**The Trinity community is fortunate to study and work in a unique residential campus setting spread over 47 acres in the heart of the city, as well as distinctive satellite sites. Since the foundation of the College in 1592 the campus has evolved continuously to meet the needs of an expanding student and staff body and a developing curriculum.**

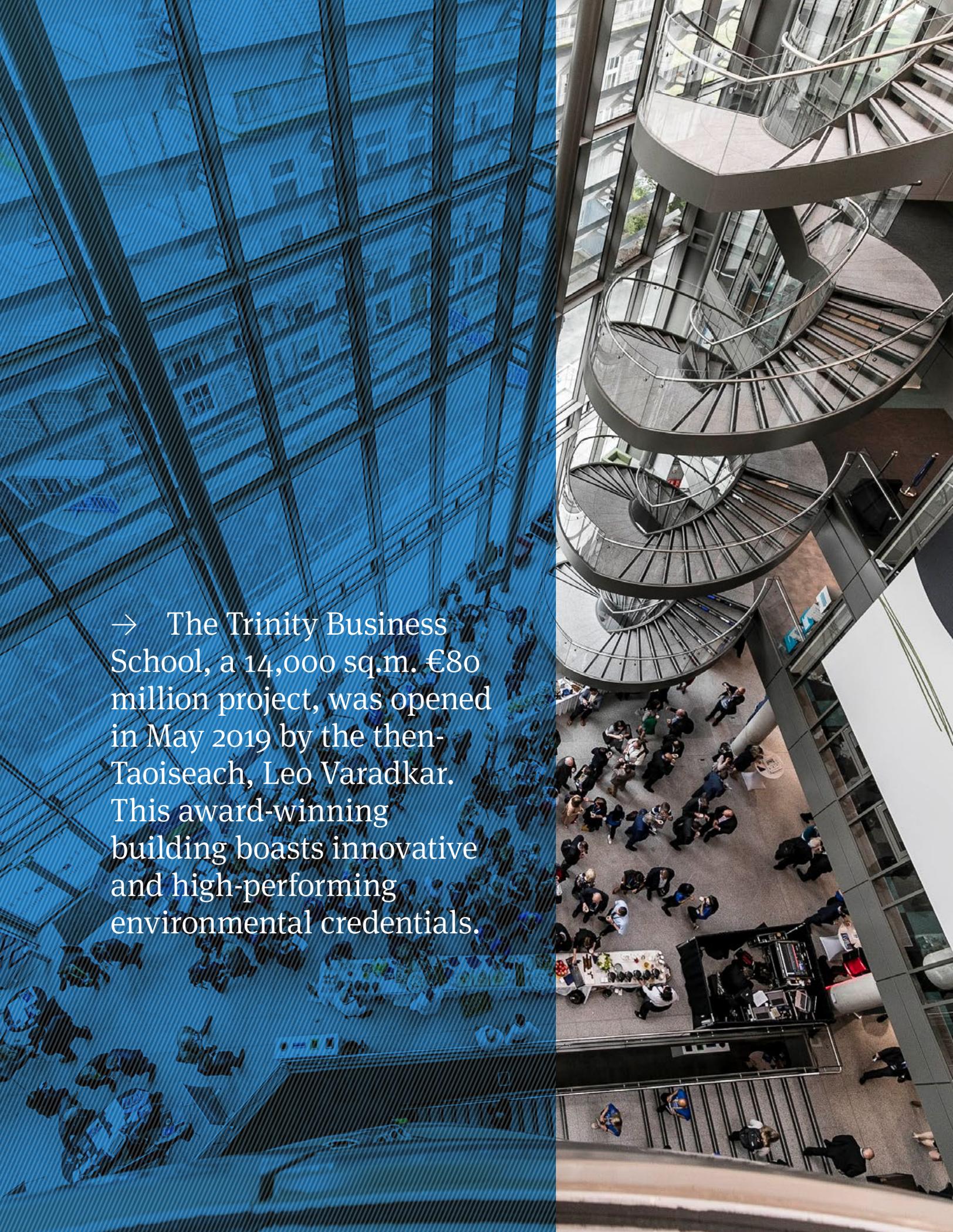
Trinity's first Estates Strategy, launched in November 2018, placed learning, teaching and research at its heart. This Strategy aims to allow the campus to continue to evolve and support Trinity's academic mission by improving the efficiency and quality of learning space and by introducing adaptive reuse of buildings to meet future requirements.

Over the past ten years, Trinity engaged in a programme of capital projects aimed at renewal of the estate and enhancement of amenities available to students and staff. Recent projects include:

## **Trinity Business School**

The Trinity Business School, a 14,000 sq.m. €80 million project, was opened in May 2019 by the then-Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar. Comprising lecture theatres, a 600-seat auditorium, the Tangent entrepreneurial ideas workspace, public spaces where students can meet and exchange ideas, 'smart' classrooms with the latest digital technology and a new Trinity Boardroom, this award-winning building boasts innovative and high-performing environmental credentials. Fronting onto Pearse Street and the University campus, the near zero-energy building which won the Sustainability Award for a Single Building or Development at the 2021 Building and Architect of the Year Awards also provides another link between the city and the University.

**RIGHT** – The opening of the new Trinity Business School.



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### Printing House Square

Trinity's new 250-bedroom student accommodation building on Pearse Street is due for completion in 2021 following a pause on the building works due to Covid-19 restrictions. The building will also have student services space, a new Health Unit and sports facilities, confirming Trinity's commitment to being a residential college with the best student supports we can provide.

### Arts Building refresh

The 1978 Arts Building received a two-phase refresh over the summers of 2018 and 2019, adding new furniture, wayfinding signage, increased openness and light in the floor plan layouts, lively new interior designs for student collaboration and a replanted rooftop garden for staff and student use.

### Old Library Redevelopment Project

The funding is now in place for a major restoration of the 1712 Old Library building, home to the magnificent Long Room and priceless manuscripts including the Book of Kells. The government has announced €25 million in funding for the project, which received planning permission in 2020. Award-winning architects Heneghan Peng are leading the project, focusing on conservation of the Old Library and its unique collections, as well as the creation of a Research Collections Study Centre that will improve access to academics and members of the public.

### Other projects

Refurbishments to the Nassau Street entrance and to Regent House took place to improve the staff, student and visitor experience. A new lift has brought Regent House back into full use for the college community. The octagonal space at Front Arch was refreshed with new noticeboards, renovated stonework, and painting of the vaulted ceiling, and a cobbling to replace tarmac has improved the public realm at Front Gate. Outdoor sports facilities have been enhanced by the provision of additional all-weather sports facilities at Santry and the Iveagh Grounds twenty-five-acre site on the Crumlin Road, were purchased considerably enhancing the assets for sporting activity.

A major refurbishment of 'Stack B' – a building adjacent to CHQ in Georges Dock and purchased by College in 2020 – for the Electronic & Electrical Engineering department and the Graphics Vision and Visualisation (GV2) and Signal Processing Media Applications (SigMedia) research groups is complete. This move to the north Liffey Quays, into a modern collaborative space, brings together these cognate groups to create the Trinity Centre for Creative Technologies & Media Engineering (CHIME).

Other projects include the redecoration of the Public Theatre, the installation of lights in Fellows Square, the refurbishment of the gym, the creation of innovative new space for the Global Brain Health Institute in the Lloyd Building,

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**LEFT** – The Long Room in the Old Library which will undergo a major restoration.

**BELOW** – Prof Veronica Campbell, Bursar and Director of Strategic Innovation with Provost Patrick Prendergast at the launch of Trinity's first Estates Strategy.

the refurbishment of student accommodation in our older buildings and an inter-professional simulation suite in St James's Hospital.

Trinity's in-house conservation architecture team led on the restoration of the organ in the 1785 Sir William Chambers-designed Public Theatre (Examination Hall). This is the oldest Irish-made organ case, dating from approximately 1680, and it came from the original chapel. The organ was sent to the UK for careful restoration and returned to an altered Examination Hall balcony to once again provide the familiar hair-raising acoustic backdrop to events.

Energy management and sustainability is an important objective of Trinity's Strategic Plan with investments in lighting and heating upgrades to reduce the carbon footprint and energy consumption in the University. Further strategic initiatives are planned to reduce consumption and to improve our sustainability and social responsibility.

A €9 million project to increase the medium voltage electrical import capacity for the University, and to combine multiple existing supplies into one, was completed and is fully operational, with the final connection to Printing House Square due at the end of 2021. Important maintenance projects and energy management initiatives continue around the campus, and more are planned (subject to funding), to ensure the College can provide a safe and healthy environment and to improve and maintain a high level of standards.

A new garden in a newly developed square adjacent to the Botany Department was opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand in 2014. In the Campus Pollination Plan, hives and bee hotels were introduced on campus including on the roof of Parsons building.

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### Trinity's Future Vision

**Martin Naughton E3 Learning Foundry** – This €80 million project for Engineering, Environment and Emerging Technologies has commenced and will include a new state of the art 6,086 sq.m. facility based on the main Trinity campus. It will deliver new teaching facilities, maker spaces and interactive learning spaces for students. This project has benefitted from a philanthropic donation by the Naughton family and is also in receipt of funding from the Higher Education Authority. Internationally renowned architects Feildon Clegg Bradley have been appointed to lead the project and planning permission was granted by Dublin City Council in August 2020. The construction will be complete in autumn 2023. The project will also reimagine the East End of campus with new landscaping, outdoor spaces and new pedestrian routes, as well as refurbishment of space within several existing buildings.



**Trinity East and the Grand Canal Innovation District** – This is Trinity's most ambitious project to date. With Trinity East, a wholly new Trinity campus at its heart, the district will act as a connector for Irish and multinational companies, modelled on innovation districts such as Kendall Square in Boston. It will provide a space for academic researchers from both Irish and international universities, venture capitalists and start-ups as well as members of the local community to meet and interact. Full development of the site will take place over a decade and a Strategic Assessment Report with a funding ask of €150 million from Government has been invited for submission. A €30 million philanthropic donation from Eric and Barbara Kinsella will be used to develop the E3 Research Institute, a major building on the Trinity East campus following the completion of the innovation hub Portal for which planning permission has been granted and financing in place so it can go to tender in 2021.

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### Other projects

As well as new buildings when needed, Trinity's sustainability practices make us committed to retaining in use many buildings through a programme of refurbishments. For example a significant project is to refurbish the 320-year old Rubrics building, and the Chief Steward's House. The College Board has approved appointing a contractor to bring them fully into use as high-quality residential accommodation and Fellows Emeriti research space. Two further projects on the horizon include the development of the Law School and the creation of a student hub.

Our evolution continues, and, as Trinity's environment adapts to its community's evolving needs and priorities, we look with excitement and confidence to the future.