

NOTES OF THE GOVERNING BODY MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2017 @ 4PM.

IN THE BOARDROOM, DR. T.K. WHITAKER BUILDING

Declarations of Interest

Nil

G.235.1

M.234 Minutes of the Meeting of 30th January 2017

The minutes of the Governing Body of 30th January 2017 were approved.

Proposed by: Paddy Matthews

Seconded by: Fergal Smyth

Voted and agreed on.

Bereavements

The recent bereavements were noted.

G.235.2

Matters Arising

G.235.3

Correspondence

1. Letter from LMETB 6th February 2017 confirming Ms. Siobhán Whyte as female student representative to the Governing Body.
2. Note of Meeting between Connacht Ulster Alliance (CUA), (AIT), (DKIT), (LIT) and Officials from the Department of Education and Skills held on Thursday 12th January 2017.
3. PWC Report, Review of revenue recognition policy

G.235.4.1

Personnel Report

The following appointments were noted and confirmed.

G.235.4.2 President's Report

1. Strategic Planning Process

DkIT Strategic Plan 2017-2019 was approved by the Governing Body on 30th January 2017. The published version will be available in hard copy and be accessible on the website in early March 2017.

2. Research

Research is performing well. The total allocated funding to the partners for the recently approved Interreg projects is as follows:

Medical Engineering Project: €8.1M

Spire 2: €6.4M

Breath: €7.7M

The Centre for Freshwater and Environmental Studies (CFES) at Dundalk Institute of

Technology (DkIT) has been selected to lead a cross-European Innovative Training Network for the 'Management of Climatic Extreme Events in Lakes and Reservoirs for the Protection of Ecosystem Services' (MANTEL). The MANTEL project received €3.1 M in funding under the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action call.

3. European Entrepreneurship Education Award

Professor Colette Henry, Acting Head of School of Business and Humanities is the 2017

recipient of the European Entrepreneurship Education Award. The

Governing Body proposed a vote of congratulations to Professor Henry.

Proposed by:

Brian Harten

Seconded by:

Oliver Tully

4. Finnish Delegation

The School of Engineering welcomed a delegation from Finland on Tuesday, February 14th.

5. Technological University

The TUI held a consultative conference on Technological Universities in early February, to which the President was invited. A number of concerns were highlighted.

AIT, DkIT, GM IT, LIT, LYIT and IT Sligo have commissioned an impact assessment

study in relation to the potential merger of the six Institutions. For an update on this proposed project, see G235.3 Correspondence, Item no 2.

6. Capital Infrastructure

DkIT submitted its response to the Review of Capital Requirements in Higher Education Institutions at the end of January 2017, including requests for funding for the refurbishment of the North and South Buildings, Laboratories and Equipment.

7. CAO Update on Student Numbers

Overall mentions are down 4% from this time last year (541 fewer mentions/applications). 34% of this drop is attributable to the changes in processing of mature entry to 4 nursing programmes (185 applications).

8. Upcoming Events

Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government will visit DkIT on Tuesday 7th March at 2.00 p.m. to consult primarily with learners in relation to the National Planning Framework 2040.

G.235.5 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee

Minutes of Meeting MF158 19th December 2016 & MF159 17th January 2017

The minutes of the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, MF158 & MF159 were noted.

DkIT Risk Register 2017;

The draft Risk Register 2017 was reviewed and an update given on a number of issues to include:

Strategic Objectives

- Item No 2 – Strategic Plan 2017-2019 - agreed
- Item No 3 – Strategic Plan Implementation Planning - in progress
- Item No 6 – Retention Policy - in development
- Item No 8 – Meeting with HEA Friday 17th February 2017

Operational Risks

Refer to new Risk Table for IT, append it to the Risk Register

Financial Risks

- Item No 15 – Meeting with HEA Friday 17th February 2017
- Item No 16 – See minute on successive research funding (G.235.4.2, item 2)
- Item No 20 – See minute on Capital Infrastructure (G.235.4.2, item 6)
- Item No 22 – Devolved Grant 2016 - received and spent

Reputational and Compliance Risks

Item No 24 – Significant distribution of information on Data Protection and training to staff

Draft Annual Report of Finance, Audit & Risk Committee to Governing Body;

The Draft Annual Report of Finance, Audit & Risk Committee to Governing Body 2016 was withdrawn, to be resubmitted at next meeting.

G.235 .6 Dr. Tom Dooley, Head of School of Engineering joined the meeting and gave a presentation on the School of Engineering Strategic Review.

The plan proposed a significant increase in Apprenticeships which should bring in extra funding, not only for the School of Engineering but for the Institute as a whole. It is also forecasting, with the increase in Construction activities, an increase in demand for programmes related to the Build Environment.

Following discussion the plan was adopted.

Proposed by: Paddy Matthews
Seconded by: Richard Crowley

Voted on and agreed unanimously

G.235. 7 **Seal**
The Institute's seal was applied to Aquaweb.

G.235.8 **AOB**

It was requested that Staff Membership of Committees be put on the agenda of the next meeting.

Chairperson: _____ **Date:** _____