

NOTES OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY

HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd DECEMBER 2020 AT 10.00 A.M.

VIA ZOOM

Declarations of Interest

Nil

G.279.1 M.278 Minutes of the Meeting of 11th December 2020

The minutes of the Governing Body of Friday 11th December 2020 were approved.

**Proposed by: Mr. Bill Sweeney;
Seconded by: Michael Mulvey Ph.D.**

G.279.2 Matters Arising

None.

G.279.3 Technological University Status

DkIT Consideration of TU Partner Option June 2020 (Report and Presentation circulated and presented at G.271 meeting dated 7th July 2020 – copies circulated prior to meeting)

The Chairman, Governing Body began this Agenda Item with reference to the Subcommittee meeting of Governing Body on Thursday 17th December 2020, which had a positive outlook. Dr. Neavyn and the Leadership Team joined this meeting.

The Chairman, Governing Body asked Dr. Tom Dooley, Chairman of the Governing Body Strategy (TU) Project Governance and Oversight Committee to outline a summary of the meeting i.e. focus on preparation of Vision piece, wide ranging discussion, will meet with the Chairman, Governing Body and the President to arrange dates of meeting working backward from scheduled Governing Body meeting in February. In addition, made reference to the DkIT Consideration of TU Partner Option June 2020 circulated.

The Minutes from this meeting will be circulated to Governing Body at a later stage.

Both the Chairman, Governing Body and the President referenced the document presented to Governing Body in July 2020, which gives an oversight, great summary, pros/cons brought forward by the Leadership Team.

It is important that the Governing Body discuss this document and make a conclusion.

Various members of the Leadership Team made the following comments:

- The Document is a summary of the substantial work done by the Leadership Team
- Conclusion/recommendation is partnership with CUA
- Details pros/cons
- External, internal stakeholder consultations.
- Governing Body decision how DkIT moves forward
- Schools held workshops/meetings with their colleagues, students and stakeholders
- Discussed rationality
- Relationships within our hinterland, service providers, industry
- Extensive consultations
- Represents 12 year trajectory to where DkIT is today is within the document presented
- How to serve Industry/Learners/build on Research
- Developing Vision imperative
- Location / Unique position
- Build on existing relationships
- National Development Plan/Project 2040/TURN Report all referenced within the document (e.g. Pages 13-22). Also outlines different scenarios for the 3 partners all of which are equally viable.
- Future synergies
- Regional based TU (Page 61)
- Preferred Option within the document is CUA.

The Governing Body members contributed the following points:

- Delighted to hear the views from the Leadership Team
- Regional element important
- Need to adopt document and move forwards
- International market successful due to DkIT location for Dublin Airport. On the East Coast. Don't forget geographical location
- Research strong
- DkIT has developed its presence serving the community and the region
- Successful within MEND Cluster which incorporated (AIT, DCU, NUI Maynooth)
- Successful in Research with DCU and QUB and others
- Suggestion of further consultations – already had extensive consultations with stakeholders (Page 57) for our Strategic Plan and for the DkIT Consideration of TU Partner Option June 2020 document.

Views can be reflected from Governing Body members whom are representing the Region.

- Numerous discussion on TU since the Governing Body was appointed in June 2020. DkIT needs to determine where DkIT is going. The document reflects views of both internal/external stakeholders
- Regional focus appears to be the preferred option.
- Compatibility of the Region to be considered too
- Narrow focus – build on DkIT identify/best position for DkIT/ Regional focus, strong in renewable energy and health
- Risk association re choosing partner
- Everyone keen on becoming a TU
- Adopt the document DkIT Consideration of TU Partner Option June 2020
- Talking about geography instead of discussing the Vision
- Service areas Cavan, Meath, Monaghan too.
- Take views from the TUTF (Head of Research) group too.
- Need to move forward
- Excellent document
- Cannot ignore North/South corridor
- 94% of Graduates from DkIT working within our Region
- Congratulated Leadership Team on the extensive work done

Ms. Irene McCausland, VP of Strategic Planning, Communications & Development highlighted page 12 of the document outlining the characteristics and suggested using these along with campus infrastructure and financial position for the Leadership Team to build a bigger narrative for the Vision piece and present to Governing Body in January.

The Chairman concurred with Ms. McCausland's suggestion.

Dr. Ruaidhri Neavyn made the following observations:

- Consider document sooner rather than later
- Heard everyone wants to enter a partnership
- The Vision piece is very important – suggested not contacting anyone until the Vision piece is ready.
- Other Consortia are at the submission stage
- DkIT needs to be careful how it manages the process.
- Make a decision but be cautious.
- Bear in mind decisions taken today and need to consider media, which is a strong influence.

In relation to the motion proposed by Dr Dooley, Mr. Aidan McKenna enquired if it is worth including the Subcommittee of Governing Body and timelines and vision. Dr. Dooley responded that this would be covered by the tactical planning bit in the motion.

Dr. Tom Dooley proposed the following motion.

“Propose adoption of this report as an element of our strategic and tactical planning to achieve Technological University status.”

Proposed by: Dr. Tom Dooley

Seconded by: Dr. Fiona Lawless

Voted by all in attendance – unanimously voted in favour.

There was a brief discussion about media statement / media reaction.

The Chairman, Governing Body stressed that Governing Body members do not individually speak to the Media if they are approached for comment. The Marketing Communications Office in the College through consultations with the President and the VP of Strategic Planning, Communications & Development are the only personnel to liaise with the media.

Students and staff should be informed of the positive message from today’s meeting.

Dr. Ruaidhri Neavyn reiterated again to be careful with quotes for media.

G.279.4

AOB

The Chairman, Governing Body wished everyone a Happy Christmas and thanked Dr. Ruaidhri Neavyn, HEA and the Leadership Team for their contribution at the meeting today. He also conveyed his appreciation to the Governing members for their contribution to meetings since their inaugural meeting in June 2020.

Mr. Aidan McKenna wished to congratulate the Leadership Team on behalf of the Governing Body on a difficult year to wish them, their colleagues and students every good wish to the New Year. Ms. Anna Shakespeare seconded and the Governing Body members concurred.

The President thanked Mr. McKenna and Governing Body members for their appreciation and will notify staff and students.

Meeting concluded at 11.50 a.m.

Patrick W. Malone
Chairman

Date: