

NOTES OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY

HELD ON TUESDAY 27th JULY 2021

VIA ZOOM

Declarations of Interest

Nil

At the outset of the meeting Mr. Seamus Given, Arthur Cox provide training on Governance.

A recording of the presentation by Seamus Given will be/is available to Governing Body members.

The Chairman thanked Seamus Given for his time and presentation.

Mr. Seamus Given left the meeting at 11:27 a.m..

G.286.1 M.285 Minutes of the Meeting of 29th June 2021

The minutes of the Governing Body of the 29th June 2021 were approved subject to the following amendment requested by Dr. Fiona Lawless.

Original minutes:

**G.285.8 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Committee Meeting
EDI003 Draft Minutes of Meeting dated 10th May 2021**

The Draft Minutes of the above subcommittee EDI003 dated 10th May 2021 were noted. The President gave an overview of the role of the various EDI committees in the college. Dr Lawless also noted the additional responsibilities and directive arising out of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights directive.

Amended minutes:

**G.285.8 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Committee Meeting
EDI003 Draft Minutes of Meeting dated 10th May 2021**

The Draft Minutes of the above subcommittee EDI003 dated 10th May 2021 were noted. Dr. Fiona Lawless briefed the Governing Body on the meeting: which focused on Athena Swan, SALI and the EDI Structures and Roles within the institute - the President provided the EDI subcommittee with a brief overview of the various committees, which link to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Ms. Anna Shakespeare asked how the committee is ensuring that it meets its obligations under the Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission Act 2015.

Dr. Fiona Lawless advised that the EDI subcommittee, which is newly formed, has been focused on drafting its terms of reference, the DkIT EDI Policy and DkIT Gender Action Plan – which were approved by GB. The DkIT EDI Policy was informed by EDI policy across the sector and is underpinned by statutory obligations in this area. These new policies will be kept under review.

Proposed by: Ms. Anna Shakespeare;
Seconded by: Mr. Bill Sweeney.

G.286.2 Matters Arising

The Secretary is to re-send the link for the survey to all members and the Chairman again noted its importance.

G.286.3 Correspondence

Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

The FAR Chairman commented on the completeness and quality of the correspondence with the PAC.

The Chairman acknowledged the hard work by everyone involved in the process along with Cllr. Kelly who spoke of his involvement in the acquisition of the property at the time and the belief then and now that this was in the best interests of the college.

G.286.4.1 Personnel Report

Recent appointments were noted and confirmed.

G.286.5 HEA Compact Presentation

Ms. Irene McCausland, VP SCD walked the committee through the HEA Compact Presentation.

The President praised the VP SCD's work in preparing the document especially the fine balance of critical evaluation that was valued by the HEA's external advisors. It also reflects well on all students and colleagues and wished to compliment all stakeholders to this report.

The Chairman also wished to acknowledge the work of VP SCD.

The President also noted the positive response by the HEA in relation to the draft Year 2 Technological University Transformation Fund application and its necessity to sustain the work to date but also push forward towards TU status.

G.286.6 TU Communications Plan

Ms. Irene McCausland, VP SCD again walked the committee through the communications plan. She underlined the importance of stakeholders understanding the process and then being aware how the college was progressing.

- Positive engagement with Louth Co. Co. was noted by the committee.
- Mr. Aidan McKenna queried the project plan and it was explained by VP SCD this was superseded by a draft submission document prepared in its place. The Leadership Team were assigned elements of this plan to draft. It is hoped a version of this submission document will be finalised in September.
- Dr. Tom Dooley underlined the importance of engaging all locally elected representatives as ambassadors and indeed the wider communities such as employers etc.

G.286.7 Finance & Audit Risk Committee (FAR)

Minutes of Meeting M.F.210 dated 22nd June 2021

The FAR Chairman walked the committee through the minutes and passed on his appreciation to the VPSCD and the Estates Team for delivering the capital works programme to its current stage.

This appreciation was echoed by various other members

The minutes of the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, M.210 dated 22nd June 2021 were noted.

G.286.8 Land and Buildings Committee

The Minutes of Land and Buildings Committee (L&B 14) dated 15th June 2021 were noted along with the Energy Report 2020 (L&B 14.3).

The Draft Minutes of Land and Buildings Committee (L&B15) dated 22nd June 2021 were noted. These draft minutes have not yet been approved by the Land and Buildings committee.

G.286.9 Academic Council Minutes

Academic Council Minutes Ref 175 dated 28th May 2021

The Academic Council Minutes Ref 175 dated 28th May 2021 were noted.

G.286.11 AOB

- Mr. Aidan McKenna queried how the return to campus is being managed. The President confirmed the role of an internal committee following DFHERIS guidelines.
- Dr. Tom Dooley queried the absence of TU Meetings from the agenda and the Secretary confirmed he would review same.

- The Chairman noted the achievements of the college to date especially in attracting funding and acknowledged the hard work of the various teams.
- The Chairman confirmed there would be no meeting in August.

Meeting concluded at 13.05.

Patrick W. Malone
Chairman

Date: