

**NOTES OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

**HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021 AT 10.00 A.M.**

**Via TEAMS**

**Declarations of Interest**

Nil

Meeting commenced at 10.06 and the Chairman welcomed the student representatives and asked them to introduce themselves to the Governing Body.

**G.288.1 M.287 Minutes of the Meeting of 28th September 2021**

The minutes of the Governing Body of the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were approved.

**Proposed by: Cllr. Clifford Kelly.**  
**Seconded by: Ms. Anna Shakespeare.**

**G.288.2 Matters Arising**

The Chairman requested an update on student numbers for the academic year 2021/22 and details of any accommodation challenges being faced at the next Governing Body meeting. The President confirmed a survey is being currently developed for circulation to students to capture some of these challenges and advised Student registration is still underway however, draft/provisional numbers can be provided at the next meeting.

**G.288.3 Correspondence**

**Appointment of Student Representatives to Governing Body**

Email from Carmel McEvoy, PA to Chief Executive LMETB dated 28th September 2021 to Valerie Ward, PA to President DkIT enclosing letter from Simon Harris, T.D., Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science dated 15th September 2021 confirming appointment of Christopher O'Neill and Caitlin Connor as Student Representatives on the Governing Body of DkIT for a period of 1 year.

The Governing Body noted the correspondence.

#### **G.288.4.1 Personnel Report**

Recent appointments and progression to Lecturer October 2021 were noted by Governing Body.

#### **G.288.5 Finance & Audit Risk Committee (FAR)**

##### **Minutes of Meeting M.F. 211 dated 20th July 2021**

The minutes of the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, M212 dated 20<sup>th</sup> July were noted.

##### **Minutes of Meeting M.F. 212 dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

The minutes of the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, M212 dated 21<sup>st</sup> September were noted.

Mr. Bill Sweeney, FAR Chairman welcomed the student representatives onto the Governing Body and provided a brief explanation on the role of the Governing Body.

The FAR Chairman provided a verbal update on the FAR meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

The Governing Body Chairman complimented all staff members on the financial management during the year 2020/2021. The President concurred and wished to express his appreciation of the efforts of the wider Management Teams.

#### **G.288.6 Land and Buildings Committee**

Cllr. Clifford Kelly, Chairman Land and Buildings Committee briefed and acknowledged his appreciation on the work by Ms. Irene McCausland, Vice President of Strategic Planning, Communications & Development (VP SCD) on finalising a property lease. The Governing Body Chairman also expressed his appreciation to the VP SCD and was in favour of forging a long-term link with the new party.

The VP SCD provided an overview of the final lease document to the Governing Body and brought their attention to some minor changes / updates that were required. VP SCD outlined the final element of the process approval of lease by Governing Body then Ministerial approval via the HEA.

The VP SCD advised the Governing Body that the Land and Buildings Committee had, in a meeting earlier that morning, recommended the lease to Governing Body for approval. Ms. Anna Shakespeare requested some details on Memorandum of Understanding, the accounting treatment of lease income along with a break clause to which the VP SCD responded.

The Governing Body Chairman asked for a vote by members for their acceptance of the lease. Dr. Tom Dooley abstained from the vote due to what may possibly be a perceived conflict of interest. All other Governing Body members present voted in favour.

The President wished to acknowledge the VP SCD who has managed a very sensitive matter in an impeccable manner.

**L&B16 Minutes of Meeting dated 14th September 2021 [draft minutes presented at G.287]**

The Minutes of Land and Buildings Committee L&B16 dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were noted.

**L&B17 Draft Minutes of Meeting dated 12th October 2021**

The Draft Minutes of Land and Buildings Committee L&B17 dated 12th October 2021 were noted.

**G.288.7 Governing Body Strategy (TU) Project Governance and Oversight Committee**

Dr. Ruaidhri Neavyn, HEA joined the meeting for this Agenda Item at 10.22 a.m.

Dr. Tom Dooley, Chairman of the Governing Body Strategy (TU) Project Governance and Oversight Committee (TUSG) provided the Governing Body with an update of the work carried out during the summer including a Communications Plan and **draft and highly confidential** Section 38 Submission document.

The Governing Body Chairman explained the terminology and introduced Dr. Ruaidhri Neavyn, HEA to the new Governing Body members.

Dr. Neavyn and the TUSG Chairman underlined the importance of confidentiality at this sensitive time. Dr. Neavyn also noted a very good briefing session held last week with all staff and his opinion on DkIT's readiness on entering an engagement process.

The President also noted the level of DkIT's preparedness and complimented the work by the Leadership Team to-date.

The Governing Body Chairman updated Governing Body on communications with County Councils and underlined the positive engagement. He also thanked the members of the Governing Body who expedited this process. Mr. Aidan McKenna queried any feedback received. The President advised of the generous time afforded by the County Councils and the positive nature of their queries. The TUSG Chairman commented on the changing landscape within the IoT sector and the need to manage the expectation of staff and students on DkIT's TU journey

Dr. Neavyn left at 10.40 a.m.

**TUSG10 Minutes of Meeting dated 20th July 2021 [draft minutes presented at G.287]**

The Minutes of the above subcommittee TUSG10 dated 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were noted.

**TUSG11 Minutes of Meeting dated 16th September 2021 [draft minutes presented at G.287]**

The Minutes of the above subcommittee TUSG11 dated 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were noted.

**TUSG12 Draft Minutes of Meeting dated 7th October 2021**

The Draft Minutes of the above subcommittee TUSG12 dated 7<sup>th</sup> October were noted.

**G.288.8 Academic Council Minutes**

**Academic Council Minutes Ref 176 dated 18th June 2021**

The Academic Council Minutes Ref 176 dated 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 were noted.

**Academic Council Minutes Ref 176S dated 10th September 2021**

The Academic Council Minutes Ref 176S dated 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were noted.

**G.288.9 Code of Conduct for the Governing Body**

The Code of Conduct for the Governing Body was circulated in the meeting pack to the Governing Body for discussion at this meeting.

Mr. Hugh Nolan Vice President for Finance, Resource and Diversity (VP FRD)/ Secretary to the Governing Body explained the background of this document. This Code of Conduct for Governing Body members would support the Conflict of Interest Policy and he welcomed any queries on the code.

No queries were raised by Governing Body.

**Proposed by: Mr. Patrick Malone;**

**Seconded by: Cllr. Clifford Kelly.**

**G.288.10 Geiran Report and Shared Island Fund**

**Shared Island Fund**

Dr. Tim McCormac, Head of Research and Graduate Studies joined the meeting for this Agenda Item at 11.25 a.m. and left at 11.54 a.m.

Both the Chairman and the Head of Research and Graduate Studies gave presentations on Shared Island Fund. The Chairman stressed the focus of the fund on developing partnerships on both sides of the border. Mr. Bill Sweeney referenced some recent surveys that were carried out on cross border trade and he welcomed this strategy given it complemented the results of these surveys.

Both Aidan McKenna and Anna Shakespeare offered their assistance to the Executive on any initiatives or proposals, both suggesting a successful proposal would enhance DkIT's position as part of any TU negotiations.

Dr. Tom Dooley referenced existing work that is being carried out across the research centres and the ability to leverage relationships already in place. Mr.

Aidan McKenna queried the opportunity to increase PhD recruitment to which Dr. Tim McCormac explained the current recruitment of students under TUTF funds along with other funding streams in order to reach the TU target, considering graduations and the possibility of joint supervision of PhD students. The VP SCD noted the alignment of this fund with DkIT's strategic ambitions along with enhancing existing relationships that are in place. VP SCD also referenced a working group that has been put in place to review this and other funding streams. The President also advised work has commenced via this working group and the importance of having a structure approach and interface.

Cllr. Clifford Kelly noted from recent engagements this may be the last opportunity this funding may be available and the need to utilise same while in existence. The Chairman suggested a subgroup of Governing Body to be formed however, Aidan McKenna felt this was premature and the Governing Body should wait until the Executive working group update the Governing Body.

#### **Geiran Report**

The Geiran Report was circulated as part of the documentation for the meeting.

The Governing Body Chairman noted Sharon Tolan's apologies; therefore, she was unavailable to provide an overview this report. The President referenced discussions that have taken place with LMETB regarding an education outreach programme with the wider Drogheda region. He noted these discussions were at an early stage.

#### **G.288.9 AOB**

##### **Bereavements**

Recent bereavement noted.

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**Patrick W. Malone**  
**Chairman**

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**Date:**