

NOTES OF MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY

HELD ON MONDAY 24th JUNE 2019 AT 16.00.

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

Declarations of Interest

Agenda Item G.259.4.1 Personnel Report.

Ms. Sadie Ward McDermott declared an interest and left the meeting.

G.259.1. M.258 Minutes of the Meeting of 27th May 2019

The minutes of the Governing Body of 27th May 2019 were approved.

Proposed by: Mr. Bill Sweeney;

Seconded by: Mr. Paschal McGuire.

G.259.2 Matters Arising

G258.6 Academic Council

The Chairman referenced previous Governing Body Minutes (G258.6) where he was to seek legal advice re Academic Council meeting dated 17th May 2019 re. Agenda being a reserved function of Governing Body. The Chairman informed the Governing Body that he sought legal advice and he has no powers as Chairman of Governing Body to carry out an investigation and that the Academic Council Agenda is not a reserved function of Governing Body, it is the responsibility of the President.

Update on GAA

Ms Sadie Ward McDermott referred to previous minutes requesting an update from the Acting FAR Chairman re GAA. The Acting FAR Chairman stated that he didn't have any further update on the GAA but that numerous people were contacting the Institute. The Chairman informed Governing Body that any interest re GAA should be referred to Ms. Irene McCausland, Vice President for Strategic Planning, Communications & Development (VPSCD). The President stated at the meeting that the Institute gave permission to fill the lands and that no further arrangement was entered into.

Ms. Irene McCausland, Vice President for Strategic Planning, Communications & Development (VPSCD) joined the meeting at 16.15 to brief Governing Body on the following Agenda Items G.259.3 Correspondence, G259.6 Land and Buildings.

The VP SCD provided an update on GAA. She informed the Governing Body that she had met with representatives from the GAA. Planning permission had been given by the local authority in respect of the filling of the 3 acres of land and that the GAA representatives in this matter had been referred to the Institute's Estates Functional area. The Institute has provided no other consents to the GAA other than permission to fill the land.

A question was raised in relation to the 3 acres and if there is a requirement to sell the land or lease it. It was stated that the GAA will probably look for a long term lease if they are building a stadium. The Institute has to be protected at all times.

G.259.3 Correspondence

The correspondence listed below (1,2,3) was tabled at the meeting and the President and VPSCD stated that the following was requested in the letter to the Minister for Education and Skills "*Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) is seeking permission for the long term lease/disposal of its property assets relating to the Ice Dome and its adjoining three acres of land. The business case for the potential long term lease/disposal of surplus property within DkIT's asset portfolio has been developed in accordance with Circular 17/2016 Policy for Property Acquisition and for the Disposal of Surplus Property in conjunction with Circular 11/15 Protocols on Asset Transfer and Sharing. The Governing Body of DkIT has reviewed and approved the business case*". The VP SCD informed Governing Body that the HEA contacted her re the Business Case. She also informed Governing Body that the Ice Dome and the 3 acres of land would be placed on the State Register for the minimum of one month in the event of Ministerial approval.

1. Letter dated 13th June 2019 from Clifford Kelly, Chair, Governing Body to Joe McHugh, Minister for Education and Skills re seeking permission for the long term lease/disposal of its property assets relating to the Ice Dome and its adjoining three acres of land.
2. Letter dated 14th June 2019 from Derek Newcombe, Private Secretary, Office of the Minister for Education and Skills to Clifford Kelly, Chair, Governing Body acknowledging receipt of above letter dated 13th June 2019.
3. Letter dated 17th June 2019 from Jacintha Healy, HEA to Clifford Kelly, Chairperson, Governing Body acknowledging receipt of the above letter dated 13th June.

G.259.6 Land and Buildings (L&B)

Minutes of Meeting L&B 01 dated 9th April 2019

The minutes of the Land and Buildings, L&B 01 dated 9th April 2019 were noted.

Draft Minutes of Meeting L&B 02 dated 10th June 2019

The draft minutes of the Land and Buildings, L&B 02 dated 10th June 2019 were noted.

The VPSCD gave an update on the following:

- **Update on North & South building project**

A Project Manager has been appointed since April 2019 and the successful tenders for the Design team are to be noted at the Governing Body meeting today under the Agenda Item for Finance Audit Risk Committee (FAR) for the Refurbishment Project.

- **Centre for Community Arts, Performance and Heritage Funding Application**

The Institute submitted an application for funding of €6m for a Centre for Community Arts, Performance and Heritage within the iconic Carroll's Building (i.e. front façade, glazing, sculpture sails/reflective pool). Governing Body members enquired about the timeline and importance of the Community organisations getting access to the facilities in the event that funding is secured.

- **Proposal re Regional Development Centre**

The VPSCD outlined the future plans for an extension to the RDC and applying for funding to Enterprise Ireland's Regional Enterprise Development Fund Call in which Enterprise Ireland provide 80% of funding with match requirement of 20% for successful projects. Prior to submitting to the Regional Call, a non-profit company has to be set up in conjunction with regional partners and approval is sought from FAR and Governing Body in this regard.

The Chairman on behalf of the Governing Body thanked the VP SCD for the updates and all her efforts to-date in her role.

The VP SCD left the meeting at 16.40.

G.259.5 Presentation by Dr. Tim McCormac, Head of Research & Graduate Studies

Dr. Tim McCormac joined the meeting at 16.40 to present an update on Research to date. Due to technical difficulties, a hardcopy of the presentation was tabled at the meeting. He briefed the Governing Body on the following:

- Research and Innovation track record:
- >€68M in external research and innovation funding from national and EU sources
- 2 High Potential Start Ups launched in 2016
- >40% academic staff have level 10 qualification (PhD)
- Over 100 MSc and PhD Graduations
- Over 90 Level 9 and 10 researchers by end 2019
- HR Excellence in Research Award
- 3rd in IOT Sector for R&I Performance
- Over 3000m² in research space

- Research Income
- Peer Reviewed Research Outputs
- Level 9 and 10 Research i.e. Phase 1 DCU –DkIT Graduate School
 - Moving to Phase 2 over 2-3 years with renewal of Phase 1
 - 72 current PG with 19 new recruits approved for submission
 - Potential for another 12 this year
 - Compact Targets met (24 in 2002-2008; 25 in 2009-2012 and 51 2013-2018)
- Recent significant success. DkIT secured 2 Disruptive Technology Awards from EI from 27 funded, best performer in IOT sector
- DkIT has submitted 32 eligible applications to Horizon 2020 Calls. 3 applications were successful (1 as Coordinator), leading to a success rate of 8.8% and a drawdown of €1.55M. A further application was placed on the reserve list.
- DkIT is active in submitting applications across 8/18 areas in Horizon 2020.
- The main areas of activity are SC1-Health, ICT, MSCA and SC5-Climate/Environment
- DkIT has received one award in each of three areas - SC1-Health, ICT and MSCA. Statistically, the most successful area is MSCA, with a 25% success rate (1 out of 4 applications funded).
- Institute of Excellence
- Consolidate and concentrate our research expertise into high performing interdisciplinary research institutes of excellence
- Invest and encourage research across a range of TRL – fundamental and industry facing research
- Prioritise strategic investment (e.g. RFAM)
- Consolidate existing and seed new strategic private and public partnerships
- Institute of Connected Health and Well-Being
- National and European Developments
- Forging linkages with public and private entities
- Diversifying funding base
- Each academic school to strategically plan its growth in terms of research
- Athena Swan the Institute's submission for November 2019 is on track.
- Lined with Midlands East North Dublin Cluster (MEND) made up of DkIT, AIT, DCU and NUI Maynooth

Following the presentation there was a Q&A session. The President thanked the Head of Research & Graduate Studies for his informative presentation and credited him and all researchers on their success in an extremely competitive environment.

On behalf of Governing Body, the Chairman thanked Dr. McCormac for attending the Governing Body meeting and providing an update. He also congratulated him, his staff and researchers and it's a great credit to all for the number of Ph.Ds and the success to date.

Dr. McCormac left the meeting at 17.05

G.259.4.1 Personnel Report

HR Manager joined the meeting at 17.10 to notify Governing Body that there is an issue re the appointment of the Regional Skills Forum Manager. Ms. Sadie Ward McDemott declared an interest and left the meeting at 17.10.

The HR Manager informed Governing Body that an unsuccessful candidate for the position of Regional Skills Forum Manager wrote to the Chairman and the HR Manager disputing the appointment. Both the Chairman and HR Manager responded to the letters from the unsuccessful candidate who was unsuccessful and not panelled.

The HR Report was presented at the meeting for noting and approval.

The HR Manager left the meeting at 17.15 and Ms. Sadie Ward McDermott returned to the meeting.

G.259.7 Finance Audit & Risk Committee (FAR)

Minutes of Meeting MF 189 dated 13th May 2019

The minutes of the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, M.F. 189 dated 13th May 2019 were noted.

The Acting FAR Chairman read the successful tenders (i.e. Architect Consultancy, Mechanical & Electrical, Structural Engineering, Quantity Surveyor etc) that were approved at the FAR meeting held on Tuesday 11th June 2019 to Governing Body for noting at the meeting. The FAR Minutes will be presented at the next Governing Body meeting.

G.259.8 Seal

The Institute's seal was applied to Leasing documents for ROCO tabled at the meeting. A member of Governing Body enquired if the name of the Company was an acronym. The President's Office to check and email Governing Body members in attendance tomorrow.

G.259.9 AOB

None.

Meeting concluded at 17.25.

Cllr. Clifford Kelly
Chairman

Date: