

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting – January 11, 2017

Present: David Holohan (Chairperson), Celine Blacow, Kieron Connolly, Helen Cullinane, Annie Doona, Alice Hartigan, Neil Kavanagh, Maeve McConnon, John McDonnell, Fiona McLoughlin, Áine O’Sullivan, Joachim Pietsch, Aoife Ruane, Tom Taylor,

Apologies: Fionnuala Anderson, Marie Carroll, Cllr. Sorcha Nic Cormaic, Cllr. Barry Saul, Cllr. Barry Ward

In Attendance: Bernard Mullarkey, Elizabeth Stunell

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as circulated.

Proposed: Maeve McConnon

Seconded: Fiona McLoughlin

2. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting of December 14th 2016 (including Internal Publication)

The Minutes of the Meeting of December 14th 2016 were approved (including approval for internal publication).

Proposed: Aoife Ruane

Seconded: Fiona McLoughlin

3. Matters Arising

- **Financial Statements** – notification regarding an earlier submission date for Financial Statements to the C&AG along with changes to the format of these Financial Statements was noted. The Secretary/Financial Controller advised the Governing Body that IADT has submitted Financial Statements for the year ended 31st August 2016, according to the revised submission date and acknowledged the work of IADT’s Finance Office in meeting the new timelines and format requirements.
- **Review of the Creative Arts Provision in the Dublin Area** – the President noted that the Board of the HEA is expected to consider the report on the Creative Arts Provision in the Dublin Area prepared by Prof. Gary Granville, at its January meeting.

4. Correspondence

None.

5. Technical Approvals

5.1 Bank Accounts

None.

5.2 Property Rentals

The Governing Body approved the following Media Cube Licences:

- ThinScale Technology

Proposed: Maeve McConnon

Seconded: Helen Cullinane

5.3 HR Appointments

None.

6. Governing Body Committees and Academic Council

6.1 Minutes of the Academic Council Meeting of 7th November 2016

The Minutes of the Academic Council meeting of 7th November 2016 were noted by the Governing Body. An update regarding matters considered by the Academic Council during this period was given by the President, along with an update on work being carried out with George Brown College Canada.

7. Governing Body Resolutions

7.1 The Governing Body Appoints Members to the Audit Committee (11/2016)

The Chairman will contact a number of eligible Governing Body members in relation to discussing their nomination to the Audit Committee, and a proposal for two additional members of the Audit Committee will be presented to the next meeting of the Governing Body. Resolution 11/2016 was deferred to the next meeting of the Governing Body.

7.2 The Governing Body Approves the Campus Development Plan 2016/2017 (1/2017)

See item 10 below. Resolution 1/2017 was approved by the Governing Body.

Proposed: Chairman

Seconded: Tom Taylor

(Kieron Connolly, Áine O'Sullivan and Joachim Pietsch joined the meeting at 9.10)

8. President's Briefing

- **Award Nominees** – the President noted that a number of IADT students and graduates have been nominated for awards. The Governing Body congratulated Grace O'Sullivan, Ellen Weber, Nicki Hoyne, Eoin Dixon Murphy and Pauline Fitzgerald on their award nominations and wished them well. In addition an interview with Nicki Hoyne was featured in Stellar Magazine recently.
- **50 People To Watch** – three IADT graduates have been included in the '50 People to Watch' for 2017 – the Governing Body congratulated Patrick Leddy, Niamh Quinn and Bassam Al-Sabah on their achievement.

- **20 Under 20: Irelands Brightest and Most Inspirational Rising Stars** – the Governing Body congratulated Entrepreneurship Student Jack O’Sullivan who has been listed in the 20 under 20 Irelands Brightest and most Inspirational Rising Stars, published last December.
- **Eamon Doyle** – a press feature on Photography graduate Eamon Doyle in the Irish Times during December was noted by the Governing Body.
- **Dr Grainne Kirwan** – the President congratulated Dr Grainne Kirwan on her involvement in a successful collaborative funding submission to the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council – the submission was in the area of Cyber Security.
- **Open Day** – IADT will host an Open Day Saturday January 14th next between 11.00 am and 2.00 pm.
- **The Fairy Queen** – the President attended the opening night of this year’s Opera Collaboration between students from IADT’s Design for Stage and Screen and students from the Royal Irish Academy of Music. This is the 6th opera collaboration and the President congratulated all involved in the event. The opera will run over a number of dates this week.
- **Camilla Hanney Exhibition** – an exhibition by IADT graduate Camilla Hanney will take place at the A4 Sounds Gallery from January 12th to 21st.
- **Sectoral Appointments** – the President noted that Dr Graham Love has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), while Dr Joseph Ryan has been appointed as Chief Executive of the Technological Higher Education Association (THEA).
- **National Design Strategy** – the President is one of a number of contributors to the development of the National Design Strategy which it is hoped will be launched by the Design and Crafts Council of Ireland and Minister Mary Mitchel O’Connor TD, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation at IADT in the coming weeks.
- **Journalists** – the President and IADT’s Marketing Manager Ruth Barry intend to meet with a number of key journalists over the coming weeks in relation to giving them an in-depth briefing on IADT’s programmes and areas of staff expertise.
- **Retention Rates** – the President noted recent press coverage regarding poor retention rates within a number of third-level programmes. The President assured the Governing Body that IADT’s retention rates are very positive with Level 8 programme retention averaging at 87% and Level 7 programmes having a retention rate average of 84% in 2015/2016. It was noted that retention rates are closely monitored by IADT and a number of issues beyond the control of the Institute have an impact on retention including student mental health difficulties and financial difficulties being experienced by students. Where possible IADT provides supports for these students. In addition low Leaving Certificate points achieved by students may or may not be an issue. The President also noted that a number of students experience great difficulty in adjusting to study at third-level and would benefit significantly from study within the Further Education Sector or through work-placement prior to attending third-level. It was agreed that a presentation regarding retention and persistence rates would be provided for the Governing Body and will be scheduled within the coming months.

9. **IADT: Financial Update**

Circulation of the Management Report for November 2016 along with the Explanatory note from the Secretary/Financial Controller was noted. IADT will return a balanced budget for 2016.

It was also noted that notification of additional funding of €260K was received from the HEA in late December – this was welcomed by the Governing Body.

(Neil Kavanagh joined the meeting at 9.30)

10. Capital Call for Campus Developments

(Also see item 7.2). Grace Weldon – Estates and Facilities Manager – was in attendance for this item. It was noted that the HEA issued a call for submissions in relation to Capital Buildings and Refurbishments in November 2016 with a submission date of mid-January – this submission date has now been extended to the end of January. The Secretary / Financial Controller and Estates and Facilities Manager have met with the Heads of Faculty in order to map out IADT's future teaching accommodation needs ahead of the submission – the President thanked all involved and acknowledged the very significant amount of work that this has required from all at very short notice. In addition the budget to fund submissions as outlined by the HEA was noted to the Governing Body. A presentation on the updated Campus development Scheme was given by the Secretary/Financial Controller. During the presentation, the following points were noted:

- Staff-Student Ratios and Academic Staff-Administrative Staff ratios were noted – a query was raised regarding how IADT's ratios compare to the ratios in other Institutes of Technology
- Car Parking – it was noted that the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has indicated that no further permission will be granted in relation to additional car parking space on campus as it would not be consistent with sustainability initiatives. Difficulties in relation to the number of available parking spaces on campus were acknowledged and it was noted that IADT promotes a number of initiatives including the Cycle to Work and Travel Saver Schemes in an effort to alleviate pressure on car parking. Reliability issues in relation to some bus routes to the Institute were also noted but are beyond IADT's control. It was also noted that IADT facilitated the installation of a Quality Bus Corridor on Kill Avenue by allowing a portion of the campus lands to be used for this purpose.
- It was outlined that proposals for a number of new buildings will be for taller buildings with a greater number of storeys which occupy a smaller physical footprint however, a goal to keep buildings near to residential properties at a 2-storey level was noted.
- New regulations require new Public Sector buildings to be carbon neutral.
- Figures for growth in student numbers included within the Scheme have been projected by the Heads of Faculty and it was stressed that these growth projections are contingent on the provision of additional buildings and staff resources. It was further noted that IADT's 2003 Campus Plan including the existing building stock, was developed to support 1,500 undergraduate students.
- A number of the buildings being submitted as part of the updated Campus Development Scheme were designed and had been granted planning permission prior to the cancellation of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Process. Planning permission for these buildings will need to be renewed, however it is not anticipated that there will be issues with this process. Regular meetings are held with the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Planning Department to update them regarding IADT's Campus Development Plans – the need to maintain a current and up-to-date 'Development Plan' for the campus was noted.

- It was noted that there is an urgent need to undertake refurbishment works to the Quadrangle Building as much of the accommodation within the building is well below standard. However it will not be possible to undertake this without funding and the availability of a building into which students can be moved whilst refurbishment works are taking place.

11. Statements of Interest

Circulation of Disclosure of Interest forms was noted by the Governing Body. The Secretary/Financial Controller reminded members of the Governing Body that they are legally required to complete and return Disclosure of Interest forms to the Standards in Public Office (with a copy sent to IADT) by January 31st each year. Members of the Governing Body were advised that if they wish to complete and return their forms directly to IADT, the forms will be copied by IADT and returned on behalf of the Governing Body directly to the Standards in Public Office.

The next meeting of the Governing Body will take place on 1st February 2017.

Signed: _____

David Holohan
Chairperson

Date: _____