

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting – January 9, 2019

Present: David Holohan (Chairperson), Dr Fionnuala Anderson, Marie Carroll, Dr Annie Doona, Anthony Dunne, Maeve McConnon, John McDonnell, Fiona McLoughlin, Áine O’Sullivan, Joachim Pietsch, Jim Pipe, Chloe Power, Cllr Barry Saul

Apologies: Celine Blacow, Kieron Connolly, Cllr Sorcha Nic Cormaic, Aoife Ruane, Tom Taylor, Cllr Barry Ward

In Attendance: Bernard Mullarkey, Elizabeth Stunell

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as circulated.

Proposed: Chairperson

Seconded: Dr Fionnuala Anderson

2. Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting of December 12th 2018 (including Internal Publication)

The Minutes of the Meeting of December 12th 2018 were approved (including approval for internal publication).

Proposed: Anthony Dunne

Seconded: Maeve McConnon

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Correspondence

- **Disclosure of Interest Forms 2019** – correspondence received from the Standards in Public Office regarding Disclosure of Interest returns for 2019 was noted. Members of the Governing Body were reminded of their obligation to return their Declaration of Interest Forms to the Standards in Public Office no later than January 31st next. A copy of the form must also be provided to IADT. The Secretary/Financial Controller noted that if forms are returned to IADT, a copy will be taken and the original form returned to the Standards in Public Office in line with the deadline.

5. Technical Approvals

5.1 Bank Accounts

None.

5.2 Property Rentals

The Governing Body approved the following Media Cube Licences:

- Venture Capital Investment Management t/a Enterprise Equity

Proposed: Chairperson

Seconded: John McDonnell

5.3 HR Appointments

Completed Interview Board Recommendations

Permission is sought from Governing Body for the President, subject to the satisfactory completion of the verification processes, to offer appointments on foot of competitions, which were advertised in October 2018. The closing date for these competitions was Friday 16th November 2018 and interviews took place on 14th December 2018.

27/18 Acting Access Officer, Maternity Leave Cover

Proposed: Anthony Dunne

Seconded: Dr Fionnuala Anderson

6. Governing Body Committees and Academic Council

6.1 Minutes of the Academic Council Meeting of 5th November 2018

The Minutes of the Academic Council meeting of 5th November 2018 were noted by the Governing Body. An update regarding matters considered by the Academic Council during this period was given by the President. The President noted that a working group has been established to consider whether Semesterisation should be introduced for IADT's courses. An update on the outcome of discussions will be given to the Governing Body at a future meeting.

6.2 Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee Meeting of 27th September 2018

Circulation of the Audit & Risk Committee Minutes of 27th September 2018 were noted by the Governing Body. An update regarding matters considered by the Audit and Risk Committee during this time was given by a member of the Committee. The need to appoint an external independent member to the Audit and Risk Committee has been discussed – the Secretary/Financial Controller is in the process of contacting a potential external member to serve on the Committee.

7. Governing Body Resolutions

None.

8. President's Report

8.1 President's Briefing

Circulation of a briefing by the President was noted by the Governing Body – a number of key events and achievements from the briefing were highlighted:

- **Education Awards** – IADT has been shortlisted in the 'International College Achievement Award' category at the upcoming Education Awards 2019, for work undertaken by staff from IADT working with George Brown College, Canada. The winners of the Education Awards will be announced on February 21st next.

- **International Mobility Funding** – IADT has been awarded €21K through the International Mobility Fund to continue work with Sheridan College, Canada, towards an MA in Animation.
- **Oscars 2019** – the 'longlist' nominations for the Academy Awards (Oscars) categories have been announced and includes two works by IADT Graduates. Animation graduate Louise Bagnall's film 'Late Afternoon' has been longlisted for an Oscar in the Animation category. Also longlisted in the 'Live Action' category is 'Detainment' directed by IADT graduate Vincent Lambe.
- **Golden Globe Awards** – the President noted that the cinematographer for the Golden Globe winning film 'The Favourite' is IADT graduate Robbie Ryan – the Governing Body congratulated Robbie on his success.
- **Sundance Film Festival** – two National Film School graduates will premiere their film at the Sundance Film Festival 2019. The documentary GAZA, is co-directed by graduate Garry Keane and edited by graduate Mick Mahon.
- **Irish Times 50 to Watch** – Mauritian-born sculptor and IADT postgraduate student Anishta Chooramun, has been included in the Irish Times Culture list of '50 People to Watch' in 2019.
- **Photographer Mark Duffy** – congratulations to IADT graduate Mark Duffy whose photograph from the House of Commons where Mark works as official photographer, was included on the front page of two national newspapers during December – the Times and the Telegraph.
- **Open Day** – IADT's next Open Day for prospective applicants will take place on January 19th next from 10 am to 1.00 pm, and will include both general course-related talks, and focused talks including a talk for parents. The President also acknowledged the increasing role academic staff are taking in supporting Open Days and IADT's Schools Liaison programme, and noted the importance of this for student recruitment. The work of IADT's Student Ambassadors was also commended by the President.
- **Technological Universities** – Ireland's first Technological University – TU Dublin – came into existence on January 1st 2019. The President noted that Prof. David Fitzpatrick has been appointed as the first President of TU Dublin, and has written to Prof. Fitzpatrick congratulating him on his appointment. The President will meet with Prof. Fitzpatrick in February.
- **THEA** – the President has been nominated as Chair of the THEA Board for 2019.
- **Staff Continuous Professional Development** – concern was expressed regarding the significant amount of funds which remain unspent within IADT's Staff Development budget. In this context, it was also suggested that some staff members may not have received funding to attend conferences or adequate financial support to complete PhDs. It was further suggested that formal guidelines regarding the levels of funding that would be available to staff undertaking various courses such as PhDs or support for staff delivering papers at conferences, may need to be put in place. The President agreed to raise this issue at the next meeting of the Executive.

Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Following recent staff and student consultation sessions, the closing date for feedback on IADT's draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023 is 19th January 2019. The new Strategic Plan will be launched on February 27th next, by Minister of State at the Department of Education and Skills Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD. The President noted that during consultation sessions, staff views were mixed with a number of staff being concerned regarding IADT's future should IADT remain outside of the Technological University sector. However other staff views have been received that

IADT's autonomy is of key importance. Feedback received from the majority of students who have made their views known, is that IADT's uniqueness and autonomy is of primary importance to them. A further number of students had no strong opinions either way. The views of some staff were also represented by the staff members of the Governing Body. The President noted that IADT's draft Strategic Plan has been updated to include a clear statement that whilst IADT will remain as an autonomous Institute of Technology for the duration of the next Strategic Plan, IADT remains open to consideration of all options, opportunities and partnerships which are in the best interest of IADT, and will not close any 'door' that is advantageous to the Institute. This approach was endorsed by the Governing Body.

The need to more strongly market the unique selling points for IADT was highlighted – these include the smaller class sizes and employability of graduates. In addition misunderstandings among parents regarding the equity of IADT's degrees with those of the 'university sector' has been identified and needs to be addressed in future promotion of IADT's courses.

(Jim Pipe joined the meeting at 8.55)

(Cllr Barry Saul left the meeting at 9.05)

(Chloe Power joined the meeting at 9.05)

Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund

The President noted that the HEA has issued details of a Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund of €80m (with a project maximum €25m), and has sought expressions of interest for projects to be funded through this initiative. A match-funding 50% requirement is also stipulated for projects funded through the Higher Education Strategic Infrastructure Fund. A potential project has been identified and an update regarding this was given by the President. If successful, the project would establish a campus base for IADT within the Dun Laoghaire town. The Governing Body will be briefed regarding developments on this.

8.2 IADT: Financial Update

Circulation of the Management Report for November 2018 along with the supporting briefing from the Secretary/Financial Controller was noted by the Governing Body. A briefing regarding a number of key figures within the report was also given by the Secretary/Financial Controller. Work to finalise the outturn for 2018 is nearing completion and it is expected that IADT will return a balanced budget for 2018.

The Secretary/Financial Controller also noted receipt of the Sectoral Financial Trends Analysis from the HEA, and gave a summary presentation on the data to the Governing Body. The Secretary/Financial Controller outlined the positive and negative impacts that changes in student numbers have on budget allocation, and outlined the importance of continuing to grow student numbers where possible. Limitations on student numbers growth due to both infrastructure and ECF allocation were however acknowledged. Once the new Digital Media Building has been completed, the opportunity will again exist for IADT to significantly grow student numbers.

(Áine O'Sullivan left the meeting at 9.20)

8.3 Athena SWAN Update

Niamh Clifford will move into her post as Athena SWAN Coordinator on January 15th and will focus on preparation of IADT's Athena SWAN accreditation application. It is intended to meet the April deadline for submission.

8.4 Postgraduate Programmatic Review – Panel Reports and Faculty Responses

Programmatic Review of IADT's postgraduate courses took place in June 2018. Following the two-day site visit by the Programmatic Review Panel, a Panel Report was produced to which the Faculty of Film, Art and Creative Technologies and the Faculty of Enterprise and Humanities have compiled responses to recommendations in the Reports. Circulation of the Panel Reports and Faculty Responses was noted by the Governing Body. Work is underway to implement these recommendations into courses. An increasing focus on blended and online delivery was noted within the Panel Reports, and Faculties have been requested to identify one module from each course that would be suitable for delivery through blended / online learning, and to implement this mode of delivery for that module. It was noted that some training will be needed to support staff in working through online / blended modes of delivery. Preparations are now underway for Programmatic Review of IADT's undergraduate courses.

The next meeting of the Governing Body will take place on February 6th 2019.

Signed: _____
David Holohan
Chairperson

Date: _____