

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting – 4 May 2022

- Present:** David Holohan* (Chairperson), David Smith (President), Cllr. Kazi Ahmed*, Dr Fionnuala Anderson*, Turlough Conway*, Dr Cormac Deane*, Cllr. Anne Ferris*, Sinéad Gorby, Eoin Hicks Smyth, Maeve McConnon*, Eva Perez, Rachel Sarsfield Ryan
- Apologies:** Ben Harper, Caitriona Murphy, Cllr. Una Power,
- Absent without Apology:** Cllr. Dr Michael Clark, Cllr Peter O'Brien, Punitha Sinnapan
- In Attendance:** Bernard Mullarkey, Elizabeth Stunell

*Attendance via MS Teams

This meeting took place in the Boardroom, Roisin Hogan House, with remote attendance facilitated using the MS Teams Platform – IADT Governing Body Group. Attendance for the meeting was monitored throughout the meeting by the Secretary to the Governing Body and the Recording Secretary to the Governing Body. The meeting commenced at 12 noon, and concluded at 12.45 pm.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as circulated.

Proposed: Chairperson
Seconded: Cllr Anne Ferris

2. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were reported regarding items for discussion on the agenda for this meeting.

3. Adoption of Minutes of the Meeting of 6th April 2022 (including for Publication)

The Minutes of the Meeting of 6th April 2022 were approved (including approval for publication), following a clarification regarding the minutes of the Governing Body meeting of 2nd March.

Proposed: Chairperson
Seconded: Dr Fionnuala Anderson

4. Matters Arising

- **Financial Statements to the Year Ended 31st August 2021** – following their approval by the Governing Body, the Financial Statements to the Year Ended 31st August 2021 have been submitted to be laid before the houses of the Oireachtas.

- **Capital Calls** – IADT’s submissions to both the TSSPF and HESIF II Calls have now been made and the submissions have been made available to the Governing Body.
- **President’s Expenses Verification** – it was confirmed that the Chairperson of the Audit and Risk Committee was on campus on 21st April last, and reviewed and approved expenses claimed by the President.

5. **Correspondence**

No correspondence.

6. **Technical Approvals**

6.1 **Bank Accounts**

No changes to IADT’s Bank Accounts.

6.2 **Property Rentals**

No rentals for approval.

6.3 **HR Appointments**

A meeting of the Recruitment and Selection Committee of Governing Body took place on 6th April 2022 at which a number of appointments were approved. A briefing note from this meeting will be discussed as part of Item 7.2.

7. **Governing Body Committees and Academic Council**

7.1 **Academic Council – Minutes of the Meeting of 7th March 2022**

Circulation of the Minutes of the Academic Council meeting of 7th March 2022 were noted by the Governing Body. An overview of matters discussed by Academic Council was given by the President. Implementation of the Honorary Professor Policy was deferred by Academic Council pending the publication of recommendations from the OECD Review of Lecturing Contracts. Current indications are that the Department of FHERIS is awaiting approval on the costs associated with implementing the OECD recommendations from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. An update was provided on the re-establishment of the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning under the auspices of the HEA, with the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning being noted as an important resource for the sector. Academic Council discussed the situation regarding displaced students from Ukraine and also received an update on the funding application under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan and IADT’s TSSPF/HESIF II capital submissions.

7.2 **Recruitment and Selection Committee – Minutes of the Meeting of 15th February 2022, and Summary Report of the Meeting of 6th April 2022**

Circulation of the Minutes of the Recruitment and Selection Committee meeting of 15th February 2022, and Summary Report from the Meeting of 6th April 2022 were noted by the Governing Body. It was noted that the revised processes for Recruitment and Selection are functioning well.

8. **Governing Body Resolutions**

8.1 **The Governing Body Approves the IADT Programmes and Budgets 2022 (7/2022)**

Item 8.1 was taken in conjunction with Item 9.4. Circulation of IADT’s Programmes and Budgets Document was noted by the Governing Body. The Secretary/Financial Controller gave an overview of the document. It was noted that the Programmes and Budgets Return is a formulaic template issued by the HEA for HEIs to complete and submit to the HEA

annually. A budget proposal to allow for a planned overspend of €257K, was submitted to and approved by the Audit and Risk Committee of Governing Body. For 2021, a planned overspend of €221k had been approved by the Governing Body, with the outturn being an overspend of €72k. Funds held in reserves and 'Restricted Reserves' were noted. Funds held within the Restricted Reserves are allocated to major capital expenditures for example fit-out costs for the new Digital Media Building. It was clarified that IADT's Budget year runs from January to December annually, however the Financial Year operates on a September to August basis. Resolution 7/2022 was adopted by the Governing Body.

Proposed: Rachel Sarsfield Ryan
Seconded: Cllr Anne Ferris

9. President's Briefing

9.1 National Strategic Update

Circulation of the President's Briefing to Governing Body was noted and a number of key points from the Briefing were highlighted by the President.

- **Future Funding for Higher Education** – Minister Simon Harris TD, Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science has announced an additional allocation of €307m over the next 3-5 years, to address a historic funding shortfall within the Higher Education Sector. Critically the additional funding has been approved by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. Further details regarding the additional funding are expected, however priorities identified have been to improve the student experience and supports, furthering excellence in teaching and learning, access and pathways to HE/FE. The announcement has been broadly welcomed by the sector.
- **Capital Projects Submissions** – IADT has submitted proposals to both the TSSPF and HESIF II capital calls. Projects awarded funding through the HESIF II call will be funded 50% by government and will require the remaining 50% funding to be provided by the Institute. The value of IADT's project submitted is €25m with a match-funding requirement of €12.5m. If IADT is successful in being awarded this project, it will be necessary to apply to borrow this from the European Investment Bank. It is unclear as to when the outcome of the submissions will be announced. Copies of both submissions are available on a confidential basis to members of the Governing Body. The President noted the extensive work involved in preparing the submissions to the two capital calls and put on record his appreciation to the Secretary/Financial Controller, Estates and Facilities Manager and all contributors involved in preparing the submissions.
- **National Recovery and Resilience Plan Fund** – as requested by the HEA, further development of the sectoral proposal to the National Recovery and Resilience Plan Fund was carried out and submitted to the HEA for onward submission for EU Funding. The revised submission placed a greater focus on the advances in Teaching and Learning that were gained during the COVID pandemic. This submission along with future funding submissions, will need to include an outline of how the funding will support and address key priorities such as gender equality, climate change and sustainability and demonstrate a commitment to 'do no significant harm'. IADT's EDI Manager Claire McGing made a significant contribution to the EDI aspects of the updated submission. The Sector has been notified that the submission has been successful, with c. €37.4m having been awarded (including c. €2.6m allocated to auditing of the expenditure). This element of the National Recovery and Resilience Fund was specifically allocated to the Technological Sector – IoTs and TU's as a sector rather than for individual institutions.
- **Ukraine** – a triage system is being put in place to assess applications received from Ukrainian students to Irish HEIs. In many cases, English Language competency will be an

issue for students wishing to enrol on programmes offered within Irish HEIs. At present the numbers of applications being received are low, but this may increase towards the beginning of the new academic year.

- **Student Recruitment** – the recent Open Day targeting undergraduate applicants was noted as a success. Further open days and information sessions will take place over the coming months targeting both CAO “Change of Mind” applicants, and postgraduate programmes.
- **QQI and CINTE Review** – the first item of documentation – *IADT’s Institutional Profile* – required in preparation for the CINTE Review, has been submitted to the HEA. IADT’s Annual Dialogue meeting with the QQI will take place on 16th May.
- **Athena SWAN** – the draft Athena SWAN submission is being finalised at present and will be reviewed by the President in the coming week. It is intended to submit the application for Athena SWAN Bronze accreditation by the end of this Academic year.
- **OnShow Graduate Exhibition** – the annual OnShow Graduate Exhibition of work from graduating students will be formally opened on 9th June. The exhibition will be hosted both on-campus, and online.
- **IRC Laureate** – IADT’s two shortlisted IRC Laureates have progressed to the interview stage. This was noted as a significant achievement for the two staff and for IADT.
- **George Moore Scholarship** – two of IADT’s students have been awarded the very prestigious George Moore Scholarships. Dayna Brislane, a Final Year Vis Comms student will study in Parsons in New York, while Applied Psychology Student Clodagh McCarthy will be studying at Loughborough University.

9.2 Strategy Implementation

- **Strategic Plan Implementation** – the next formal update on progress in implementing IADT’s Strategic Plan will take place in May. In addition, the latest series of Management Team Quarterly Reports covering the period Q1 2022 are being collated at present and will be reviewed by the Executive in May.
- **TU/TF Project** – the President met with the HEA Board on 26th April to present the findings of research carried out as part of IADT’s TU/TF-funded Project. As yet no feedback has been received from the HEA. Recent positive remarks made by Minister Simon Harris TD Minister for FHERIS, relating to the approaches being taken by IADT and DKIT in support of identifying the best future standing for their institution, were welcomed by the President.
- **HEA Compact SER** – IADT’s Self Evaluation Report on progress in achieving actions agreed with the HEA as part of the Compact, was submitted on 11th April as per schedule.
- **Campus Upgrades** – installation of the canopies in the Quadrangle Courtyard has now been completed. An update on progress of ongoing campus upgrades, was provided to the Governing Body in advance of the meeting.
- **Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Spatial and Economic Study** – due to the number of external and significant submissions and reports due over the past month, the President has not had the opportunity to progress work with DLRCOCO on re-establishing a base for the Institute within the Dún Laoghaire town. However the President intends to progress discussions with DLRCOCO in the coming weeks. A draft proposal for an MoU has been provided to DLRCOCO for consideration and further discussion.

9.3 Risk Management

- **COVID Steering Group** – the COVID-19 Steering Group has been retained until the end of the current academic year.

9.4 IADT: Financial Update

This Item was taken ahead of Item 8.2. Circulation of the Variance Report and Financial Overview to the end of March 2022 was noted. The Variance and Management Reports circulated are based on the projection for an overspend of €257K in the current budget year. Many areas are currently showing a positive variance, and work is underway to grow income over the summer from rentals etc.

10. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Implications

- Future European funding submissions will require an increased focus and outline of how the funding will support and address key priorities such as gender equality, climate change and sustainability and demonstrate a commitment to 'do no significant harm'
- The ongoing crisis within the Ukraine was noted, as were processes being put in place to support displaced students from Ukraine in applying for places within Irish HEIs
- English Language competency is likely to be an issue for students from Ukraine seeking to enrol within Irish HEIs
- The additional funding being provided by Government to support Higher Education, will focus on improving the student experience and supports, furthering excellence in teaching and learning, and access and pathways to HE/FE
- IADT's Athena SWAN Bronze Accreditation application is nearing completion and will be submitted in late May
- Hybrid meetings of the Governing Body will be retained, which it is hoped will provide greater support for members wishing to attend meetings.

The Chairperson noted the success of the first hybrid meeting of the Governing Body and an intention to retain hybrid meetings into the future. In addition and having noted issues regarding start times of meetings raised by some members of the Governing Body, it was agreed that the 12 noon start time will be retained for the next meeting. The next meeting of the Governing Body will take place on 15th June 2022.

Signed: _____
David Holohan

Date: _____