

**Technological University Dublin
Governing Body Meeting 70
Wednesday, 25 March 2026 (09.30am) CQ-414f**

Attendance: Gerard Howlin (Chair), Dr. Deirdre Lillis, William, Johnston, Eamonn Russell, Catherine Clune Mulvaney, Dr. Eamon Maher, Ray English, Dr. Jennifer Cowman, Liam Sharkey, Naomi Sebastine, Derek Moran, Siobhan Maher, Leslie Shoemaker

Apologies: Eoin O'Shea, Sally Anne Sherry, Michael Gately , Princewill Aguele.

University Secretariat: Dr. Pamela Kelly, Raymond Coyne

Invited: Stephen Harton, Tom Fee, Dominic Dillane. Dympna O' Sullivan, Paul Maguire, Ian Glendon.

Confidential

	Item	Decision
Section A - Standard Items		
	<u>Welcome and Introduction</u> The Chair welcomed members of the Governing Body to the meeting The Agenda was agreed and there were no conflicts of interest noted. MINUTES/REPORTS OF PREVIOUS MEETING GB Meeting 18.02.2026 Special GB Meeting 27.02.2026	Approved Approved Approved

Confidential

Risk Items

i. University Risk Register

Noted

ii. Top 5 Institutional Risks

Approved

The CRAO reviewed the Top 5 Institutional Risks. R70-01 s.300(b)

iii. Horizon Risks

Noted

iv. Risk Appetite Statement

Approved

Members discussed the Risk Appetite Statement in regard to the Top 5 Risks citing Erasmus and SRMS as issues which should be explicitly included in the documents.

v. Risk Improvement Roadmap

Noted

vi. Report on RMC Meetings

Noted

Items for Approval

i. IP Spin Out

Approved

Paul Maguire joined the meeting requesting approval for the setup of a new Spin Out company, software. The President commented that IP Spin Outs should not require Governing Body approval as they are a routine process within Research.

Approved

ii. Operational Plan & Budget

The CFO reviewed the OPB in light of the compared to anticipated projections. Members discussed viable cost containment measures and the Recovery Plan.

iii. Section 20 Letter

Approved

The Committee discussed the Section 20 Letter which the University is obliged to submit to the HEA due to the operating deficit.

iv. QCI Annual Quality Report

Noted

The Report was noted. There was a discussion regarding Academic Council and delegated functions.

v. Travel & Subsistence Policy

The policy was approved. It was noted as a key deliverable of the Financial Recovery Plan.

Approved

vi. Hospitality & Entertainment Policy

The policy was approved.

Approved

vii. Procurement Policy

The Procurement Policy and Corporate Procurement plan were both approved. Members raised issues that they and their colleagues had experienced in regard to Public Procurement guidelines and value for money. A member noted that expenditure thresholds are difficult to contend with when spending small amounts, resulting in a 3-quote process for spends in the low hundreds.

Approved

viii. Corporate Procurement Plan**ix. Multi Supplier Framework Agreement for Public Works Contracts for Minor Building and Civil Engineering Works in TU Dublin**

The CFO presented the Framework Agreement which was approved.

Approved

Approved

x. Creative Services Contract

Members discussed value for money, the incumbent supplier and cost containment. The Board decided to approve the contract and release 10% of the [REDACTED] budget, requesting that [REDACTED] return to FPC and GB with a budget plan for the remaining funds for approval.

Approved

xi. Request for Authorisation to continue participation in IReL (Irish Research eLibrary) services and related ScienceDirect subscription.

Members agreed with the recommendation from FPC. The IReL subscription was approved for 1 Year. The ScienceDirect subscription was approved for 3 years. The President and CFO will include the ongoing cost of the IReL subscription in the Section 20 letter – advising that TU Dublin is the only HEI which covers this cost itself.

Approved

Approved

xii. Website Communication and Content Management Policy

The CRO briefed the Board on the Policy which was approved.

xiii. Independent Verifier Report

The CRO presented the Report. Progress has been made on key deliverables and recommendations such as the HEA return submission and recruitment of key executive roles such as the COO and Finance Business Partners.

Approved

xiv. Revisions to Graduate Research Regulations

Approved

Matters Arising

i. Erasmus+ Audit Update

VP for R&I Dympna O' Sullivan joined the meeting to update the Board regarding the Erasmus+ audit. There are currently 216 mobilities which the HEA have requested banking records on. Members discussed the management response, reputational impacts and governance shortcomings. The VP advised she has established a working group which meets bi-weekly to work towards resolving the issues found in the audit with short- and long-term goals set up to 9 months from now.

Noted

ii. Options for Financial Stability

The President reviewed strategies to amplify cost containment. Members discussed recruitment, resourcing, and campus and contract management.

Noted

iii. SRMS Update incl. Financials

The CRO advised the HEA return on student numbers was submitted this week. Exam results for 13k had been released. Data remediation work is ongoing, aiming for a system update in June to allow standard progression of students from year to year. Guidance from the vendor is ongoing on data remediation – [REDACTED] for June exams is in place to avoid any issues with results. [REDACTED]

Noted

iv. Trust Ed International Education Mark

Members noted the positive assurance this provides for the University to prospective students.

Noted

v. EESP Update

The President provided a verbal update to the Committee on the EESP, with reports to come to a future meeting.

Noted

vi. Academic Council Review Update

Members discussed future communication strategies for outcomes from this Review Group and advised re: initial progress.

Noted

vii. Correspondence Relevant to Governing Body**a. Protected Disclosures Letter**

Noted

b. The Currency FOI request – GDA & TU Dublin responses

Noted

c. Alan Wall on RGAM funding for 2026 calendar year

Noted

Finance Items**i. Subsidiaries Update**

Noted

ii. Monthly Cash & Bank Report

Noted

iii. Prompt Payment Report

Noted

iv. Procurement Compliance Report

Noted

At this point in the meeting with the remaining items for noting, the Chair asked whether Members had any points of discussion or queries regarding the remaining items. There were none. As such, the remaining items were taken as noted by the Board.

Sustainable Infrastructure**i. West Quad Update**

Noted

ii. Academic Hub Update

Noted

iii. Student Accommodation Update

Noted

iv. Capital Derogations Update

Noted

	Item	Decision
	<u>Executive Reports</u>	
	i. Safety, Health & Welfare Update	Noted
	ii. University Seal Report	Noted
	iii. Capital Update	Noted
	<u>Council & Committee Minutes & Reports</u>	Noted
	<u>Any Other Business</u>	
	Reserve Matters Delegated Authority	Noted
	Signed: Gerard Howlin	
	Chair Gerard Howlin	
	Date: 13-05-2026	