

MINUTES

Meeting: TUSEI Leadership Group
Date: 7th December 2020
Chairperson: Tom Boland
Attendees: Mary Hartley (host), Annette Byrne, Brian Foley, David Denieffe, David Dowling, Cormac O’Toole, David Ryan, Declan Doyle, Derek O’Byrne, Elaine Sheridan, Ellen Hazelkorn, Eimear Radley, Francis Hardiman, Helen Murphy, , Joe Collins, John Fortune, John Wells, Karen Hennessy Mark White, Maebh Maher, Maresa Fitzhenry, Marie Esmonde, Orla Foley, Peter McLoughlin, Rita Dalton, Samantha O’Connor, Suzanne Denieffe, Thomas Drury

Focused Discussion Attendees: Donal McNally, John Windle, Lizzy Kent, Martin Smith, Valentena Mickeala

Apologies: Richard Hayes, Yvonne Hoare

No.	Item
1.	Agenda Minutes of meeting of 30 th November – any matters arising. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update from Project Office.• Workstream Progress Report: Corporate Services; Student Lifecycle/Student Services; Academic/T&L; Communications• Focused discussion on Sports, Clubs and Societies• AOB
2.	Minutes of meeting of 30th November 2020 There were no matters arising.
3.	Project Office Updates The Chairperson provided the meeting with the following updates from the Project Office: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report to Minister: Report submitted. Positive feedback received.• Steering Group: Meeting to be held before Christmas to include WS Leads and PO.• Town Hall Meetings: Briefings for staff and students by the presidents jointly to be provided before the Christmas break. In January a further briefing will be provided, including input from the WS leads.• Preparatory Panel: A fifth member has been invited for week of the 8th March to address primarily internationalisation issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TU Application Document: It has been agreed with the presidents to circulate the TU application document to WG chairs• Engagement Advisory Group: Terms of Reference being finalised with a first meeting in Jan.• Project Office: A guidance paper on expectations regarding outcomes from WGs will be distributed by PO• Template of Resource Requests: Draft template to be issued this week by the PO & FO.
4	Workstream Progress Reports The following WS briefed the meeting on progress against their project plans -Corporate Services, Communications, Academic T&L and Student Lifecycle/Student Services.
5	Focused Discussion on Sports, Clubs and Societies Sports, clubs and societies played important roles in a variety of areas - development of the whole person, including graduate attributes; creating a sense of belonging which in turn supported retention; fostered interest and loyalty from alumni and presented an important element in promoting the TU to prospective students. These areas can be distinguishing characteristics of TUSEI, given that the facilities in each of the institutions currently are of very high quality – combined they offer even better opportunities in terms of quality and range of services for students. Areas for further exploration include the options for sport and health related undergraduate programmes and research; greater engagement with civic and societal groups like sports partnerships, schools, NGB’s and community groups across the southeast as an element of regional engagement. Topics also raised in the discussion included increasing inclusivity and participation, student and staff wellness centers, enhanced pastoral opportunity and a society scholarship programme as well as issues relating to resources, in particular a funded societies office. The discussion recognized both the challenges and opportunities presented in sport in particular where each institute had competitive teams. On the one hand a combined team effort offered choice of talent from a wider pool but that in itself would be limiting in terms of the number of participants and create potential conflicts of loyalty at campus level. These and related issues will be explored in the course of the work of the relevant WS,
6.	AOB No other business
7.	Next Meeting Monday 14 th December, 2020, 11:00 am (by Zoom)