



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Trinity Retirement Association

Cumann Lucht Scoir na Tríonóide

Website: www.tcdretired.ie

Email: info@tcdretired.ie

Annual General Meeting - 28th April 2016 Minutes

The second Annual General Meeting of the Trinity Retirement Association was held at 12 noon on Thursday 28th April 2016 in the Botany Lecture Theatre, College.

Present: Mike Jones (Chair), Robin Adams, Monica Alcock, Valerie Ashe, Ann Battersby, Margot Bosonnet, Paul Bosonnet, Peter Boyle, Maire Brinkley, Gilbert Carr, Joe Carroll (committee member), Breege Connolly, Maureen D'Arcy, Gay Duffy (Treasurer), Jean Finch, Jean Freeman, Daphne Gill, Alice Hughes, Tim Jackson, Vivien Jenkins (Secretary), David John, Lena John, Desmond Kelly, John Kelly, Des Kelly, Mona Kelly, Norah Kelso (committee member), Eileen Kennedy, William Kennedy, Sean Lally, Marna Law, Susan Leonard, Mary McCarthy, Barbara McDonald, Marianne McGiffin, Sheila Maher, Marcella Maughan, Jennifer Maxwell, Elizabeth Morgan, Jennifer Murdock, Tommy Murtagh (committee member), Bridget Noone, Mary O'Donnell, Fran O'Donovan, Gaye O'Hara, James O'Keeffe, Rita O'Mahony, Kay O'Neill, Pdraig O Riagain, Trevor Peare, Lesley Penney, Thelma Pope, Anna Reilly, Roisin Ryan, Victor Scales, Tess Scanlon, Marie de Montfort Supple, Mary Sweeney, Clive Symmons, Tom Turpin, Pat Wall, Rose Whelan, Jean Whyte.

Apologies: Monica Brosnan, Maeve Casey, Claire Chambers, Anna Cunningham, Liz Fleeton, Ann Gallagher, Gaye Fallon, Anne Fitzgerald, Doreen MacRaois, Cormac MacRaois, Valerie McCarthy, Bernadette McLoughlin, Jim Malone, Maureen Melvin, Alan Moore, Elizabeth Oldham, Susan Parkes, Geraldine Ryan, Winston Smith.

1. Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the AGM held on 25th March 2015 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

- (a) *Evening Car Parking in College:* The Chairperson reported that the Executive Committee had written to the College authorities about the possibility of making available afterhours car parking for retired members of staff. The response received had stated that, given the number of retirees and the administration involved in overseeing parking, it was not possible to offer this facility.
- (b) *Library Facilities:* One of the members present at the meeting reported that it had been agreed by the various committees in College that all retired staff would be entitled to half the borrowing rights which they had previously held (excluding Fellows who retain full rights). Although the policy had been agreed, discussions were continuing in College as there were a number of technical issues which were delaying implementation. The Chairperson undertook to continue to press this matter with the College authorities.
- (c) *Accommodation for the Association:* The Chairperson reported that the Executive Committee had submitted a fairly detailed request for accommodation to the College authorities but nothing had been made available as yet. The College had responded by stating that there were significant demands on space and that nothing was available at present. What was sought was mainly a social space where members might meet and the Executive had indicated to the College that it would be prepared to share accommodation with a like-minded group. The Executive Committee had been corresponding with the Space Planning Officer in the College and the Chairperson stated that he would write to him again about a follow-up meeting. Some

suggestions were made from the floor regarding Society rooms and it was agreed to follow up on these.

- (d) *Suggestions from members for Association activities:* The Chairperson thanked members for the various suggestions made at the previous AGM, many of which had been followed up. He encouraged members to continue to send in ideas and suggestions regarding activities and other issues of interest.

3. Reports from Officers

(a) *Chairperson's Report*

- *Retired Staff Association in NUIG:* A meeting had been held with members of the Retired Staff Association in NUIG where issues of mutual interest had been discussed. From this discussion, it appeared that they had a lot more support from the University than was available to the Trinity Association. NUIG retirees automatically become members of its Retired Staff Association on retirement and do not pay a subscription. The NUIG Association has been in existence for quite a number of years and NUI Maynooth is also active. It had also been suggested that some joint activities might be arranged between NUIG and TCD retired staff associations
It was hoped to follow up with meetings with other Retired Staff Associations in the universities over the coming year.
- *Meeting with the Equality Officer:* A meeting had been held with the Equality Officer and the Director of Diversity and Inclusion and members of the Executive Committee. The Equality Officer had requested the consultation with the Association on a discussion document on an Age-Friendly University. The Executive Committee members had made the point about the lack of formal recognition in Trinity for the Association and how many retired staff feel cut-off from College immediately on retirement. Other points raised included library access for retired staff, a possible waiver of fees for extramural courses and how retired staff might become more involved in University activities.

There were no questions arising from the Chairperson's Report and it was adopted (proposed by Kay O'Neill and seconded by Vivien Jenkins).

- (b) *Treasurer's Report:* Copies of the Association's Accounts for 2015 were circulated at the meeting. The Treasurer invited the meeting's attention to a number of points, including the following:

- The number of subscriptions did not equal the number of members as new members who retire in September in any year do not have to pay a subscription until 1st January
- A number of cheques from 2014 had been cashed
- The balance on the account was good and was similar to that of the previous year.

In response to a question, the Treasurer stated that the Stripe Payment Commission represented the cost of the on-line payment system. A suggestion was made about the layout of the accounts which the Treasurer undertook to incorporate next year.

The meeting adopted the circulated Accounts for 2015 and these were signed and dated by the Chairperson (proposed by Lesley Penney and seconded by Norah Kelso).

- (c) *Secretary's Report:* The Secretary reported that there were currently 200 paid-up members of the Association. About 20 had not renewed their membership in 2016. Efforts had been made by the Executive Committee to promote the Association within the College and among new retirees. This included drafting a promotional flyer on the Association which had been circulated by the Pensions Office to upcoming retirees in August 2015 and which would be

updated and circulated again in 2016. A *Calendar* entry had also been drafted and would be included in the new *Calendar*.

The Executive Committee had met on 12 occasions since the last meeting and minutes of the meeting had been published on the website.

At an organisational level, the Executive Committee had agreed a division of responsibilities among committee members. In addition to the Officers (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary), there will be a membership secretary, a postal members secretary, and a website and email person.

A wide range of activities had been organised by the Executive during the year including four lectures, eight guided tours in Dublin, about ten guided walks, some sporting activities, travel abroad to Budapest and travel in Ireland to Faithlegg in Waterford, two coach trips, four outings to the theatre/concerts, and some IT training. Interest in creative writing as expressed by one member of the Association had led to the establishment of a Creative Writing group which had met on about six occasions so far.

There were no questions arising from the Secretary's Report and it was adopted (proposed by Kay O'Neill and seconded by Gay Duffy).

4. Matters arising from these Reports

There were no matters arising from these Reports.

5. Proposals to amend the Constitution – none had been received

6. Elections

The Chairperson invited the Secretary to address the meeting on this matter. The Secretary drew the meeting's attention to Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution, a copy of which had been circulated with papers for the meeting.

(a) Election of Officers

The Secretary advised the meeting that she had received one nomination for each of the posts of Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. These nominations had been received in writing with appropriate notice (seven days prior to the AGM), had been proposed and seconded, and had the consent of the nominee, as follows:

Chairperson:	Mike Jones	Proposed by:	Vivien Jenkins
		Seconded by:	Joe Carroll
Treasurer:	Gay Duffy	Proposed by:	Mike Jones
		Seconded by:	Kay O'Neill
Secretary:	Ruth Potterton	Proposed by:	Gay Duffy
		Seconded by:	Norah Kelso

The meeting indicated by a show of hands that each of the above nominees was acceptable to a majority of members present and they were duly elected.

(b) Election of Ordinary Committee Members

The Secretary stated that there were six ordinary members of the Executive. Six nominations had been received in writing with appropriate notice (seven days prior to the AGM), had been proposed and seconded, and had the consent of the nominee, as follows:

Joe Carroll	Proposed by:	Vivien Jenkins
	Seconded by:	Mike Jones
Vivien Jenkins	Proposed by:	Gay Duffy
	Seconded by:	Kay O’Neill
Norah Kelso	Proposed by:	Kay O’Neill
	Seconded by:	Mike Jones
Kay O’Neill	Proposed by:	Vivien Jenkins
	Seconded by:	Norah Kelso
Susan Parkes	Proposed by:	Mike Jones
	Seconded by:	Joe Carroll
Tom Turpin	Proposed by:	Gay Duffy
	Seconded by:	Vivien Jenkins

The meeting indicated by a show of hands that each of the above nominees was acceptable to a majority of members present and they were duly elected.

The meeting acknowledged the contribution of the outgoing committee member, Tommy Murtagh, and thanked him for his work on the Executive Committee.

7. Motions – none had been received

8. Any Other Business

(a) Availability of WiFi on College Campus: The Chairperson agreed to clarify the position regarding the availability of WiFi to retired staff on the College Campus.

(b) Suggestions for Activities:

- a. Brendan Kennelly might be invited to give a talk to members of the Association
- b. Visits to some College facilities might be arranged, such as
 - i. Early Printed Books section in the Library
 - ii. The Weingreen Museum
 - iii. Lir Theatre
- c. A visit to the Dogs – Greyhounds in Shelbourne Park
- d. A repeat of the Dail Visit and lunch

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Signed

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Date44