

# Institute of Technology Sligo Annual Report 2019/20



- 1. Foreword**
- 2. Enabling The Vision**
- 3. Our Students**
- 4. Learning & Teaching**
- 5. Research, Innovation & Entrepreneurship**
- 6. Partnership & External Engagement**
- 7. Economic, Social & Cultural Development**
- 8. Organisation & Governance**

# President's Foreword

The period under review 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020



The Academic Year of 2019/20 will be one of the most memorable in the history of the Institute.

The year started as normal with a successful Student Induction, followed by our usual semester diary. Our ambitions to become a TU were boosted by a joint meeting of all three Governing Bodies in November with a clear roadmap to our submission. Many of the metrics were met at the start of the semester with the enrolment of over 100 students onto our eight new TU qualified Master's programmes, thereby meeting the 4% target for research enrolments.

We enjoyed our largest Graduation ever in November and held pre-Christmas exams for the first time in many years.

As we made final preparations to mark our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations we were unaware of the year ahead we faced. In December we launched our 50<sup>th</sup> programme of events and in the new year launched our specially commissioned 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary book and received generous donations of sculptures and art-work by the late Fred Conlon.

In January we hosted the first CUA Research Symposium in Sligo. This was an excellent collaboration between all our colleagues in the CUA.

By February we launched our Athena Swan campaign and took part in promoting Sligo in London as guests of the Irish Ambassador.

All seemed well until the 12<sup>th</sup> of March when Taoiseach Leo Varadkar announced the closure of all third-level Institutes due to increasing concerns of Covid-19 pandemic. Within hours we had moved from a regular semester to a completely remote learning experience.

As difficult as this transition became, the Institute pulled together to make it work as seamlessly as possible. Students and staff learned to quickly adapt and innovate through the crisis and managed to complete the semester.

Above all else, the Institute most importantly answered the calls for help from our colleagues in the HSE. Calls for reagents, PPE, Face-visors, Contact Tracers, and even ventilators were answered.

To end a most difficult Academic year, the Institute was named fourth in the U-Multirank University ranking. An achievement that is a credit to everyone at Institute of Technology Sligo,

**Dr Brendan McCormack**

*President, Institute of Technology Sligo*

# Chairman's Message



In what will go down as one of our most challenging years in our 50 year history, the examples of our achievements presented in this Annual Report illustrate the resilience, ingenuity and commitment of our staff and students.

Faced with unimaginable obstacles the institute has managed to keep our ambitions to become a Technological University on track. It has also raised millions in funding for major capital projects and most importantly, managed to deliver the final stages of our second semester, ensuring lectures and exams were completed so that students could graduate.

Our investment in online technology over the years and our expertise in remote teaching meant the instant closure of our campus on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 did not stop our ability to teach our students. Instead our workforce adapted to the impact the pandemic had on our traditional method of teaching and adopted new technologies to engage, interact and inspire our students.

When Covid-19 hit our shores and our campus had shut its doors to students, a group of over 100 volunteers stepped forward and together produced over 1000 reagents for viral testing, designed and manufactured emergency respiratory aids for Sligo University Hospital and produced over 12,000 face visors for front-line workers.

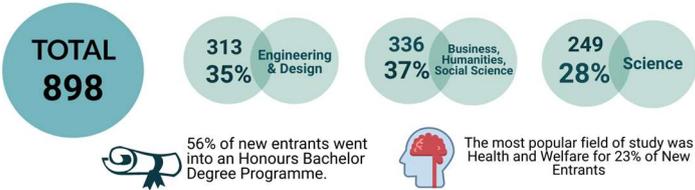
This ability to deliver under exceptional circumstances and the work of our staff and student volunteers to help protect frontline workers has gained respect from far and wide and will be a legacy of our 50th anniversary that will far exceed any planned celebrations.

*Niall O'Donnellan*

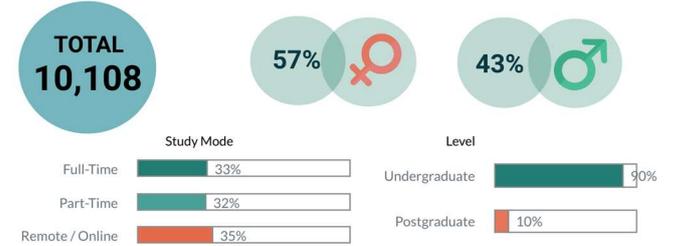
**Mr Niall O'Donnellan**

Chairman  
Governing Body  
Institute of Technology Sligo

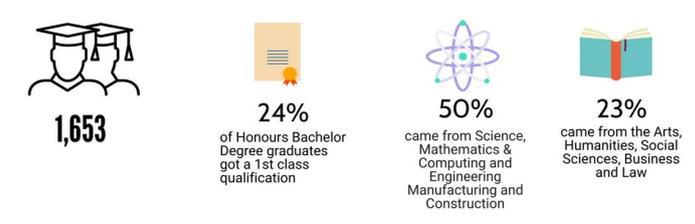
## NEW ENTRANTS



## ENROLMENTS



## GRADUATES



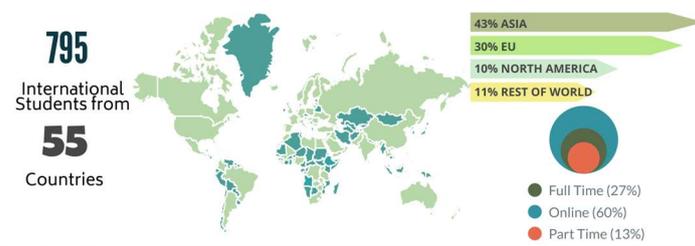
## RESEARCH



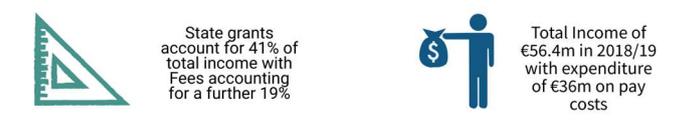
## PARTICIPATION



## INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION



## FINANCES



## STAFFING



## 2. Enabling The Vision



## CUA Allocation



Institute of Technology Sligo's ambition to become a Technological University was boosted with a very significant meeting of all three Institutes of the Connacht Ulster Alliance (CUA) in November. The Governing Bodies of Institute of Technology Sligo, Galway Mayo Institute of Technology & Letterkenny Institute of Technology, met in Donegal Town in November and made a commitment to the Department of Education & Skills to submit an application to become a Technological University in Autumn of 2020.

The three Institutes met as the CUA to clarify the next steps needed to secure University status. The governance, academic and organisational structures of the new TU were addressed as part of the planning by the three CUA institutions toward becoming a TU.

The three Institutes of the CUA agreed an allocation of TUI members to engage with the TU project.

Institute of Technology Sligo has enrolled some 100 students onto the 8 new TU qualified Master's programmes, and is thereby meeting the 4% target for research enrolments.

The consulting company RSM Ltd was engaged by the CUA to provide professional services to support work of the Steering Committee towards making a TU submission.

## Institute of Technology Sligo makes Top 5 in U-Multirank

In the summer of 2020, The Institute of Technology Sligo was ranked in the top five best performing universities in Ireland by U-Multirank, out-scoring larger universities including Trinity and University College Dublin in the independent report.

U-Multirank, the largest global university ranking, make transparent the detailed performance of universities.

Institute of Technology Sligo was placed in the top five higher education institutions in Ireland in 2020 out of 17 universities and Institutes of Technology in Ireland achieving 9 'A grades', making them the top Institute of Technology. These 'A grades' were awarded for; bachelor degree graduation



rate, publication citation rate, top cited publications, interdisciplinary publications, open access publications, spin off companies, international academic staff, bachelor graduates working in the region and Masters graduates working in the region.

Institute of Technology Sligo was also placed third overall in research nationally by U-Multirank. 'A grades' were awarded for citation rate of publications, top cited publications and interdisciplinary publications.

## Athena Swan



The Athena SWAN Charter is a framework which is used across the globe to support and transform gender equality within HE and research. Established in 2005 to encourage and recognise commitment to advancing the careers of women in science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine (STEMM) employment, the charter is now being used across the globe to address gender equality more broadly, and not just barriers to progression that affect women.

The Athena SWAN Charter is based on the "Athena SWAN Principles". By being part of Athena SWAN, institutions are committing to a progressive charter, adopting these principles within their policies, practices, action plans and culture. Institute of Technology Sligo has adopted these principles and seeks to embed them in all our activities.

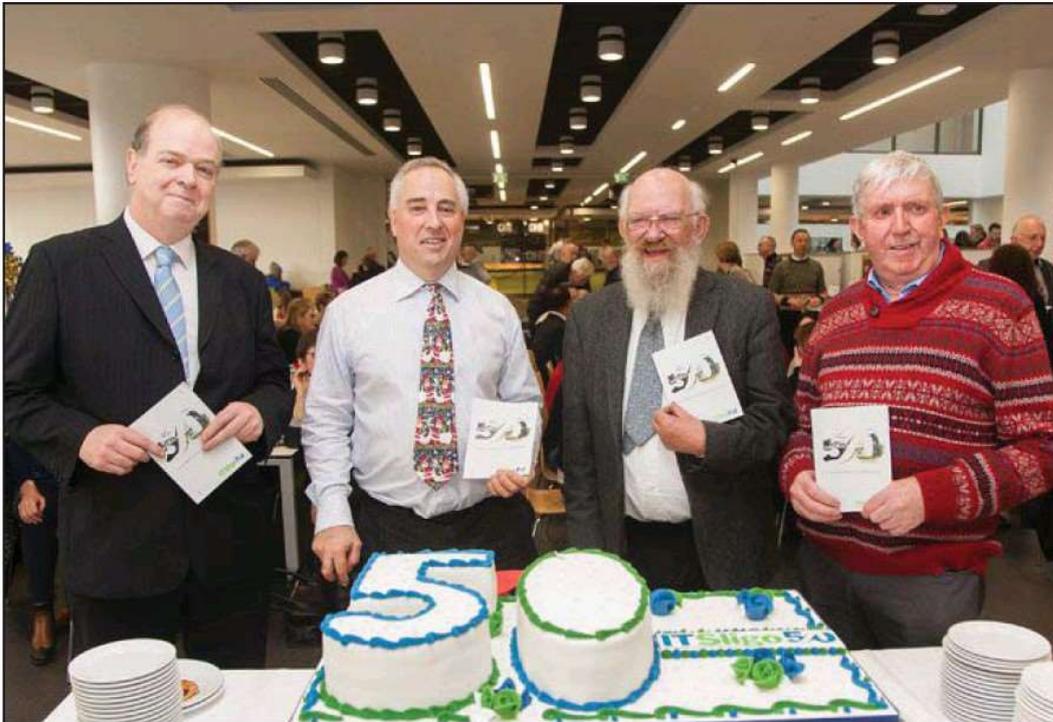
As part of the self assessment process Institute of Technology Sligo carried out a staff survey in February / March 2020. Below is a video commissioned to explain the purpose of the survey and to encourage staff to complete it. Over 73% of staff completed the survey, and its results are being analysed. [Link to video.](#)

## Executive hits Gender Balance for first time



Institute of Technology Sligo's executive is now gender balanced 50/50 for the first time in its 50 year history. As part of our commitment to the Athena Swan Charter, plans are afoot to identify areas of improvement and implement real change for the future. A survey will take place in the new year and all staff are strongly encouraged to take part so that we can leave a legacy for future generations.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1970 – 2020



Institute of Technology Sligo's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee organised a year of celebration to mark Institute of Technology Sligo's half century landmark. At the end of 2019, a full programme of events was announced followed by a book launch in late January. A commemorative logo was commissioned and appeared on all publications in 2019/20. Several events took place until the Covid-19 pandemic put an end to the celebration.

# 3. Our Students

Our students are at the heart of everything we do. Many of them have achieved notable successes at national and international level. Here, we highlight a selection of those accolades.

## Induction 2019



Over 800 new full-time students attended induction day at the Knocknarea Arena in September. New student and disability activist, Vicki Mathew was one of the guest speakers. A full two day programme of events was on offer from all faculties.

## Students Keep Count at Elections



Students from Institute of Technology Sligo's Faculty of Business & Social Science get ready to take part in the first ever exit poll in the Sligo/Leitrim/South Donegal constituency with Ocean FM. The students were part of the first online

database to keep a real-time exit-poll for local elections.

## Double Awards for Design Students



Two Creative Design students were shortlisted for the Institute of Designers in Ireland Awards. Paul Roper won the IDI universal graduate design award for his design of the *Magpin* along with being commended for his design *Lockon*. Jamie Keaveney was shortlisted for a social design award for his design; *The Bumble Base*.

## Graduation 2019



A father and two sons were among the 1700 students from Institute of Technology Sligo who attended their graduation in 2019. This was the largest number of students to graduate from the institute since its formation in 1970. Ten students were also conferred with doctoral degrees, more than triple the usual number of PhD students at Institute of Technology Sligo. Among those

graduating are students from countries across the globe including Canada, France and Oman. The countries first Honours Degree Apprentices were among those who graduated. The “Earn & Learn” degree course delivered by Institute of Technology Sligo in partnership with the Insurance Institute and LIA, was launched in 2016 and sees the fruition of the collaboration which allows students to study for a degree while they work full-time in the Insurance Institute. The Institute also had a father and two sons graduating together this year from faculties of Engineering and Business. Richard Warnock with his two sons Kevin and Daniel were conferred on the same day in Engineering and Business Degrees, respectively.



### ICI Award for PhD Student



Saoirse Dervin of Nanotechnology and BioEngineering at Institute of Technology

Sligo received the Prestigious ICI Postgraduate Award 2019. Saoirse is in the final stage of her PhD study entitled “In vitro activity of graphene family nanomaterials”. The current study is an assessment of the in vitro toxicity and antimicrobial activity of 2D and 3D nanostructures.

### Student Wins Prestigious Poetry Prize



Third year student Niamh MacCabe won the prestigious Francis Ledwidge Poetry Prize in 2020. Niamh won for ‘On Seeing Her Son's Wedding Shoes,’ a poem written in response to an exercise in her poetry module with Alice Lyons last semester on the Writing & Literature BA.

## 4. Learning & Teaching

Institute of Technology Sligo enjoys a leadership position in technology-enhanced learning. It strives to create an innovative and inspiring teaching and learning environment, backed by the support of continuous professional development for the Institute’s staff. Here, we profile some of the new developments which have enhanced the Institute’s Sligo learning and teaching offering during the period under review.

### Covid-19



The Institute’s campus was forced to close its doors due to the worldwide pandemic in 2020. On the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, Ireland announced all third level Institutes were to move to remote teaching with immediate effect. This required a concerted swift effort by all departments. By close of business a vast majority of the Institute’s workforce were equipped to work remotely. Within 24 hours, students were taught safely online.

Throughout the summer, staff prepared to move workshops and laboratories

online through innovative virtual applications.

Student’s services and support were delivered remotely and additional supports were added to assist students with their studies through the pandemic.

# Timetable Update



## Insurance Practitioner Apprenticeship



Minister of State for Higher Education Mary Mitchell O’Connor T.D. officially launched the fourth year of the Insurance Practitioner Apprenticeship Programme at Institute of Technology Sligo in September. This honours degree programmes aimed at preparing insurance professionals for the world of work, delivered by Institute of Technology Sligo in partnership with the Insurance Institute and LIA, was launched in 2016 and has already enrolled over 300 apprentices across Ireland. An additional 72 apprentices are being enrolled and the first cohort of

students will graduate with an honours degree programme in November.

## Minister Briefed on Online Learning



The Minister was briefed on Institute of Technology Sligo’s Online learning success story during her visit. Over half the Institute’s 10,000 students study online which enables people to “Earn & Learn” throughout their career. The Minister took the opportunity to meet Industry partners and students who study online.

## Cillian O’Murchu Receives Maths Tutor Excellence Award 2019



From a large number of applications, an international panel selected Cillian O’Murchu, lecturer in the Department of Business, as one of four winners of the 2019 IMLSN (Irish Mathematics Learning Support Network) Tutor Excellence award. Cillian was the only recipient of the award from an Institute of Technology.

The award was presented at the CETL-MSOR 2019 conference dinner on 5th September. Cillian was the first in the Institute to offer specific maths support tuition to our students. With his knowledge and experience, a Maths Support Centre is now available to all students as part of CELT.

## €350,000 HEA Funding for Insurance Apprenticeship



The Higher Education Authority has awarded Institute of Technology Sligo €350,000 for the New Insurance Practitioner Apprenticeship Programme in partnership with the Insurance Institute of Ireland. This funding will be used to develop new learning processes and mentoring techniques that will increase the likelihood of success for distance learners. The existing BA (Hons) Insurance practice programme will be used as the test-bed and students, tutors and industry will collaborate to develop the new methodologies which will be evaluated in collaboration with the industry and learners. The project will also build research capacity and add to the body of research both in the Irish Insurance market and in relation to the international best practice regarding student success factors in distance learning.

## 5. Research, Development & Innovation

Institute of Technology Sligo has a strong research base and there is a growing number of staff actively engaging in research across many fields. To meet the ambitious objective of becoming a technological university, we have continued to expand on research, development and Innovation and have become even more involved in engaging and supporting Industries.

### Meeting TU Research Student Metrics



Enrolment of students onto our new TU Qualified Masters programmes surpassed the 100 target set in April. These figures ensure that the institute exceeded the required metric for Institute of Technology Sligo on this front and will have excess to help make up for any shortfall in a CUA partner institution's figures.

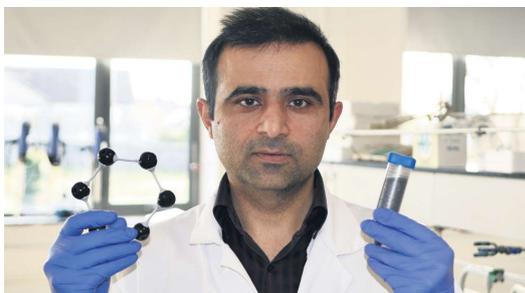
## CUA Research Symposium



Over 220 delegates and 60 speakers attended the Connacht-Ulster Alliance (CUA) Research Symposium in the Sligo Park Hotel on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Some incredible research including 110 posters were unveiled at the two-day event by academics, researchers and postgraduate students in the three CUA Institutes of Galway-Mayo IT, Letterkenny IT and Institute of Technology Sligo, many of whom were meeting for the first time. A series of feature articles and podcasts were published over the following months in relation to the conference.

Two Letterkenny IT postgraduate students scooped top accolades at the event, Chris McElheny who won Best Oral Presentation for his project, titled 'Determination of bio-available trace cadmium and zinc in soil using a nano-porous modified screen-printed electrode' and Laura McDaid who won Best Poster for her project titled 'Determination of cadmium in fava beans using a novel electrochemical detection method'.

## Institute of Technology Sligo Researcher Makes Top 1% in the World!



Institute of Technology Sligo's Dr Umar Khan was named Highly Cited Researchers, according to the Highly Cited Researchers 2019 list from the Web of Science Group. Recognising the world's most influential researchers of the past decade 2019, the highly anticipated list identifies scientists and social scientists who produced multiple papers ranking in the top 1% by citations for their field and year of publication, demonstrating significant research influence among their peers. Institute of Technology Sligo lecturer, Dr Umar Khan joins the top 1% of researchers in the world from some of the biggest universities including, Harvard, Yale and Cambridge. Dr Umar Khan is currently working on exfoliation of nano graphene and other nano materials. This is a stretchable, flexible and wearable material with sensors. The possibilities for this new invention are very exciting. It has many applications from development of electronics to wearable health monitoring attire that can monitor breathing, temperature and pulse. Dr Khan's work has been published in world leading scientific Journals e,g Journal of Science, Nature, Advance functional Materials and ACS NANO.

## Allergan Innovation Award Winner – Prestigious award to further ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH –



Patricia Regan of the Faculty of Science at Institute of Technology Sligo was announced as the winner of the Allergan Innovation Award in September 2019. This prestigious award, with an Allergan sponsored bursary of €7,500 will go towards furthering Patricia's pioneering research into Alzheimer's disease, entitled: "Towards diagnostic and theranostic glycosylation biomarkers in Alzheimer's disease". This specialist scientific analysis will be carried out under the expert supervision of Dr. Margaret Doherty, a leading lecturer in Biomedical Science at Institute of Technology Sligo.

## 6. Partnership & External Engagement

Active engagement with the world outside our campus is fundamental to the success of the institution. Such engagement supports the development of contemporary teaching and learning and assists in the cultural and economic development of Sligo.

Covid-19 set new demands on external engagement which was met head on by staff and students.

### Covid-19



From the outset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Institute of Technology Sligo collaborated with our colleagues in the HSE and SUH. In early February 2020 we worked with the HSE on ensuring all communications were in place to ensure students and staff were well informed on how to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

When numbers started to rise in Ireland our colleagues in Sligo University Hospital asked for assistance in creating reagents for testing. The Faculty of Science produced enough reagents for over 1,000 tests. The institute also donated all PPE equipment to the hospital. A call out from the HSE for volunteers to help on the frontline in the event of an emergency

was met with 150 volunteers from Institute of Technology Sligo.

A group of volunteers from the Faculty of Engineering & Design designed and built 10 emergency respirator aids with the guidance of hospital consultants.



A further 99 volunteers produced over 12,000 face-visors for frontline workers across the region. All these actions helped protect frontline workers and patients until secure supply chains were established, undoubtingly saving lives.



## Future of Transport Forum



A large audience, including industry experts and several engineers working nationally, engaged in an open forum on the future of transport at Institute of Technology Sligo on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The event – which was open to the public, students, engineers and business leaders – was organised by Engineers Ireland’s North West regional branch which includes Institute of Technology Sligo engineering staff – Tomás O’Flaherty and John Casserly. Entitled ‘Driving forward: Electric and autonomous vehicles in a connected infrastructure’, there was a particular emphasis on the evening on the use of the private car and the movement towards electric cars.

## Engineering Fair



Institute of Technology Sligo hosted its second annual Engineering Fair as part of Institute of Technology Sligo’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. The family-friendly fair was held in the Institute of Technology Sligo on Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> March and was attended by over 2000 people, more than double of 2019 attendance.

The event was part of Engineers Week in conjunction with Science Foundation Ireland and Engineers Ireland and included a wide range of performances, interactive displays, workshops and demonstrations for all age groups.

## Science Week



Minister for Higher Education, Mary Mitchell O’Connor visited the Institute of Technology Sligo on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of November to investigate Science Week. The Minister attended workshops on Spectroscopy in a Suitcase and the CSI Experience as part of her visit to Sligo’s Institute of Technology.

The Sligo Science Festival, supported by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), is a week-long programme of activities and events each November, which aims to make science more interesting and accessible to children and adults alike. The events were free and open to the public.

## Creative Showcase



The annual Creative Showcase moved online in 2020 with a specially commissioned website displaying the talents of final year students of Art’s, Design and Architecture. Paintings, sculptures and architectural conceptions were mixed with performing art and theatrical designs alongside innovative product designs. A digital yearbook was also created for the virtual event.

## 7. Economic, Social & Cultural Development

The role of Institute of Technology Sligo is to positively influence the economic and social growth of the northern and western regions and plays its part in enriching its cultural heritage.

### Institute of Technology Sligo Supporting The Arts @ Hawk's Well



Institute of Technology Sligo announce a partnership agreement with The Hawk's Well Theatre for three years from 2019 to 2021, in support of the theatre's renovation plans. Institute of Technology Sligo have become a Platinum Renovation Patron of the theatre. Renovating the Hawk's Well is an unprecedented opportunity to develop and secure the theatre for generations to come.

As part of the agreed partnership, the Hawk's Well Theatre will continue to collaborate with Institute of Technology Sligo's Creative Practice programmes,

working closely with the its newly created Yeats Academy of Arts, Design & Architecture (YAADA) department.

### Green Campus



Institute of Technology Sligo appointed a Sustainability Officer as part of its Green Campus initiative. The programme encourages a partnership approach to environmental education, management and action at the institute. It aims to ensure that all people working and studying on campus engages to enhance sustainability. Fiona Britton began her position on 1<sup>st</sup> September and has held consultations with students and staff, leading to several initiatives. Institute of Technology Sligo was to be the first third-level institute in Ireland to ban disposal cups on campus before Covid-19 postponed the launch.

### Cranmore Education Mentor Programme Launched



The Cranmore Education Mentor Programme was launched in November 2019 by President of Institute of Technology Sligo, Dr Brendan McCormack and Chief Executive of Sligo County Council, Ciaran Hayes. The mentoring programme is a joint initiative of the Cranmore Regeneration Project and the Institute of Technology, Sligo and aims to

help people from the Cranmore community to stay or return to education.

## Official member of the 20x20 campaign



In 2019 Institute of Technology Sligo became an official member of the 20x20 campaign, demonstrating our commitment to women in sport.

## Sligo Visit to London



Dr Brendan McCormack represented Institute of Technology Sligo at the embassy of Ireland in London, promoting Sligo as a place to live, work and study. The visit in February was part of a promotional tour of London with partners in Sligo County Council, Western Development Board and Sligo Chamber of Commerce.

## Institute of Technology Sligo Respond to Covid-19 Impact on Region



Throughout the first pandemic lockdown, Institute of Technology Sligo’s Faculty of Business & Social Sciences held several webinars aimed at the recovery of businesses in the region. In response to the crisis the “Regenerate Your Business” webinar was an initiative by Institute of Technology Sligo in partnership with Sligo Chamber of Commerce and supported by Sligo LEO, Enterprise Ireland, IDA, and Sligo BID. The event offered a set of short lecturers on topics to support businesses who are considering offering their goods and services on-line to understand the issues and challenges involved. This event was followed by another webinar aimed at the tourism sector, hosted by lecturer Mary McGuckin.



## 8. Organisation & Governance

The Governing Body of Institute of Technology Sligo consists of a Chairman, seventeen Ordinary Members and the President of the Institute. The primary role of the Governing Body is to manage and control the affairs and all property of the Institute. It provides Strategic direction, leadership, decision-making, and appoints Governing Body committees and delegate powers to such committees, while retaining ultimate accountability for such matters. As outlined in the Code of Governance for Institute of Technology Sligo there are 50 Reserved Functions of Governing Body which must be exercised only by resolution of the Governing Body.

### Governing Body for the Academic Year 2019-20

The Governing Body of Institute of Technology Sligo in place at the start of the year was appointed by the Minister for Education on Skills for a five year term from 1st April 2015. This was replaced by a Governing Body appointed for a five year term or TU designation is achieved by the CUA. The Chairperson was appointed by the Minister for a five year term from 1st September 2016. The two student representatives are appointed for a period of one year from 1st September each year.

### Governing Body Membership & Meetings Attended

The Governing Body met on twelve occasions during the Academic Year 2019-20. Below is a list of members and the number of meetings attended during the year.

Member	Role/ Nominated By / Rep Body	No. of Meetings attended	
Mr. Michael Barrett	ITS- Acad Staff	7/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Ms. Angela Bartlett	ITS- Acad Staff	8/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Cllr. Mary Bohan	MSLETB	8/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Ms. Helen Boyce	Env. Protection Agency	6/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Mr. Geoffrey Browne	DETB	10/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Mr. Paraic Casey	HSE	11/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Cllr. John Caulfield	MSLETB	0/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Ms. Veronica Cawley	ITS- Non-Acad Staff	7/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Mr. Philip Delamere	Arts Council	4/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Ms. Mary Dolan Mc Loughlin	SIPTU	7/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Mr. Seamus Kilgannon	MSLETB	11/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Ms. Mary Madden	MSLETB	6/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Dr. Brendan Mc Cormack	President	12/12	
Mr. Felim Mc Neela	Sligo Chamber	11/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Ms. Laura Muldoon	Student Rep	9/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Mr. Conor Murphy	American Chamber	5/8	Retired from GB at 31.03.2020
Mr. Niall O' Donnellan	Chairperson	12/12	
Cllr Rosaleen O'Grady	MSLETB	9/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Mr Jason Quinn	Student Rep	8/12	Reappointed 01.04.2020
Ms. Avery Dooher - Resigned 13.05.20	Arts Council	0/1	New member from 01.04.20
Cllr Richard Finn	MSLETB	1/4	New member from 01.04.20
Ms Beatrice Flavin	ITS- Acad Staff	4/4	New member from 01.04.20
Mr. Ciaran Hayes	Local Community Dev C'ee	4/4	New member from 01.04.20
Dr. Mick Henry	Env. Protection Agency	4/4	New member from 01.04.20
Ms Martina Kelly	ITS- Non-Acad Staff	4/4	New member from 01.04.20
Dr. Brian McCann	ITS- Acad Staff	4/4	New member from 01.04.20

## Secretary to Governing Body

Ms Elizabeth McCabe, Vice President Finance & Corporate Services was the Secretary to the Governing Body until 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020 from when she was replaced by Michael Henehan, Secretarial, Governance and Compliance Manager.

## Review of Governing Body Performance

The Governing Body commissioned an external review of the operation of the Governing Body and the Audit & Risk Committee during the 2018/19 academic year with the assistance of the Institute of Public Administration (IPA). The review took place during February / March 2019 and the final report was approved by Governing Body at their meeting in June 2019. The next external review will take place during the term of the next Governing Body which commenced in April 2020.

An internal self-assessment last took place during the 2017/18 Academic year and the next internal assessment was carried out during in Q4 2020 by online survey.

## Public Spending Code

The Chairperson of the Institute's Governing Body confirms that Institute of Technology Sligo adheres to the relevant aspects of the Public Spending Code and that the Governing Body has ensured robust and effective systems and procedures are in place in Institute of Technology Sligo to ensure compliance with the relevant principles, requirements and guidelines of the Public Spending Code.

The Institute had no infrastructure projects in excess of €30M. In relation to projects less than €30M, the Institute is following the guidelines and all projects were tendered for by open, verifiable and audited competitions.

## Audit & Risk Committee of Governing Body

There were six meetings of the Audit & Risk Committee held during the Academic year 2019-20. The Audit & Risk Committee membership and number of meetings attended by each Member is listed below:

	Role	Meetings Attended	
Mr. Paraic Casey (Chair)	Member of GB	6/6	
Mr. Philp Delamere	Member of GB	4/4	Resigned 31.03.2020
Mr. Michael Guilfoyle	External Member	4/4	Resigned 31.03.2020
Ms. Noreen O'Kelly	External Member	1/2	Resigned 21.11.2019
Councillor Mary Bohan	Member of GB	3/6	
Mr. Felim McNeela	Member of GB	2/2	Appointed 13.05.2020
Aisling McCabe	External Member	2/2	Appointed 13.05.2020

## Governing Body Fees and Expenses

Members of the Governing Body are not eligible for fees in their capacity as Governing Body members. Members may be eligible for expenses for travelling to Governing Body meetings and for fees and expenses where they preside on interview boards. In the Academic Year 2019-20, the following fees and expenses were paid to members.

Governing Body Member	Expenses	Interview Fee	Total paid
	€	€	€
Mr Philip Delamere	1,064.44		1,064.44
Mr Niall O'Donnellan	816.00		816.00
Cllr Mary Bohan	255.28	2,700.00	2,955.28
Mr Geoffrey Browne	2,180.24	4,200.00	6,380.24
Ms Mary Dolan McLoughlin		2,700.00	2,700.00
Ms Helen Boyce	607.58		607.58
Cllr John Caulfield	71.66	300.00	371.66
Mr Seamus Kilgannon		1,800.00	1,800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,995.20</b>	<b>11,700.00</b>	<b>16,695.20</b>

## MEMBERS OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 2019-2020

Brendan McCormack(Chairperson)	Jacqueline McCormack
Michele Glacken (Secretary)	James Brennan
David Roberts	Jerry Bird
Jason Quinn (SU) rep	John Bartlett
Ailish Breen	John Kelleher
Aine Mitchell	Karin White
Allison Gillen	Kevin Collins
Angela Bartlett	Laura Muldoon, SU President
Aodhmar Cadogan	Leigh-Ann Sweeney
Bernadette Donohoe	Lisa Cronin
Breda McTaggart	Maire Hanniffy
Brian McCann	Mairead McCann
Carmel Moran	Michael Barrett,
Catherine McGuinn	Moran, Marie
Catherine O'Reilly	Noel Walsh
Chris O'Malley	Owen Kenny
Colm Davey	Paul Ferry
David Mulligan	Roisin McGlone
Deirdre Greaney	Suresh Pillai
Diane O'Brien	Susan Leonard
Edwenia O'Malley	Thomas Smyth
Eileen Curley	Trevor McSharry
Emmet O'Doherty	Una Parsons
Frances Lucy	Xavier Velay
Gavin Clinch	Geraldine Dowling
Gerry Hegarty	

## Institute of Technology Sligo - Executive Management

<b>Dr Brendan McCormack PhD</b>	President
<b>Michele Glacken</b>	Vice President Academic Affairs & Registrar
<b>Ms Elizabeth McCabe</b>	Vice President Finance & Corporate Services
<b>Dr Jeremy Bird</b>	Head of Faculty of Science
<b>Dr Michael Barrett</b>	Head of Faculty of Business & Social Sciences
<b>Ms Una Parsons</b>	Head of Faculty of Engineering & Design
<b>Prof Jacqueline McCormack</b>	Vice President of Online Development.
<b>Dr Chris O'Malley</b>	Vice President of Research, Innovation & Engagement

## Financial Statements

The Governing Body are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements. The Governing Body considers the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 to be a true and fair view of the Institute's financial performance and its financial position at the end of the year. The Governing Body is responsible for approving the financial statements and these were approved by the Governing Body on 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

The financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 were audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General with their final audit report dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

A full detailed copy of accounts can be found through our website:

<https://www.itsligo.ie/about-it-sligo/publications/>



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