



Ollscoil  
Teicneolaíochta  
an Atiantaigh

Atlantic  
Technological  
University

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of ATU Governing  
Body Meeting (11<sup>th</sup> Meeting)  
Held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 10.00 am  
ATU Galway City and MS Teams**

**Present:**

Maura McNally (Chairperson) – online	MMcN
Dr Orla Flynn (President) - in person	OF
Ursula Cox – online	UC
Dr Brian McCann – online	BMcC
Mary McGinley – online	MMcG
Felim McNeela – online	FMcN
Oonagh Monahan – online	OM
David Minton – online	DMT
Dr Martin Robinson – online	MR
Gareth Roe – in person	GR
Dáire Martin - online	DM
Dr Mary Kelly – online	MK
Colin Kearney – online	CK
Patricia King – online	PK
Michael Gilvarry – in person	MGil
Michael Geoghegan - online	MG
Anne McHugh – online	AMcH
Edward Grant – online	EG

**In attendance:**

Jim Fennell (Secretary) – in person	JF
Fiona Faherty (Recording Secretary) – in person	FF
Henry McGarvey – online	HMcG
Elizabeth McCabe – online	EMcC
Michael Henehan – online	MH

**Apologies:**

Dara Foynes	DF
Prof. Rachel Ashworth	RA
Séamus Hughes	SH

**GB 011.01 Declaration of Conflicts of Interests**

There were no conflicts of interest declared at this meeting.

**GB 011.02 Student Building**

EMcC presented the financial overview. ATU reserves as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 were €56.7m. The amount of reserves already committed to capital projects by the Governing Body total €23.3m leaving €33.4m remaining, The ATU Governing Body had previously allocated €14m for the Student Building at Galway City ATU in September 2022. The cost of the student building is now estimated at [REDACTED]

Grant Thornton business case for the proposed multi-purpose student building was discussed.

MG asked that a letter be issued to the HEA on behalf of the Governing Body to seek clarification on what stage the project should reach before funds are confirmed.

MH presented the risk register for the student building project.

The risks associated with continuing with the project and not continuing with the project were discussed. The planning permission for the project, which had not yet commenced, expires in June 2023. Substantial works would need to be completed prior to the expiration of the planning permission in order to secure an extension of the planning permission beyond June 2023. Proceeding to contract for the work at this late stage was deemed to be a high risk and an unacceptable risk for the University.

**Decision:** Following a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to engage with a new planning process for the proposed Student Building on the ATU Galway City campus.

The Governing Body reaffirmed their commitment to the development of the Student Building. The Governing Body requested university management and the University Planning Team to re-engage, without delay, with the planning process. It must remain a high priority for the ATU to deliver the much-needed student building at the earliest opportunity.

An update on the reapplication process for planning permission will be an agenda item at the Governing Body meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

**GB 0011.03 AOB**

There was no further business.

Signed:



Chairperson

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023