

Mr Joe McHugh, T.D.,
Minister for Education and Skills,
Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

29 March 2019

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 19 February in respect of the application made on behalf of the Cork Institute of Technology and Institute of Technology Tralee under Section 29 of the Technological Universities Act, 2018.

This second technological university application is another important step in the development of Irish higher education. The HEA continues to stand ready to assist your Department with the technological university application process and I now provide our nominations for your consideration as members of an advisory panel to consider applications for designation.

These nominations are put forward in line with the legislative requirement that panel members should have 'a special interest or expertise in, or knowledge of, matters relating to higher education, at least two of whom shall have expertise at an international level in standards and practice in higher education'. Our nominees include those with experience, national or international in:

- Successful operation of universities with a technological mission, particularly in areas of:
 - Teaching and learning and student experience;
 - Research, innovation, knowledge transfer;
 - Financial and HR management.
- Representing a group or groups that have close connections with higher education (e.g. as employers, or project partners, students).
- Planning and implementation of higher education and other institutional consolidation processes.

In compiling this list, the HEA consulted with QQI and had regard to possible conflicts of interest – both real and perceived and sought to maintain an appropriate gender balance (at least 40% women and 40% men).

HEA nominations for consideration as members of an advisory panel to consider applications for designation under Section 29 of the Technological Universities Act 2018 are as follows:

Enora Bennetot Pruvot (Ms)
Jean-Pierre Finance (Professor)
Debra Humphris (Professor)
Sara Owen (Professor)

Further details on each of these nominees, including a short biography, is provided below. We continue to look forward to working with you in 2019, and the coming years, to implement the reforms set out and to deliver on Ireland's ambition for its education system to be the best in Europe by 2026.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul O'Toole". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and a long, sweeping underline.

Paul O'Toole,
Chief Executive.

Enora Bennetot Pruvot (Ms)

Enora Bennetot Pruvot is Deputy Director for Governance, Funding and Public Policy Development at the European Universities Association (EUA). She has published on the topic of university financial sustainability (2011), higher education funding (2013) and university mergers (2015), and also acts as the editor for EUA's University Funding Articles series. She is responsible for the organisation of EUA's biannual Funding Forum and for EUA's annual Public Funding Observatory, which monitors the evolution of public funding to higher education institutions throughout Europe. At European level, EUA's unit for Governance, Funding and Public Policy Development has been contributing to the preparation of the Horizon 2020 programme. The unit is also monitoring the impact of the implementation of the programme on participating higher education institutions. Before joining EUA in 2008, Enora gained experience in the field of European research and development policy. Enora holds Master degrees in Political Science and European Public Affairs, and in European Political and Administrative Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges, Belgium.

Jean-Pierre Finance (Professor)

Professor Jean-Pierre Finance was the President of Henri Poincaré University, Nancy-1, France from 2004 to 2001. It was a university of Science, Technology and Health. For two years (2007-2008) he was the President of the CPU (conference of French University Presidents). Currently, he is his representative for the CPU and IRD (French Institut of Research for the development) for European Union in Bruxelles. During 2010 he was president of the cluster of the 4 universities in Lorraine Region, called PRES of the University of Lorraine and actively participated to the project aiming to merge this 4 universities into the single University of Lorraine created in January 1st, 2012. Following its establishment, Prof. Finance held the role of Provisional Administrator of the University. Jean-Pierre has been Board member of EUA from 2009 to 2013 and since 2010, he has held the presidency of the French bibliometric agency (ABES) and the French HEI and research consortium (Couperin) which is devoted to the acquisition of scientific publications. Since 2011 he has also held the presidency of the agency devoted to managing the Network for Technology, Education and Research and HE network Renater. Further to his Maths studies, Professor Finance opted for informatics, which specialised in programming language semantics and formal methods of specification and programming development. He obtained his PhD in 1974 and his "doctorat d'Etat" in 1979. Associate Professor in 1972, he became a full Professor in computer science at Henri Poincaré University, Nancy-1 in 1980. His research fields of interest was formal methods in software engineering. From 1985 to 1994, he was at the head of the Computer Science Research Centre of Nancy, so-called CRIN, which was a joint laboratory of the 3 Nancy Universities and CNRS. From 1985 to 1993 he acted as advisor to the French Ministry for Higher Education and Research on computer science. From 1994 to 1999, he was the President of Henri Poincaré University, Nancy-1. During that period, he was one of the Vice Presidents of the CPU for two years.

Debra Humphris (Professor)

Professor Debra Humphris is currently the Vice-Chancellor, University of Brighton. She was previously Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education & Student Experience) at the University of Southampton in September 2008. Within her portfolio she provides strategic leadership for the education offer and student experience across the University and at all levels, as well as widening participation, recruitment and admissions and employer engagement. Outside of the University Debra chairs the Employment and Skills Board for the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire, the Partnership has been successful in becoming one of the first Local Enterprise Partnerships named by the Coalition Government. As Professor of Health Care Development, Debra has worked closely with a wide range of public and independent sector organisations to shape and redesign service in relation to policy drivers, to evolve workforce development and support education innovation. Debra's recent research activity focused on redesigning services in relation to the needs of people with long term conditions. Originally recruited to the University from the Department of Health in 2000, Debra has led its major development of interprofessional learning in health and social care, the New Generation Project. This education innovation was undertaken in partnership with the University of Portsmouth and is widely acknowledged as a global leader. Following this she was responsible for the development and leadership of the Health Care Innovation Unit. Originally qualifying as a Registered Nurse, Professor Humphris spent 20 years in the NHS including Senior Research Fellow at the South Thames Regional Health Authority, and at St George's Hospital Medical School. She achieved her PhD in 1999, which considered the implementation of policy into clinical practice.

Sara Owen (Professor)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, University of South Wales. Professor Sara Owen joined the University of South Wales in September 2018. Her responsibilities include the development of the academic portfolio, marketing and student recruitment, internationalisation and business engagement. Sara is a graduate of the University of East London and the University of Nottingham, where she obtained her doctorate in psychology in 1999; an investigation of services for women with long-term mental health problems. Her research interests are women and mental health, gender, and mental health workforce issues and she has published widely in these areas. Sara has held academic posts as Lecturer, Research Fellow, Senior Lecturer and Reader at the University of Nottingham. She moved to the University of Lincoln in 2006 as a Professor, then Dean and most recently as Pro Vice Chancellor and Head of the College of Social Science.