



St. Patrick's College

Appointment of President
Information for candidates



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This document provides candidates with introductory information on the appointment of a President for St. Patrick's College.

For further detailed information about the college please visit www.spd.dcu.ie

1. The role of the President – person specification

The Governing Body is seeking to nominate a dynamic leader who will play the key role in developing and implementing strategies that will maintain and further enhance the significant part that the College already plays in Irish education.

As Chief Executive Officer, the President reports to Governing Body and has responsibility for all aspects of the College's operations - Academic, Administrative, Financial and Human Resources. As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer/President has specific obligations and responsibility in relation to accountability to the Oireachtas for the work and expenditure of the College.

The President will:

- provide dynamic and strategic leadership and vision for the College in a fast changing educational environment;
- develop and carry forward policies designed to maintain and strengthen the College's already significant contribution to Educational Studies and the Humanities in Ireland;
- understand the challenges facing the Irish education system and demonstrate the ability to make a strategic contribution as a well respected leader;
- position the College to best advantage within the strategic changes being devised for Irish Higher Education;
- lead and manage change through team building and effective people management and development;
- enhance the College to support students to fulfil their potential within a scholastic environment, which fosters the highest quality of teaching and learning, scholarship and research.

The ideal candidate will have relevant academic qualifications to doctoral level and a track record of teaching, scholarship and publication, with business or management qualifications. He/she will have a strong commitment to the Irish language and to maintaining and enhancing the ethos of the College.

Demonstrating a track record of organisational leadership, he/she will be an accomplished influencer and communicator and will come to the College with senior level administrative skills, the experience of significant change management and the strategic capability, including income generation abilities, to ensure the sustainable development of the College at a time of great challenge in higher education.

2. Terms of appointment

Salary

The annual salary for this position is €145,328. Candidates should note that the rate of remuneration may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government pay policy.

Superannuation

You are required to participate as a member of and contribute to the Pension Scheme for Academic, Administrative and non-Academic Staffs in Colleges of Education for National Teachers 1988 (Colleges of Education Pension Scheme, 1988) and to the Spouses and Children's Pension Scheme effective from the date of commencement of employment. A contribution of 5% of your pensionable salary shall be deducted from your remuneration for the Colleges of Education Pension Scheme and a contribution of 1.5% of your pensionable salary shall be deducted for the Spouses and Children's Pension Scheme.

Retirement

The normal retirement age is 65 years of age. Members of staff may, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Colleges of Education Pension Scheme, 1988, retire or be retired, before reaching the age of 65 years. (Non new members)

OR

The earliest age at which pension can be paid is 65 years of age. You are not required to retire on the grounds of age. (New members)

Tenure

The term of office of the new college President will be made in the first instance for a period of five years with an understanding that the period of appointment may be extended by one further period of five years.

Annual leave

The annual leave for this position is 30 working days a year and is exclusive of the usual public holidays. This allowance is subject to the usual conditions regarding the granting of annual leave, and is on the basis of a five day week.

3. *How to apply*

Applications must be made by submitting the following:

- (a) A comprehensive CV clearly showing your relevant achievements and experience in your career to date. Please include contact details for three referees
- (b) A **short (i.e. no more than 2 pages) cover letter/ personal statement** outlining why you wish to be considered for the post and where you believe your skills and experience meet the specified requirements of the role.

Please note that documents listed above should be submitted as one attachment.

Closing date

Applications, which should include a comprehensive CV demonstrating suitability for the post, are invited on or before **Friday 2nd December 2011**, and may be sent to ellen.roche@ie.pwc.com or to her at PricewaterhouseCoopers, One Spencer Dock, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1.

If you do not receive an acknowledgement of receipt of your application within 2 working days of applying, please contact Adrienne Harten at adrienne.harten@ie.pwc.com or contact Ellen Roche using the contact details provided above.

For confidential enquiries, please contact Ellen Roche, telephone 00 353 1 7926703 or Adrienne Harten, telephone 00 353 1 7927737.

Selection Process

The members of the Selection Committee will consider all applications and will agree a short-list of candidates to be interviewed.

Interviews with the Selection Committee will follow. The process may include two rounds of interviews and is likely to incorporate a presentation by the candidate to the Selection Committee.

Indicative Timeline:

- Short-listing process by mid January 2012.
- Interviews with short-listed candidates to take place by end January 2012.
- It is envisaged that the work of the Selection Committee will conclude in early March 2012.

4. About St. Patrick's College

The College and its Campus

St Patrick's College is a medium sized College of Education with over 2,500 students taking courses in Education and Humanities at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Since 1993, the College has been a College of Dublin City University and all courses are accredited by the University.

The agreement for linkage with Dublin City University (1993) facilitates active participation within the University while confirming that the separate identity of the College shall be maintained. The College's academic departments are currently divided into two faculties - the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Education - which were created as part of the linkage agreement. A new Linkage Agreement was signed in February 2008.

The main College buildings house a range of facilities including large, medium and small lecture theatres, teaching and seminar rooms, College chapel, student canteen and dining room, large auditorium, well stocked library, IT facilities, Education Resource Centre, modern gymnasium, art rooms, language lab, student residences for c300 students etc. A major new building programme, which will substantially enhance the teaching and other facilities in the College, is scheduled to recommence in the Spring of 2012.

In addition the campus also contains:

Belvedere House: Built c.1640, residents over the years include Sir Robert Booth (a relation of the Sligo Gore Booths); the Coghill family of whom Marmaduke, a Trinity scholar at fourteen years of age, became Chancellor of the Exchequer; Lord Singleton, MP for Drogheda; Lords Bowe and Lifford, Lords Chancellor; Lord Rokeby, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of the Church of Ireland. The Irish Christian Brothers established a noviciate in the house prior to transferring to Marino. It was subsequently acquired by the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin in 1883 and became the residence of the Vincentian community in whose hands the administration of the College was placed. The Vincentians formally withdrew from the administration of the College in 1999.

St. Patrick's Primary School: Established originally as a practice school for the College, it is now an autonomous entity with its own Board of Management.

The Drumcondra Education Centre: Established in 1972 to provide in-service training and resources for teachers, the Centre moved to new purpose-built premises in 1999 on a site provided by the College.

The Educational Research Centre: Established in 1966, the ERC is Ireland's only dedicated Educational Research Centre. It works at all levels of the education system, from pre-school to third level.

Educational Disadvantage Centre: Established in 1999, the mission of the Centre is to contribute to the shaping of primary education so that the cycle of educational disadvantage can be broken.

Induction: This national initiative is a collaboration with UCD, DES and the primary and secondary teacher unions which aims to develop a model of best practice for assisting newly qualified teachers in the first year in teaching.

St. Patrick's College Foundation: St. Patrick's College Foundation was established in 2009 to advance the strategic goals and objectives of the College in furtherance of education, research and teaching and learning. The Foundation is a company limited by guarantee under the direction of an independent board of directors. Campus infrastructure development is a primary objective of the Foundation.

History of the College

St Patrick's College was established in 1875 to meet the teacher training needs of a denominational primary school system. The College was initially based at numbers 1 & 2 Drumcondra Road, moving to its present site at Belvedere House in 1883. During the Presidency of Fr. Peter Byrne CM, in the 1880s and 1890s, an extensive building programme was undertaken which, along with a second major phase of development completed in 1966 during the Presidency of Dr Donal Cregan C.M. and a third completed in 1982, still forms the core of the campus.

The administration of the College was placed in the care of the Vincentian fathers where it remained until 1 September 1999. In 1999, the Vincentians withdrew from the management of the College. On 1 September, Dr Pauric Travers was appointed the first lay President of the College.

The College quickly became and remains the alma mater for a large proportion of Irish primary teachers. Its graduates have made a distinguished contribution to the educational, social and cultural life of the country. Originally an all-male College, female students were admitted for the first time in 1971; they now constitute a large majority of the student population.

In 1974, the three-year B.Ed. degree for teachers was introduced and the College became a recognised College of the NUI. In 1993, under an agreement for Institutional Linkage, St Patrick's College became a College of Dublin City University. This was followed by the inauguration of an Academic Council. In 1997, Archbishop Connell, the Manager, constituted a Governing Body, chaired by Professor Michael Herity. Under the linkage agreement with Dublin City University, two new joint Faculties were created: the Joint Faculty of Education and the Joint Faculty of Humanities.

In the early 1990s, the College embarked on a process of growth and diversification which culminated in the introduction of a variety of new programmes including a B.A. and M.A. in Humanities, a taught M.Ed. and Ph.D. by research.

The development in the Humanities field built on an existing tradition and complements the educational work of the College. The College has also had a long involvement in the area of Special Education. In 1961, a course for training teachers of children with learning difficulties was established. In 1973, an award bearing course was established to train remedial teachers in primary schools. The College currently offers graduate diplomas in advanced studies in Special Education and in Learning Support.

Mature students have played a significant role in the life of the College since its foundation. Today, approximately 25% of places on our BA in Humanities degree (one of the highest percentages in the country) and a smaller number of places on our B.Ed. programme are reserved for mature students. The academic achievements of our mature students give just cause for pride and their presence continues to enrich the life of the College.

Mission Statement

St Patrick's College Drumcondra, a College of Dublin City University, is a Catholic College for the education of primary school teachers. The mission of the College is to enhance its role in teacher education both general and special, to provide degrees in the humanities, to promote academic research and further develop postgraduate studies, while fostering excellence in all its activities.

In pursuit of its mission the College is committed to creating a community of learning in which Catholic religious values and equity are promoted and the centrality of the student maintained. Through its activities, the College Community shall view the education of children as paramount, foster the Irish language, cultivate a local, national and international awareness and protect and enhance the physical and social environment for students and staff.

