

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES November, 2008

With amendments proposed by Governing Council 2012 and approved by the House of Bishops 2013

Church of Ireland Theological Institute Governance Structures.

The Archbishop of Dublin for the time being shall be both Visitor and Ordinary of the Church of Ireland Theological Institute, provided that if the Archbishop is appointed Chairman of the Governing Council, the Archbishops and Bishops may appoint another bishop to be Visitor and Ordinary.

The Church of Ireland Theological Institute has been established by the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland in exercise of their responsibility for the selection, training and ordination of clergy for the service of the Church of Ireland. The governance structures for the Theological Institute, described below, are established by resolution of the Archbishops and Bishops for the purpose of governing and overseeing the Theological Institute on their behalf.

The Archbishops and Bishops have the power to alter the governance structures of the Theological Institute by resolution from time to time. In this regard the Archbishops and Bishops recognise the involvement of the Representative Church Body and the Standing Committee of the General Synod in the running of the Theological Institute and shall consult with those bodies as appropriate.

In establishing the governance structures for the Theological Institute, the Archbishops and Bishops also recognise the roles of the governance and management structures that have been established by separate Agreement between the Church of Ireland and Trinity College, Dublin in respect of the Masters in Theology course. (*Ref "Agreement regarding an Association in respect of inter-institutional arrangements".*)

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Role

The Archbishops and Bishops exercise strategic direction and oversight responsibilities together with exercising ultimate power of regulation through the Governing Council.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Governing Council include

- Ensuring that the ministerial training needs of the Church of Ireland are fully met
- Liaising, as and when appropriate, with the University of Dublin (Trinity College) and any other service provider engaged to deliver the ministerial training needs of the Church of Ireland
- Ensuring compliance with all legal, financial, health and safety and personnel standards
- Co-ordinating any other matters related to the provision of ministerial training either identified by the Governing Council in consultation with the Archbishops and Bishops or referred to the Council by the Archbishops and Bishops

Appointments

Nominations to the Governing Council are subject to ratification and appointment by the Archbishops and Bishops in exercise of the responsibilities of the Archbishops and Bishops as set out above.

Membership of the Governing Council

- **Chair** – appointed by the Archbishops and Bishops from among their own number
- **Two additional bishops** – appointed by the Archbishops and Bishops
- **One educational expert** – appointed by the Archbishops and Bishops
- **Two members of the Representative Church Body at least one of whom shall be a member of the RCB Executive Committee** – nominated by the RCB
- **Two members of the Standing Committee of whom one shall be a member of the clergy and one a member of the laity** – nominated by the Standing Committee

In attendance

- **The Chief Officer of the RCB** (*in officio*)
- **The Director of the Theological Institute** (*in officio*)
- **A member of the academic staff** – nominated by the academic staff and appointed by the Archbishops and Bishops
- **The Bursar of the Theological Institute** (*in officio*)
- **Two Student Representatives, one each from the cohorts undertaking the residential and the non-residential pathways respectively** –nominated by the student body
- **The Governing Council shall have power to nominate for co-option two additional members with relevant expertise**

Period of Office

Every member and co-opted member shall retire after serving a three year term and shall be eligible for re-appointment subject to a maximum term of nine consecutive years.

If a casual vacancy occurs the relevant appointing body shall fill the vacancy at its earliest opportunity. A member appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall serve the remainder of the three year term that the member whom he or she replaced was appointed to serve.

Regulation of operation and procedures

The Governing Council shall have power to make regulations for its operation and procedures and those of the Management Committee, subject to the ratification of the Archbishops and Bishops and, where appropriate, in consultation with the Representative Church Body. (*Ref "Governing Council – Regulations for operation and procedures".*)

Reporting

The Governing Council shall every five years conduct an internal review on the exercise of its responsibilities and submit a report to the Archbishops and Bishops. In the first period this will involve ensuring that the aspirations of the Archbishops and Bishops as articulated in the original project plan agreed in November 2006 are being met.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Role

The role of the Management Committee is to be an operational committee to assist the Director of the Institute in the running of the Institute, to bring financial and operational expertise to free the Director to focus on the student training and ordinand formation part of his role.

Responsibilities

Taking direction from, and reporting to, the Governing Council the responsibilities of the Management Committee include

1. Managing, on behalf of the Governing Council, the financial, operational, physical infrastructure and compliance aspects of the running of the Institute
2. Providing for the effective management of the domestic and kitchen staff of the Institute
3. Advising the Governing Council and liaising with the Representative Church Body to secure agreement on all matters relating to planning and oversight of finance, budgets and operational administration
4. Providing for effective and appropriate maintenance of all Institute plant and infrastructure and maintaining close liaison with the Representative Church Body as Trustee.

Regulation of operation and procedures

The Governing Council shall have power to make regulations for the operation and procedures of the Management Committee, subject to the ratification of the Archbishops and Bishops and, where appropriate, in consultation with the Representative Church Body.

Membership of the Management Committee

- **Chair** – appointed by the Archbishops and Bishops
- **The Director of the Institute (*in officio*)**
- **The Head of Finance of the Representative Church Body (*in officio*)**
- **The Bursar of the Institute (*in officio*)**
- **A member of the RCB Property Committee, nominated by the Representative Church Body to the Archbishops and Bishops for appointment.**
- **The Representative Church Body Solicitor (*in officio*)** – to attend as required

The Management Committee shall have power to co-opt up to three further members with relevant expertise, subject to the approval of the Governing Council and ratification by the Archbishops and Bishops.

Period of Office

Every member shall retire after serving a three year term and shall be eligible for re-appointment subject to a maximum term of nine consecutive years. If a casual vacancy occurs the Management Committee shall fill the vacancy at its earliest opportunity. A member appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall serve the remainder of the three year term that the member whom he or she replaced was appointed to serve.