



THE ROLE OF FELLOWSHIP AND PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION

Procedure No: 45

Revision: 2

Sheet of: 1 of 2

Date of Issue:

January, 2001

1. **PURPOSE**

To define the role of Fellowship and the procedures for election to Fellowship.

2. **FELLOWSHIP**

- 2.1 Provisions relating to the Fellows are to be found in Chapter V, Chapter XI and Chapter XII of the 1966 Consolidated Statutes. By statute, the Fellows are divided into two classes: the seven Senior Fellows form one class, and the remaining Fellows, the Junior Fellows, form the other.
- 2.2 The Fellows are members of the Body Corporate of the College. The Board (or governing authority), under the Trinity College, Dublin (Charter and Letters Patent Amendment) Act 2000, consists of the Provost, Vice-Provost, Senior Lecturer, Registrar and Bursar; six Fellows; five members of the academic staff who are not Fellows at least three of whom must be of a rank not higher than senior lecturer; two members of the academic staff of the rank of professor; three members of the non-academic staff; four students of the College at least one of whom shall be a post-graduate student; one member not being an employee or student of the College chosen by a committee of the Board which shall comprise the Provost and two members of the Board from among nominations made by such organizations as are representative of such business or professional interest as the Board considers appropriate; and one member appointed by the Board on the nomination of the Minister for Education and Science following consultation with the Provost. The consent of the majority of the Fellows is required to any change proposed by the Board in the Laws, Statutes and Ordinances of the College.
- 2.3 Election to Fellowship requires the assent of at least three fifths of the Fellows. Subject to this requirement, the Board may elect to Fellowship a member of the academic staff of this or another University on the grounds of “learning, promise and contribution to academic life”, or any person on the grounds of “distinguished merit in scholarship, as shown primarily by published work”. In addition, subject to the assent of at least one half of the Fellows, the Board may elect to Fellowship one or more of the Professors of the University.
- 2.4 The office of Fellow is full-time, with duties prescribed as follows: to undertake such teaching duties as are assigned by the Board; to act as examiner when required; to act in accordance with the laws, statutes, ordinances, decrees, rules and regulations made by the Board, Council, School Committees or any other bodies or officers acting in accordance with the statutes; to keep abreast of advances in scholarship and to engage in research.

2.5 Fellows are privileged members of the College community, with a significant role in College government. Election to Fellowship, is, therefore, both an honour and a form of career advancement. It cannot realistically be seen (as some have sought to argue) as analogous to membership of a body such as the Royal Irish Academy.

3. ***PROCEDURE***

3.1 During Michaelmas term the Central Fellowship Committee will begin to prepare recommendations for nomination to Fellowship, which, in the first instance, will be submitted to the Fellows. The Committee would be grateful for any information you can provide relating to any member of the academic staff whose research work would, in your opinion, pass the scrutiny of an external assessor. Scholarship or research achievement of a high order is the primary qualification for Fellowship, coupled with evidence of the candidate's contribution to the academic life of the College, as shown in particular by participation in the work of his or her Department or School and an effective record in teaching. Achievement in scholarship and research will be assessed primarily through publication. Work expressed in a form other than publication will be taken into account provided that it may be made subject to scholarly analysis and independent assessment. A candidate's contribution to the development of his or her subject nationally will, where appropriate, also be taken into account.

3.2 In the past the Fellows have recommended that candidates for Fellowship should normally have been members of the academic staff for a minimum of three years before their election. Non-Fellow Professors are normally invited to allow their names to go forward for election to Fellowship on the third Trinity Monday following the date of their appointment as Professor.

3.3 Nomination forms are available from ext 1558/1429 and should be returned to the Provost's Office, House 1, College.

The membership of the Central Fellowship Committee is as follows:

Chairman	Provost
Representatives of the Fellows	5
Representatives of the Non-Fellow Academic Staff	2
Representative of the ASA	1