Notice of Appointments

Monday 25 September 2017

Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT)’s governing body have approved the appointment of Dr Michael Mulvey as President. The outgoing Interim President, Ann Campbell, has retired.

Dr Mulvey moves into this role from his position as Director of Academic Affairs and Registrar at Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), where he has been since 2010. Prior to this, he was Director Faculty of Tourism, a Lecturer, an Assistant Head of School, and Head of School at DIT. He is also currently on the Board of the Central Applications Office (CAO).

He earned his Masters Degree and Ph.D. at Trinity College Dublin.

Speaking at the announcement, Dr Mulvey said that he was looking forward to “positioning DkIT as a key strategic partner for Education, Research and Engagement in the emerging high-tech Belfast-Dublin economic corridor”.

He begins in his role on Monday 2 October, for a period of five years.

Amendments for Public Services Card to be discussed

Tuesday and Wednesday’s Government Business will see the Second Stage discussions for the Social Welfare, Pensions and Civil Registration Bill 2017.

In the main, this Bill aims to amend three current Acts:
• the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005,
• the Pensions Act 1990, and
• the Civil Registration Act 2004

Certain amendments would be made to the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005 are “designed to deter and reduce fraud in the social welfare system”, particularly through the use of the Public Services Card. Amendments to the Act would also provide for the classification of the Public Services Card as a valid form of ID “with service providers such as credit unions and utility providers”, with an option of citizens to include their date of birth on the Card.

It would amend the Pensions Act in terms of “effective dates of actuarial funding certificates and funding standard reserve certificates”. It would also provide for “technical” amendments to the Civil Registrations Act.

You can view the Bill here.

Motions to be taken

The members of the upper house will take motions, without debate, on the following topics this week:
• Re. Appointment of Committee Chair and Adoption of the Twelfth Report of the Committee of Selection
• Re. Citizens Assembly (Extension to end March 2018)
• Re. National Planning Framework (Referral to Committee)
• Re. Sittings and business of the Dáil in budget week
• Re. Statement of Estimates for the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission
• Re. Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Kazakhstan) Order 2017 (back from Committee)
• Re. Exchange of Information relating to Tax Matters (Macao Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China) Order 2017 (back from Committee)
• Re. Regulation for the Establishment of a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) (back from Committee)
At Public Affairs Ireland

On the Blog

Outcome of Review of Government’s Capital Plan
Tom Ferris
Read here

Towards gender parity on all Irish boards
Read here

Corporate Social Responsibility: the role of the Public Sector and the future direction of sustainable development
Bernadette Phelan
Read here

We Need to Protect the Rights of Children Who Become Homeless
Jan O’Sullivan TD
Read here

RTB Quarterly Rent Index shows increased rental pressure across the country
Read here

Training

Proofreading Skills
Tuesday 10 October, 9am to 1pm

Clear, concise, correct, comprehensive, and consistent – the Five Cs of proofreading.

Each of these elements is vitally important in making sure that all of our written communication is to the highest quality, and represents us accurately.

This workshop was designed to help people develop a writing and editing style that they can be confident in. It is of particular use to those who work with the provision of information on behalf of a public body and must comply with the NDA guidelines.

For more information, or to book, click here.

You can find us on...
Tuesday 03 October

2.00 p.m.
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, LAB, RIG) (32 mins)

2.32 p.m.
Order of Business (30 mins)
Motion re. Appointment of Committee Chair and Adoption of the Twelfth Report of the Committee of Selection (without debate)
Motion re. Citizens Assembly (Extension to end March 2018) (without debate)
Motion re. National Planning Framework (Referral to Committee) (without debate)
Motion re. Sittings and business of the Dáil in budget week (without debate)

3.02 p.m.
Taoiseach’s Questions (45 mins)

3.47 p.m.
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine (90 mins)

5.17 p.m.
Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)

6.05 p.m.
Government Business: (115 mins)
Social Welfare, Pensions and Civil Registration Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Employment and Social Protection)
Water Services Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)

8.00 p.m.
Private Members Business (Independents 4 Change): Motion re. Animal Welfare (120 mins)

10.00 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

Wednesday 04 October

12.00 p.m.
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, I4C, SD-GP) (32 mins)

12.32 p.m.
Questions on Promised Legislation (30 mins)

1.02 p.m.
Taoiseach’s Questions (45 mins)

1.47 p.m.
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment (90 mins)

3.17 p.m.
Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)

4.05 p.m.
SOS (40 mins)

4.45 p.m.
Private Members Business (Fianna Fáil): Vacant Housing Refurbishment Bill 2017 - Second Stage (120 mins)

6.45 p.m.
Government Business: (210 mins)
Social Welfare, Pensions and Civil Registration Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Employment and Social Protection)
Water Services Bill 2017 - Second Stage (resumed) (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)
Legal Metrology (Measuring Instruments) Bill 2017 - Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation)
Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Bill 2016 - Amendments from the Seanad (Department of Justice and Equality)

10.15 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns

Thursday 05 October

12.00 p.m.
Leaders’ Questions (FF, SF, LAB, RIG) (32 mins)

12.32 p.m.
Questions on Promised Legislation (15 mins)
Motion re. Statement of Estimates for the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission (without debate)
Motion re. Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) (Republic of Kazakhstan) Order 2017 (back from Committee) (without debate)
Motion re. Exchange of Information relating to Tax Matters (Macao Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China) Order 2017 (back from Committee) (without debate)

12.47 p.m.
Government Business
Motion re. Regulation for the Establishment of a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) (back from Committee) (8 x 5 minute speeches)

1.27 p.m.
Weekly divisions (43 mins)

2.10 p.m.
Government Business: (80 mins)
National Archives (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht)

3.30 p.m.
P.Q.s: Oral - Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport (90 mins)

5.00 p.m.
Topical Issues (48 mins)
Private Notice Question (if any)

5.48 p.m.
Committee Report/ PMB: (120 mins)
Medical Practitioners (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Second Stage (Deputy Billy Kelleher)

7.48 p.m.
Dáil Adjourns
Tuesday 03 October

2.30 p.m.  
Commencement Matters

3.30 p.m.  
Order of Business  
Motion regarding the Citizens Assembly (Extension to end March 2018) without debate (Department of the Taoiseach)  
Motion regarding the National Planning Framework - Referral to Committee without debate (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government)

4.45 p.m.  
Statements on the Fair Deal Scheme (Minister of State for Mental Health and Older People)

Wednesday 04 October

10.30 a.m.  
Commencement Matters

11.30 a.m.  
Order of Business

12.45 p.m.  
Statements on Direct Provision (Department of Justice and Equality)

2.00 p.m.  
Statements on Well-being in Schools (Minister for Education)  
Motion regarding Europol Regulations - Back from Committee without debate (Department of Justice and Equality)

4.00 p.m.  
Private Members Business: Mental Health (Amendment) Bill 2016 - Committee Stage (Senators Joan Freeman, Gerard P. Craughwell, Marie Louise O'Donnell)

Thursday 05 October

Adjourned until 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday 10 October 2017
Tuesday 03 October

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Select)
CR2, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Motions re. Double Taxation Agreement & Tax Information Exchange Agreement (Kazakhstan & Macau) [Minister of State at the Department of Finance]

Agriculture, Food and the Marine (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:

Budgetary Oversight
CR3, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Business, Enterprise and Innovation (Joint)
CR4, LH 2000 4 p.m.
AGENDA: (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals:
(ii) Sectoral Employment Order (Construction Sector) 201 An Tánaiste and Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation
(iii) Mid-Year Review of the 2016 Estimates for Public Services - Vote 15 Business, Enterprise and Innovation & Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and Development

Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 5 p.m.
AGENDA: Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Broadcasting Act 2009 (Designation of Major Events) Order 2017 [Session A (Representatives from TV3; Session B (Representatives from the platform providers (Eir, Sky, Virgin Media, Vodafone)]

Thursday 05 October

Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Defence (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Session 1: 9:00 a.m. Discussion on the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Trade and Defence’s review of the Irish Aid Programme. [Secretary General, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Director General, Irish Aid]
Session 2: 10:45 a.m. Department of Defence and Defence Forces Strategy Session
Public Accounts
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Business of the Committee
(ii) IDA Financial Statements 2016

Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform, and Taoiseach (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
(ii) Matters relating to the banking sector (resumed) [Mr. Gery Mallon, Chief Executive, Ulster Bank]

Communications, Climate Action and Environment (Joint)
Dáil Chamber 10 a.m.
AGENDA: Mid-year review of the 2017 Estimates for Public Services-Vote 29 (Communications, Climate Action and Environment) (Resumed)
[Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment and Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment]

Future of Mental Health Care (Joint)
CR4, LH 2000 10 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Dáil Business
R160 5-Storey Block 10.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Wednesday 04 October

Seánad Public Consultation
R160 5-Storey Block 2.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Private Meeting

Health (Joint)
CR3, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: Issues in relation to Adult Safeguarding [Representatives from the Health Service Executive; Sage (Support and Advocacy Service); and the National Safeguarding Committee]

Justice and Equality (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 9 a.m.
AGENDA: (i) Proposal re European Travel Information and Authorisation System [Minister for Justice and Equality]; and (ii) Recent issues relating to An Garda Siochána [Dónal Ó Gualáin, Acting Garda Commissioner]

Housing, Planning and Local Government (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 9.30 a.m.
AGENDA: Pre-Legislative Scrutiny on the Draft General Scheme of the Building Control (Construction Industry Register Ireland) Bill 2017 [Representatives from Engineers Ireland; The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland and The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland]

Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht (Joint)
CR4, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Vote 33 - Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. Mid-Year Review [Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht]

Eighth Amendment of the Constitution (Joint)
CR3, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: Human rights issues arising from the Citizens’ Assembly recommendations
Session A - 1.45 p.m. [Ms. Emily Logan, Chief Commissioner, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, Professor Siobhan Mullaly, Member, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission]
Session B - 4.00 p.m. [Ms. Christina Zampas, Fellow of the International Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Programme, University of Toronto, Professor William Binchy, Adjunct Professor of Law, TCD, and Barrister at Law]

Transport, Tourism and Sport (Joint)
CR2, LH 2000 1.30 p.m.
AGENDA: (i) Reduction in Service Provision by Ryanair and impact on customers [Commissioner for Aviation Regulation]
(ii) Working hours of pilots and implications for pilot welfare [Representatives from Irish Airline Pilots Association]

European Union Affairs (Joint)
CR1, LH 2000 2 p.m.
AGENDA: Engagement on the Future of Europe (resumed)
Session A: 2.00 pm European Movement Ireland (EMI), [Chairperson Mr Maurice Pratt and Executive Director Ms Noelle O’Connell]
Session B: 3.00 pm Irish Creamery Milk Supplier Association (ICMSA) [President Mr John Comer and General Secretary Mr John Enright] and Macra na Feirme [National President Mr James Healy, Chief Executive Mr Denis Duggan, and Agricultural and Rural Affairs Manager Mr Derry Dillon]

This week’s Committee Meetings