



Appointment of

# President

June 2026





# Role Summary

The Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest is now seeking to appoint its **President** and is inviting suitably qualified applicants for the role.

The role of President is a critical leadership one. The person appointed will be the University's chief officer and accountable person, complying with the Code of Governance for public bodies. Reporting to the Governing Body and within the legislative framework of the Technological Universities Act (2018). This individual will bring a successful track record of senior leadership within a higher education institution, or similarly complex setting, with proven track record of empathetic leadership, strong networking and negotiation skills, and the credibility and drive to inspire a multi-campus institution going through integration with a diverse community of staff, students, regional communities and external partners around a shared university vision. They will:

## Strategic Leadership and Operational Management

- Finalise the development and implementation of the TUS's new 2027-2031 strategy and the development of related strategies and plans of action.
- Provide visible leadership of the TUS's people, inspiring and motivating staff at all levels to contribute to TUS's success.
- Drive organisational change in a post-merger environment, ensuring operational integration, stakeholder alignment, and cultural transformation.
- Take overall responsibility for all aspects of financial and budgetary management of the University.
- Ensure long term financial sustainability through diversifying the funding streams in the University, in particular to include maximising government funding, competitive research funds, online delivery, internationalisation and philanthropic commitments.
- Lead the development and implementation of operational models and systems that enhances organisational performance and effectiveness.
- Build and maintain effective relationships with the governing body, ensuring clear communication, strategic alignment, and strong engagement.
- Lead positive change relating to equality, diversity and inclusion including advancing gender equality.





## Education and Research

- Build and further strengthen excellence in teaching and learning serving as champion for teaching and learning across the University, while bringing creativity, innovation, and a forward-looking vision.
- Provide strategic leadership to enhance the student experience and expand access programmes, embedding inclusive approaches to teaching, learning and student supports leading to positive outcomes for all learners.
- Embed a whole-university research and innovation culture that strengthens research capability and impact, while growing the community of academic and student researchers.

## External Engagement

- Foster strong collaboration with industry and further strengthen partnerships to support the development of high-level skills.
- Strengthen student recruitment locally, nationally, and internationally, while enhancing the competitiveness of the University's postgraduate portfolio and increasing its share of postgraduate enrolment.

- Champion the University's regional role by building meaningful partnerships and engaging diverse constituencies to enhance educational access, participation, and regional development.
- Build upon TUS's participation in RUN-EU at a whole of institution level to strengthen the University's international reputation, partnerships, and global reach.
- Act as an ambassador for the University, representing the University locally, nationally and internationally.



# The Person

The successful candidate will be an inspiring and strategic leader, with a proven track record of achievement at an appropriately senior level in higher education, business/enterprise or the public sector. They will have highly developed leadership, organisational and communication skills combined with the strategic capability, vision and drive to shape the future of the University.

## Experience and personal qualities required:

### Strategic Leadership and Operational Management

- A track record of academic leadership in education and/or research with a doctorate qualification.
  - A successful track record of senior leadership within a higher education institution, or similarly complex setting, including delivery of results and leadership of change.
  - Experience of developing and successfully implementing a vision and strategy for a large, complex organisation.
  - Significant experience of leading in a strongly values-based organisation, with a proven ability to align people, culture, and performance with organisational mission and values.
- A proven ability to lead, manage and develop a multi-disciplinary team in a complex environment.
  - Extensive experience of change management within a large organisation undergoing significant transformation and organisational integration.
  - Experience of managing significant operational and human resources in a large and complex organisation.
  - A strong record of financial and risk management skills and experience of large scale financial and capital projects.
  - Proven track record of designing and embedding operational frameworks that improve organisational performance and effectiveness.
  - Experience and expertise in all aspects of governance and management particularly as these relate to higher education or public sector institutions.
  - A proven track record of leading positive change relating to equality, diversity and inclusion including advancing gender equality.





## Education and Research

- A strong commitment to excellence and innovation in education, with a strong track record of fostering innovation, creativity, and continuous improvement in teaching and learning.
- Evidence of commitment to inclusive education, equality of opportunity, and widening participation contributing to a learning environment where all students can succeed.
- Proven ability to deliver an outstanding student experience and widening participation initiatives and the ability to build effective relationships with the student body.
- A record of research leadership where leadership in applied research and innovation is particularly significant.
- Experience in fostering a research culture, with a focus on addressing regional, national, and global challenges.

## External Engagement

- Demonstratable networking and interpersonal skills, with a strong track record of effective senior-level representation and relationship-building across complex stakeholder environments.
- Demonstrated ability to build and sustain strategic partnerships with industry, regional stakeholders, and international collaborators.

- Significant leadership experience in driving student recruitment strategies and enhancing institutional competitiveness.
- Track record of fostering collaborative relationships across industry, community, and global networks to support regional development, student opportunity, and organisational impact.

## Personal Qualities

Exemplary personal qualities of empathy, integrity, high levels of emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills, inclusion, collaboration, agility, entrepreneurship, creativity and authenticity.




# Senior Management Team



**Prof. Vincent Cunnane**  
President



**Shane Malone**  
Director, Office of the President




**Jimmy Browne**  
Chief Operations Officer



**Prof. Raphaela Kane**  
Chief Academic Officer



**Bill Delaney**  
Vice President  
Finance and Corporate Governance




**Dr. Mary Cregg**  
Vice President  
Campus Services and Capital Development




**Marian Duggan**  
Vice President  
People and Organisation




**Donnacha McNamara**  
Vice President  
Internationalisation and Alumni




**Prof. Anthony Caleshu**  
Dean  
Limerick School of Art and Design




**Tony Mahon**  
Dean  
Engineering and Technology (Midwest Campuses)




**Dr. Sean Lyons**  
Dean  
Engineering and Technology (Athlone Campus)




**Dr. Liam Brown**  
Vice President  
Research Development and Innovation




**Dr. Lisa Moran**  
Dean  
Graduate Studies and Head of Graduate School




**Dr. Don Faller**  
Dean  
Science and Health (Athlone Campus)




**Dr. Maura Clancy**  
Dean  
Science and Health (Midwest Campuses)




**Seamus Hoyne**  
Dean  
Flexible and Work Based Learning




**Frances O'Connell**  
Vice President  
Student Education and Experience




**Dr. Michael Tobin**  
Dean  
Continuing, Professional, Online & Distance Learning



**Dr. James Griffin**  
Dean  
Business and Humanities



**Seadna Ryan**  
Dean  
Business and Hospitality



**Dr. Maria Kyne**  
Vice President  
Academic Affairs & Registrar



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