“Trinity College Dublin is a seat of learning and exploration in Ireland’s vibrant and innovative capital city. High quality research coupled with an open and spirited learning environment and state-of-the-art facilities enable our students and faculty to succeed in a highly interconnected and competitive world. The Global Relations Strategy has been put in place to ensure that the University is recognised throughout the world for its distinctive qualities as an intellectual and educational hub.”

Professor Jane Ohlmeyer
Vice President for Global Relations
Becoming a Global Intellectual Hub

We live in an interconnected world mobilised by technological advances that allow rapid and effective communication across cultures, time zones, languages and borders. In this environment of increased global interplay the challenges facing Trinity College Dublin are far greater than they have been in the past, as are the opportunities. Universities worldwide are operating in the context of a challenging and changing global economic climate. We must discover how best to work together to find solutions to diverse cultural, economic and governmental environments, and to ensure that Trinity College Dublin secures a lasting future where it is recognised internationally as a global intellectual hub in which students, faculty and visitors come together to showcase new innovations and ideas that will have a global reach and impact.

In September 2012 Trinity College Dublin launched its Global Relations Strategy which consolidates the University’s internationalisation activities, invigorating and upholding Trinity’s global reputation and securing its ambition to become a university of global consequence. The strategy highlights the University’s commitment to promoting Trinity’s international profile and establishing its position as a global intellectual hub where students, staff and faculty engage in discoveries and innovations with worldwide applications.

This document presents the highlights of Trinity’s Global Relations Strategy through 2013 and emphasises the College’s engagement with key regions and countries around the world, the continued development of worldwide collaborations, and the integration of international experiences for all of the College community. The implementation of the strategy is helping to drive up the University’s international profile with the QS World University Rankings rating Trinity 61st in the world and first in Ireland. Built on a history of over 420 years, featuring a global network of 95,000 alumni and supporting a community of over 17,000 students and staff from around the world, this strategy sets out how Trinity College Dublin has aligned itself to face the challenges of the future.
Partnerships

Trinity College Dublin continues to build partnerships that enhance the University’s international profile and reputation. These relationships have been formed at institution, faculty and researcher level, all of which focus on research synergies and shared academic interests that promise to augment teaching and learning.

Since September 2012 the Vice President for Global Relations, Professor Jane Ohlmeyer, has led 41 recruitment and profile-raising trips to 19 countries including Brazil, Canada, China, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Singapore, Turkey, Sri Lanka, USA and Russia. In addition to building new research relationships and strengthening existing partnerships with universities abroad, developing Memorandums of Understanding and Student Exchange Agreements, meeting policy makers and funders, visiting targeted high schools, and connecting with Trinity alumni, these trips have offered the University opportunities to deepen relationships with domestic stakeholders including the Department of Foreign Affairs, Enterprise Ireland, IDA and government ministers through partaking in ministerial missions abroad.

Below: Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast pictured with Her Excellency the Ambassador of India to Ireland Radhika L. Lokesh, at the launch of the ISCA with Professor Mani Ramaswami, Professor Vincent Cahill and Vice President for Global Relations, Professor Jane Ohlmeyer.
India

Trinity College Dublin’s engagement with India forms a core part of the University’s global strategy. The College has actively developed research collaborations and industry partnerships with Indian institutions, is actively encouraging the mobility of staff and students between the two countries, and has highlighted its commitment to India by opening a permanent office in Delhi.

Since February 2012 Trinity has sent six large academic delegations to India and visited 12 cities. These trips aimed to strengthen key relationships with partners, develop joint research opportunities, and raise the profile of the university among Indian students. The University has engaged in a broad range of activities, including the announcement of scholarship opportunities for Indian students, the bringing together of researchers from Trinity with leading Indian academics, the signing of collaboration agreements, and cinema screenings of Bollywood blockbuster Ek Tha Tiger which was filmed on Trinity’s campus.

Trinity now has relationships with many leading Indian institutions including IIT Delhi, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, the Indian Institute of Science, Delhi University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Presidency University and Lady Shri Ram College for Women. Trinity has also developed partnerships with some of India’s leading corporations including Biocon Limited, Asia’s premier biotechnology company, and the Keventer Group.

Science Foundation Ireland’s International Strategic Cooperation Awards

As part of a new drive to promote Ireland’s scientific, educational and technological reputation abroad, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) has financed a programme known as the International Strategic Cooperation Award (ISCA). The ISCA is part of a broad programme that supports new and existing research-based collaborations between Ireland’s Higher Education Institutions and partner organisations in China, Brazil and India.

Trinity College Dublin is leading the ISCA India consortium under the direction of the Dean of Research, Professor Vincent Cahill and Professor of Neurogenetics, Professor Mani Ramaswami who will provide a coordinated national approach to promote Ireland’s scientific and technological reputation in India and to highlight Ireland’s attractiveness as an international research partner. In addition to stimulating specific collaborations, the SFI funding of €715,000 will go towards organising showcase events and workshops in both countries to provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and the development of joint innovative proposals.
China

Engagement with China has significantly increased and the opening of a Trinity office in Shanghai will concentrate the University’s efforts at showcasing its world-class research strengths. The Chinese market is both a tremendous opportunity and challenge for any foreign university; however, through investment in student recruitment activity, marketing and PR, and alumni development, Trinity is beginning to leverage its significant potential.

China is a nexus for several important collaborations. Trinity academics across a number of disciplines are engaged in academic collaborations with their Chinese counterparts to meet some of the major global challenges of the coming years in terms of healthcare, sustainable provision of food and water, urban planning and technology. Partnership agreements exist with many leading Chinese institutions including Peking University, Beihang University and Tsinghua University. In March 2013 Trinity participated in a delegation led by Ireland’s Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn, to Beijing, Fuzhou, Hong Kong and Shanghai. This official state visit aimed to strengthen Irish-Chinese education and trade ties and allowed Trinity to build on the formal partnership agreements that exist with some of China’s best universities and develop opportunities for student and staff exchanges between the two nations.

“China is an important and growing partner in trade, education, food and agri-business, investment and tourism. There are already strong educational and cultural ties between our two countries and vibrant immigrant communities in each country. I am delighted to contribute towards further developing these close and mutually beneficial links.”

Ruairí Quinn
Minister for Education and Skills
In October 2012 the Provost of Trinity College Dublin signed the first international collaboration of its kind for the University whereby it will provide degrees in occupational therapy and physiotherapy to students in Singapore. In collaboration with the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT), the degrees are designed, taught and awarded by Trinity College Dublin. The signing of the agreement was witnessed by the Minister for Health in Singapore, Mr Gan Kim Yong. In June 2013, 80 Singaporean students graduated in Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy in Trinity. The popularity of the course is highlighted by the number of enrollments in the 2013/14 programmes and the course model is being explored as a template for expanding into other markets.

“The success of the strategic partnership with SIT has highlighted the importance of developing global academic links. The international exposure and experience has led to a positive student experience and we look forward to building on the achievements of the past year.”

Professor Jane Ohlmeyer
Vice President for Global Relations

Singapore
North America

Trinity College Dublin has longstanding relationships with North American institutions and these have been further consolidated within the last year with the establishment of a base in New York. This new office will coordinate Trinity’s activities with the USA and Canada.

North American students make up the largest international cohort studying at Trinity. Significant numbers of alumni currently live in North America and the University has been working hard to leverage the networks of Trinity graduates that live in the region through planned events and outreach activities.

In June 2013 Trinity College Dublin welcomed the US First Lady, Michelle Obama, and her two daughters, Sasha and Malia. During their visit the Provost, Dr Patrick Prendergast, introduced them to the Book of Kells. They also visited Trinity’s Long Room and were given a presentation on their family genealogy and personal connections to Ireland, compiled by one of Trinity’s own spin-out heritage and archives companies, Eneclann. In concluding their tour of the Long Room at Trinity, the Provost emphasised the need to continue forging innovative research and academic synergies and partnerships with leading universities in America.
University Guides

In 2013 Trinity College Dublin was selected to feature in both *The Princeton Review* ‘Best 378 Colleges’ and the *Fiske Guide to Colleges 2014* which also highlighted Trinity as one of 21 ‘Best Buy’ public colleges. These publications are the most respected annual college guides in the USA and are read by millions of students, parents and guidance counselors.

Each year the guides choose a select group of international universities to profile. Trinity was the only Irish university to feature in the *Fiske Guide*, and one of only four colleges outside the USA to feature in *The Princeton Review*’s flagship college guide.
Latin America

The most significant development thus far for Trinity College Dublin in Latin America has been the commencement of the Brazilian Government’s ‘Science Without Borders’ scholarship programme. This programme seeks to strengthen and expand the initiatives of science and technology, innovation and competitiveness through international mobility. In order to address national challenges, the Brazilian government is seeking to increase the number of PhDs relative to the population, improve the interaction between academia and both the business sector and civil society, promote international collaborations in scientific publications, and increase patent applications nationally and internationally. Trinity proved to be the most popular of all Irish universities for Brazilian applicants, highlighting the existing opportunities for Trinity in Brazil. In September 2013, Trinity welcomed 65 Brazilian students who are participating in a range of courses across the Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science.

Trinity College Dublin has longstanding links with Brazil. In October 2012, Trinity signed a strategic partnership with the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil’s top university. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) formed part of Enterprise Ireland’s trade mission to Brazil led by the Minister for Trade and Development, Joe Costello, which coincided with the visit of President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins to Latin America.

There are a range of strategic opportunities for Trinity College Dublin with regards to developing engagement and collaboration with Latin America. Trips to Mexico, Chile and Argentina have already been planned and the University aims to engage in a wide range of international activity in the region.
Turkey

Turkey shows great promise for Trinity College Dublin in terms of student and staff mobility, and the realisation of research into commercial applications. During a visit to Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir in April 2013 the University signed a strategic partnership with Turkey’s leading university, Middle East Technical University (METU). The signing of the agreement, which formed part of a government trade mission to Turkey led by Ireland’s Minister for Foreign Affairs, Eamon Gilmore, will facilitate research and teaching exchanges between the two universities and will help develop links between Trinity researchers and their commercial and academic counterparts in Turkey.

METU is known for its strong links with industry and has a number of enterprise units on campus. The important connection between academic research and industry is reflected in the funding secured by METU from the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) over the last five years. This formal agreement will encourage links between Trinity researchers and their commercial and academic counterparts in Turkey.

A new undergraduate Erasmus agreement was signed between the Department of Geological Engineering at METU and Trinity’s Department of Geology. The development of the new Erasmus agreement will further strengthen links with industry in Turkey and provide valuable experience for undergraduate students.

Below: Signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Trinity, Vice President for Academic Affairs at METU, Professor Dr H. Nevzat Ozguven, commented that the agreement “will stimulate fruitful academic collaborations in the future and create an environment conducive to deepening scientific relations between Ireland and Turkey”.

Global Relations Strategy Update 9
Trinity College Dublin encourages all Trinity students to spend time abroad to gain greater international experience. Developing opportunities for students is one of the strategic priorities of the Global Relations Strategy. The University is interested in both attracting high-achieving international students to Dublin and also encouraging and supporting our students to travel internationally and gain valuable international experiences as part of their degrees at Trinity, experiences that will add significantly to their personal development.

The number of students choosing to study in Europe on the Erasmus student exchange programme and on non-EU exchange programmes continues to increase. Likewise, the number of students choosing Trinity for their international educational experience is on the rise. The goal is for most Trinity students to have an international experience before they graduate. To achieve this, the University provides Trinity students with information on the opportunities available for internationalising their educational experience through Erasmus exchanges, study abroad, volunteer organisations and work abroad placements. Another key objective is to ensure that international students are fully integrated into campus life and to ensure the University provides supports and services for international students who are adjusting to life in Dublin and study at Trinity.

Trinity continues to score highly in the International Student Barometer (ISB), an externally monitored survey (run by i-graduate), on the learning and teaching environment, support services and the living experience at Trinity. The ISB benchmarks the University against Irish, UK and global universities who participate in the survey.
“Students here have easy and wide access to both public sectors and corporates due to Trinity’s great location and its high reputation. Studying at a member state of the EU, I learn to view things from the much wider context of the whole Europe.”

Wenyi Sun
Undergraduate student from Shanghai, China
What our students say:

“The professors are all extremely educated and passionate about what they are teaching. I know I am in good hands. I do the most critical thinking in the tutorial sessions.”

“Trinity has a high standard of education and challenges you a lot. You really evolve with the challenge, though it is a lot of pressure as well. It is good for people who want to achieve and learn.”
Developing a campus that is international in orientation is key to the University’s future success in internationalisation. Ensuring an inclusive and multicultural environment on campus is of great importance to the University. Working with student societies, a number of international events have been organised on campus to embrace and promote multiculturalism within the College. To date, these have included the Indian festivals of Holi and Diwali, the Chinese New Year and the North American celebration of Thanksgiving.

A new Global Room opened in September 2013. This space provides students with the supports and facilities to allow them to fully interact with the diverse range of international opportunities on offer and encourages them to grow into global citizens. The Global Room acts as a global hub on campus and is staffed by a team of Student Ambassadors who help fellow and prospective students to identify and connect with Trinity’s global network.

The entire Trinity community can benefit from increasing international diversity among the student body and creating a more diverse culture on campus. This exposure to different beliefs, viewpoints and values within lecture theatres, laboratories and residences is essential for students who will enter the marketplace as fully engaged global citizens.

“I love Trinity and the international experience! I have met fantastic people and I love my course. Dublin is a wonderful place to live. Trinity has a very active campus and there are many social opportunities.”

Anonymous student comments from the International Student Barometer (ISB).

Above: The Chinese Year of the Snake was celebrated on campus with a traditional Dragon dance in Front Square, believed to bring good luck.
Trinity College Dublin remains the top institution in Ireland for attracting funding. The University also continues its success in securing international funding and to date has received significant support from the European Research Council (ERC) in the form of six ERC Advanced Grants and eight ERC Starting Grants. The ERC grants are awarded for projects that are highly ambitious and pioneering, and aim to allow exceptional research leaders to pursue groundbreaking, high-risk projects.

The Russian Ministry of Research and Education awarded a grant of 90 million RUB (approx. €2.2 million) to Professor of Inorganic and Materials Chemistry, Yurii Gun’ko. The highly competitive grant will fund the establishment of a new Laboratory of Anisotropic Nanostructures at Saint Petersburg State University of Information, Technologies, Mechanics and Optics (ITMO). ITMO is a leading Russian University in information technology and optics. The grant presents an opportunity to develop research collaboration between Trinity College Dublin and ITMO which will encourage postgraduate students training and exchange between Russian and Ireland.
Alumni Community

“For over four centuries Trinity has remained dedicated to creating an academic environment that encourages critical thinking. Student life at Trinity is unique and gave me an opportunity to forge unforgettable and lasting friendships. I am confident that the University will continue to build on its impressive legacy, adapting to deliver new areas of study that serve global needs and endowing future generations of students with the honour of a Trinity education. As a Trinity graduate that is part of this renowned global network I fully support the University’s international endeavours and I look forward to the future with confidence as we work together to ensure Trinity’s international reputation.”

Sean Reynolds, Trinity BA, BAI Engineering graduate and Managing Director, Hedge Fund Strategies, Lazard Asset Management, LLC.

Trinity College Dublin’s global alumni community is one of the College’s greatest assets. With over 95,000 alumni spread across the world, this group of Trinity ambassadors has helped to advance the University’s work abroad for more than 400 years. To date, alumni have performed a wide variety of services for the College, from teaching and learning to administration and strategic support. They have supported students with the running of clubs and societies, in their search for careers after College, and by maintaining their links with College via the many alumni branches and affinity groups around the world. They have also assisted with outreach activities abroad and have counselled prospective students on what they may expect as a student of Trinity. More information about the numerous ways you can get involved with Trinity as an alumnus, both at home and abroad, is available online at www.tcd.ie/alumni/volunteers
Trinity’s highly acclaimed Science Gallery has been bringing cutting-edge developments in science, technology and the arts to the general public since 2008 through interactive and award-winning exhibits. The development of Science Gallery International in 2012 has allowed the University to explore how this unique concept can be exported beyond Ireland and plans are underway to establish eight galleries worldwide by 2020, building on the model of public engagement developed in Trinity. King’s College London is currently developing a Science Gallery in the London Bridge Quarter with a projected opening date in 2015. Exploratory studies are currently underway in Bangalore to establish the potential for an Indian node of the Science Gallery, while plans continue for partnerships with leading universities in other key cities such as Melbourne, Moscow, New York and Singapore.
Since the launch of the Global Relations Strategy we have undertaken an integrated approach to raising the profile of Trinity College Dublin internationally and positioning the University as a leading global intellectual hub. Through engagement and consultation we have sought to work more collaboratively as an institution. We have explored new ways to tap into our networks and reconnect with our alumni. Using cross-cultural events we have attempted to embed internationalisation into the very fabric of our university to ensure the student experience is diverse and enriching. The new Global Relations website (www.tcd.ie/globalrelations) showcases our outreach activity and visitors to the site continue to increase month on month. Our social connectedness across multiple platforms offers an accessible way for us to exchange information and interact with our community and the wider public.

Our global journey continues and we move forward on that journey as a community, working together for a mutual goal of stability and shared enrichment. We are aiming to foster a community that is international in nature and forward looking in orientation. All those associated with Trinity play a vital role in this journey. Our focus on education, internationalisation, innovation, research, employability and sustainability is essential in assisting our students and faculty to create an intellectual hub which will help the world through ground-breaking discoveries and simultaneously help Trinity to become a university of global consequence in its own right and a university for Ireland on the world stage.
Vice President for Global Relations
Professor Jane Ohlmeyer
East Theatre
Trinity College
Dublin 2
Ireland
Tel: +353 (1) 896 4494
Email: tcdglobal@tcd.ie

Director of Internationalisation
Sinéad Ryan
East Theatre
Trinity College
Dublin 2
Ireland
Tel: +353 (1) 896 4671
Email: sinead.ryan@tcd.ie

Director of Alumni & Development Office
Nick Sparrow
East Chapel
Trinity College
Dublin 2
Ireland
Tel: +353 (1) 896 1031
Email: nick.sparrow@tcd.ie

Alumni Director
John Dillon
East Chapel
Trinity College
Dublin 2
Ireland
Tel: +353 (1) 896 2662
Email: john.dillon@tcd.ie