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As Chairman of the Governing Body of Athlone Institute of Technology, it gives me great pleasure to present the annual report for the academic year 2013/2014.

This reporting period heralds my last full academic year as Chair of the Governing Body for AIT and in that I am delighted to report that in this academic year Athlone Institute of Technology was the runner-up institute of technology in The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2014. AIT jumped seven places in this year’s table and now ranks eleventh overall and fourth among the institutes of technology.

The past year has seen a virtual doubling of research income to €6.4 million, with the Applied Polymer Technologies Ireland research centre among the beneficiaries. The centre aims to build on AIT’s record in polymer research and to develop products which feed into the medical and pharmaceutical industries.

Sports facilities – and athletics in particular – have also seen a major investment with the opening of the International Arena last February.

Collaboration continued to grow with the signing of an agreement with Longford Westmeath Education and Training Board. Students in Westmeath and Longford will benefit from a new cooperation agreement signed whereby AIT has committed to assisting in the design, development and monitoring of specific Post-Leaving Certificate programmes to be provided by AIT in conjunction with LWETB.

I would like to acknowledge all of the above as a testament to the commitment of all of the staff of AIT in fulfilling the vision of the Institute to become a college of choice for learners and staff, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Once again, I look forward to working with the institute’s President, Governing Body members, management and staff in the forthcoming academic year.
This annual report covers the period from 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014.

In the current economic climate, as talk of austerity coming to an end fills the media, it is important for Irish Higher Education providers to be aware of the needs of employers and meeting their current demands. During this academic year, the Higher Education Authority (HEA) published the National Survey of Employers Views of Irish Higher Education Outcomes. In that report over 75% of companies are confident about graduates having the right workplace and transferable skills and relevant subject or discipline knowledge. This is encouraging for the higher education landscape in Ireland but it does signify that there is work to be done to increase the satisfaction rate of employers with graduates to 100%. This is work that staff and management here at AIT are committed to and this is demonstrated through the introduction of new programmes to meet industry needs, and in particular the introduction of new programmes in the Department of Lifelong Learning. The HEA report on part-time and flexible higher education in Ireland, also published this year, points to the National and International evidence which consistently shows the link between levels of educational attainment among adults and opportunities for employment. This is a link that AIT is committed to developing and pro-actively promoting within the region.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Governing Body for their continued support and advice during the period of review. I would also like to record my appreciation to the management team and all staff of the institute for their continued dedication and commitment to the institute.

Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin
President
Athlone Institute of Technology
Governance

2.1 Governing Body Members

Ex-Officio Members as per Section 4 of the 1992 Act
Mr. Paul Breen [Chairperson Section 2(a)]
Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin [Director, Section 2(b)]

Governing Body Members as per Section 4 of the 1994 Act

Under Section 4(1)(a) and (b)
Cllr. Jim Henson
Cllr. Orla Leyden
Cllr. Jarlath Mc Donagh
Mr. Edward Mc Evoy
Ms. Mary Toher
Cllr. Gabrielle Mc Fadden

Under Section 4(1)(c)
Mr. Kevin Mc Loughlin until September 2013
Dr. Marc Cashin from October 2013
Ms. Brigid Delamere

Under Section 4(1)(d)
Mr. Daniel Coulter
Ms. Michaela Hannick

Under Section 4(1)(e)
Mr. Joseph LaCumbre

Under Section 4(1)(f)
Ms. Breda Crehan-Roche
Ms. Yvonne Kennedy
Mr. Liam Rhatigan
Mr. Fergal Lynam

2.2 Management and Senior Staff
The Institute has four schools: Schools of Business, Humanities, Engineering and Science, which in turn are further divided into Departments to provide courses/programmes of study to students. Each School has a Head of School and relevant Heads of Department.

President  Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin
Registrar  Dr. Joseph Ryan
Secretary/Financial Controller  Mr. John McKenna
Head of School of Business  Mr. Kevin Mc Loughlin
Head of Department Professional Accountancy  Mr. Brendan Doyle
Financial Services and Business Computing  Mr. Owain Ross
Head of Department of Business and Management Studies  Dr. Marian Fitzgibbon
Head of School of Humanities  Mr. Oliver Hegarty
Head of Department of Humanities  Mr. John O’Hara
Head of School of Engineering  Dr. Austin Hanley
Head of Department of Civil, Construction and Mineral Engineering  Mr. Fergal Sweeney
Head of Department of Mechanical, Mechatronics, Software and Electronic Engineering  Mr. Marcus Rahilly
Head of Department of Mechanical and Polymer Engineering and Trades  Mr. Joe Lawless
Head of School of Science  Vacant
Head of Department of Life and Physical Sciences  Dr. Don Faller
Head of Department of Nursing and Health Sciences  Dr. Pearse Murphy
Director of Research  Mr. Paul Killeen
Marketing and Communications Manager  Ms. Brian Lynch
Head of School of Lifelong Learning  Dr. Michael Tobin
Head of Department of Lifelong Learning  Ms. Jackie Farrell
Academic Affairs & Student Administration Manager  Ms. Dympna Fitzgerald acting from February 2014
Finance Manager  Ms. Betty Buckley
Human Resources Manager  Ms. Liam Brennan
Librarian  Ms. Josephine Corkery
Information Technology Manager  Mr. Rossa Coleman
Estates Manager  Mr. Cormac Cloonan
External Services Manager  Ms. Helen Fitzsimons/Ms. Lorna Walsh
Director of International Relations  Ms. Mary Simpson
Student Services Manager  Ms. Sarah La Cumbre

Secretary to the Governing Body
Mr. John Mc Kenna
The Academic Council is the Statutory Body appointed by the Governing Body to assist in planning, co-ordinating, developing and overseeing the academic/educational activities of the Institute. The Academic Council, and its sub-committees, protect, maintain and develop academic standards throughout the Institute, and advise the Governing Body on all relevant matters relating to academic standards.

3.1 Academic Council Membership
Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin (Chair), Dr. Joseph Ryan, Mr. Paul Killeen, Mr. Eoin Langan, Dr. Austin Harley, Dr. Marian Fitzgibbon, Dr. Don Faller, Dr. Pearse Murphy, Ms. Jo Corkery, Ms. Cora Mc Cormack, Ms. Sarah Lumbre, Mr. Brendan Doyle, Mr. Marcus Rahilly, Mr. John O’Hara, Dr. Michael Tobin, Dr. Marc Cashin, Mr. Tom O’Donoghue, Ms. Brenda Reilly, Mr. Anthony Corrins, Mr. Jim Mc Namara, Mr. Denis McCarthy, Mr. Kevin Mc Laughlin, Ms. Dympna Scanlon, Ms. Marie O’Halloran, Dr. Noreen Morris, MS. Beatrice Moran, Dr. Concepta Brougham, Mr. Daniel Coulther, Mr. Andrew Slevin, Ms. Sumit Dawar, Mr. Thomas Berry

3.2 Academic Developments
3.2.1 General
Athlone Institute of Technology was the runner-up institute of technology in The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2014.

AIT jumped seven places in this year’s table and now ranks eleventh overall and fourth among the institutes of technology. The past year has seen a virtual doubling of research income to €6.4 million, with the Applied Polymer Technologies Ireland research centre among the beneficiaries. The centre aims to build on AIT’s record in polymer research and to develop products which feed into the medical and pharmaceutical industries. Sports facilities – and athletics in particular – have also seen a major investment with the opening of the International Arena last February.

AIT president, Prof. Ciarán Ó Catháin, welcomed the news, saying “the institute’s excellent performance this year is recognition of the hard work and commitment of our staff team. We have invested significantly in our campus infrastructure, but it is the entire team of academics, administration and support staff that ensures we are delivering the best possible education for our students. That’s what AIT is about – giving people the knowledge and skills to enable them reach their potential and go on to enjoy career and life success.”

The National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning
The National Forum which was launched by the Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn, T.D., is the key system-level infrastructure for the enhancement of teaching and learning in Irish higher education, and for the implementation of the recommendations of the National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030 in this area. These recommendations include providing all students with the highest quality teaching and learning experience, integrating research with teaching and learning, enhancing the first-year experience of students through the provision of more broad-based, interdisciplinary curricula; enhancing the flexibility of programme provision; and strengthening the focus on learning outcomes to ensure that all graduates acquire the key transferable skills and core competences that are needed in the economy and society of the twenty-first century. These priorities are also informing the build of the new strategic plan within AIT.

The National Forum launched its Student–Led Teaching Awards with many of the student unions/representatives in different Higher Education institutions nationally encouraging students to nominate their ‘Teaching Hero’. This is proposed as the first phase of what will be an emerging series of awards.

AIT submitted three proposals under the National Seminars scheme around the enhancement theme of the Forum ‘Teaching for Transitions’.

"the institute’s excellent performance this year is recognition of the hard work and commitment of our staff team"
Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin
AIT successful proposals

“Let’s not reinvent the wheel: lessons learned from the Student Transition and Retention STAR - Project” Professor Mark Davies, Professor of Bioscience, University of Sunderland who was a member of the STAR project team led by Professor Tony Cook from the University of Ulster.

“The Flipped Classroom - facilitating the transition to Blended Learning” Professor Grainne Conole, Director of Learning Innovation, University of Leicester and Professor Mark Brown recently appointed as Director of the National Institute of Digital Learning, DCU, Dr Bryan Mc Cabe of NUIG.

“Universal Design in Learning - building the pathway to the diverse classroom” Facilitated by an international expert and a representative from the Irish Council for International Students (ICOS).

Signing of Agreement with Longford Westmeath Education and Training Board

Students in Westmeath and Longford will benefit from a new cooperation agreement signed between Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) and Longford and Westmeath Education and Training Board (LWETB). Under the terms of the agreement, AIT has committed to assisting in the design, development and monitoring of specific Post-Leaving Certificate programmes to be provided by AIT in conjunction with LWETB. The agreement establishes a formal linkage between both institutions, which will enhance the access and progression opportunities for further education and training students into higher education.

Academic registrar at AIT, Dr Joseph Ryan, welcomed the agreement, saying that: “This agreement reflects the institute’s strategic commitment to meaningful engagement with our education partners, and specifically to enhancing progression opportunities from further to higher education. While this reflects the national agenda, AIT has been to the fore in facilitating this transition, which ultimately supports the agenda of lifelong learning.”

Dr Christy Duffy, chief executive of LWETB, stated: “This is a wonderful opportunity for students doing PLC courses with Longford and Westmeath ETB to get access to a range of degree programmes in AIT. Recognising the importance of mature students to both institutions, the parties have agreed to put in place dedicated supports for mature learners.”

“this agreement reflects the institute’s strategic commitment to meaningful engagement with our education partners”

Dr Joseph Ryan on signing of Education Agreement
3.2.2 School of Business

The Business School welcomed forty four Italian students from Politecnico di Torino into year 2 of the Higher Certificate in Business and twenty six into the Bachelor of Business (Honours) Year 4 programmes.

HSBC donated €3,000 to support Business students via the Access programme under the umbrella of their Corporate Sustainability Committee. HSBC recognise that the burden of college fees, cost of living, and other relevant expenses are placing a huge financial burden on students, leading some to drop out of third level education completely. Based on this fact, HSBC have made funds available to aid students in keeping their educational aspirations on track, and to achieve their dreams of a degree.

AIT’s Entrepreneurship Academy – InnovAIT

Ms Lorraine Murphy recently visited CCI – Chernobyl Children International headquarters in Cork where the CEO Ms Adi Roche spent an afternoon providing mentoring and coaching Lorraine in advance of the launch of her new charitable organisation: ONE – Our New Ear, which will support both parents and children in preparation for and implementation of ocular implants. Adi and her staff were highly supportive and provided considerable documentation and processes to help with the smooth transition from start-up to functioning organisation, benefiting from 35 years of CCI’s experience.

Dr Marc Cashin, who accompanied Lorraine and met with Adi, noted that the information and assistance provided by Adi and her team was invaluable, particularly at this critical point in advance of the launch of ONE.

3.2.3 School of Humanities

The School together with Midland Simon hosted an international conference on Housing First.

The School is engaging with a range of organisations in the disability sector to consider an approach to opening third level opportunities for people with disabilities.

MA student Ms. Maria Glynn presented a paper entitled ‘The Obligation to Protect and Assist Victims of Human Trafficking’ at an international conference in Switzerland. Maria’s research is being supervised by Dr. Chris Mc Dermott and Dr. Sheila McGree.

A pilot initiative between course lecturers and the RTÉ Sports Department resulted in Niall O’Flynn, Senior Editor/Producer and Ray Donoghue, Manager of On-Line Sport at RTÉ delivering two engaging lectures to students on “Working with the media”.

Students from the Spa & Wellness Management programme organised a Holistic Health Day event. The day was a great success, with a broad range of small, medium and large businesses represented in the field of health, wellness and complementary therapies. The students produced a professional, organised and well run event, representing themselves and the institute admirably. The event necessitated co-operation between several departments and lecturers in order to set linked assessments, make available facilities & equipment, produce food, smoothies & water and so much more. The result was a truly authentic learning experience for the students, linking every module of their programme.
Sgt. Major Tommy Lynam from the Engineering Corps of the Irish Defence Forces conducted a demonstration on Land Mines followed by a lecture on problems with the removal of land mines in former Yugoslavia. Using real-life props and images, Sgt. Major Lynam told of his UN experiences; the scientific, engineering and humanitarian challenges facing war-torn regions where the Engineering Corps is deployed. Sgt. Major Lynam is a land mines expert with the Irish Defense Forces and also a graduate from AIT’s BSc in Environmental Health & Safety Management.

BSc in Dental Practice Management students had the opportunity to visit local national schools. They gave a talk in a number of different interactive stations, encouraging and receiving participation from the children. The stations were broadly divided into two oral hygiene areas and two sugar stands. The oral hygiene area involved a flossing demonstration with a plaque test performed on the children to highlight areas of the mouth requiring better brushing. The sugar station involved the children distributing food correctly over a 12 hour period to avoid ‘acid attacks’.

The Annual Midland Regional Science Quiz was also held. This was the Midlands Regional heat of the National Science Table Quiz, coordinated nationally by the Irish Science Teachers Association (ISTA) for secondary school students studying the pillar science subjects of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. 21 teams competed from across the Midlands. Our Lady’s Bower Athlone won first prize.

125 pupils from local primary schools were invited to a demonstration called ‘Fantastic Furry & Freaky Friends’. PetWorld Athlone brought along a selection of exotic reptiles for the children to see and gave a talk about physiological differences between predator and prey, and caring for the needs of each. Gillian Coughlan RVN gave an overview of responsible pet care, with the assistance of her 80 kg Newfoundland, Tyson. Seamus McCann followed with an energetic talk on the environmental impact of bee-keeping.

Sgt. Major Tommy Lynam from the Engineering Corps of the Irish Defence Forces conducted a demonstration on Land Mines followed by a lecture on problems with the removal of land mines in former Yugoslavia. Using real-life props and images, Sgt. Major Lynam told of his UN experiences; the scientific, engineering and humanitarian challenges facing war-torn regions where the Engineering Corps is deployed. Sgt. Major Lynam is a land mines expert with the Irish Defense Forces and also a graduate from AIT’s BSc in Environmental Health & Safety Management.

Hongtao Yu completed 6 months as a visiting lecturer within the department of mechanical engineering. This is part of a programme of collaboration (academic exchange) between AIT and ECIT that will see mechanical engineering students transfer from ECIT to attend bachelor of engineering programmes within that discipline.
The Department has continued to be successful in the new initiative launched earlier this year to assist the adult learner ‘return to learning’. The initiative is titled ‘Take the First Step with our part-funded Return to Learning Programmes’, where students may attend one of either:

- Learning to Learn
- Assertiveness and Self Confidence

The Department of Lifelong Learning held an art exhibition in the Glasson Art Gallery from 27th January to 10th February. The exhibition was hosted by Mr. Stephen Mitchell owner of the Gallery after attending some sessions of the ‘Introduction to Oil Painting’ class as delivered by Ms. Non Waters.

The Department published and subsequently launched the part-time prospectus and flyer at the Kilbeggan Racecourse on Friday May 16th.
3.4 Student Statistics

A brief summary of student statistics is given.

3.4.1 Central Applications Office (CAO) Preferences

The Central Applications Office (CAO) processes applications centrally for admission to undergraduate courses in member institutions of third-level education. The statistics for entry to Athlone Institute of Technology in September 2013 were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>No. of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Preferences¹</td>
<td>20,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Preferences²</td>
<td>4,209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptances (net)²³</td>
<td>1,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered⁴</td>
<td>1,073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Total number of preference mentions of Athlone Institute of Technology in the total CAO preference list.
² Number of CAO applicants ranking a course at Athlone Institute of Technology as their first choice.
³ The number of acceptances of CAO offers for a place at Athlone Institute of Technology, that are not superseded by an offer elsewhere.
⁴ The number of students offered a place at Athlone Institute of Technology by the CAO who actually took up that place at the Institute.

3.4.2 Number of Students Registered by Course Level as at 1st March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>No. of Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FETAC Advanced Certificate</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation (Undergraduate)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters Research (Postgraduate)</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters Taught (Postgraduate)</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD (Postgraduate)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Occasional</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Training Qualification (Undergraduate)</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Certificate</td>
<td>1339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Diploma</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate General Degree</td>
<td>1359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Honours Degree</td>
<td>1685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Occasional</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>5295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.3 Number of Students Registered by Course mode as at 1st March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate*</td>
<td>3866</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>4861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>4124</td>
<td>1171</td>
<td>5295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Undergraduate part-time figures includes 173 Apprentices

3.4.4 Number of Full-Time Students Registered by School at 1st March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Fulltime</th>
<th>Parttime</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business School</td>
<td>1119</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>1240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept of Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>849</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>1172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities &amp; Hospitality</td>
<td>1083</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>1156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>1073</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>1159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>4124</td>
<td>1171</td>
<td>5295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.5 Gender Balance of Full-Time Registered Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business School</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>1240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept of Lifelong Learning</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>1083</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>1172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities &amp; Hospitality</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>1156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>831</td>
<td>1159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>2647</td>
<td>2648</td>
<td>5295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.6 Conferred Awards (Graduation Ceremony November 2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Award</th>
<th>No. of Students</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 6 (Full Awards)</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>24.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 7 (Full Awards)</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 8 (Full Awards)</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 9</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>19.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>2,115</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4.7 Domiciliary Origin of Students Enrolled on Full-Time Courses

The catchment area normally associated with the Institute includes Counties Westmeath, Offaly, Longford, Roscommon (south) and Galway (east). This chart shows the break-down of domiciliary origin of students attending the Institute.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Westmeath</td>
<td>1133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offaly</td>
<td>334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galway</td>
<td>742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longford</td>
<td>5295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

European - EU Members (excl Ireland) 177
European - Non EU Member 11
International (Excl Europe) 383

3.4.8 Reasons for Withdrawal of Students Enrolled on Full-Time Courses

Each year a significant number of students leave the Institute without completing their examinations. The following is an analysis of the reasons given by students for leaving the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Withdrawal Code</th>
<th>Total Count</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Apprenticeship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Other IT/University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Other Third Level College</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>To Repeat Leaving Certificate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Financial Reasons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>PLC/NCVA - training course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Not Declared</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Medical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Did not like course/not suited</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4.9 The Number of Students availing of European Social Fund (ESF), Local Authority and other Grants/Awards administered by the Institute is contained in Appendix I.
3.5 Student Achievements

3.5.1 Sports Scholarships

In 1996 the Institute introduced a Sports Scholarship Scheme for students who had reached or had the potential to reach a very high level of performance in their chosen sport. The generous sponsorship of industry and the sporting organisations in making this scheme possible is greatly appreciated by the Institute.

The recipients of Athlone Institute of Technology Sports Scholarships for 2013/2014 were:

**CAVAN**
- Stephen McManus Gaelic Football
- CATHAL McCarron Athletics
- Colm Gorry Rugby

**KILDARE**
- Niall O’Connor Handball
- Cathal McCarron Athletics
- Colm Gorry Rugby

**LIMERICK**
- Niall O’Brien Hurling

**LONGFORD**
- Sean Flannery Soccer
- Aisling Googoo Women’s Soccer

**MEATH**
- Michael Kennelly Gaelic Football
- Harry Hester Rugby
- James Andrews Hurling

**MONAGHAN**
- Killian Ruudd Gaeltacht Football
- Darragh Maher Rugby

**LONGFORD** (new recipients)
- Cathal McCarron Athletics
- Colm Gorry Rugby

**LIMERICK** (new recipients)
- Niall O’Brien Hurling

**ROSCOMMON**
- Garvan Broughall Soccer
- Kieran Kilkenny Gaeltacht Football
- Stephen Flynn Gaeltacht Football
- Rachael Timothy Women’s Soccer
- Caran O’Reilly Soccer
- Nigel Kelly Gaeltacht Football

**WICKLOW**
- Gavin Weir Hurling

**DUBLIN**
- John Travers Athletics

**GALWAY**
- Emma Curley Ladies Gaelic Football
- Martin Staunton Rugby
- Daniel Cunningham Soccer
- Ti Forde Soccer
- Shauna Jackson Women’s Soccer
- Dan Cunningham Soccer
- Bryan Dixon Rugby
- Ronan Coyle Athletics
- Regina Dolan Athletics

**CAVAN** (continuing recipients)
- Cillian Fitzgerald Gaelic Football

**KILKENNY**
- Louise Holmes Athletics

**ROSCOMMON** (continuing recipients)
- Aisling Keohoe Ladies Gaelic Football
- John Mulgan Gaelic Football
- Timothy Jackson Gaelic Football
- Colm O’Reilly Rugby

**CAVAN** (new recipients)
- Grace Reilly Ladies Gaelic Football

**MEATH**
- Brian McGovern Rugby

**LONGFORD**
- Darren Farrély Gaelic Football
- Sam McCormack Rugby
- Jordan McElduff Rugby

**WICKLOW**
- Conor George Wilson Athletics

**KERRY**
- Cillian Fitzgerald Gaelic Football
3.5.2 Sports Awards Winners:
The Annual Sports Award ceremony was held in April and the following were the awardees on the night.

- Martin Nolan, Mens Athletics
- Sinead Tuohy, Womens Athletics
- Davide Abrigo, Mens Basketball
- Annemarie Feehey, Womens Basketball
- Blathaid Keoghe, Senior Camogie
- Faye O'Connor, Equestrian
- Kieran Martin, Mens Basketball
- Annemarie Feeney, Womens Basketball
- Bláthaid Keogh, Senior Camogie
- Faye O'Connor, Equestrian
- Kieran Kilcline, Freshers Gaelic Football
- Grace Reilly, Senior Gaelic Football
- Roisin Howley, Freshers Ladies Gaelic Football
- Cathriona Daly, Hockey
- Killian Murphy, Senior Hurling
- Andrew Moran, Freshers Hurling
- Brendan Fagan, Senior Rugby
- Gavin Murray, Seconds XV Rugby
- Shawn Chitsato, Freshers Rugby
- Garvan Broughall, Mens Soccer – 1st Team
- Ciara O'Reilly, Mens Soccer – 2nd Team
- Jonathan Polsinelli, Mens Soccer – 3rd Team
- Jeovan Araujo, Mens Soccer – 4th Team
- Annie Dolan, Womens Soccer
- Michelle Gregg, Freshers Womens Soccer
- Arnaud Charmasson, Futsal
- Gabriele Grosso, Mens Volleyball
- Martina Lorenzin, Womens Volleyball

3.6 Staff Activities

Dr. Enda Fallon and Dr. Brian Lee received funding of €100,000 to undertake a collaborative Enterprise Ireland sponsored Innovation Partnership project with Touchpoint media from Dublin.

Dr. Enda Fallon was invited to become a Technical Programme Committee (TPC) member for the IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC) Multimedia Communications and Services Workshop.

Dr Andy Fogarty was invited to the University of Applied Science, Emden/Leer, Germany, 40th Anniversary celebrations in recognition of his teaching an Environmental Technology module at Emden/Leer for the past 12 years. As part of his visit Dr Fogarty gave a guest seminar on “In Vivo Assessment of Environmental Pollutants” to faculty and students.

In addition Dr Fogarty initiated and chaired a research group from several European colleges with a view to tendering for European research funding under the Horizon 2020 and Water JPI research initiatives.


3.7 Sports Activities
Some of the major sporting achievements by Institute teams and individuals throughout 2013/2014 are detailed in Appendix II.

All football heroes reached for the stars when two business students at Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) were recognised for the quality of their footballing prowess. Second year business student, Daniel Flynn signed a two-year deal with Aussie Rules side Port Adelaide. Daniel is the first international rookie to be signed by Port Adelaide and will be mentored by Tadhg Kennelly during his time down under.

Cavan hero, Killian Clarke, who is studying on the third year of the Bachelor of Business (Hons) degree, was nominated on the 2013 GAA GPA All-Stars. Killian, who plays corner back for Cavan, is also a key member of AIT’s senior football team and played on the team that reached the semi-final of the Irish Daily Mail Sigerson Cup in 2013. All sport and recreation manager, Gordon Brett, said that he was “delighted” for both students. “Obviously, we are going to miss Dan from our own team, but this is a fantastic opportunity for him and we wish him every success in Australia,” he said. “Killian is one of the stalwarts of AIT’s senior football team,” Mr Brett continued. “He played a key role in our Sigerson campaign and had a fantastic year with Cavan. The All-Stars represent the cream of Irish footballing talent, and to be nominated to that elite group is a wonderful honour.”

3.8 Student Services
The Student Resource Centre continues to work closely with the Students’ Union and colleagues across the Institute in support of students and AIT’s ongoing commitment to a positive student experience and student retention and progression.

Sadly the department bid farewell to one of our longest serving members. ‘Crowded Room AIT’ event was led by Artist Tim Mann and 764 students and visitors to the campus participated in creating the art work on the day. The process was recorded in a time lapse video which was shared on social media and the resulting art work was part of an exhibit in Athlone’s Luan Gallery in March 2014.

The student based alcohol phone app project, sponsored by the Midland Regional Drugs task force (MRDTF) involved students from the design department and computer engineering department. The Midland Regional Drugs task force (MRDTF) are the partners in this project and will use the feedback to develop the app to be provided updated health promotional information on alcohol.

Wellness 3 - Be well, Get well, Stay well ran in February in partnership with Mental Health Ireland. There were presentations across a variety of themes including the effect of alcohol/substances on the immature brain, mental health and sport, an overview of how AIT supports the Mental Health needs of students, and recovery and return to work/study following mental health illness. A socially engaged art work was created on the day. The ‘Crowded Room AIT’ event was led by Artist Tim Mann and 764 students and visitors to the campus participated in...
04 Research & Developmental Activities

4.1 Research Activities

Research Institutes

The Bioscience Research Institute (BRI) continues to evolve in line with the strategic R&I needs of AIT and its' stakeholders. This is both reflected and captured through the core domains of smart specialization namely, health, agri-food and marine, pharma/biopharma and environment. The BRI continues to act as important conduit to facilitate staff, postgraduate students and postdoctoral researchers across the School of Science in tandem with sister Materials (MRI) and Agri-Biofood Research Institute (Eco-MixPlas) with vibrant successful partnership with AIT’s Materials Research Institute.

The Software Research Institute (SRI) won an Innovation Partnership from Enterprise Ireland to work with the largest Irish software company Openet to develop intelligent solutions for communications network management. Openet is the world leader in the field of telecommunications policy and charging management and delivers products to large communications providers such as Vodafone, Verizon and Telefonica. In addition to the Openet win SRI was also awarded grants to conduct a feasibility study for cloud based TV delivery and to research use of computer vision and natural user interfaces in the retail sector.

The Materials Research Institute (MRI) was awarded €350,000 in the Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund Call. The innovative research study led by Dr. Luke Geever (Senior Researcher, Materials Research Institute) and involves the upcycling of Mixed Plastics Waste via several unique processing steps and the study is entitled ‘Mixed Plastics Waste as a Valuable Resource: High value - new products from old plastics waste (Eco-MiPlas)’.

The Materials Research Institute was also successful in the IOTI 2013 Postgraduate Scholarship initiative, with a project involving the development of novel drug delivery systems.

MIDLANDS INNOVATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE (MIRC)
The MIRC at AIT provides incubation facilities for innovative and knowledge-based enterprise, delivers the New Frontiers entrepreneur development programme for start-ups, and makes available the resources and expertise of AIT to support client companies and enterprise in the region and beyond. Working in partnership with Enterprise Ireland, the MIRC has incubated and supported 123 start-ups to date – including 15 Enterprise Ireland High Potential Start Ups. MIRC clients have undertaken over €2m in collaborative research with AIT to develop their technologies.

MIRC Clients at Enterprise Ireland HPSU Class of 2013 Event
MIRC client companies were showcased at Enterprise Ireland’s High Potential Start Up Class of 2013 event. The HPSU client companies included:

- Sweepvac - a self-contained vacuum device developed in collaboration with AIT’s Centre for Industrial Services & Design.
- Cato Manufacturing - a superior chafing dish burner.
- Mocip - a participant start-up at AIT’s Enterprise Programme in 2010 - cloud-based fraud prevention solutions.
- Smeractive - develops casual simulation games for the mobile games market.
- JoshCPD - Continuous Professional Development solutions using smartphone technology developed in collaboration with AIT’s Software Research Institute.

TownApps – connecting with local services in Athlone
In collaboration with AIT’s Software Research Institute and supported by Enterprise Ireland Innovation Vouchers, MIRC client TownApps developed mobile applications, which connect people with their local town, making it easier for visitors to find what they are looking for, offering vouchers for locals and visitors and keeping users up to date on what’s on and where to go.

Equiniche – Innovative solutions for the care of Horses
MIRC client Equiniche Sciences in collaboration with AIT’s Centre for Industrial Services and Design supported by Enterprise Ireland Innovation Vouchers developed a new way of feeding horses in training – the Harmony Equine Feeder. Dr Michelle O’Connor had a concept for a hay feeder that would enable horses in a stabilized routine to eat at ground level and throughout the day - thereby solving physiological and behavioural problems associated with intermittent feeding and eating in an unnatural position. The Harmony Hayfeeder was launched onto the Irish market at the Equus Live Exhibition held in Punchestown in November where it won the inaugural Innovation Award.
5.1 Student Mobility

A total of 181 European students studied at Athlone Institute of Technology during the academic year 2013/2014. The number of European countries represented is continually on the increase. The International Office at the Institute, under the management of Ms. Mary Simpson, provides a focal point for the students where all their queries are dealt with in a professional manner.

### Student Inward Flow from EU Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Student Nos</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Student Nos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
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<td>France</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>03</td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>181</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A major area for development for the Institute in recent years has been the growth in the number of Non-EU students studying at the Institute. The Institute is justifiably proud of the services provided to such students and every effort is made to ensure that they adapt to the cultural and economic differences of living and studying in Ireland. AIT benefited from receiving 97 students from Brazil to study at the Institute under the Science Without Borders programme. Many of the students studied English before progressing to undergraduate studies. During academic year 2013-2014, 344 Non-EU students were enrolled at the Institute under the following headings:

### Non-European Union Student Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Student Nos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
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<td>Undergraduates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postgraduate taught programmes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate by Research</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>344</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2 Institute Events

International expert points to radical measures needed to end homelessness in Ireland

A radical approach to ending homelessness was outlined at an international conference held in the Institute.

“Homeless people should be offered a home, as well as a range of supports appropriate to their needs, without a range of preconditions,” stated Dr Sam Tsemberis, keynote speaker at the Housing First conference.

Dr Tsemberis, who is founder and CEO of Pathways to Housing, said: “It’s simple – the solution to homelessness is helping people get a home of their own.” The Housing First model moves away from the traditional approach of using hostel accommodation as a solution to homelessness. The New York-based organisation has pioneered this approach with dramatic results. This new model has a strong evidence base to its work and has proven that people with multiple needs can move from the instability of homelessness to having a home of their own.

The conference which was organised jointly by the Midlands Simon Community and Athlone Institute of Technology addressed the theme of ending homelessness in rural Ireland. The event, attended by 250 delegates, was officially opened by Minister for Housing and Planning, Jan O’Sullivan TD.

Distinguished Fellowship

On Friday afternoon 24th January 2014, the institute conferred a Distinguished Fellowship on Nicky McFadden TD. The ceremony was held in Nicky’s home and was attended by members of her family.

Nicky served on the Governing Body of AIT from 2005-2007, when she was elected to the Seanad. She subsequently won a seat in the Dáil in 2011 and is a member of the Oireachtas Committee on Education and Social Protection, and the Oireachtas Committee on Procedure and Privileges.

A graduate of AIT (Diploma in Legal Studies), Nicky made a significant contribution to local government and education through her membership and chairmanship of various councils and bodies.

Nicky’s family has a long association with AIT, with both her father Brendan and sister Gabrielle, serving on our Governing Body.

Nicky is the eleventh Distinguished Fellow of AIT. The other recipients are former President Mary McAleese, Mary O’Rourke, Paddy Cooney, Dr Don Fanoz, Stephen Grant, Eamonn Coghlan, Mark Rohan, Sonia O’Sullivan, Barry McGuigan and Prof Dato’ Kamarudin Hussein.

Pictured Below: Nicky McFadden TD pictured with Taoiseach Enda Kenny
Pictured Above: Minister for Research and Innovation, Seán Sherlock TD, is shown blow molding by Dr. Sean Lyons, APT Gateway Manager and Mark Whelan, Enterprise Ireland, at the opening of the Applied Polymer Technology (APT) Gateway at Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT).

Pictured Below: Ashton Eaton, centre, on the way to winning the men’s 60m event during the AIT International Arena Grand Prix.

R&D Centre for €2bn Plastics Industry Opened in Athlone IT

The Applied Polymer Technology (APT) Gateway at Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT), a national research centre for the €2 billion plastics industry, was opened by Minister for Research and Innovation, Seán Sherlock TD, as part of an international plastics conference attended by over 100 delegates.

APT (Ireland) is part of an Enterprise Ireland-funded nationwide network of technology gateways, designed to deliver technology-based solutions for companies in Ireland. At the opening, Minister Sherlock said, “I’m delighted to attend today’s conference and to open the Applied Polymer Technology (APT) Gateway. The Government is committed to supporting and nurturing an innovative economy built on sustainable jobs and balanced regional development. This will be achieved by the enterprise agencies working closely with education institutions and industry to provide the right business environment for growth.”

According to APT (Ireland) manager, Dr. Sean Lyons, “The research centre will create practical and pragmatic solutions to the problems facing the plastics industry, which includes sectors as diverse as medical devices, pharmaceutical, automotive, packaging, renewable energy, construction and recycling.

“The APT will provide the plastics industry with access to cutting-edge characterisation tools, in addition to pilot scale processing facilities,” said Dr Lyons. “We have a dedicated R&D team with a proven track record of working with industry partners to complete short and long-term projects ranging from troubleshooting, product and material development and process optimisation.”

Packed House in Athlone for Night of International Athletics

A full house turned out in Athlone in February to witness a fantastic night’s athletics which saw six new stadium records and the star attractions Ashton Eaton, Brianne Thiesen-Eaton and Tabarie Henry live up to their reputations. The Olympic decathlon gold medalist and world champion Eaton, won the 60m in a new stadium record at the AIT International Arena, with a time of 6.69. The American could only manage third however in the long jump. Brianne Thiesen-Eaton won the high jump with 1.80m and the shot put with a throw of 13.46m, a new personal best for the world heptathlon silver medalist.

Tabarie Henry, the three-time World finalist in the 400m, proved his worth in the Athlone venue coming home in a time of 46.81. In the men’s 60m hurdles, British athlete Alex Al Ameen set a new stadium record, romping home in 7.97, while in the women’s 60m hurdles, Portugal’s Eva Vital also set a new stadium record of 8.29 secs.

Waterford’s Kelly Proper added to her growing reputation and her haul of medals winning the 60m (0.44) and the long jump (6.49m), the latter a new stadium record. There was a new record too in the men’s long jump, set by Daniel Bramble with 7.71m. The sixth new stadium record was set by the Scottish sprinter Diane Ramsay in the women’s 400m, winning in a time of 53.87 secs.

Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin, said that he was “delighted” with the success of the event. “There was a fantastic atmosphere in the arena with people really looking forward to some wonderful competition, which is exactly what they experienced. This grand prix is part of a three year development plan for the AIT International Arena and we are confident that in 2015 and 2016, it will become an eagerly anticipated fixture in the international athletics calendar,” he said.

Olympic decathlon gold medalist and world champion, Eaton, wins new stadium record

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In the much-anticipated Senator Eamonn Coghlan Mile, Kilkenny’s Eoin Everard came home first in 4.03.08. Joe Warne and Cameron Boyek coming second and third in times of 4.04.04 and 4.04.40 respectively. Ireland has to wait a little longer, however, for the first sub-four minute mile to be achieved in an indoor venue.

Tabarie Henry, the three-time World finalist in the 400m, proved his worth in the Athlone venue coming home in a time of 46.81. In the men’s 60m hurdles, British athlete Alex Al Ameen set a new stadium record, romping home in 7.97, while in the women’s 60m hurdles, Portugal’s Eva Vital also set a new stadium record of 8.29 secs.

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## Financial Report

### Governing Body Expenses

**Name of Institution:** Athlone Institute of Technology  
**Academic Year:** 2013/14

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Governing Body Member</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Interview Fee</th>
<th>Total paid</th>
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<td>Breen, Paul (Chair)</td>
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<tr>
<td>O’ Cathain, Ciaran</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKenna, John</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cashin, Marc</td>
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<td>Coulter, Daniel (SU)</td>
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<td>26.43</td>
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<td>Daly, June</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1264.65</td>
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<td>Lynam Fergal</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1781.1</td>
<td>2234.59</td>
<td>4015.69</td>
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### Annual Report 2013 - 2014

**ATHLONE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**  
**Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTE</th>
<th>2014 €000's</th>
<th>2013 €000's</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>INCOME</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Grant</td>
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<td>16,862</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition and student contribution fees</td>
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<td>17,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortisation of deferred capital grants</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research grants and contracts</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>5</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student support funding income recognised</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>166</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ancillary activities</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2,683</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>48,366</strong></td>
<td><strong>49,968</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| EXPENDITURE |             |             |
| Academic departments | 6 | 25,013 | 24,739 |
| Academic services | 7 | 1,541 | 1,626 |
| Facilities costs | 8 | 2,921 | 2,746 |
| Central administration and services | 9 | 4,511 | 7,319 |
| Student services and general educational expenses | 10 | 2,112 | 2,111 |
| Research grants and contracts | 3 | 3,980 | 3,529 |
| Student support funding income applied | 4 | 591 | 675 |
| Depreciation | 13 | 3,740 | 3,945 |
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets | 16 | 0 | 4 |
| Ancillary activities | 19 | 2,094 | 1,931 |
| **46,503** | **48,625** |             |

| OPERATING SURPLUS |             |             |
| **1,863** | **1,343** |             |

| Transfer to Capital Development Reserve | 18 | (928) | (2,524) |

| ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT START OF YEAR |             |             |
| **1,892** | **3,073** |             |

| ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT END OF YEAR |             |             |
| **2,827** | **1,892** |             |

There are no gains or losses other than those recognised above.  
The statement of accounting policies, cash flow statement and notes 1 to 23 form part of the financial statements.

Signed:  
Mr. Frank Ryan  
Chairman of AIT Governing Body  

Signed:  
Prof. Ciarán Ó Catháin  
President of AIT
### Applicant I

#### INSTITUTE: Athlone Institute of Technology  (Form D)

**Student Numbers on Level 6 and Level 7 Programmes  ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Level 6</th>
<th>Level 7</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NUMBER OF RENEWAL STUDENTS 2013/14</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>187</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>559</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### ANALYSIS OF TOTAL LEVEL 6/LEVEL 7 RENEWAL STUDENTS 2013/14

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<th></th>
<th>Adjacent Rates</th>
<th>Non-adjacent Rates</th>
<th>Non-Grant Holders</th>
<th>Total Number Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numbers who qualified for Maintenance Grants</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 6</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 7</strong></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Student numbers who qualified for Special Rate of Maintenance Grant 2013/14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ADJ</th>
<th>NON-ADJ</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 6</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Level 7</strong></td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>27</td>
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</table>

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### Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOTE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>FIXED ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>91,695</td>
<td>94,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>91,695</td>
<td>94,188</td>
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<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors and prepayments</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1,833</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>9,727</td>
<td>8,314</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11,588</td>
<td>12,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>CURRENT LIABILITIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creditors and accrued expenses - Amounts falling due within one year</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td>3,959</td>
<td>2,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET ASSETS</td>
<td>95,654</td>
<td>96,210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Represented by:

- Deferred capital grants 16 91,695 94,188
- Income and expenditure account 18 1,132 130
- Capital development reserve 18 1,132 130
- Deferred capital grants 16 91,695 94,188

The statement of accounting policies, cash flow statement and notes 1 to 23 form part of the financial statements.

Signed: Mr. Frank Ryan  Date: 12/4/15  Chairman of AIT Governing Body

Signed: Prof. Ciarán Ó Catháin  Date: 16/9/15  President of AIT
ATHLETICS

AIT Athletics Club has had an incredibly successful year. The club kicked off its competitive season when picking up Men’s silver medals at the prestigious and highly competitive Irish Universities Road Relay Championships held on the old South campus of NUI Maynooth. This is an annual event which has been characterised in recent years by the incredible depth of talent on display. The Men’s A team (Liam Brady, Eoin Everard, John Travers, Darragh Rennicks and Vinny Connolly) were narrowly beaten by DCU when finishing second of twenty-nine teams including a star-studded UCD team in third. The Men’s B team (Martin Nolan, Kevin Nolan, Cathal McCarron, Chris Malone and Ugonuh) was another successful outing for AIT AC with the men’s team claiming historic bronze medals behind DCU and UCD with twelve colleges and universities represented. AIT had three athletes in the top six and six in the top fifty. Scorers included John Travers (third), Darragh Rennicks (fifth), Eoin Everard (sixth), Liam Brady (twenty-second), Vinny Connolly (thirty-fifth), and Aengus Burke (fifty-first). The Ladies team suffered from injuries and withdrawals but put in a strong performance with Carolyn Somorowsky, Lauren Horan and Osi Ugonuh prominent.

MENS BASKETBALL

The Men’s Basketball team had its most successful season in the last decade which culminated in the team reaching the All Ireland Final. They topped their pool, which gave them home court advantage in the Semi-finals. They were ranked the number one team in the division in both points scored and points allowed categories.

WOMENS BASKETBALL

The Women’s team had a successful season which culminated in the team reaching the All Ireland Finals. There was a fantastic team effort throughout the season with every member of the team giving 100%. They lost to the eventual All Ireland champions, running them close on their home court.

EQUESTRIAN

This year the National Intervarsity Championships were hosted by Trinity in Killossey Lodge Stud, Co. Dublin. A strong team of fourteen riders attended the weekend in mid-February with riders competing in Dressage, Show Jumping and Pint Caprilli during the two day event. The Dressage Team was – Andrea Martin, Tim Conway and Rebecca Higgins. The Show jumping Team was – Faye O’Connor, Carol Spain, and Sarah Long. Also competing were Laura Wimsey, Sarah Carr and Kate Hurley. The Show Pint Caprilli was – Conor Moore, Rachel Palmer and Kate Ann O’Dowd. Individual riders were Emma Neeson and Shannon Devlin.

GAELIC FOOTBALL

The Sigerson football squad had a dismal league being relegated through losing all games, in most cases by a solitary score. The team re-grouped and put in solid performances versus Carlow and Longford in the O’Byrne Cup. In Intermediate football the lads were unlucky to lose out to NUIG in the league only to be narrowly defeated by Sigo IT in the Championship, eventual winners of the All Ireland.

Freshers’ football fielded two teams in the league with the first team reaching the semi-final only to lose to UCC. In the championship, AIT teams had disappointing results considering the potential shown pre-championship. The Freshers Division one is of a very high standard of play and as a college AIT is competing very well.
In Ladie's Gaelic Football our AIT Cup League campaign started with victories over TCD, NUIM and DCU 2. We lost the semi-final against ITT by a single score. In the championship, we won against ITT and Carlow IT and qualified to play NUIM in the Gilets Cup final but were unable to reach offensive levels having lost some players through serious injuries which affected the squad.

Our Fresher's Ladies competed in the All Ireland 7's hosted by AIT. Sixteen colleges competed in the competition on the campus pitch. History was made as AIT won the Cup – the first for us, in a pulsating final in which the AIT girls, on home soil, were never going to give up.

In Hurling our Senior Hurlers qualified for the League semi-finals after a thrilling campaign. The ICRU modified the colleges' competition this year with the top six forming a super six league. AIT overcame Carlow IT in the first game. NUIM were beaten before a close, tough encounter against WIT – a win. DCU and Cork IT were beaten which left all top of the group. AIT won the home semi-final against Cork IT. After a sluggish start AIT came away with a big win which propelled them into their fourth final in a row against the much vaunted team from Carlow.

Second XV Rugby – Captained by the legendary Nick Purcell, AIT 2nds have never been so strong. Unfortunately they lost their semi-final against another strong ITT side. Having been drawn in a group of death with UUJ and Tralee IT, AIT had to travel to Belfast seeking to average their league campaign. But a late second-half goal, a 3-0 victory and a spot in the semi-finals, was the reward. This was followed up with a 1-1 draw against DCU C in Athlone before a final defeat to NCI B. Fortunes improved in the first round of the Bob Eustace Cup as they defeated Cavan Institute 2-1 but then lost to Moore in the quarter final.

WOMEN’S SOCCER: The women’s team had a tough league campaign in the Premier North and didn’t qualify for the premier semi-finals but avoided relegation to secure premier division status for next season. They won on to win the WSCAI Challenge Cup after wins against DCU, IT Tralee and then beat Mary Immaculate College in the final. In the Inter-varsity Qualifiers the team beat NUI 2-1 to secure a quarter final match against UCC. Unfortunately they lost to UCC in the quarter final so went on to the Plate semi-final in which they won against Mary Immaculate College 2-1. The team was extremely unlucky in the final losing 2-1 to a very strong WIT team.

FUTSAL: AIT’s Mens Futsal team qualified for the CUBL National Finals after coming out of a tough regional tournament in IT Sligo. At the National Finals they topped their group to secure a semi-final spot against WIT and showed some great character to come from 2-0 down to win 2-1. Unfortunately they couldn’t find the net against NUI and lost the final 2-0.

VOLLEYBALL: The AIT Men’s Team, which was made up of students from many different countries, improved greatly during the year and showed some strong technical skills and a fantastic team spirit. The team played in a strong group in the SSI League and was up against some very tough opposition from the beginning but, in the end, only missed out on qualification for the semi-finals by a few points as the team finished the league campaign in an impressive sixth with twelve teams.

The members of the AIT Women’s Volleyball Team, who are mainly from Italy and Brazil, formed a very cohesive group and were able to compete at a very high level in the SSI League. After a tough start losing to UCC they recovered well with an impressive series of 3-0 victories. Just UCC and IT Carlow were able to take points off them and they finished with ten wins and three defeats which saw them qualify for the semi-finals in WIT. Unfortunately the team lost in the semi-finals against eventual winners – NUIM.