

By Email Only

21 October 2021

Ms Sarah Cremin
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Your Ref: SO532 PAC33

Dear Ms Cremin,

I refer to your letter of 8 October 2021 on behalf of the Committee of Public Accounts and am pleased to reply as follows:

KPMG Report

The KPMG Report is not yet finalised. A first draft has been circulated to those involved in the investigation to confirm accuracy of the Report. The individuals concerned requested additional time to enable them to consider the report and in accordance with natural justice, this additional time was provided. Once the University has received and considered the Report, it can be shared with the Committee subject to any legal restrictions and required redactions.

New York Expenditure

Expenditure incurred in relation to travel to New York in November 2019 involved three different events, namely:

- The award of an Honorary Doctorate on Dr Loretta Brennan Glucksman in recognition of the countless contributions that she has made to Ireland and the University of Limerick for many decades through her powerful advocacy and philanthropy.
- The US based University of Limerick Foundation Board Meeting;
- Event at Carnegie Hall to officially announce the Peter Real Analog Devices US Scholarships – worth in the order of €30,000 annually to the University. This event was also to assist with student recruitment, promote student exchange, partnership development, brand awareness and profile building of the University of Limerick.

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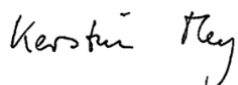
As requested by the Committee, a breakdown of expenditure incurred through attendance at the New York events is set out below:

Details of costs	Cost Amount €
Entertainment including catering, rent of space, hire of staff for Carnegie Hall event (announcement of annual scholarships) (c. 130 attendees)	17,140
110 tickets Irish Chamber Orchestra event at Carnegie Hall	3,866
Total for Carnegie Hall Event	21,006
Catering, equipment and staff costs for Honorary Doctorate Ceremony (c.75 attendees)	7,882
Hire of AV Equipment	2,184
Total for Honorary Doctorate Event	10,066
Travel and accommodation costs for UL representatives	5,712
Grand Total	36,784

The previous request from the PAC related to entertainment costs for New York that were correctly provided as €22,724. The difference of €14,060 relating to the total of €36,784 set out above comprises travel and accommodation costs of €5,712 and a subsequent recharge from the UL Foundation to the University of €8,348 relating to costs for the Honorary Doctorate Ceremony.

If you require any additional information, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Kerstin Mey
President