

REGISTER OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY OFFERED TO US



Directorate:	Principal & Chief Executive	Name:	Mel Higgins	Year:	2024/2025
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REGISTER OF GIFTS / HOSPITALITY / REWARDS ETC OFFERED AND ACCEPTED OR REJECTED

Date of Offer or Date of Event	Offered to	Ultimate recipient (if different)	Offered From	Description of Offer	Reason for Offer	Details of Contracts - current or potential	Est. / actual value of offer £	Action Taken ie. Accepted / Refused / Returned	Entered by	Entered Date	File Ref:
18 th Oct 2024 Event Date	Mel Higgins	-	Angela McGowan, CBI Director	Invitation to Business Breakfast	Northern Regional College is a current member of CBI.	Current member of CBI.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	22 nd August 2024	CEO/2024-25/01
3 rd Oct 2024 Event Date	Mel Higgins	-	Principal of Belfast Met.	Invitation to Farewell & Celebration of Achievement for Louise Warde-Hunter.	Louise Warde-Hunter was a fellow Principal in the Sector	NRC is one of six FE Colleges in NI.	Guest Invitation Est value: £15.00	Accepted	MB	11 th October 2024	CEO/2024-25/02
12 th – 13 th Nov 2024 Event Dates	Mel Higgins	-	Queen's University Belfast	Invitation to Global International Summit	Invited as Chair of NI FE Principals' Group	Part of NI Tertiary Sector	Guest Invitation Est value: £50.00 lunches/ dinner	Accepted	MB	24 th October 2024	CEO/2024-25/03
13 th Nov 2024	Mel Higgins	-	Mr Edwin Poots, Speaker of the NI	Invitation to joint ceremony in the Great Hall,	College partner with both Queen's and	The College partner with QUB and UU on	Guest Invitation Est value:	Accepted	MB	13 th Nov 2024	CEO/2024-25/04

Event Date			Assembly with QUB & UU	Parliament Buildings, during which Queen's University, Belfast and Ulster University will confer Honorary Degrees on Joseph Kennedy III, the US Special Envoy to Northern Ireland for Economic Affairs.	Ulster Universities on Tertiary leaders' group and both universities provide pathways for progression to HE courses for our students.	Tertiary Leaders Group.	£25.00				
14th Nov 2024 Event Date	Mel Higgins	-	Vice Chancellor of QUB – Professor Ian Greer	Invitation to a private dinner at Hillsborough Castle on Thursday 14 November 2024 hosted by Queen's and Historic Royal Palaces.	Invited as representative of FE Sector and in conjunction with attendance at QUB Summit.	QUB is part of NI Tertiary Sector	Guest Invitation Est value: £50.00	Accepted	MB	12th Nov 2024	CEO/2024-25/05
19th Nov 2024 Event Date	Mel Higgins	Christine Brown	Mid Ulster MEGA	Invitation to MEGA Directors Business Breakfast	The College is a member of MEGA and develops courses with MEGA.	Currently a member of MEGA.	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Mel Higgins Declined Christine Brown Accepted	MB	4th Nov 2024	CEO/2024-25/06
3rd – 4th Dec 2024 Event Dates	Mel Higgins	-	AOC	Invitation to College Alliance International Conference	NI Colleges invited to AOC event, being hosted within the sector.	Current Alliance.	Guest Invitation Est value: £50.00 lunches/ dinner	Accepted	MB	24th Oct 2024	CEO/2024-25/07

27 th Jan 2025 Event date	Mel Higgins	-	Development & Alumni Relations Office, UU	Invitation to Burns Night Celebration, in recognition of historical and cultural connections with Scotland and Ulster Scots.	Partnership arrangement with UU in provision of courses	Current contract in course provision	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	27 th Jan 2025	CEO/2024- 25/08
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REGISTER OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY OFFERED TO US

Directorate:	Chief Operating Officer	Name:	Sean Laverty	Year:	2024/2025
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Event Date 16 th August 2024	Sean Laverty		Tom Wiggins, Chief Executive Ballymena Chamber, on behalf of Chamber President.	Invitation to the 2024 President's BBQ at the Galgorm Resort on Friday 16 August 2024.	Networking Event. The College is a member of the Ballymena Chamber.	The College is a member of the Chamber.	Guest Invitation Est Value: £20.00	Declined	MB	15 th August 2024	COO/2024-25/01
18 th Oct 2024 Event Date	Sean Laverty		Angela McGowan, CBI Director	Invitation to attend CBI Business Breakfast	Networking Event. The College is a member of CBI	Yes, the College is a member of CBI.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Accepted	MB	15 th August 2024	COO/2024-2025/02
24 th Oct 2024 Event Date	Sean Laverty		Noel Mulholland, Michelin Development UK	To attend Ballymena Business Excellence Awards – Gala Evening on Thursday 24 th October 2024.	Part of Community stakeholder engagement. The College is a member of the Ballymena Chamber.	No contract with Michelin Development. The College is a member of the Ballymena Chamber.	Guest Invitation Est value: £65.00	Accepted	MB	24 th October 2024	COO/2024-24/03

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REGISTER OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY OFFERED TO US

Directorate:	Curriculum Director	Name:	Christine Brown	Year:	2024/2025
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21 st Oct 2024	Christine Brown	Aaron Ballantyne	Ulster University in partnership with Londonderry Chamber of Commerce	Invitation to Ulster University's Derry/Londonderry Campus to showcase new facilities	Partnership with Ulster University	Current contract in course provision	Est value: £10.00	Declined Christine Brown Accepted Aaron Ballantyne	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/01
7 th Nov 2024	Christine Brown		Causeway Chamber	Invitation to Causeway Coast & Glens People Awards in The Lodge Hotel Coleraine	The College has two finalists shortlisted for awards and the College is a member of the Causeway Chamber	None	Est value: £75.00	Accepted	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/02
3 rd & 4 th Dec 2024	Christine Brown		Association of Colleges	Attendance at Conference & Networking Dinner	NI Colleges invited to AOC event	Current Alliance	Est value: £50.00 lunches & dinner	Accepted	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/03
16 th Dec 2024	Christine Brown	Aaron Ballantyne	Professor Paul Bartholomew Vice-Chancellor UU	Invitation to Ulster University's Coleraine Campus to showcase facilities	Christine Brown is a member of the Causeway Chamber Board	None	Est value: £10.00	Declined Christine Brown Accepted Aaron Ballantyne	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/04

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Marketing & Communications Team:	Business Engagement Officer	Name:	Pamela Steele	Year:	2024/2025
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16 th August 2024 Event date	Pamela Steele	-	Ballymena Chamber of Commerce	President's Annual BBQ Networking Opportunity	The College is a member of the Chamber of Commerce	Networking Event	Guest Invitation Est Value £20.00	Accepted	MB	19 th Sept 2024	M&C/2024-2025/01

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Directorate:	Principal & Chief Executive	Name:	Mel Higgins	Year:	2024/2025
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27 th Feb 2025	Mel Higgins	-	C McCartan, Principal SWC	Invitation to WorldSkills Celebration Event	Invited in role of WSUK Trustee	SWC – fellow college within FE sector	Guest Invitation Est value: £30.00	Declined	MB	11 th March 2025	CEO/2024-25/09
28 th Feb 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Paul Bartholomew Ulster University	Invitation to Official Naming of the John and Pat Hume Building, UU, Londonderry	Academic links with UU for HE Programmes.	Current contract in course delivery.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	11 th March 2025	CEO/2024-25/10
3 rd March 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Professor Sir Ian Greer, President & Vice-Chancellor Queen's University Belfast and Professor Jonathan Heggarty,	Invitation to attend Special Event to mark the Partnership Agreement between QUB and Stranmillis	FE Colleges are part of DfE Tertiary Group with HE Institutions in NI.	Current links through provision of HE.	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Declined	MB	17 th Feb 2025	CEO/2024-25/11

13 th March 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Principal & CEO Stranmillis University College. Mark Hynes, Brown O'Connor Communications	University College. Invitation to attend the official launch of the Centre for Negotiation & Leadership	Brown O'Connor provides media support to the FE Colleges.	Current - Brown O'Connor provide media support to the FE Colleges.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	17 th Feb 2025	CEO/2024- 25/12
21 st March 2025	Mel Higgins	-	NICVA	Invitation to Celebration of Learning	Invitation extended to the FE sector through Brown O'Connor.	College engages with NICVA in development of curriculum programmes.	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Declined	MB	11 th March 2025	CEO/2024- 25/13
25 th March 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Ken Nelson, CEO LEDCOM & Chair of NRC GB	Personal Invitation for a private lunch with Dave Ramsden, Deputy Governor, Bank of England	Networking opportunity, links in relation to K Nelson's role as Chair of NRC GB. College member of Larne Community Wealth Building and College has campus in Larne.	K Nelson, Chair of NRC GB.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	25 th March 2025	CEO/2024- 25/14
11 th April 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Malachy O'Neill, UU Director of Regional Engagement	Invitation to celebration event, MU Foundation – Uniting communities; and launch of new initiative by IFI	Academic links with UU as part of FE/HE sector.	Current contract in course delivery.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	9 th April 2025	CEO/2024- 25/15

1 st May 2025	Mel Higgins	Laura Monteith	Young Enterprise	Invitation to YE Awards at Belfast City Hall	College has links with YE through Entrepreneurship Hub and Business Courses, with NRC students participating in programmes.	Current links, as noted.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined by Mel Higgins Accepted By Laura Monteith	MB	16 th April 2025	CEO/2024-25/16
20 th May 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Ernst Young	Invitation to Launch of new EY Office in Ebrington Plaza Londonderry	College is a delivery body for FE	None.	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	16 th April 2025	CEO/2024-25/17
6 th May 2025	Mel Higgins	Helen Hampsey	NCFE Awarding Body	Invitation to join NCFE CEO & Chair at dinner in Novelli, Belfast	College delivers NCFE courses.	Current partner in course provision	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Declined by Mel Higgins Accepted by Helen Hampsey	MB	6 th May 2025	CEO/2024-25/18
15 th May 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Chartered Accountants Ireland	Invitation to Volunteer Briefing on Strategy27 and New Brand in Belfast, lunch included	Member of CAI and member of Public Sector Group	Current member	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Declined	MB	6 th May 2025	CEO/2024-25/19
10 th June 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Neil Shaw, UK TVET British Council	Invitation to UK TVET Policy Seminar networking reception at Belfast City Hall	Public Sector have links with the British Council. Networking opportunity	Current links with British Council	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Declined Other College Reps attending	MB	27 th June 2025	CEO/2024-25/20
24 TH June 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Martin Flynn, CEO OCN	Invitation to the Annual Learning Endeavour Awards	OCN is a provider of qualifications to NRC.	Current contract	Guest Invitation Est value: £25.00	Declined C Brown plans to attend on behalf of	MB	27 th June 2025	CEO/2024-25/21

27th June 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Events Office UU	Invitation to the Graduation Dinner in the Everglades Derry	UU is a provider of qualifications to NRC	Current contract	Guest Invitation Est value: £50.00	NRC on her own invitation Declined	MB	27th June 2025	CEO/2024- 25/22
16th July 2025	Mel Higgins	-	Invest NI	Invitation to An Evening Celebrating NI: Innovation, Investment and Opportunity	Collaboration with FE sector and networking opportunities	No contract	Guest Invitation Est value: £20.00	Declined	MB	27th June 2025	CEO/2024- 25/23

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Directorate:	Curriculum Director	Name:	Christine Brown	Year:	2024/2025
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26 th & 27 th Feb 2025	Christine Brown	-	Education and Training Boards Ireland	Attendance at 2-day Conference & Networking Dinner	Annual networking and sharing of information conference	None	Est value: £70.00 for Gala Dinner (x1) & Lunch (x2)	Accepted	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/05
7 th March 2025	Christine Brown	-	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council	In recognition of the achievements of female professionals, community leaders and changemakers, this breakfast event will provide a platform for meaningful connections, inspiring discussions, and the recognition of women's	Networking event	Current links through Business Engagement	Est value: £20.00	Accepted	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/06

27 th March 2025	Christine Brown	-	Fiona Callaghan Pearson	achievements across various fields. FE Curriculum Directors invited to a round table lunch.	Sectoral engagement with Pearson	College delivers programmes accredited by Pearson	Est value: £20.00 Lunch	Accepted	MB	25 th Feb 2025	CD/2024-25/07
20 th March 2025	Christine Brown	-	Malachy O'Neill	Attendance as guest of UU at Causeway Chamber Annual President's Dinner	UU are launching their corporate sponsorship with Causeway Chamber at the event and offered places to external stakeholders to join their table	The College currently delivers a number of FDs in partnership with UU. All provision undergoes robust scrutiny and Quality Assurance from submission of proposal to assessment by an independent validation/ revalidation panel	Est value: £70.00	Accepted	MB	19 th March 2025	CD/2024-25/08
10 th June 2025	Christine Brown	Philip Graham	Angela Whiteside	Invitation to UK YVET Policy Seminar networking reception	Networking Event. An annual event for international policy makers and educational leaders	Current links with the British Council	Est value: £25.00	Christine Brown Declined Philip Graham Accepted	MB	21 st July 2025	CD/2024-25/09

11 th June 2025	Christine Brown	-	Angela Whiteside	Invitation to UK TVET Policy Conference	NRC hosted the event. Christine Brown and a few staff presented at the Conference.	Current links with the British Council	Est value: £20.00	Accepted. The College were the hosts.	MB	21 st July 2025	CD/2024-25/10
24 th June 2025	Christine Brown	-	Martin Flynn, OCN	Invitation to Annual Learning Endeavour Awards	Staff and students nominated for awards.	OCN is an awarding body used by the College	Est value: £25.00	Accepted	MB	21 st July 2025	CD/2024-25/11
12 th June 2025	Christine Brown	Christine Brown Colleen McGrath Lydia Hemphill	Professor Malachy O'Neill	Invitation to 2025 Tourism Summit in UU Coleraine Campus	Partnership with local Chamber and Ulster University to promote tourism initiatives	College works in partnership with UU on HE programmes.	Est value: £15.00 x 3 = £45.00	Accepted Christine Brown Colleen McGrath Lydia Hemphill	MB	21 st July 2025	CD/2024-25/12

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Marketing & Communications Team:	Careers Officer	Name:	Nicola Davidson	Year:	2024/2025
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12 th & 13 th June 2025	Nicola Davidson	-	Liverpool John Moore University	Invitation to attend Teacher Conference for Careers, to include flights & overnight stay.	Visit to Nursing, Midwifery & Paramedic Science Simulation Suites & updates on courses. Professional Development	None	£155.00	Accepted	MB	15 th May 2025	M&C/2024-2025/02

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