DCU Statute No.6 of 2013 - Academic Council

1. Object & Functions

Academic Council shall, subject to the financial constraints determined by the Governing Authority and to review by that authority, control the academic affairs of the University, including the curriculum of, and instruction and education provided by, the University. The functions of Academic Council shall include:

1.1 to design and develop programmes of study;
1.2 to establish structures to implement those programmes;
1.3 to make recommendations on programmes for the development of research;
1.4 to make recommendations relating to the selection, admission, retention and exclusion of students;
1.5 to propose the form and contents of statutes to be made relating to the academic affairs of the University, including the conduct of examinations, the determination of examination results, the procedures for appeals by students relating to the results of such examinations and the evaluation of academic progress;
1.6 to make recommendations for the awarding of fellowships, scholarships, bursaries, prizes or other awards;
1.7 to make general arrangements for tutorial or other academic counselling;
1.8 to perform any other functions, not in conflict with the Universities Act 1997, which may be delegated to it by Governing Authority; and
1.9 to implement any statutes and regulations made by the Governing Authority relating to any of the matters referred to in this subsection.

2. Membership & Composition

By decision of the Governing Authority of Dublin City University on 14 February 2013, and subsequent decisions of Academic Council, the membership of Academic Council is determined as follows:

2.1 Ex officio Members:
(a) President — Chair
(b) Deputy President
(c) Vice-President Academic Affairs (Registrar) — Deputy Chair
(d) Deputy Registrar/Dean of Teaching & Learning
(e) Assistant Registrar — Recording Secretary
(f) Executive Deans of Faculty
(g) Five Directors of Unit
(h) Vice-President for Research & Innovation
(i) Dean of Graduate Studies
(j) Chair of Examinations Appeals Board
(k) Representative of Faculty Administration
(l) Education Officer, Students’ Union
(m) Registrar, Dean of Research & Humanities and two other members of staff, St Patrick’s College
(n) Director and Administrative Registrar, Mater Dei Institute of Education
(o) Vice-President for Academics and another staff member, All Hallows College.

2.2 Members selected by Faculties/Oscail:
(a) 15 members of academic staff from each Faculty
(b) 3 members of academic staff from Oscail.

2.3 Elected Student Members:
7 members, one each from the following:
(a) Dublin City University Business School
(b) Faculty of Engineering & Computing
(c) Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences
(d) Faculty of Science & Health
(e) Postgraduate taught programme students
(f) Postgraduate research students
(g) St Patrick’s College.

2.4 Co-Option:
There is provision for the co-option of up to 3 further members to Academic Council should the Chair deem this to be necessary.

2.5 Change of Officer Titles:
In the event that University structures change, and changes ensue to the titles of the posts above, consequent changes shall be made to the membership of Council, under the direction of the Chair and subject to approval by Governing Authority.

In respect of the above categories, the under listed codicils apply:

• Members selected from Directors of Unit:
  This group must include:
  - Director of Quality Promotion
  - Director of Registry
  - Director of Student Support & Development

  The selection of the remaining 2 members is a matter for all the Directors in consultation with
the Chief Operations Officer.

• Members selected by Faculties/Oscail:
The method of selection of these members is a matter for Faculties/Oscail although subject to
the following conditions:
- The Oscail group must include the Head.
- The group of 15 from each Faculty should be drawn from an appropriate range of levels of
academic staff from an appropriate range of academic disciplines, but must include:

  • Each Head of School (or Group in the case of DCUBS)
  • The Associate Dean for Research
  • The Associate Dean for Teaching & Learning/Education
  • a minimum of 4 who have significant responsibility for taught programmes.

Academic staff members selected from Faculties/Oscail hold office for 3 years.

• Elected Student Members:
Elections of student members are managed by students. Student members hold office for one
year, from 15 June to 14 June. Candidates for election as student members must be registered
and in good standing with the University.

• Membership Status:
All members of Academic Council are members in their own right and are not on the Council as
representatives.

• Substitution of Representation:
Substitution of representation is not permitted as a matter of course. If, however, a member
wishes to speak to an agenda item and cannot be present, a substitute may attend for that item
subject to permission from the Chair.

3. Terms of Office

3.1. Academic Council shall be re-constituted every three years, i.e. 2013, 2016, etc, normally at
the end of the academic years 2012/13, 2015/16, etc. Within each three-year period, where an
ex officio member steps down from University office, he/she will cease to be a
member of Council and will be replaced by the new office-holder.

3.2. The names of academic staff members selected by Executive Faculties/Oscail should be
notified to the Vice-President Academic Affairs (Registrar) by the end of August of the relevant
academic year.
3.3. Elections for student members take place in Semester 2 of each academic year in accordance with approved procedures.

3.4. Any vacancy should be filled within one month of the Vice-President Academic Affairs (Registrar) being notified of the occurrence of the vacancy.

4. Conduct of Meetings

Meetings of Academic Council shall be conducted in accordance with its Standing Orders in force at the time and as agreed by Academic Council.

5. Committees

5.1. Academic Council may establish such and so many Committees as it thinks necessary to assist it in the performance of its functions.

5.2. A Committee may consist either wholly of members of the Academic Council or of such combination of members and non-members as Academic Council thinks fit.

6. General

6.1. This Statute may be cited as Statute number 6 of 2013, Dublin City University.

6.2. This Statute shall come into operation on the 14th day of February 2013.

Present when the seal of Dublin City University was affixed hereto:

Signed: ____________________________  Signed: ____________________________

Dr. M. McAleese  Prof. Brian MacCraith
Chancellor  President