

# ACADEMIC COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Wednesday 15 October 2003

2.00-4.00 p.m. in AG01

### PRESENT:

J Appleby  
P Barker  
D Beirne  
F Blin  
D Brabazon  
P Brereton  
E Buffet  
P Burke  
J Burzlaff  
J Carroll  
E Cassidy  
B Corcoran  
F Corcoran  
I Coyne  
E Cunningham  
J Doyle  
H Duncan  
O Finlayson  
B Flood

A Friedrich  
L Gallagher  
K Griffin  
S Hashmi  
P James  
B Kehoe  
C Kenny  
J Kernan  
J Kerrane  
A Leahy  
A Matthews  
L McDermott  
B McDonald  
E McGlynn  
G McGuinness  
D Morris  
J Morris  
A Morrissey  
E O'Connell

R O'Connor  
B Pierce  
B Quilty  
T Ryan  
R Saunders  
R Scaife  
P Sheehan  
C Sheridan  
M Shields  
D Sinclair  
A Smeaton  
M Smyth  
T Szecsi  
B Trench  
R Verbruggen  
F von Prondzynski (Chairperson)  
P Walsh  
A Wickham

### APOLOGIES:

G Barry  
L Barry  
T Carey  
M Clynes  
R Elgie  
M Henry  
E Kennedy  
T Lawrence

B Leavy  
M Mac Conmara  
L Mac Mathúna  
C Mac Murchaidh  
T McCarthy  
C McDonagh  
B McMullin  
K Monks

T Moynihan  
C Murphy  
P Ó Flatharta  
A Pratt  
J Ryan  
M Shine Thompson  
R Walshe

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

C Bohan  
P McMorrow

**1. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

Noted that the Chairperson intends to restructure the agenda so as to allow for more extensive discussion of strategically important issues.

**2. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council of 27 June 2003**

The minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes of Academic Council**

All matters arising were noted.

**4. Minutes of meetings of Academic Council Standing Committee**

**4.1 Minutes 3 July 2003**

Noted and approved.

**4.2 Minutes 4 September 2003**

Noted and approved subject to the deletion of the proposal on applications for exemption from INTRA (Item 8). Agreed that such applications were a matter for discussion between Chairpersons of Programme Boards and IBR, and should not be submitted to Standing Committee.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes of Standing Committee**

All matters arising were noted.

**6. Validation recommendations:****6.1 Certificate in Advanced Manufacturing Technology**

Approved.

**6.2 Graduate Diploma/MSc in Counselling and Psychotherapy**

Approved. Agreed that the School of Nursing would undertake to find a work placement in another organisation for any applicant or student who specified that he/she did not wish to be placed with Accord. Agreed that the Accreditation Board would be asked to address the ethical issues relating to the provision of teaching and supervision by a denominational body.

**6.3 MSc in Finance and Capital Markets**

Approved.

**7. Register of finalised accredited programmes 2002/2003**

Noted. Noted that the new degree offered by the School of Physical Sciences is entitled 'BSc in Physics with Astronomy'. Agreed that clarification would be obtained on the rationale underlying the naming of the sponsoring Schools beside the names of the programmes. Noted that the School of Biotechnology should have been listed alongside the School of Computing in relation to the MSc in Bioinformatics.

**8. Mechanism to ensure confirmation of the independence of members of Accreditation Boards**

Approved subject to the inclusion of an indicative list of activities that might be deemed to constitute a significant connection or relationship with the University.

**9. Current register of Academic Council members**

Noted that some late changes needed to be made to the register. Agreed that an updated register would be circulated electronically to members of Council.

**10. Report from Appeals Board (Summer 2003)**

Noted.

**11. Report from Autumn 2003 Examinations/Progression and Awards Boards**

Noted.

**12. Report from Autumn 2003 Faculty Research Boards**

Noted. Agreed that future such reports should include the names and ID numbers of the candidates so as to give recognition to their achievements.

**13. Report on anonymous marking**

Agreed that the Anonymous Marking Working Group could, if it saw fit, proceed with a pilot scheme involving examination scripts with sealed flaps and that, in any event, it would report to Council again at the meeting of 10 December 2003.

**14. Junior Year Abroad at DCU for US students, and proposal on direct applications from international students**

**14.1** Agreed that decisions on Junior Year Abroad applications would be made by the International Office.

**14.2** Noted that the proposal to allow such students, or other international students, to complete all Semester 1 assessments and examinations before Christmas raised a number of wider issues.

**14.3** The Chairperson thanked the Dean of International Studies and her team for the work they had done on this and other related issues.

**15. Proposal for recognition of extra-curricular activities**

Approved. Thanks were expressed to Professor Barker, the Extracurricular Awards Committee, Ms Caroline Nash of IBEC and Mr Liam Doyle, former Vice-President of the Students' Union, for the work they had done on this proposal.

**16. Modification of entry requirements and intake limits**

Approved subject to the removal of the upper limit on the number of places on any one programme, and across the University generally, for Access students.

**17. Proposal on *aegrotat* award of research degrees**

Approved. Agreed that criteria and procedures would be established by Standing Committee of Academic Council.

**18. Any other business**

Noted that the incoming Vice-President for Learning Innovation, Professor Maria Slowey, would attend the 10 December 2003 meeting of Council.

**Date of next meeting:**

<p><b>Wednesday 10 December 2003</b> <b>2.00 p.m. in AG01</b></p>
---

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_