

# ACADEMIC COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Wednesday 11 December 2002

2.00-5.25 p.m. in AG01

### PRESENT:

P Barker	M Gannon	A Pratt
D Beirne	S Hashmi	B Quilty
F Blin	M Henry	W Richardson
D Brabazon	P James	M Roantree
T Brady	B Kelly	T Ryan
P Brereton	E Kennedy	R Saunders
J Bruton	C Kenny	P Sheehan
F Buckley	M Mac Conmara	M Shields
E Buffet	T McCarthy	M Shine Thompson
P Burke	L McDermott (Recording)	A Sinnott
J Burzloff	E McGlynn	A Smeaton
J Carroll	M Molony	M Smyth
J Canavan	M Moriarty	B Stone
M Clynes	T Moynihan	T Szecsi
E Cunningham	J Murray	B Trench
J Dowling	E O'Connell	D Turley
E Doyle	R O'Connor	F von Prondzynski (Chairman)
R Elgie	C Ó hÓgartaigh	P Walsh
A Gallagher	R O'Kennedy	X Wang
	D O'Riordan	

### APOLOGIES:

G Barry	L Mac Mathúna	B Pierce
A Burke	C Mac Murchaidh	R Scaife
T Carey	K Monks	A Scott
E Cassidy	J Morris	M Turner
O Finlayson	C Murphy	R Verbruggen
B Flood	S Ní Mhaolrúnaigh	A Wickham
A N Glynn	C Nic Pháidín	J Williams
J Horgan	N O'Connor	A D Wood
J Kerrane		

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

J Barnett

**Action**

**1. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

**2. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council of 9 October 2002**

The minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

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

**3.1 University structures (structure of Academic Council)  
(Item 3.1 of meeting of 9 October 2002)**

On the agenda of the present meeting.

**3.2 Guidance in relation to medical certificates  
(Item 3.2 of meeting of 9 October 2002)**

This is now available on both the Registry and the Students' Union websites.

**3.3 Proposals on anonymous marking  
(Item 11.1 of meeting of 9 October 2002)**

On the agenda of the present meeting.

**3.4 Checking of examination papers  
(Item 11.2 of meeting of 9 October 2002)**

On the agenda of the present meeting.

**3.5 Summary of recommendations relating to the examinations process  
(Item 11.5 of meeting of 9 October 2002)**

Has been circulated to all members of Academic Council and to the Faculty Administration Peer Group.

**3.6 Report on admissions process  
(Item 12 of meeting of 9 October 2002)**

On the agenda of the present meeting.

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

**4.1 Minutes 3 October 2002**

Noted and approved subject to approval not being given to the policy referred to in Item 5.2.2.

**4.2 Minutes 7 November 2002**

Noted and approved.

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

**5.1 Requests for re-registration under 'write-up' status  
(Item 5.2 of meeting of 3 October 2002)**

A proposal on this will be presented to the Budget Sub-committee of Executive at the first opportunity.

**5.2 Proposal on part-time fees for research students  
(Item 3.5 of meeting of 7 November 2002)**

A policy has been agreed which will permit research students to register as part-time students with a proportionate spreading of fees.

**6. Validation recommendations**

**6.1 BSc in Physics and Astronomy (School of Physical Sciences)**

Approved.

**6.2 BSc in Athletic Training (Centre for Sport Science and Health)**

Approved.

Agreed that the Vice-President for Learning Innovation, once appointed, would become a member of the Validation Committee and that the Vice-President for Research would become a member of the Appeals Board for Research Awards.

**7. Accreditation recommendation: Graduate Diploma/MSc in Management (Dublin City University Business School)**

Approved.

**8. Presentation on the Bologna process**

Noted, with compliments extended to Dr Murray and Dr Cunningham for their work on this issue. A number of points were raised in discussion, including the possibility that curricula might become standardised, the fact that admissions systems varied widely across different countries and the apparent lack of clarity surrounding the role of research degrees. Noted that the CHIU Registrars' sub-group on the Bologna process was in the process of discussing these and related issues. Agreed that Dr Murray would raise, at the next meeting of the group in April, the question of whether or not it was intended that foreign language acquisition be examined as an issue *per se*.

**9. Report from Appeals Board (Autumn 2002)**

Noted, and recommendations approved.

**10. Report from Appeals Boards - St Patrick's College and Mater Dei Institute of Education**

Noted.

**11. Report from Anonymous Marking Working Group**

It was agreed that a further pilot exercise in anonymous marking would be carried out in Summer and Autumn 2003, that the details of this exercise would be agreed by the

members of the Anonymous Marking Working Group and that the issue would be discussed again by Council in the light of the results of the exercise.

**12. Proposal on checking of examination papers**

The first option presented by the Examinations Officer, i.e. the option of continuing the current procedure, was approved. It was agreed that adjustments would be made to the time-frame available for checking. It was noted that, at a future date, it would become possible to carry out this work electronically.

**13. Notification of student experience survey**

Noted that the undergraduate survey had been moved to Semester 1 to facilitate the collection of data for the quality review process, while the postgraduate survey would become available early in 2003. Members of Council were requested to encourage their students to complete the survey.

**14. Report on minimum entry requirements**

Agreed that, pending detailed analysis of the relationship between prior academic achievement and performance at third level, minimum entry requirements would remain the same as they were in 2002, with the possible exception of the minimum entry requirements for the BSc in Computer Applications. Agreed that the Registrar would shortly discuss this issue further with the Chair and members of the Programme Board for the BSc in Computer Applications so that complete information about minimum entry requirements for all programmes in the CAO system could be conveyed to guidance counsellors on 16 December.

**15. Report on student registration numbers**

Noted.

**16. Proposal for structural changes to Academic Council**

The Registrar thanked colleagues for the views and suggestions which had been conveyed to her on this issue. These views had been incorporated into the document. It was agreed that the flexible structure proposed would be used as the basis for structures to be put in place by the new Executive Deans of Faculty, once appointed.

In relation to the membership of Academic Council, it was agreed that the Deputy President, the Vice-President for Research, the Vice-President for Learning Innovation, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Research Advisory Panel, the Chairman of each Faculty Management Board and the full time Heads of Research Centres would be members of Council. It was agreed that, in addition, each School would organise its own representation so as to ensure that it included one staff member at lecturer grade, one staff member at senior lecturer or professor grade, and one Programme Director.

**17. Nominations to Honorary Degree Committee**

It was agreed that Dr Eithne O’Connell and Dr Noel O’Connor would become members of this committee.

**18. Any other business**

None.

**Date of next meeting:**

<p><b>Wednesday 19 February 2003</b> <b>2.00 p.m. in AG01</b></p>
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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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