

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

MINUTES

Wednesday 8 December 2004

2.00-3.15 p.m. in AG01

PRESENT:

D Beirne
F Blin
L Boyle
J Burzlaff
J Carroll
J Costello
I Coyne
E Cunningham
J Dowling
J Doyle
H Duncan
R Elgie
C Fagan
M Gannon
S Geraghty
K Griffin
S Hashmi

M Henry
B Kehoe
E Kennedy
J Kerrane
B Le Juez
B Leahy
B MacDonald
L Mac Mathúna
L McDermott (Secretary)
C McDonagh
D McLoughlin
M Molony
M Nic Giolla Mhichíl
S O'Brien
N O'Connor
C Ó hÓgartaigh
R O'Kennedy

B Quilty
M Robinson
T Ryan
R Saunders
R Scaife
M Shine Thompson
D Sinclair
A Sinnott
M Slowey (VPLI/Registrar)
M Smyth
L Sullivan
E Townsend
D Turley
F von Prondzynski (Chairperson)
P Walsh
R Walshe
J Wright

APOLOGIES:

P Brereton
M Collier
F Corcoran
O Finlayson
B Flood
P Gallagher
E Guilfoyle
A Leahy
B Leavy

C Mac Murchaidh
T McCluskey
E McGlynn
G Murhpy
P Ó Flatharta
E O'Connell
B Pierce
A Pratt

P Preston
H Ruskin
A Scott
P Sheehan
B Trench
R Verbruggen
A Wickham
J Williams

OBSERVER:

G Barry

IN ATTENDANCE:

P McMorrow

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the deferral of Item 8.3 to a future meeting of Academic Council, the inclusion of an additional submission under Item 5 and the inclusion of a submission under Item 13. It was agreed that Item 11 would be discussed in broad outline but that no decisions would be taken about it pending detailed discussion in a different forum in the near future.

2. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council of 13 October 2004

The minutes were confirmed and signed by the President.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of Academic Council

3.1 All matters arising were noted.

3.2 It was noted that the report on the EUA Review of Quality in Irish Universities would be available to the universities early in 2005.

3.3 It was noted that the Task Group on Committee Structures intended to submit proposals on (a) the size and composition of Academic Council and (b) committee structures to the 16 February 2005 meeting of Council and that these proposals would be informed by the views expressed by members of Council at the meeting of 13 October 2004.

4. Minutes of meetings of Academic Council Standing Committee**4.1 Minutes 7 October 2004**

Noted and approved.

4.2 Minutes 4 November 2004

Noted and approved. It was noted, in relation to Item 3.18, that there is a proposal in the forthcoming Irish Universities Quality Board guidelines on the dissemination, publication and implementation of best practice throughout the sector in the organisation of PhD programmes that consideration be given to an integrated Master's/PhD track on which all students, on registering, would be deemed to be PhD students but which would involve a transfer process, after an appropriate period of time, for those whose prior qualifications would normally have required them to register initially for a Master's degree.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of Standing Committee

5.1 All matters arising were noted. It was noted that a revised regulation on the number of times an external examiner may serve would be submitted to the 13 January 2005 meeting of Standing Committee.

5.2 A matter arising from the 2 December 2004 meeting of Standing Committee was submitted to Council (though the minutes themselves will be submitted to the 16 February 2005 meeting). The matter consisted of a proposal to permit appeal of provisional examination results, as follows:

‘an opportunity to submit an appeal should be allowed on the basis of module results approved by a Programme Board Examination Review Committee where the lack of an opportunity to appeal prevents a student from making a decision whether or not to repeat an examination at the next sitting’.

This proposal was approved. It was also agreed that, if a student appealed a result following a Progression and Awards Board meeting having previously appealed the same result when its status was provisional, the same ground for appeal could not be used on the second occasion; a different one would have to be used.

6. President's report

6.1 Funding for the university sector

The President summarised the current grave funding situation facing the universities and said that the University had, in its financial planning, made

provision for coping with the situation but that it was none the less essential that budgets be managed on a very prudent basis.

6.2 OECD Review of Higher Education in Ireland

The President said that it was his intention to hold a special meeting of Academic Council, in the second half of January, to discuss this Review.

6.3 Strategic planning

The President reported that the next phase of strategic planning for the University had begun and that the members of Academic Council would be requested to take an active part in it.

7. Report and Minutes from Validation Committee – 3 November 2004

7.1 Minutes of Validation Committee meeting

Approved.

7.2 Validation report: MA in International Security and Conflict Studies (School of Law and Government)

Approved.

8. Accreditation recommendations

8.1 MA in Social Justice and Public Policy (All Hallows College)

Approved.

8.2 Executive Master of Business Administration (Poland)

Approved. Noted that the Assessment Board would include a minimum of two members of Dublin City University Business School.

9. Report from Appeals Board (Autumn 2004)

Noted.

10. Report from Director of Quality Promotion

Noted. The President, on behalf of Council, expressed appreciation to Dr Walsh for his very substantial contribution to quality promotion in the University.

11. Proposal for management of amendments following Progression and Awards Board meetings

Noted. Agreed that the issue would be discussed in detail by a group including members of the Registry, Faculty Administrators and Chairpersons of Programme Boards. Noted that it might be helpful to include issues relating to Programme Board Examination Review Committees in the discussion. The President invited members of Council to submit their views on the proposal to Ms Phylomena McMorrow of the Registry by the end of December.

12. Report on anonymous marking

Approved. Noted that the financial proposals contained in the report had been approved by Executive. Agreed that anonymous marking would next be implemented in the 2005/06 academic year and that the Working Group on Anonymous Marking would discuss the implementation in detail. Agreed that the composition of the Working Group would be modified to ensure that it included one Faculty Administrator per Faculty and a minimum of one member of academic staff per Faculty. The Registry and the Computer Services Department would continue to be represented.

13. Proposal to change the title of, and entry requirements for, the MBS in Strategic International Marketing

Approved.

Date of next meeting:

**Wednesday 16 February 2005
2.00 p.m. in AG01**

Signed: _____
President

Date: _____