

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Wednesday 13 February 2002

2.00-5.00 p.m. in AG01

PRESENT:

D Bancroft
P Barker
D Beirne
T Brady
P Brereton
J Bruton
E Buffet
A Burke
J Burzlaff
M Byrne
J Carroll
E Cassidy
M Clynes
F Corcoran
E Cunningham
J Dowling
J Doyle
M Drumm
M Farren
R Forster
A Glynn
S Hashmi
M Henry
B Kehoe

E Kennedy
J Kerrane
P Kinsella
L Looney
M Mac Conmara
L Mac Mathúna
C Mac Murchaidh
P MacNeela
L McDermott
S McGovern
B McNamara
A Maillot
S Martin
R Morgan
J Morris
A Morrissey
T Moynihan
B Murphy
G Murphy
J Murphy
J Murray
C Nic Pháidín
E O'Connell
N O'Connor
R O'Connor

R O'Kennedy
C Petite
B Pierce
P Preston
B Quilty
M Roantree
H Ruskin
M Ryan
T Ryan
R Saunders
R Scaife
P Sheehan
M Shields
M Shine Thompson
A Sinnott
A Smeaton
M Smyth
T Szecsi
J van Genabith
D Vender
R Verbruggen
F von Pronszynski (Chairman)
P Walsh
S Wickham
P Willis

APOLOGIES:

P Burke	K MacKeogh	G Scalzo
T Carey	C McDonagh	A Scott
B Carter	E McGlynn	B Trench
R Costello	B McMullin	D Walls
M Cronin	K Monks	A Wickham
E Dubsky	E Ó Maoláin	J Williams
O Finlayson	A Pratt	A Wood
B Leavy	W Richardson	

OBSERVER:

G Barry

IN ATTENDANCE:

M Crehan
C O'Malley

Action**1. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted, subject to the inclusion of an additional item (Working Group on University Structures) as Item 6, and the renumbering of all items from the original Item 6 onwards.

2. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council of 12 December 2001

The minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of Academic Council**3.1 Proposed foundation/access programme (Item 3.1)**

The Registrar reported that Dr McGuinness had set up a working group to make proposals for the validation of a foundation programme. The Chairman reported that CHIU was expected to announce a joint universities initiative on foundation/access programmes.

3.2 Policy on plagiarism (Meeting of 10 October 2001)

A revised discussion document is being drafted by the Registrar, following consultation with members and Heads who had expressed interest.

4. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council Standing Committee of 6 December 2001

Noted and approved.

5. Matters arising from the minutes of Standing Committee

5.1 Minute-writing (Item 4)

The concerns expressed about minute-writing were noted. The Registrar drew the attention of Academic Council to the existence in the University of a training course in the law relating to meetings, including minute-writing. The Chairman recommended the workshop for those responsible for chairing meetings and recording results.

5.2 MSc in Financial and Industrial Mathematics (Item 4.9)

The issues raised were briefly discussed, and it was agreed that further discussion would take place between the Registrar and the Programme Chair.

Registrar

5.3 Register of external examiners (Item 9)

The Registrar reported that a register of external examiners was now being kept so that it would be possible to determine how frequently their services were used, and that the University did not currently take account of the number of other universities with which an external examiner worked. It was agreed that Computer Services would be requested to make the register available on line as soon as resources permitted.

6. Working Group on University Structures

The Chairman congratulated the members of the Working Group on their progress to date.

The current proposals were discussed at length. It was agreed that a special, single-issue meeting of Academic Council would be called, to allow further discussion to take place, once recommendations on the complete structural configuration were made.

7. Accreditation recommendations

7.1 BA in Irish Studies and Religious Studies (Joint Honours) (Mater Dei Institute of Education)

Approved.

7.2 Graduate Diploma/MSc in Nursing (School of Nursing)

Approved.

7.3 Graduate Diploma/MSc in Education and Training Management (School of Education Studies)

Approved subject to the circulation by e-mail, after the meeting, of the full report of the accreditation panel.

Registrar

8. Personal tutor system

Following a discussion on the issues raised in the review carried out by Student Affairs, it was agreed that Mr Kehoe and Ms Crehan, in consultation with the Registrar and taking into account the comments made by Academic Council members, would present a revised report to a future meeting.

Mr Kehoe, Ms Crehan, Registrar

9. Academic calendar 2002/2003

The possibility was raised that the February meeting of Academic Council might move to the week following that in which it currently takes place so as to allow the later scheduling of Faculty Research Board meetings. The Registrar requested Ms Barry to submit a written proposal. The draft calendar was approved subject to a possible amendment arising from the above which will be proposed to the April meeting.

Ms Barry

It was noted that the increase in the number of key events in the calendar was placing increasing pressures on staff time, including time in which to carry out research.

10. Anonymous marking

It was noted that the pilot scheme, approved by Academic Council at its meeting of 12 December 2001 and subsequently postponed owing to financial constraints, would be implemented as originally planned, since funding from the Teaching and Learning Committee had become available.

11. Compensation regulations

It was agreed that, pending the submission of the report from the Working Group on Modularisation and Semesterisation, the interim examination compensation regulations which applied in 2001 would continue to apply until superseded by new regulations.

12. Proposal on post-examination information

This item was deferred to the meeting of 10 April 2002. It is to be the first substantive issue on the agenda for that meeting.

13. Proposal that the decision to have the Education Officer of the Students' Union on Programme Boards be revisited by Academic Council

It was agreed that the decision taken at the June 2001 meeting of Academic Council would be discussed again at the April meeting.

14. Postgraduate research degrees as recommended by Faculty Research Boards

Approved.

15. Any other business

None.

Date of next scheduled meeting:

**Wednesday 10 April 2002
2.00 p.m. in AG01**

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: