

ACADEMIC COUNCIL – STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

THURSDAY, 4 MAY 2000
AT 9:00 AM IN EXECUTIVE MEETING ROOM

Present: Dr P Barker (Chairperson), Dr K Monks, Dr L MacMathuna, Mr J Dowling, Dr T Ryan, Mr J Kerrane, Dr B McMullin, Mr S Derby, Dr J Murray

Apologies: Dr C Long, Mr B Kehoe, Prof R O' Kennedy

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the inclusion of one matter to be considered under 'any other business'.

2. Minutes of meeting of 6 April 2000

The minutes of the meeting of 6 April were adopted and signed by the Chairperson.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

3.1 Programme Board Minutes

3.1.1 The Chairpersons of relevant Programme Boards have been advised of the decisions of Standing Committee of Academic Council in respect of the specific issues raised in the minutes for consideration.

3.1.2 BSc in Applied Physics

Standing Committee noted the response of Professor Henry and Dr Ruddy to its concerns. The matter will be kept under review.

3.2 Appointment of Internal & External Examiners for Postgraduate Programmes

In the light of the imminent appointment of Jennifer Butler to the Research Desk in the Registry, and the complexity of the issues involved, it was agreed that the production of a paper at this point was not feasible and was thus deferred until a future meeting.

Letters of appointment have been sent to Taught and Research Examiners.

3.3 MSc in the Management & Applications of IT in Accounting

Standing Committee approved the following reworded proposal:

If a student has fully completed the taught element of the programme and graduated with a Graduate Diploma, the student may request re-admission to the dissertation stage of the programme. Such requests will be considered by the Course Team, which will make a recommendation to Standing Committee of Academic Council. Similarly, students who have graduated with a Graduate Certificate and seek re-admission to the Diploma stage of the programme may also request re-admission and the Course Team will make a recommendation to Standing Committee of Academic Council.

3.4 Proposed changes to levels and titles of University Awards: St Patrick's College, Drumcondra

Dr MacMathuna will report back at the next meeting.

4. Faculty/Committee/Programme Board Minutes

- 4.1 Programme Board: Diploma in Psychiatric Nursing, 16/09/99
Chairperson to request that the outstanding derogations from the Marks and Standards will be submitted to Standing Committee for review and approval (item 5). The issue of Access programmes for mature students was discussed (item 10). It was agreed that the Chairperson would discuss this issue with Mike Egan. The formal process of the appointment of Dr Nolan was raised (item 8). It was agreed that the Chairperson would follow this up.
- 4.2 Programme Board: Diploma in Mental Handicap Nursing, 17/09/99
Chairperson to request clarification of Item 4 regarding the curriculum.
- 4.3 Programme Board: Graduate Diploma/Masters in Biological Sciences, 22/09/99.
Noted.
- 4.4 Programme Board: Diploma in Nursing, 01/12/99. Noted.
- 4.5 Programme Board: BSc in Science Education, 21/12/99. The student request for a transfer into second year will need to be formally confirmed by Standing Committee.
- 4.6 Programme Board: Masters in Business Administration, 01/03/00. Noted.
- 4.7 Programme Board: MA in Journalism, 08/03/00. Noted.
- 4.8 Programme Board: BA in Accounting and Finance, 09/03/00. Noted.
- 4.9 Programme Board: Graduate Diploma/MA in Translation Studies, 15/03/00.
Clarification of item 2 'Review of Semester 1 Examinations' is required.
- 4.10 Programme Board: MA in Communication & Cultural Studies, 15/03/00. Noted.
- 4.11 Programme Board: MA in Political Communication, 15/03/00. Noted.
- 4.12 Programme Board: BA in Journalism, 15/03/00. Chairperson to remind Programme Board to prepare a schedule of assessments, which avoids deadline clashes (item 3). Chairperson to seek clarification as to why module CM106 will be taught in Semester 1 only, against the wishes of the class (item 6.1.3).
- 4.13 Programme Board: Bachelor of Business Studies, 15/03/00. Chairperson to check the practicalities and legalities of confiscating cards (item 5). Changes to the structure of the final year project were noted (item 8).

- 4.14 Programme Board: BA in Applied Languages, 15/03/00. Chairperson to request that Programme Board submit its Examination Board Guidelines to Standing Committee (item 20) for approval.
- 4.15 Programme Board: MA in International Relations, 16/03/00. Noted.
- 4.16 Programme Board: MBS in Marketing/MBS in Strategic International Marketing, 22/03/00. Chairperson to seek clarification on the kind of experiential portfolio to be sought from applicants without higher education qualifications, and the kind of framework of assessment to be used in evaluating it.
- 4.17 Programme Board: BSc in Science Education, 22/03/00. It was noted that students had been scheduled for lectures on Wednesday afternoon. It was agreed that the Chairperson would discuss this with Martin Henry. The Committee noted its congratulations to the Programme Board on the approval of the programme by the Department of Education and Science for admission to the Register for the purpose of teaching Chemistry and Physics.
- 4.18 Programme Board: BEng in Mechatronic Engineering, 29/03/00. It was noted that students carrying modules had not done well in Semester 1 examinations. It was agreed that the Chairperson would write to Programme Board chairs pointing out that students should only carry modules in exceptional circumstances and that alternative routes should be examined if it is desired that students who have failed a module a second time should be permitted to proceed. It was noted that Dr Murray will be monitoring these candidates in the current diet to assess general patterns.
- 4.19 Programme Board: BEng in Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering, BEng in Computer Aided Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering, BEng in Manufacturing Engineering with Business Studies, BEng in Medical Mechanical Engineering, 29/03/00. Noted.
- 4.20 Programme Board: Joint Faculty of Humanities, 05/04/00. Noted.
- 4.21 Programme Board: MBS in Human Resource Strategies, 05/04/00. Noted.

5 Appointment of external examiners

5.1 Appointment of examiners: taught programmes

- 5.1.1. Prof N L Thomas, University of Salford, German Scientific Modules. Approved.
- 5.1.2. Dr M Williams, University of Leeds, BA in Applied Languages, BA in International Marketing & Languages, BA in International Business & Languages, Graduate Diploma/MA in Translation Studies. Approved.

5.2 Appointment of examiners: postgraduate research students

- 5.2.1. Dr A Gilmore, University of Ulster
Student no. 96971487, MBS, DCU Business School. Approved.
- 5.2.2. Dr S McGovern, DCU
Student no. 94970564, PhD, DCU Business School. Approved.
- 5.2.3. Dr N St John Braithwaite, The Open University, Oxford.
Student no. 96970367, PhD, School of Physical Sciences. Approved.

5.3 Guidelines for appointment of External examiners

Standing Committee agreed that given the confusion that appeared to surround the appointment of external examiners, the Registry should issue a set of new guidelines. Chairperson to draft.

6. Proposed changes to academic programmes

6.1. Certificate in Education & Training. Changes noted.

6.2. MBA. Changes noted. However, it was agreed that a review of the success or otherwise of the changes should be instituted at the end of the first cycle. Chairperson to contact Programme Board Chairperson on this matter.

7. Proposed amendments to M.Ed. marks & standards

The changes were approved subject to the institution of a review process at the end of the first cycle.

8. Request from All Hallows for transfer of NCEA registered students

This item was deferred pending a meeting between the Chairperson and Fr. Beirne of All Hallows.

9. Any other business

9.1. Aegrotat award for student on Management and Applications of IT in Accounting

Issues surrounding the award of an aegrotat Graduate Certificate were discussed. It was agreed that the Chairperson would seek clarification from the Course Team.

Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday, 1 June 2000

Signed: _____

Date: _____