

ACADEMIC COUNCIL – STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday 1 September 2005

9.00-10.30 a.m. in A204

Present: Professor Maria Slowey (Chair), Mr Jonathan Begg, Ms Olivia Bree, Professor Martin Henry, Professor David Jacobson, Dr Breandán Leahy, Ms Louise McDermott (Recording Secretary), Mr Mícheál Mac Conmara, Dr Ronnie Saunders, Mr Paul Sheehan, Ms Yvonne Tuohy

Apologies: Dr Paraic James, Professor Eugene Kennedy, Dr Seán Marlow

The Chair welcomed Ms Olivia Bree, Assistant Registrar of St Patrick's College, to membership of Standing Committee.

On behalf of the members of Standing Committee, the Chair expressed sincere appreciation to Dr Jacobson, who is about to take leave of absence, for his very significant contribution to the work of Standing Committee since he joined it.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the deletion of Item 6.1 (withdrawn at the request of the relevant School) and the inclusion of one additional submission under Item 4, three additional submissions under Item 5.1, two additional submissions under Item 5.2, three additional submissions under Item 6.2, additional requests relating to Item 6.3 and two additional submissions under Item 7.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 7 July 2005

Confirmed and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

- 3.1 Follow-up actions from the last meeting were reported.
- 3.2 Noted that the working group set up by Executive to look at conflict of interest issues across the University was progressing its activities. (Item 3.2)
- 3.3 Noted that the issue of notional learning time within modules had been adverted to by the Working Group on Modularisation. (Item 3.3)
- 3.4 Agreed that a number of ongoing issues would be best dealt with by a short-term Working Group which would be set up and asked to make recommendations. The issues include the following: the frequency with which an external examiner should serve; the desirability or otherwise of permitting direct entry to the PhD register to candidates who do not already hold a Master's degree by research; the frequency with which academic staff should act as supervisors for research students; the definition of a staff member for the purposes of appointing external examiners, where the staff member is also a research student; the possibility of considering differentiated fees for research students depending on whether they are studying on a full- or a part-time basis. Agreed that Professor Henry and Ms McDermott would discuss the arrangements for setting up the Working Group. (Items 3.4, 3.5, 3.8, 3.13 and 3.17)
- 3.5 Noted that, once the regulations on frequency of appointment of external examiners (see 3.4 above) had been agreed and if it were necessary on the basis of these regulations to distinguish between Master's and PhD supervision, the Registry would be requested to specify, on nomination forms, whether previous work carried out by external examiners related to Master's or PhD students or both. (Item 3.6)
- 3.6 Noted that discussions were in progress about the current financial provision for research work on APL. Noted that Dr Saunders and Dr Ann Wickham were in the process of writing new proposals on APL. Noted that the issue of APEL would be dealt with after experience had been obtained with APL. (Item 3.7)
- 3.7 Noted that the School of Communications operates the same policies with regard to the offering of 5-credit modules as do other Schools. (Item 3.11)
- 3.8 Noted that it was intended to submit a proposal from the Working Group on Deferrals to the 27 September 2005 meeting of Budget Committee. (Item 3.15)
- 3.9 A request to reappoint an external examiner in the School of Computing for one additional year was approved. Agreed that, on completion of this year, the replacement external examiner to be nominated should have a particularly strong

- academic background in view of the fact that the other, newly-appointed, external examiner (see Item 5.1.4 below) has a particularly strong industry background. (Item 5.1.12)
- 3.10 Details of the modules to be examined by a nominated external examiner had been provided, and the nomination was therefore approved. (Item 5.1.13)
- 3.11 The abstract of a thesis had been provided, and the nominated external examiner was therefore approved. (Item 5.2.8)
- 3.12 The signature of the Head of School on an application for transfer to the PhD register had been obtained, and the application was therefore approved. (Item 6.2.13)
- 3.13 An appropriate signature on an application for transfer to the PhD register had been obtained, and the application was therefore approved. (Item 6.2.14)
- 3.14 Noted that payments to external examiners are now all being made in the examiners' local currencies. (Item 11)
- 3.15 Noted that, in the week beginning 22 August 2005, a request to make available a Foundation Programme in Engineering, originally accredited in 1993 and updated appropriately, had been approved electronically by Standing Committee.

4. Faculty/Committee/Programme Board minutes

- 4.1 Teaching Meeting: School of Nursing, 23/03/05. Noted and approved.
- 4.2 Electronic Programme Board: BEng in Telecommunications Engineering/BEng in Information and Communications Engineering, 24/08/05. Noted and approved.

5. Appointment of external examiners

5.1 Taught programmes

- 5.1.1 Professor J Goddard, University of Wales, Bangor
Finance modules in Dublin City University Business School
Approved.
- 5.1.2 Professor B Norwich, University of Exeter
Master's in Special Educational Needs, St Patrick's College
Approved.

- 5.1.3 Professor N StJohn Braithwaite, The Open University
Graduate Diploma/MSc in Plasma and Vacuum Technology
Approved.
- 5.1.4 *Reappointments*
Professor F Ackerman, University of Strathclyde
Management modules in Dublin City University Business School
Professor D Farnham, University of Portsmouth
Human Resources modules in Dublin City University Business School
Dr L Brennan, Trinity College Dublin
Operations Management modules in Dublin City University
Business School
Professor P McLaren, De Montfort University
Marketing modules in Dublin City University Business School
Professor C Emmanuel, University of Glasgow
Accounting modules in Dublin City University Business School
Approved.
- 5.1.5 Ms P Wade, Eirgrid Ltd., Dublin 2
Graduate Diploma in Information Technology/MSc in Information
Technology
Approved.
- 5.1.6 *Reappointment*
Mr R Gray, Heriot-Watt University
Modules in the School of Mathematical Sciences
Approved.
- 5.1.7 Dr P King, Mercer Human Resource Consulting
Modules in the School of Mathematical Sciences
Decision deferred pending the submission of more detailed information.

Agreed that consideration would be given to extending the practice of using bilingual Irish/English versions of nomination (and potentially other) forms. These versions are used by St Patrick's College when they submit nominations.

5.2 Postgraduate research students

- 5.2.1 Dr G Wilson, University College Dublin
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.1, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Approved.
- 5.2.2 Dr E Lewis, University of Limerick
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.2, MSc, School of Physical Sciences
Approved.
- 5.2.3 Dr B Markey, University College Dublin
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.3, MSc, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

- 5.2.4 Professor S Laestadius, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.4, PhD, Dublin City University
Business School
Approved.
- 5.2.5 Dr D O'Shea, University College Dublin
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.5, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Decision deferred pending submission of the abstract.
- 5.2.6 Mr R Simpson, Dublin Institute of Technology
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.6, MEng, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Decision deferred pending submission of a *curriculum vitae* for
Mr Simpson.
- 5.2.7 Professor A Guelke, Queen's University, Belfast
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.7, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved.
- 5.2.8 Dr W Albert, Medical University of Graz
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.8, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Approved.
- 5.2.9 Dr N McKenna, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.9, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Approved.
- 5.2.10 Dr S Doyle, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.10, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Approved.
- 5.2.11 Dr D Pearson, Delta Biotechnology Ltd., Nottingham, UK
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.11, PhD, School of Biotechnology/NICB
Approved.
- 5.2.12 Professor J Griffiths, Loughborough University
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.12, PhD, School of Mathematical Sciences
Approved.
- 5.2.13 Dr C Jackson, University of Central England
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.13, PhD, Dublin City University
Business School
Approved.
- 5.2.14 Professor M Cuddy, National University of Ireland, Galway
Student ref. SC/2005/A8/5.2.14, PhD, Dublin City University
Business School
Approved.

6. Postgraduate research matters**6.1 Application for direct entry to the PhD register**

6.1.1 Item withdrawn.

6.2 Applications to transfer to the PhD register

6.2.1 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.1, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

6.2.2 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.2, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

6.2.3 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.3, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.

6.2.4 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.4, School of Computing
Approved.

6.2.5 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.5, School of Applied Language and
Intercultural Studies
Approved.

6.2.6 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.6, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Approved.

6.2.7 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.7, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Approved.

6.2.8 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.8, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Decision deferred pending the submission of additional information.

6.2.9 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.9, School of Physical Sciences
Approved.

6.2.10 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.10, School of Physical Sciences
Approved.

6.2.11 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.11, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

6.2.12 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.12, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

6.2.13 Student ref. SC/2005/A8/6.2.13, School of Biotechnology
Approved.

6.3 Requests for re-registration under 'write-up' status

All approved.

6.4 Request for permission to waive transfer procedure to the PhD register (School of Electronic Engineering – two candidates)

Agreed not to waive the transfer procedure but to request the supervisor to submit a request for direct entry to the PhD register on behalf of the candidates.

6.5 Request in respect of thesis format

Agreed that a stipulation would be written in to *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* that the minimum font size used in theses should be 11, but that it would not be necessary to specify a font type.

7. Request for special-case admission

7.1 Graduate Diploma in Applied Language and Intercultural Studies (one applicant)

Approved.

7.2 Teastas Iarchéime/Diplóma Iarchéime/MA sa Chleachtas Dátheangach / Graduate Certificate/Graduate Diploma/MA in Bilingual Practice (one applicant)

Approved.

7.3 MA in International Relations (part time) (one applicant)

Approved.

7.4 Graduate Diploma/MBS in Safety and Health at Work (four applicants)

Approved.

8. Requests for exemption from modules

None.

9. Any other business

None.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 6 October 2005

Signed: _____
 Chairperson

Date: _____