

## **ACADEMIC COUNCIL – STANDING COMMITTEE**

Thursday 6 September 2001

9.00-11.00 a.m. in Executive Meeting Room

**Present:** Professor Patricia Barker (Chairman), Professor Martin Henry, Professor David Jacobson, Dr Paraic James, Mr Mícheál Mac Conmara, Ms Louise McDermott (Recording Secretary), Dr Liam Mac Mathúna, Dr Seán Marlow, Dr Jim Murray, Mr Barry Murphy, Dr Ronnie Saunders, Mr Paul Sheehan.

**Apologies:** Dr Barry McMullin

### **1. Adoption of agenda**

The agenda was adopted, subject to the inclusion of one submission under Item 10.

### **2. Minutes of the meeting of 5 July 2001**

Confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

### **3. Matters arising from the minutes**

Follow-up actions from the last meeting were reported.

3.1 Noted that, following a meeting with the Director of Innovation and Business Relations, Standing Committee is to request the support of Academic Council (and, via Academic Council members, of INTRA co-ordinators in Schools) in stressing to students that INTRA interviews must be approached in a professional manner.

3.2 Following a query about the feasibility of online completion of forms, it was confirmed that forms relating postgraduate research students are available in PDF format at <http://www.dcu.ie/ro/forms/index.html#Postgrad>. From now on, staff will be required to complete these forms electronically and then

print, sign and submit them. This is to obviate the difficulty in reading some handwritten forms.

#### 4. Faculty/Committee/Programme Board minutes

- 4.1 Programme Board: BA in Journalism Standing Committee, 28/03/01. Noted.  
With regard to the issue raised in Item 1.1, the Programme Chair is to be requested to contact Education Services to discuss low-cost telephone options.
- 4.2 Programme Board: GD/MA in Translation Studies, 05/06/01. Noted.  
The Programme Chair is to be requested to avoid naming individual staff members in future minutes unless necessary.
- 4.3 Programme Board: International MBA, 18/06/01. Noted.
- 4.4 BSc in Science Education, 22/06/01. Noted.
- 4.5 BSc in Applied Physics/Physics with a Language, 22/06/01. Noted.
- 4.6 BSc in Analytical Science, BSc in Pure & Applied Chemistry/Chemical & Pharmaceutical Sciences, BSc in Chemistry with French & German, MSc in Instrumental Analysis. Noted. With regard to the student referred to in Item 3.2, the Registrar is to contact the Teachers' Registration Council to ask if registration would be permitted if the student took and passed a full diet of Analytical Science, Year 4, modules. If this is not possible, the student will be offered a place on the programme and requested to take Year 3 and Year 4 modules (with exemptions as appropriate from Year 3 modules).
- 4.7 GD/MSc in Biological Sciences, 26/06/01. Noted. The Programme Chair is to be asked formally to request approval for the proposed external examiner referred to in Item 2.1.
- 4.8 Bachelor of Nursing Studies, 26/06/01. Noted. The Programme Chair is to be requested to supply, as an appendix to the minutes, details of the academic structure changes referred to in Item 4.
- 4.9 Graduate Programme: Management of Operations, 27/06/01. Noted.
- 4.10 Diploma/BSc in Information Technology, 04/07/01. Noted. The changes to the programme proposed in Appendix 2 will be put to an accreditation board. The Programme Board is to be requested to nominate members of this board.
- 4.11 Diploma in Nursing (Psychiatric), 28/06/01. Noted.
- 4.12 Diploma in Nursing (Mental Handicap), 29/06/01. Noted.
- 4.13 Diploma in Nursing (General), Beaumont Hospital, 27/06/01. Noted.  
Concern was expressed at the shortfall in tutorial provision referred to in Item 7.
- 4.14 Diploma in Nursing (General), James Connolly Hospital, 27/06/01. Noted.

## 5. Appointment of external examiners

### 5.1 Taught programmes

- 5.1.1 Dr S Aylwin, UCC  
GD/MSc in Integrative Psychotherapy (Turning Point/School of Nursing)  
Approved.

### 5.2 Postgraduate research students

- 5.2.1 Professor AD McGettrick, Strathclyde University  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.1, MSc, School of Computer Applications  
Approved.
- 5.2.2 Professor D Farrell, University of Manchester  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.2, MBS, DCU Business School  
Approved.
- 5.2.3 Dr E Dempsey, IT Tallaght  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.3, MSc, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved.
- 5.2.4 Dr D Buckingham, London University  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.4, MA, School of Communications  
Approved.
- 5.2.5 Dr J Donegan, TCD  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.5, MSc, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved.
- 5.2.6 Dr G O'Sullivan, UCD  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.6, MSc, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved.
- 5.2.7 Professor S Yearly, University of York  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.7, PhD, School of Communications  
Approved.
- 5.2.8 Dr C Taylor, University of Leeds  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.8, MSc, School of Computer Applications  
Approved.
- 5.2.9 Professor B Roche, Graduate School of Business, UCD  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.9, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved.
- 5.2.10 Professor T Cunningham, Centre for Marketing Studies, UCD  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.10, PhD, DCU Business School  
Approved subject to the form being signed by the Dean.
- 5.2.11 Dr P Skelly, Harvard School of Public Health  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.11, PhD, School of Biotechnology  
Approved.

- 5.2.12 Dr D Corcoran, University of Limerick  
Student ref. SC/07/5.2.12, MSc, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved.

Noted that where the supervisor is the Head of School, a second signature should accompany the Head's signature. Agreed that the form (PGR4) would be amended to make this clear.

## **6. Postgraduate Research Matters**

### **6.1 Applications to transfer to PhD Register**

- 6.1.1 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.1, School of Physical Sciences  
Approved.
- 6.1.2 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.2, School of Computer Applications  
Approved subject to the form being signed by the Head of School.
- 6.1.3 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.3, School of Communications  
Approved.
- 6.1.4 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.4, School of Electronic Engineering  
Approved.
- 6.1.5 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.5, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved.
- 6.1.6 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.6, School of Communications  
Approved.
- 6.1.7 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.7, School of Education Studies  
To be resubmitted and to include a report on the oral examination and the signature of the internal examiner.
- 6.1.8 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.8, School of Education Studies  
To be resubmitted and to include a report on the oral examination and the signature of the internal examiner.
- 6.1.9 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.9, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved.
- 6.1.10 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.10, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved.
- 6.1.11 Student ref. SC/07/6.1.11, School of Chemical Sciences  
Approved.

Noted that the text under 'Recommendation' in section 2 of the form (PGR3) was unclear in that it appeared to indicate that a specific recommendation had to be made. Agreed that the form would be amended to make the wording clearer and also to provide greater clarity at the end of section 2 where provision is made for signing by more than one person.

**6.2 Retrospective registration**

6.2.1 Student ref. SC/07/6.2.1, School of Education Studies  
Approved.

**6.3 Proposed addition to *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis***

Approved subject to slight rewording.

**6.4 Change in supervisory arrangements**

Student ref. SC/07/6.4, School of Computer Applications  
Approved subject to one of the three proposed new supervisors being nominated as the main supervisor.

Noted that *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis* currently do not include any reference to procedures for changing supervisor. Agreed that such a reference would be drafted and submitted to the next meeting of Standing Committee.

**7. Proposal from Turning Point: GD/MSc in Integrative Psychotherapy programme**

Approved.

**8. Special-case admissions****8.1 MBS in Human Resource Strategies**

Approved.

**8.2 MBA (Local Government Programme)**

Approved.

**8.3 GD/MBS in Safety and Health at Work**

Approved.

**8.4 Graduate Certificate in Corporate Treasury**

Approved.

Professor David Jacobson and Mr Ray Byrne were commended on the clarity

of the format used to outline the background of the candidates for special-case admission to the MBS in HR Strategies. Agreed that Registry would use this format as a pro-forma to be distributed to all Programme Board Chairs for special-case admission requests.

Noted that postgraduate programmes which included a sub-degree exit option, e.g. Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma, allowed for the possibility that students who were able to attain these standards but not a Master's standard could obtain a qualification. Agreed that Registry would consider this issue when accrediting future programmes.

**9. Proposal on post-examination information**

The paper drafted by the Registrar was discussed. Agreed that, subject to amendments as suggested and agreed, the proposal would be brought to Academic Council.

**10. Any other business**

**10.1 Module exemptions for students on the BSc in Computer Applications Evening degree, Year 1, 2001-2002**

Approved. Noted, however, that the Programme Chair could be asked to submit more detailed supporting data in future. Agreed that a pro-forma similar to that proposed in Item 8 would be prepared and distributed.

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 4 October 2001.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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