

ACADEMIC COUNCIL – STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday 3 June 2004

9.00-11.00 a.m. in AG01

Present: Professor Maria Slowey (Chairperson), Dr Eoin Cassidy, Ms Anja Friedrich, Ms Brenda Gaughan, Dr Paraic James, Dr Seán Marlow, Mr Mícheál Mac Conmara, Ms Louise McDermott (Recording Secretary), Dr Ronnie Saunders

Apologies: Professor Martin Henry, Professor David Jacobson, Dr Liam Mac Mathúna, Mr Paul Sheehan

Observer: Mr Damien McLoughlin

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Damien McLoughlin who, as incoming Vice-President of the Students' Union, will be a member of Standing Committee from July 2003.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the inclusion of one additional submission under Item 5.1, one additional submission under Item 5.2 and one additional submission under Item 6.2, and the renaming of Items 7.1 and 7.2 as Items 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 respectively and of Item 7.3 as Item 7.1.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 1 April 2004

Confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

3.1 Follow-up actions from the last meeting were reported.

3.2 Noted that Standing Committee would, at a future meeting, review the frequency of appointment of external examiners. (Item 3.2)

- 3.3** Noted that, while discussions had taken place in the School of Communications about the possibility of adopting common compensation regulations across the three undergraduate programmes, the current situation was that the three Programme Boards had agreed regulations that were broadly similar but still differed in some respects. (Item 3.3)
- 3.4** Noted that the proposal on procedures to be adopted when teaching family members or other people in relation to whom a conflict of interest might arise would be discussed by Academic Council at its meeting of 9 June 2004. (Item 3.4)
- 3.5** Noted that discussions were ongoing with the Research Advisory Panel about possible interruptions to funding in cases where research students interrupt their studies. (Item 3.6)
- 3.6** Agreed, in relation to the proposal from the Programme Board for the BSc in Financial and Actuarial Mathematics about calculating the degree classification for final-year students, that - pending the review of *Marks and Standards* - the Board should be advised to apply best judgement in individual cases taking into account all the relevant circumstances relating to each student. (Item 4.19)

4. Faculty/Committee/Programme Board minutes

- 4.1 Programme Board: Undergraduate Nursing, 15/03/04. Noted and approved.
- 4.2 Programme Board: Diploma in Education and Training, 16/03/04. Noted and approved. Noted that this programme and the BSc in Education and Training would henceforth be dealt with by joint Programme Board meetings.
- 4.3 Programme Board: BSc in Education and Training, 16/03/04. Noted and approved. Noted that this programme and the Diploma in Education and Training would henceforth be dealt with by joint Programme Board meetings.
- 4.4 Programme Board: BA in Journalism, 14/03/04. Noted and approved. Agreed to ask the Programme Board about the outcome of the proposed query to be sent to the Department of Education, alluded to in Item 2.2.
- 4.5 Programme Board: Graduate Certificate in Community Interpreting, 26/04/04. Noted and approved.
- 4.6 Programme Board: MSc in Bioinformatics, 29/04/04. Noted and approved.
- 4.7 Programme Board: MSc in Information Technology, 10/05/04. Noted and approved. The possibility, raised in Item 4, that the programme might be restructured so as to allow for completion within one year was noted with approval.

5. Appointment of external examiners

5.1 Taught programmes

5.1.1 *Extension of appointment*

Professor B Hannigan, University of Ulster
MSc in Biological Sciences

Approved.

5.1.2 Extension of appointment

Dr Sue Aylwin, University College Cork
MSc in Counselling and Integrative Psychotherapy

Approved.

5.2 Postgraduate research students

5.2.1 Professor J Ramey, University of Washington

Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.1, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

Approved. Noted that the School had provided an explanation as to why it had been necessary to nominate an external examiner from a relatively distant university. Agreed that it would be suggested to the School that they bear some of the travel costs. Agreed that the possibility of using videoconferencing for *viva voce* examinations was one that would require detailed debate and that an initial discussion might take place at a future meeting of Standing Committee.

5.2.2 Dr P Crowley, University College Cork

Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.2, MA, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

Approved.

5.2.3 Professor L Hickey, University of Salford

Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.3, PhD, School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies

Approved.

5.2.4 Dr A van Amerongen, ATO BV, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.4, PhD, School of Biotechnology
Decision deferred pending the submission of a fuller *curriculum vitae* for the nominee.

5.2.5 Dr J O’Gara, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.5, PhD, School of Biotechnology

Approved.

5.2.6 Professor J Kelly, Trinity College Dublin

Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.6, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences

Approved.

- 5.2.7 Professor T Coffey, University of Limerick
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.7, MSc, School of Computing
Approved.
- 5.2.8 Mr H Sorensen, University College Cork
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.8, MSc, School of Computing
Approved.
- 5.2.9 Dr N Griffith, University of Limerick
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.9, PhD, School of Computing
Approved.
- 5.2.10 Dr D Chambers, National University of Ireland, Galway
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.10, MSc, School of Computing
Approved.
- 5.2.11 Dr S Foley, University College Cork
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.11, PhD, School of Computing
Approved.
- 5.2.12 Dr C Vogel, Trinity College Dublin
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.12, MSc, School of Computing
Approved.
- 5.2.13 Professor P MacLaran, De Montfort University
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.13, MBS, DCU Business School
Approved.
- 5.2.14 Dr T McDonough, National University of Ireland, Galway
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.14, MBS, DCU Business School
Approved.
- 5.2.15 Dr E Mullan, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, St James's Hospital
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.15, MSc, Centre for Sport Science and Health
Approved.
- 5.2.16 Ms J O'Kelly, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.16, MSc, School of Education Studies
Approved.
- 5.2.17 Professor S Grainger, Staffordshire University
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.17, MEng, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved.
- 5.2.18 Professor S Grainger, Staffordshire University
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.18, MEng, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved.
- 5.2.19 Professor D Hanley, Cardiff University
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.19, PhD, School of Law and Government
Approved.
- 5.2.20 Dr B McCormack, Institute of Technology, Sligo
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.20, MEng, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Approved.

- 5.2.21 Professor M Hillery, University of Limerick
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.21, MEng, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Approved.
- 5.2.22 Dr P J Armstrong, Queen's University Belfast
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.22, MEng, School of Mechanical and
Manufacturing Engineering
Approved.
- 5.2.23 Dr N Goddard, University of Manchester
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.23, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved.
- 5.2.24 Professor S P Wilkes, University of Wales
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.24, PhD, School of Physical Sciences
Approved.
- 5.2.25 Dr N Murphy, Institute of Technology, Waterford
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.25, MSc, School of Sport Science and Health
Approved.
- 5.2.26 Professor P J Drudy, Trinity College Dublin
Student ref. SC/2004/A6/5.2.26, PhD, Dublin City University
Business School
Approved.

6. Postgraduate research matters

6.1 Application for direct entry to the PhD register

- 6.1.1 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.1.1, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing
Engineering
Approved.
- 6.1.2 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.1.2, School of Law and Government
Approved.

6.2 Application to transfer to the PhD register

- 6.2.1 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.2.1, School of Biotechnology
Approved.
- 6.2.2 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.2.2, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.
- 6.2.3 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.2.3, Centre for Sport Science and Health
Approved.
- 6.2.4 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.2.4, School of Mathematical Sciences
Approved.

6.3 Request for re-registration under write-up status for 2004/05

6.3.1 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.3.1, School of Law and Government
Approved.

6.4 Request for change of supervisor

6.4.1 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.4.1, School of Physical Sciences
Approved.

6.4.2 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.4.2, School of Nursing
Approved.

6.5 Request for special-case admission to Master's degree by research

6.5.1 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.5.1, School of Nursing
Approved.

6.5.2 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/6.5.2, School of Mechanical and Manufacturing
Engineering
Approved.

7. Request for special-case admission

7.1 Student ref. SC/2004/A6/7.1, DCU Business School
Approved.

8. Requests for exemption from modules

None.

9. Report of the working group on English-language proficiency requirements

Approved.

10. Report from Validation Committee - 5 May 2004

Approved. Noted that this report had been submitted first to Standing Committee, instead of directly to Academic Council as is usual, for reasons of timing and so as to facilitate the accreditation process for two of the programmes dealt with in it.

Noted that, in future, the recommendations of Validation Committee

would be sent to the members of Accreditation Boards before accreditation meetings.

11. Minutes of Validation Committee - 5 May 2004

Approved.

12. Proposals on quality assurance procedures for MBA (Lublin Business School)

Approved.

13. Revised proposal on notional learning time within modules

Agreed that some further discussion needed to be held on this issue and that a decision on it should therefore not be taken at this time. Agreed also that it would be withdrawn from the agenda for the meeting of Academic Council of 9 June 2004.

14. Tribute to Dr Eoin Cassidy

The Chairperson, on behalf of the members, warmly thanked Dr Eoin Cassidy, the outgoing Registrar of Mater Dei Institute of Education, for his very thoughtful and substantial contributions to the work of Standing Committee since he joined it, and wished him every success in his future endeavours.

15. Tribute to Ms Anja Friedrich

The Chairperson, on behalf of members, conveyed the appreciation of Standing Committee to Ms Anja Friedrich, outgoing Vice-President of the Students' Union, for her very positive and helpful commitment to Standing Committee over the past year, and wished her well in her forthcoming studies.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 1 July 2004

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____