ACADEMIC COUNCIL – STANDING COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday 15 January 2004

9.00-10.45 a.m. in Executive Meeting Room

Present: Professor Albert Pratt (Chair), Ms Anja Friedrich, Ms Brenda Gaughan, Professor Martin Henry, Mr Mícheál Mac Conmara, Dr Liam Mac Mathúna, Dr Seán Marlow, Ms Louise McDermott (Recording Secretary), Dr Barry McMullin

Apologies: Professor David Jacobson, Dr Paraic James, Dr Ronnie Saunders, Mr Paul Sheehan

1.   Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted subject to the inclusion of an additional submission in relation to Item 4.12 and an additional submission in relation to Item 4.16.

2.   Minutes of the meeting of 4 December 2003

Confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

3.   Matters arising from the minutes

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

3.2   <u>Noted</u> that a report from the Teaching and Learning Committee on the provision of lecture notes online would shortly be submitted for discussion by Standing Committee. (Item 3.2)

3.3   <u>Noted</u> that Academic Council had, at its meeting of 10 December 2003, approved the proposal from the Teaching and Learning Committee relating to the provision of feedback to students following Semester 1 examinations, that the University's *Framework of Good Practice in Teaching and Learning* had been amended to reflect this and that staff and students had been informed. (Item 3.3)

3.4   <u>Noted</u> that Standing Committee would, at a meeting in the near future, review the frequency of appointment of external examiners. (Item 3.4)

3.5   <u>Noted</u> that confirmation was still awaited that a student who had applied for direct entry to the PhD register had successfully completed a taught Master's programme in another university. (Item 3.5)

3.6   <u>Agreed</u> that the Appeals Board would be asked to discuss, at its next meeting, the following proposal: 'an opportunity to submit an appeal should be allowed on the basis of module results approved by a Programme Board Examination Review Committee where the lack of an opportunity to appeal prevents a student from making a decision whether or not to repeat an examination at the next sitting'. <u>Agreed</u> that the Registry and the Faculty Offices would be asked to consider, when the timetable for the June and September 2004 Progression and Awards Boards is being drawn up, whether or not it might be helpful to students, in this regard, to hold June Progression and Awards Boards for all programmes, even those for which final results would not be available until after June. (Item 3.6)

3.7   <u>Noted</u> that an arrangement had been made between the Dublin City University Business School and the Faculty of Engineering and Computing that the recommendation about the award to be made to a jointly-supervised research student should be made at the Business School Faculty Research Board. <u>Noted</u> also that both Faculties were aware that the recently-appointed supervisor was to be the senior supervisor. (Item 6.3)

3.8   <u>Noted</u> that the proposal in relation to *aegrotat* awards of research degrees had been approved by Academic Council at its meeting of 10 December 2003. (Item 9)

3.9   <u>Agreed</u> that a letter, requesting clarification, should be sent to the graduate who had submitted to the University of Stirling, in support of an application for admission, two different transcripts of results from DCU in respect of the same qualification.

4.   Faculty/Committee/Programme Board minutes

4.1 Joint Programme Board: BEng in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, BEng in Manufacturing Engineering with Business Studies, BEng in Computer-aided Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, BEng in Medical Mechanical Engineering, 22/10/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u> subject to the rewriting of Item 6 to make it clear that the reason some external examiners' reports had not been made available by the Registry was that they had not yet been submitted to the Registry by the examiners.

4.2   Programme Board: BEng in Mechatronic Engineering, 22/10/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.3   Programme Board: Access/Graduate Diploma/MSc in Computer-aided Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, 22/10/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u> subject to a revised proposal being submitted to Standing Committee in relation to Item 4 which would incorporate the following into the proposed admission criteria: all successful applicants are to be registered for the MSc in the first instance, and only those who fail to meet the requirements for progression to the MSc will be requested to exit with a Graduate Diploma. <u>Noted</u> that the issue of whether students on taught postgraduate programmes should in all cases be registered for a Master's degree initially would need discussion within the University. <u>Agreed</u> to seek the views of the Research Advisory Panel on whether or not it would be desirable to invite new postgraduate students automatically to register for a PhD (instead of specifying registration for a Master's - unless an exception is permitted - for those who do not already hold a research Master's degree).

4.4   Programme Board: MA in Communication and Cultural Studies, 29/10/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.5   Joint Programme Board: BSc in Multimedia and MSc in Multimedia, 05/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u> subject to the removal of 'plus half the additional value above 40%' from the proposal on compensation regulations and to clarification of whether compensation is intended to be automatic or at the discretion of the Progression and Awards Board.

4.6   Programme Board: Graduate Diploma/MSc in Education and Training Management, 12/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.7   Programme Board: BA in Applied Languages/BA in Languages for International Communication, 12/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.8   Programme Board: BA in Communication Studies, 12/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u> subject to the removal of 'plus half the additional value above 40%' from the proposal on compensation regulations and to clarification of whether compensation is intended to be automatic or at the discretion of the Progression and Awards Board.

4.9   Programme Board: BA in International Business and Languages/BA in International Marketing and Languages, 19/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>. The non-availability of some staff members to advise exchange students on module choice at registration was <u>noted</u> with concern.

4.10   Programme Board: Graduate Diploma/MSc in Nursing, 25/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.11   Programme Board: MSc in Bioinformatics, 05/12/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.12   Programme Board: MSc in Security and Forensics, 11/12/03, plus follow-up memorandum of 12/01/04. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u> subject to the removal of the stipulation that eligibility for the award of an honours degree is unavailable to students who repeat a module more than once, as well as to the removal (since it is not relevant) of the reference to examinations taken following a deferral.

4.13   Memorandum in relation to Programme Board: Graduate Diploma/MA in Comparative Literature, 16/12/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.14   Programme Board: MBS in Marketing/MBS in Strategic International Marketing, 17/12/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.15   Programme Board: BSc in Education and Training/Diploma in Education and Training, 13/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.16   Memoranda in relation to Programme Board: BSc in Multimedia and BA in Communication Studies, 06/01/04 and 07/01/04. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.17   Programme Board: Graduate Diploma/MSc in Bioinformatics, 06/01/04. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

4.18   Joint Programme Board: MSc in Science Communication and MA in Film and Television Studies, 26/11/03. <u>Noted</u> and <u>approved</u>.

5.   Appointment of external examiners

5.1   Taught programmes

5.1.1   (Reappointment)
         Professor M Byram, University of Durham
         School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
         <u>Approved.</u>

5.1.2   Professor G Gillen, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
         BA in Music Performance and Master of Music in Performance
         <u>Approved.</u>

5.1.3   (Reappointments: programmes in St Patrick's College)
         Dr V Hanley, University of Southampton
         Dr M Cawley, National University of Ireland, Galway
         Professor T Bartlett, University College Dublin
         Professor R Ó hUiginn, National University of Ireland, Maynooth
         Professor J Elliott, University of East Anglia
         Professor M Steer, University College Dublin
         Revd Dr T Norris, St Patrick's College, Maynooth
         <u>Approved.</u>

5.1.4   Dr R Crawshaw, Lancaster University
         School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies
         <u>Approved.</u>

5.2   Postgraduate research students

5.2.1   Dr N Geraghty, National University of Ireland, Galway
Student ref. SC/2004/A1/5.2.1, PhD, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.

5.2.2   Professor J Noble, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand
Student ref. SC/2004/A1/5.2.2, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved subject to clarification of the reason it had been necessary to source an external examiner in a distant country.

5.2.3   Professor P Tuma, Charles University, Czech Republic
Student ref. SC/2004/A1/5.2.3, MEng, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved.

5.2.4   Professor J Crowcroft, University of Cambridge
Student ref. SC/2004/A1/5.2.4, PhD, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved.

5.2.5   Professor S Robertson, Microsoft Research, Cambridge
Student ref. SC/2004/A1/5.2.5, PhD, School of Computing
Approved.

5.2.6   Dr R Studdert, University College Cork
Student ref. SC/2004/A1/5.2.6, MEng, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved.

6.   Postgraduate research matters

6.1   Applications for direct entry to the PhD register

None.

6.2   Applications to transfer to the PhD register

6.2.1   Student ref. SC/2004/A1/6.2.1, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.

6.2.2   Student ref. SC/2004/A1/6.2.2, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.

6.2.3   Student ref. SC/2004/A1/6.2.3, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.

6.2.4   Student ref. SC/2004/A1/6.2.4, School of Electronic Engineering
Approved.

6.2.5   Student ref. SC/2004/A1/6.2.5, School of Chemical Sciences
Approved.

6.3   **Request for re-registration under 'write-up' status (School of Chemical Sciences - one candidate)**

     Approved.

6.4   **Proposed change to 'Change of Supervisor' regulation**

     Approved subject to the word 'additional' appearing in italics.

6.5   **Request for admission to Master's qualifying programme (School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering - one candidate)**

     Approved.

6.6   **Request to backdate registration of Master's student (School of Physical Sciences - one candidate)**

     Approved.

7.   **Requests for special-case admission**

None.

8.   **Requests for exemption from modules**

None.

9.   **Thanks expressed to members of Standing Committee**

Professor Pratt expressed his appreciation to the members of Standing Committee for the work they had done during the time he had acted as Chairman of Standing Committee.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 5 February 2004

Signed: _____   Date: _____
           Chairman