

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Wednesday 22 February 2023

2.00 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.

Present: Dr Claire Bohan, Professor Mark Brown, Dr Jing Burgi-Tian, Professor Michelle Butler, Professor Brian Corcoran, Professor Dominic Elliott, Professor Derek Hand, Dr Rachel Keegan (Secretary), Professor Anne Looney, Professor Lisa Looney (Chair), Dr Jennifer McManis, Ms Pauline Mooney, Professor Joseph Stokes, Dr Monica Ward and Professor Blánaid White.

Apologies: Dr Sarahjane Belton, Ms Jennifer Bruton, Mr Eoin Crossen, Professor John Doyle and Ms Aisling McKenna.

SECTION A: AGENDA, MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Minutes of the meeting of the Education Committee of 25 January 2023

The minutes of the meeting of 25 January 2023 were approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 25 January 2023

3.1 It was noted that the draft ECIU Strategic Oversight Committee Terms of Reference was on the agenda (item 5.2)

3.1 It was noted that revisions to DCUBS aviation programmes and associated modules were currently under review by the Faculty (item 3.5).

- 3.2 It was noted that a validation proposal for the MSc in Athletic Therapy was currently under review by the Faculty (item 8)

SECTION B: STRATEGIC MATTERS

4. Strategic Academic Initiatives

4.1 Teaching and Learning Strategy

The Chair presented summary vision statements for aspects of the Teaching and Learning Strategy. She informed members that the next steps involve elaborating and refining the draft vision statements for each area of focus and ensuring that the Faculty statements are aligned with these.

The Education Committee discussed each of the vision statements in turn and a number of suggestions on the draft text were recorded. The Chair informed members that feedback would be incorporated into the draft document and a refined version would be brought back to the next meeting of the Education Committee.

4.2 ECIU Strategic Oversight Committee, Terms of Reference

The Academic Secretary provided a brief overview of the draft Terms of Reference as circulated, noting the proposed membership takes into consideration the breadth of DCU's involvement in the ECIU consortium. She noted that there is a further layer of work required to identify what data the ECIU Strategic Oversight Committee would need in order for it to execute its functions.

The Education Committee approved the ECIU Strategic Oversight Committee Terms of Reference.

SECTION C: PROGRAMME AND MODULE-SPECIFIC MATTERS**5. DCU Institute of Education****5.1 Revised Academic Offerings: Bachelor of Religious Education and English or History or Music – Year 2 and Year 4 exit awards**

Professor A. Looney presented two proposed exit awards from the existing Bachelor of Religious Education and English, History or Music.

The Education Committee gave due consideration to the two proposed exit awards including the rationale provided for naming both religious education and education studies in the award titles. It was agreed that, in keeping with DCU award title standards, the title should be concise and reflective of the associated major award. It was furthermore noted that the transcript is the most appropriate mechanism for providing more detailed programme information. The following exit awards were approved:

- Year 2 exit award: Diploma in Religious Education and English/History/Music (Level 7, 60 ECTS)
- Year 4 exit award: Bachelor of Arts in Religious Education and English/History/Music (Level 8, 180 ECTS)

The Education Committee requested that the programme team give consideration to transfer options available to learners who exit with the Diploma.

5.2 Memo: Re-titling of Graduate Diploma in Inclusive Education, Learning Support and Special Education (for noting)

The re-titling of the Graduate Diploma in Inclusive Education, Learning Support and Special Education to Graduate Diploma in Inclusive and Special Education from 2023/24 was noted.

SECTION D: OTHER MATTERS**6. QQI analysis of degree classifications**

The Chair briefed members on a recent request from the QQI for feedback on a proposed methodology for the analysis of trends in the attainment of award classifications across the sector. She noted that some suggested adjustments to the approach would be fed back to the QQI. She informed members that, notwithstanding a possible QQI analysis being undertaken, DCU would begin its own initial review of outlier programmes.

7. Any other business

Dr M. Ward informed colleagues that Dr Martina Crehan had recently been appointed as the new Head of the Teaching Enhancement Unit. The Chair thanked Professor Mark Brown for his role as acting Head and TEU colleagues for stepping up to ensure that TEU services continued to be offered during the interim period.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting:
Wednesday, 22 March 2023
at 2.00 pm
Zoom Meeting