

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

MINUTES

12 April 2017

2.00 – 3.15. p.m.

B103, DCU St Patrick's Campus

PRESENT:

F. Blin	J. Kelly	P. Mooney
C. Bohan	E. Kennedy	G. Murphy
P. Brereton	D. Keogh	B. NíÁingléis
M. Butler	Q. Liu	D. Nic Mhathúna
B. Corcoran	A. Looney	K. Nolan
S. Cullen	L. Looney	R. O'Connor
N. Dunne	J. Lovatt	J. Rami
G. French	C. MacMurchaidh	A. Simon
E. Guilfoyle (Chair)	A. Matthews	A. Stevenson
D. Hand	C. McGonagle	MR Sweeney
S. Hegarty	G. McGuinness	P. Tiernan
M. Irwin-Bannon (Secretary)	D. McKeon	B. Walsh
A. Kearns	P. McMorrow	P. Young

APOLOGIES:

C. Brennan	J. Donoghue	S. McGovern
M. Brown	B. Flood	N. Moyna
J. Bruen	G. Hughes	R. Murphy
J. Bruton	P. Landais	S. O'Neill
D. Collings	T. Lynn	M. Quinn
E. Costello	B. MacCraith	M. Roantree
M. Crane	S. McArdle	R. Sadleir
M. Cummins	K. McDonagh	A. Sinnott
P. Davis	E. McGlynn	J. Travers

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted.

A: Minutes and related issues**2. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council of 8 February 2017**

Approved

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Minutes of the meetings of the Education Committee of 11 January 2017 and 15 February 2017

The minutes were approved.

5. Minutes of the meeting of the University Standards Committee of 12 January 2017 and 23 February 2017

The minutes were approved.

6. Minutes of the meeting of the Graduate Research Studies Board of 19 January 2017

The minutes were approved.

It was suggested that it would be useful if the Chairpersons of the sub-committees of Academic Council would bring to the attention of Council any items of note which have been considered by their Committees. The Chair indicated that she would consider this suggestion.

B. Policy and strategy issues**7. President's report (oral report)**

Due to the President's absence on University business, there was no update at the meeting.

8. Employability and DCU Programmes presentation by Mr Billy Kelly, Dean of Teaching and Learning/Deputy Registrar

Mr B. Kelly presented on 'Employability and DCU and asked colleagues to raise the matter for discussion at programme and discipline level in the context of the current strategic planning cycle.

The following aspects of employability were explored:

- The external drivers which make 'employability' a university-wide responsibility e.g. DES Strategy Statement 2016-2019, National Skills Strategy 2015, the Dublin Regional Skills Forum, HEA funding
- Awareness of the skills required by employers
- Developing employability in DCU students
- Developing students' understanding and perception of 'employability'

The following points were noted from the discussion which ensued:

- It was suggested that under 'Developing employability' assessment methods that encourage the development of transversal skills should be included
- Students' perception of 'employability' is influenced by many factors including the disciplines they are studying, whether they already have a part-time job, or whether or not they have been on an INTRA placement, and the nature of that experience.
- Raising students' self-awareness and confidence are key factors in their understanding and perception of 'employability'
- In terms of perception, it needs to be communicated that although generally students who pursue programmes through Open Education are already in employment they are able to improve their employability following completion of their programme.

C. Items for formal approval/noting

9. Items from recent subcommittees of Academic Council

Approved

10. Report on INTRA Activities 2016

Noted

11. Validation Report: MA in Refugee Relocation and Integration

Approved

12. Accreditation Report: International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies

Approved

13. Graduate Research Studies Board Standing Committee to consider Appeals Report

Approved

14. Any other business

There were no items.

Signed: _____
President

Date _____

Date of next meeting:

**7 June 2017
2:00 pm in AG01
DCU Glasnevin Campus**