

ACADEMIC COUNCIL**MINUTES****20 June 2016****2.00 – 2.40 pm in AG01****PRESENT:**

M. Brennan
P. Brereton
M. Brown
J. Bruen
J. Brunton
J. Bruton
J. Carroll
R. Devery
J. Donoghue
J. Doyle
H. Esmonde

E. Guilfoyle (Chair)¹
C. Gurrin
M. Irwin-Bannon (Secretary)
B. Kelly
L. Looney
T. Lynn
B. MacCraith (Chair)
A. Matthews
E. McGlynn
A. McGrady
P. McMcMorrow

B. McMullin
M. McLoughlin
G. Murphy
R. O'Connor
A. O'Regan
M. Roantree
R. Sadleir
A. Sinnott
S. Stan
A. Stover
B. White

APOLOGIES:

C. Bohan
C. Brennan
M. Byrne
R. Connolly
J. Costello
Y Crotty
P. Davis

S. Fox
J. Gallen
M. Helfert
D. Kenny
P. Landais
A Lodge
C. MacMurchaidh

C. McMullan
P. Ó Duibhir
S. O'Neill
A. Sinnott
M.R. Sweeney
A. Way

¹ The meeting was chaired by the Vice President Academic Affairs/Registrar for the first ten minutes of the meeting and thereafter chaired by the President.

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted, with the addition of one item under AOB.

A: Minutes and related issues**2. Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council of 8 June 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of 8 June 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Minutes of the meetings of the Education Committee of 4 May 2016 and 1 June 2016

The minutes were approved.

5. Minutes of the meeting of the University Standards Committee of 26 May 2016

The minutes were approved.

6. President's report

- 6.1 The President informed Council that he had just returned from a meeting of the IUA Council with Richard Bruton TD, Minister for Education and Skills. He noted the key components of the *Programme for a Partnership Government* with respect to the third level sector as follows:

- The commitment to increase the number of flexible courses and opportunities available for people to attend courses on a part-time, evening, summer and weekend basis and provision of support for the introduction of a mid-degree year, where students can spend their third year of university working in industry.
- The support of talent development by creating financial incentives for third level to respond to skills gaps.

- Following the publication of the Expert Group report on the Future Funding of the Higher Education Sector, a cross party Oireachtas Committee will review its recommendations and outline a proposed funding plan for the sector.
- 6.2 With respect to Incorporation, work is ongoing on the detail of the separate bilateral legal agreements with the incorporating institutions. It is anticipated that the final legal agreements will be completed by the end of the summer period.
- A comprehensive review by the HEA of the Incorporation project took place in May 2016 and the HEA responded very positively to progress to date and have committed to funding the Incorporation project to completion.
- 6.3 The President noted that DCU is currently in discussions with Newpark Music Centre with a view to the provision of a level 8 programme in music performance. It is hoped that a significant announcement in this regard will be made in the near future.
- 6.4 Initial consultations with schools and units with respect to developing the next DCU Strategic Plan are coming to an end, and the process has proved most useful. Consultations are planned with staff of incorporating schools following the completion of Incorporation, and also with students, over the coming months.
- 6.5 The President announced that Ms Natalie Walker has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Educational Trust and will commence in August 2016.
- 6.6 In reference to the end of the 2015/16 academic year the President expressed his sincere gratitude to Academic Council members for their commitment to the university in maintaining the quality of the university and for their contribution in providing the best learning experience possible for its students.

7. Presentation on Collaborative Provision by Professor Lisa Looney

Professor L. Looney noted that she was presenting on a new process for collaborative provision which had been initiated by Education Committee and had involved a Working Group drawn from stakeholders from the Faculties and the International Office. The following points were noted:

- The need to articulate the process had arisen from the increasingly diverse range of collaborations being entered into by DCU, and the increased level of internationalisation.
- With the growth of collaborations, there was a need to adopt good practice and to provide guidance and support to individuals initiating collaborations.

- The Education Committee has approved the taxonomy of collaborative agreements, the level of approval required at university level and the level of due diligence required.
- Some further development work will take place in relation to the process around due diligence.
- A module is being developed in Guru which will support and facilitate decision-making on proposed collaborations.

C: Items for formal approval/noting

8. Proposed changes to Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Degrees by Research and Thesis

Approved

9. Examination and Progression and Awards Boards Reports, Summer 2016

Approved.²

10. Validation Report

10.1 International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies

Approved

11. Accreditation Reports

11.1 Certificate, Peer Support Working in Mental Health

Approved

² The 2016 summer examinations, Progression and Awards Report for St. Patrick's College was received on 20 June 2016, circulated for approval and deemed approved.

**11.2 Graduate Certificate in Sexuality and Sexual Health Education and
Graduate Certificate in Relationships and Sexuality Education for People with
Intellectual Disability**

Approved

12. Any Other Business

- 12.1 The Vice President for Academic Affairs/Registrar noted that this was the last Academic Council meeting with representation from four Faculties. At the Academic Council meeting of 12 October 2016, Council will have representation from its fifth Faculty, DCU Institute of Education. It was noted that the representation from the Institute will mirror that of existing Faculties. It was noted too that in line with standard procedures, revised Terms of Reference will be brought to the first meeting of Academic Council in 2016.

Signed: _____
President

Date _____

Date of next meeting:

**Wednesday, 12 October 2016
2.00 p.m. in AG01**