

## **Application Guidelines for the DCU QUALITY IMPROVEMENT & DEVELOPMENT (QuID) Funding Call 2017**

### **Topic Area: Student Engagement**

The Quality Improvement Fund is an open call for quality enhancement focused proposals across the DCU Community, from both academic and professional support areas. A limited amount of funding has been made available to facilitate the continuation of this very successful internal funding call. There is a total of **€12,000** available to support up to 5 projects and will be allocated to suitable proposals focussing on the Quality Improvement Topic at DCU, which in 2017 is “Student Engagement”.

#### **What is student engagement?**

The Student Engagement Topic focuses on how the university community is enhanced through students and staff working together to optimise the student experience and deliver improving learning outcomes, enriching student life, and augmenting the reputation of the educational offerings at DCU. The Student Engagement Topic is informed by The Report of the Working Group on Student Engagement in Higher Education (April 2016)<sup>1</sup>.

Examples of Projects aligned to the topic might include,

- Proposals relating to student feedback and the feedback loop
- Projects that consider student as co-creator in curriculum development and delivery
- Initiatives which enhance the quality of the DCU student experience in a multi-campus context
- Activities which enhance the capacity of students to be involved effectively in decision-making within Schools, Faculties or other fora.
- Other projects or proposals that aim to improve the quality of interactions and engagement between the staff and students, and between students at part of university life.

#### **Who can apply for funding?**

Applications are welcome from all members of the DCU staff community across all of our campuses, including part-time and contract staff. Whilst we encourage the involvement of students, please note that submissions must be made and overseen by staff members.

#### **What sort of projects might receive support?**

The primary objective of this initiative is to provide financial support to projects that will ultimately enhance, promote and develop quality and quality assurance in all areas of the University.

#### **How and when do I apply?**

Application forms are available from the QPO website at:

<http://www.dcu.ie/qpo/QuIDFunding.shtml>. Completed application forms (max 4 pages) should be submitted on or before **11am on Tuesday 31 January 2017**.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.heai.ie/sites/default/files/enhancing\\_student\\_engagement\\_in\\_decision\\_making\\_1.pdf](http://www.heai.ie/sites/default/files/enhancing_student_engagement_in_decision_making_1.pdf)

If you have any queries, prior to submission, please contact the Fiona Dwyer ([fiona.dwyer@dcu.ie](mailto:fiona.dwyer@dcu.ie) or on ext 8411).

### **Who assesses the applications?**

A sub-group of the Quality Promotion Committee (QPC) will assess the applications and make recommendations on successful applicants.

The following criteria will be taken into consideration when allocating the funding:

- Clear and concise overview of the projects aims and objectives
- Identification of existing issues or opportunities that could help to enhance the student engagement process at DCU
- Potential to make a clear contribution to the applicant(s)' area as well as the wider university
- Realistic and achievable costings
- Clear time-lines and deliverables
- Alignment with the Student Engagement Topic and the broader University Strategic Plan

The project proposal should contain the following, summarised in no more than two pages per project using the application form template provided:

- Name of School/Faculty/Office /Centre/Committee/Working Group proposing the project
- Name(s) and role in DCU of co-ordinator(s) of project
- Title, aim and summary details of project
- Expected impact on quality assurance or improvement/development or both, in the relevant School/Faculty/Office/Centre/Committee/Working Group and the wider university
- Financial summary of project requirements and proposed means of funding any shortfalls

### **What happens if I am successful?**

The successful applicants should complete their project by the end of September 2017. The QuID funding will be provided to the relevant Head's budget code on receipt of paid invoices or equivalent by the date of project completion. Successful applicants are required to submit an interim report midway through the project and a completion report once the project has been completed. Completion reports will be published on the QPO website.