
**UNIVERSITY STANDARDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Thursday 2 November 2023

10:00 am – 11:35 am

Room G401, St. Patrick's Campus

Present: Dr Seline Keating, Dr Theo Lynn, Dr Jennifer McManis, Dr Ruth McManus, Ms Phylomena McMorrow, Dr Mark O'Brien, Dr Niamh O'Sullivan, Dr Monica Ward (Chair), Ms Aedín Whelan (Secretary), Jennifer Yore

Apologies: Dr Martina Crehan, Mr Eoin Crossen, Mr Peter McGorman, Dr Siobhain McGovern, Professor Joseph Stokes

In attendance: Ms Margaret Irwin-Bannon

The Chair welcomed Dr Seline Keating in her capacity as Associate Dean for the DCU Institute of Education and Ms Jennifer Yore, representative of the Faculty Administrative Peer Group, to their first meeting of the University Standards Committee. She noted that Dr Theo Lynn was acting ADR in DCU Business School and would attend until Dr Edel Conway's return.

A. Minutes and related issues

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda as circulated was adopted.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 31 August 2023

The minutes of the meeting of 31 August 2023 were approved and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 31 August 2023

- 3.1** It was noted that an updated nomination of an External Examiner for the PME Programme has not yet been received (item 4.1.7).
- 3.2** It was noted that the External Examiner nominations for the Faculty of Science and Health are on the agenda of this meeting (4.1.14).
- 3.3** It was noted that practices regarding carry-forward of modules has been raised in the context of the Appeals process and is due to be presented to Academic Council at one of its upcoming meetings. Programme Regulations will be affected should any conclusions be made at the meeting (Item 5.3).
- 3.4** It was noted that the Exceptional Readmission Request for the BSc in Computer Applications cannot be progressed as the student has not submitted relevant documentation (Item 5.4.1).
- 3.5** It was noted that the specific entry requirements by programme have not been confirmed to Registry for some programmes, regarding the Unihaven pathway for international applicants (Item 11).
- 3.6** It was noted that a review of the composition of the Progression and Awards Board within DCU Business School is ongoing (Item 3.2).
- 3.7** It was noted that Google calendar invitations have been sent for the remainder of meetings this academic year (Item 12).
- 3.8** It was noted that a nomination for an External Examiner for the MSc in Financial Mathematics and BSc in Financial Mathematics was approved by Chairs Action, 2 October 2023.

B. Faculty issues

4. External examiners for taught programmes

4.1 Nominations

4.1.1 University College Dublin

Access MEng in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

MEng in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Qualifier B MEng in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Approved

4.1.2 University of Limerick

Bachelor of Engineering in Biomedical Engineering

MEng in Biomedical Engineering

Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Technology

Approved

4.1.3 University of Strathclyde

Modules in the DCU Business School

Approved by Chairs Action 31 October 2023

4.1.4 Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick

Modules in the Bachelor of Arts (BAJH) and Bachelor of Religious Education with English

Approved

4.1.5 Maynooth University

Modules in the School of Applied Languages in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Approved

4.1.6 Liverpool Hope University

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies

Approved

-
- 4.1.7 Maynooth University
Master of Science in Biotherapeutics
Approved
 - 4.1.8 South East Technological University - Carlow
Master of Science in Biotherapeutics_
Approved
 - 4.1.9 University of Bath
Bachelor of Science in Data Science
Approved
 - 4.1.10 Bristol University
Modules in DCU Business School
Not Approved
 - 4.1.11 Maynooth University
Modules in DCU Business School
Approved
 - 4.1.12 UCD
Modules in DCU Business School
Approved
 - 4.1.13 UCD
Modules in DCU Business School
Approved
 - 4.1.14 Audencia Business School
Modules in DCU Business School
Not Approved
 - 4.1.15 University of Birmingham
BSPD PhD, BSPT PhD-track
Approved

-
- 4.1.16 Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick
Certificate in Religious Studies
Certificate in Religious Studies (PMEP)
Certificate in Religious Studies (P/T)
Approved
- 4.1.17 Goldsmiths University of London
Modules in School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies
Approved

4.2 Renewal of appointment/changes to duties

- 4.2.1 University of Edinburgh
Master of Science in Science and Health Communication
Approved, for three-year term.
- 4.2.2 University of Limerick
Bachelor of Science in Intellectual Disability Nursing
Approved

5. Other issues: Faculty

5.1 Faculty of Science and Health

- 5.1.1 Programme Regulation: Master of Science in Health and Social Inclusion
Approved
- 5.1.2 Programme Regulation: Bachelor of Science in Sport Science and Health
Approved
- 5.1.3 Programme Regulation: Higher Diploma in Children's Nursing
Approved
- 5.1.4 Memo regarding derogation from Marks & Standards to approve a 2.5 credit module

Dr Niamh O'Sullivan presented a request to approve a derogation to permit a 2.5 credit module for one student repeating Physical Education with Mathematics 2 (PEM2) and four students repeating Science Education 2 (SE2). This is an exceptional

request for 2023-24 and is due to structural changes made to these programmes to satisfy Teaching Council requirements. It was noted that no further students will be enrolled on this module in future years, as this is a very exceptional circumstance and will not create a precedent for future students.

Approved

5.2 DCU Business School

5.2.1 Legacy readmission request: MSc in Work and Organisational Psychology/Behaviour
Approved

C: Other issues (not Faculty-specific)

6. Recognition of Prior Learning Update (RPL)

It was noted that the RPL Committee has made progress on the development of the undergraduate draft flow chart but it has proven more challenging to chart the postgraduate route. A progress update has been submitted to the HEI RPL Project Midterm Self-Evaluation Report and it was noted that requirements for recommended action have been clarified.

7. Programme Regulations Template 2024-2025 - process for updating

It was noted that following circulation of the process for the update of programme regulations for 2024-2025, feedback was received regarding the level of information contained within the programme regulations in the context of the future student system. Faculties will have the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the future inclusion and management of such information via the SIS project's high level design workshops. It was agreed that the programme regulations template will remain unchanged for 2024-2025.

8. Academic Integrity update

The Chair reported that the Teaching Enhancement Unit (TEU) has completed two seminars regarding Generative Artificial Intelligence Design for assessment for academics. She thanked the Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning who had engaged with these sessions and for their input to date. She indicated that there will

be further sessions offered on a continuing basis. It was noted that some TEU staff attended the Academic and Research Integrity Conference that was held in October 2023 which provided excellent international insights. It was agreed that due to the pace of change within this area it is challenging to build and maintain a level of expertise.

It was confirmed that the Academic Integrity sub-committee would be reinstated during this academic year to update the Procedure for Academic Misconduct Investigation and Sanctions with a view to adopting NAIN Framework for Academic Misconduct Investigation and Case Management guidelines.

9. Any other business

It was noted that a significant number of external examiner nominations had missed the meeting deadlines over the last few months. The Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning indicated that they currently do not have system access for oversight of the nomination process. The Secretary indicated that she would ascertain if it was possible to secure access for colleagues and Academic Secretariat would continue to remind Heads of School of the deadlines for submission.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date of next meeting:

Thursday, 11 January 2024 10.00 a.m. Zoom Meeting
