

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday 3 June 2015

2.00 – 3.00 p.m. in A204

Present: Mr Billy Kelly (Chair), Dr Claire Bohan, Professor Mark Brown, Mr Gary Gillick, Ms Margaret Irwin-Bannon (Secretary), Dr Mairéad Nic Giolla Mhichíl, Dr Anne Sinnott

Apologies: Dr Jennifer Bruen, Professor John Costello, Professor John Doyle, Professor Eithne Guilfoyle (Chair), Prof. A. Harvey, Dr Sarah Ingle, Professor L. Looney, Professor Barry McMullin, Professor Fionnuala Waldron

In attendance: 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 6 May 2015

The minutes were confirmed, subject to an amendment under item 4 page 3, and were signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of 6 May 2015

- 3.1** It was noted that a meeting would be held in the near future with respect to student retention (Item 3.2).
- 3.2** It was noted that external examiner related items, e.g. the review by external examiners of samples of continuous assessment and the non-submission of reports by external examiners were being considered as a single item, and outcomes in this regard would be considered by University Standards Committee early in the new academic year and will subsequently be notified to Education Committee (Item 3.3).
- 3.3** It was noted that a report incorporating Faculty Annual Programme Reviews outcomes was currently being prepared and it was anticipated that it would be submitted to Executive over the coming weeks (Item 5).
- 3.4** It was noted that it was intended to present to Heads of School in relation to the implementation of QuEST at School level (Item 6).
- 3.5** It was noted that the Collaborative Provision document had been circulated to members and feedback had been received from Faculties (Item 7).

SECTION B: STRATEGIC MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**4. Update on activities undertaken within the IUA**

It was noted that there were no items to report in relation to the IUA and it was anticipated that an update would be available at the next meeting of Education Committee in September 2015.

5. Presentation by Ms. Aisling McKenna on the Irish Survey of Student Engagement (ISSE)

Ms. Aisling McKenna presented on the findings of the Irish Survey of Student Engagement (ISSE) indicating that the text-based responses had already been provided to Executive Deans and Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning/Education. With regard to the survey data she noted the following:

- The improvement in response rate from 15 percent in 2014 to 26 percent in 2015, with a total of 1600 responses.
- DCU had the highest response rate of all the universities surveyed.
- DCU has maintained a stability and consistency on both the Engagement and Outcome indicators.
- Whereas previously the level of data only enabled analysis at an institutional level, with the consolidation of three years of data, it is now possible to break down the data for Faculty and School analysis. It was noted that Ms Aisling McKenna would be in touch with all Faculties in this regard.
- It was noted that it may also be possible to provide student-based feedback which may inform Annual Programme Reviews (APR) and Periodic Programme Reviews (PPR).

It was noted that the next steps with respect to the ISSE survey outcomes would be as follows:

- The data will be presented to Academic Council at its meeting of 10 June 2015.
- Consideration will be given to the means of communicating the survey outcomes to students.
- School and Faculty level data will be provided from the amalgamation of three years' of data now available.
- Data will be grouped to inform the APR and PPR processes
- Planning will begin for the 2016 survey.

It was noted that the process to revise the ISSE survey is ongoing, with a proposed reduction in the number of questions from 119 to 66 and with an emphasis on seeking feedback on which the institutions can take action.

SECTION C: PROGRAMME- AND MODULE-SPECIFIC ISSUES

6. Proposed new programme pathway on the MSc in Management (Aviation Leadership) (revised).

The revised version of the proposal for a new pathway entitled MSc in Management (Aviation Leadership) was approved.

7. Proposed stand-alone module, School of Nursing and Human Sciences: Surgical Skills for Healthcare Practitioners (revised).

The revised stand-alone module Surgical Skills for Healthcare Practitioners was considered and noted.

8. Proposed stand-alone module, School of Nursing and Human Sciences: Dementia and Everyday Ethics (revised).

The revised stand-alone module Dementia and Everyday Ethics was considered and noted.

9. Proposed stand-alone module, School of Nursing and Human Sciences: Therapeutic Responses to People with Dementia (revised).

The revised stand-alone module Therapeutic Responses to People with Dementia was considered and noted with a recommendation that as the module carries ten credits that the number and detail of learning outcomes is revised by the Faculty.

10. Extension of the implementation of the BA (International) nomenclature to the cohort of students currently engaged in year abroad studies 2014-2015

Dr Mairead NicGhiolla Mhichil outlined the background to this proposal. To date, Education Committee has approved that the change in nomenclature for all named programmes where students complete a year abroad could apply to all incoming students from 2015-2016 and could also be offered to the current cohort of year 2 students in 2015-2016, who are making a decision to take the year abroad option.

The proposal under consideration was to extend the use of the BA (International) nomenclature to the students who are currently on the year abroad and due to return to complete fourth year in 2015-2016. This was agreed.

11. BA Degree in Humanities, Award Proposal, All Hallows College

It was noted that the outline proposal for an award proposal for the BA in Humanities Degree and in the context of its planned closure at the end of the academic year 2015-2016 had been approved in principle by Education Committee at its 6 May 2015 meeting.

The Chair indicated that the proposal as presented will apply to students who are currently in second year of the BA in Theology and English /Philosophy / Psychology (2014-2015) to provide them an opportunity to complete the programme in the academic year 2015-2016 and exit with a 190 credit level 8 award without specialisation. He summarised the external examiner's feedback on the proposal indicating that it had been positive and outlining there were no issues to be addressed either by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, nor All Hallows College.

The proposal was approved.

12. Any other business

The Chair thanked Gary Gillick for his contribution to Education Committee and wished him well in his future career.

Thanks were extended also to Dr Mairead Nic Ghiolla Mhichil as outgoing representative of the Associate Deans for Teaching and Learning/Education.

Signed: _____
Chair

Date: _____

Date of next meeting:

<p>Wednesday 2 September 2015, 2.00 p.m. in A204</p>
