

**Academic Committee
Minutes**

Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Academic Committee which took place on Monday, 30 June 2008 in the Boardroom, HETAC Offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 at 11:15 a.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson: Prof. Tom Boylan
Secretary: Dr. Bryan Maguire
Ms. Bernadette Farrell
Ms. Tine Holm
Mr. Tomás MacEochagáin
Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan
Ms. Marion Palmer

APOLOGIES: Dr. Carol Gibbons
Ms. June Hosford
Rev. Darren McCallig

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Joe Cox (Item 9 - 10)
Dr. Peter Cullen (Item 9)
Mr. Ian McKenna (Item 11)
Ms. Tara Ryan
Ms. Mary Sheridan (Item 4)
Mr. Liam Tracey (Item 9 - 10)
Ms. Caitriona Lawless

1. Committee Business

The Minutes of the Meeting of 28 April 2008 circulated as ACC/M5 had been circulated electronically to Committee Members and were also circulated at the Council Meeting on 8 and 9 June 2008. The Minutes were CONFIRMED and SIGNED.

1.2. Matters Arising

ACC/A5/1.2. 28 April 2008

The Committee NOTED that the Executive would draft and issue a communication clarifying and providing appropriate wording to providers in relation to the instances where a learner receives two major awards at the same level with the completion of specified additional work. The Committee RECOMMENDED that the matter of inclusion of the titles of embedded programmes and associated awards on Diploma Supplements should be brought to the attention of the Diploma Supplement Group at the earliest opportunity.

ACC/A5/9.7.1. 28 April 2008

The Committee NOTED that the Executive had met with the Registrar and Course Director of Kimmage Development Studies Centre on 26 June 2008 in

relation to the Committee's request for clarification on the number of credits allocated to the following programme:

Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED that the provider representatives explained that the programmes contain a significant element of Recognition of Prior Learning and had agreed to submit revised documentation which would clarify the situation. The Executive recommends that the programme be revalidated on foot of the revised documentation. The Committee APPROVED the programme revalidation.

The Committee NOTED that discussion papers on Postgraduate Certificates and Titles of Programmes on Parchments do not appear on the Committee's Agenda for today's meeting due to recent developments in these areas. The Executive intends to put these matters before the Academic Committee for discussion at the next Committee meeting scheduled for 20 October 2008.

1.3. The Committee NOTED the draft Annual Report of the Academic Committee 2007/2008 circulated as ACC/A6/1.3. and NOTED that the statistics contained in this draft report did not include business processed at today's meeting. The Committee APPROVED the Report for circulation to Council subject to the updating of statistics and the inclusion of the names of all four major policy recommendation to Council. The Committee RECOMMENDED that Council

- Renew the mandate of the Committee without changing its size or composition;
- That the outgoing Education Officer of USI (and former member of Council) be appointed in place of his predecessor;
- That the term "Approval of Guidelines for Academic Quality Enhancement [subject to confirmation by Council]" be subsumed under the term "advising Council on matters of Academic Quality and Procedures";
- That a new term be added as follows – "Approval of Joint Awarding Agreements [subject to confirmation by Council]".

2. Advice to Council regarding matters of Academic Policy and Procedures

2.1. Policy on Monitoring of New Providers

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Policy Document on Monitoring of New Providers circulated as ACC/A6/2.1.1 and ACC/A6/2.1.2 respectively. The Committee NOTED the Executive had revised this policy document following discussion at the Academic Committee Meeting on 28 April 2008. The Committee RECOMMENDED this policy to Council for adoption subject to a minor amendment to page 1.

The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to include proposed intake numbers and the mode of learning with information relating to new providers who come before the Committee for consideration under item 9.4. and SUGGESTED building it into the programme validation template.

3. Academic Quality Enhancement Guidelines

No business.

4. Awards Standards

4.1. Complementary Therapies

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Recommendations in relation to Complementary Therapies circulated as ACC/A6/4.1.1 and ACC/A6/4.1.2. respectively. The Committee PROPOSED to discuss item 9.4.2. as part of this item. The Committee NOTED the restriction of HETAC's engagement initially only with providers of programmes of Higher Education and Training in acupuncture, herbal medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine. The Committee RECOMMENDED that while there were strong arguments to restrict the validation of programmes to Level 8 only, it was felt that in order to develop teaching expertise, it was proposed that in the first instance, Level 7 programmes should also be considered, however, Council may in future decide not to revalidate programmes at Level 7. The Committee also NOTED that the federation of professional bodies/associations within a therapy shall normally be a condition for programme validation where there is a practical component and this is in recognition of the need to achieve agreement on minimum standards of practice among other things. The Committee NOTED that the Executive had worked with providers, professionals, the Department of Health and Children and the Statutory Regulator to develop these standards. The Committee NOTED that these standards and conditions are also applicable to any programmes in this area validated by Institutes of Technology with delegated authority. The Committee RECOMMENDED the Recommendations in relation to Complementary Therapies to Council for adoption.

See item 9.4.2. for further discussion.

5. Recognition of Professional Awards

No business.

6. Institutional Review Reports

6.1. The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Draft Supplementary Guidelines for the Review of Effectiveness of Quality Assurance Procedures under Institutional Review circulated as ACC/A6/6.1.1. and ACC/A6/6.1.2. respectively. The Committee NOTED the Draft Supplementary Guidelines for the Review of Effectiveness of Quality Assurance Procedures under Institutional Review are likely to be redrafted following the completion of the first round of reviews. The Committee NOTED that the Executive intends to hold workshops in September 2008 to brief providers on the review process and notices regarding this should issue shortly. The Committee NOTED that the following providers are among the first round of reviews: Institute of Technology, Sligo, Institute of Technology, Tallaght, Letterkenny Institute of Technology, The Open Training College and Hibernia College. The Committee NOTED that any feedback on the Supplementary Guidelines was welcomed and should be forwarded to the Executive.

During the course of the discussion, the Committee QUERIED the instances when providers need to notify HETAC of changes to the providers' agreed policies and procedures and NOTED that the Executive had recently written to all providers seeking confirmation that their agreed QA procedures etc. had been published etc. The Committee NOTED that the deadline for the return of this information had just passed and the Executive would report back to the next Academic Committee Meeting.

6.2. The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Terms of Reference drafted for the (Open Training College) Institutional Review circulated

as ACC/A6/6.2.1. and ACC/A6/6.2.2. respectively. The Committee NOTED that the Terms of Reference for this review were relatively straight forward with no special considerations required and acts as a useful base set. The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to continue to circulate the Terms of Reference for the initial round of Institutional Reviews to the Committee for information.

7. Implementation of Recommendations of Review Panels

No business.

8. Quality Assurance Procedures for Agreement

8.1. The Committee NOTED the report of the meeting of the Quality Assurance Agreement Panel on 8 May 2008, circulated as ACC/A6/8.1. The Committee SUGGESTED that the Executive should provide the Committee with generic details from the Quality Assurance Agreement Panel Meetings rather than specific details relating to applications which are unsuccessful.

8.2. The Committee NOTED the letter of 2 May 2008 from Tara Ryan, Head of Programme Monitoring to the Director of Academic Affairs circulated as ACC/A6/8.1.2. confirming the satisfaction of the QA Panel's Chairperson to the steps taken by the Independent Colleges to the recommendations made by the QA Panel at its meeting of 24 January 2008.

8.3. The Committee NOTED the letter of 7 May 2008 from Tara Ryan, Head of Programme Monitoring to the Director of Academic Affairs circulated as ACC/A6/8.1.3. confirming the satisfaction of the QA Panel's Chairperson to the steps taken by the Irish Institute of Medical Herbalists to the recommendations made by the QA Panel at its meeting of 24 January 2008.

8.4. The Committee NOTED the oral report on the decision taken by Council at its meeting of 8/9 June 2008 following receipt of the report of the Quality Assurance Agreement Panel's assessment of the application of Warnborough College for agreement of its Quality Assurance procedures. The Committee NOTED that Council decided, on the recommendation of the Quality Assurance Agreement Panel, not to agree the Quality Assurance procedures of Warnborough College.

9. Validation of Programmes of Higher Education and Training

9.1. Newly Validated Programmes under Delegation of Authority

The Committee has NOTED that a policy on the determination of credits for particular minor awards which may be operated at several Institutes of Technology with variances in the credit weightings, will be developed shortly. Conventions for the titling of Minor and Special Purpose Awards are also subject to ongoing national discussions. Programme titles should be considered provisional.

9.1.1. Athlone Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.1. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated and subject to confirmation regarding the credits allocated for the BSc in Software Design Games Development and Bachelor of Science in Software Design:

Major Award

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Design Games Development (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science in Software Design Games Development (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Design Web Development (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science in Software Design Web Development (Level 7)

Higher Certificate in Arts in Workplace and Community Studies (Level 6)

Special Purpose Award

Certificate in Challenging Behaviour (Level 8)

Certificate in Mentoring (Level 6)

Certificate in Applied Site Engineering Surveying (Level 6)

The Committee NOTED that the Higher Certificate in Arts in Workplace and Community Studies programme was prepared by a consortium of Institutes of Technology in response to a Lónra initiative.

The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to investigate measures to ensure that there is consistency among the IoT sector with regard to instances where there are similar programme/award titles, levels and credits allocated in the validation of Minor, Supplemental and Special Purpose awards.

9.1.2. Institute of Technology, Tralee

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.2. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Analysis with Forensics (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Analysis with Forensics (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science in Health and Leisure with Massage (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Health and Leisure with Massage (Level 8)

9.1.3. Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.3. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Accounting (Level 8)

Bachelor of Business in Tourism Management (Level 7)

Bachelor of Business in Event Management (Level 7)

Bachelor of Business in Retail and Customer Services Management (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science in Computer and Electronic Systems (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in Applied Freshwater and Marine Biology (Level 7)

ab initio conversion

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Freshwater and Marine Biology (Level 8)

ab initio conversion

Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science (Level 7)

ab initio conversion

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science (Level 8)

ab initio conversion

Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in Physics and Instrumentation (Level 7) *ab initio*

conversion

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Physics and Instrumentation (Level 8) *ab initio*

conversion

Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in Applied Biology and Biopharmaceutical Science (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Biology and Biopharmaceutical Science (Level 8) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in Agriculture and Environmental Management (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in Business Computing and Digital Media (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science in Furniture Conservation and Restoration (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science in Furniture Design and Manufacture (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science in Furniture Production and Technology (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Product Design (Furniture) (Level 8) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science (Honour) in Manufacturing Technology (Furniture) (Level 8) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering (Level 8) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Industrial Engineering (Level 8) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering in Engineering with Management (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer and Electronic Engineering (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science in Construction Management (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Science in Forest Management and Environment (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering (Ordinary) in Civil Engineering (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Engineering (Ordinary) in Industrial Engineering (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Business in Administration and Information Systems (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Business in Rural Enterprise and Agri-Business (Level 7) *ab initio conversion*

Bachelor of Arts in Art and Design (part-time) Galway and Castlebar (Level 7)

Special Purpose Award

Certificate in TV Production and Development (Level 6)

Certificate in Science (Nursing) (Level 6)

Certificate in Science in Construction Management (Level 6)

The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to circulate clear guidelines to providers with regard to any programmes being developed at Level 8 with 180 credits. The Committee NOTED the Executive's intention to shortly begin a review of Standards in general.

9.1.4. Dundalk Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.4. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (Level 9)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Environmental Biology (Level 8)

Higher Diploma in Business (Level 8)

9.1.5. Institute of Technology, Carlow

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.5. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Bachelor of Science in Software Development (Level 7) – conversion of existing programmes:

- Higher Certificate in Science in Computing in Commercial Programming (Level 6) – embedded award
- Bachelor of Science in Computing (Level 7)

9.1.6. Cork Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.6. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Bachelor of Business in Supply Chain & Transport Management (Level 7)
Bachelor of Science in Good Manufacturing Practice & Technology (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Sustainable Energy (Level 8)
Higher Certificate in Science in Nautical Studies (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electronic Systems Engineering (Level 8)
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Accounting (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in IT Management (Level 8) – conversion of existing BSc. Honours in Computer Services Management (including embedded awards)

9.1.7. Institute of Technology, Tallaght

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.7. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Higher Certificate in Science in Bio and Pharmaceutical Science (Level 6)
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Advertising and Marketing Communications (Level 8) *ab initio*
Bachelor of Arts in Advertising and Marketing Communications (Level 7) – embedded award
Higher Certificate in Arts in Advertising and Marketing Communications (Level 6) – embedded award

9.1.8. Institute of Technology, Sligo

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.1.8. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

Major Award

Bachelor of Business in Management Practice (Level 7)
Higher Certificate in Business (Level 6)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Architecture (Level 8) (180 credits)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Forensic Investigation & Analysis (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science in Forensic Investigation & Analysis (Level 7)
Higher Certificate in Science (Level 6)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Medical Bio Technology (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science in Medical Bio Technology (Level 7)
 Bachelor of Arts in International Eco Tourism and Green Event Management (Level 7)
 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in International Eco Tourism and Green Event Management (Level 8)
 Higher Certificate in Arts in International Eco Tourism and Green Event Management (Level 6)
 Bachelor of Science in Applied Archaeology (Level 7)

Special Purpose Award

Certificate in Management Development (Level 7)
 Certificate in Personnel Practice (Level 6)

9.2. Title Changes under Delegation of Authority/Amendments to Orders in Council

9.2.1. Letterkenny Institute of Technology

The Committee APPROVED the following programme title amendments as outlined in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.2.1.:

	Original Programme Title	New Programme Title
1.	Bachelor of Science in Construction Technology (Level 7)	Bachelor of Science in Construction And Fire Technology (Level 7)
2.	Bachelor of Engineering in Building Services Engineering (Level 7)	Bachelor of Engineering in Building Energy Services and Design (Level 7)

9.2.2. Institute of Technology, Carlow

The Committee APPROVED the following programme title amendments as outlined in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.2.2.:

	Original Programme Title	New Programme Title
1.	Bachelor of Science in Computing Major Award	Bachelor of Science in Software Development Major Award

9.2.3. Institute of Technology, Sligo

The Committee APPROVED the following programme title amendments as outlined in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.2.3.:

	Original Programme Title	New Programme Title
1.	Bachelor of Science in Environmental Protection (Level 7 180 ECTS) <i>SG032</i>	Bachelor of Science in Environmental Investigation
2.	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Environmental Science and Technology (Level 8 240 ECTS) <i>SG17</i>	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Environmental Science

9.2.4. Institute of Technology, Sligo

The Committee NOTED that the programme listed below had been dormant at the time of the transition process to new awards and as a result was no longer on HETAC records as a valid programme. The Committee NOTED that the Institute had revised the programme during a recent Programmatic Review which is when its

lapsed status was discovered and the programme was re-validated by the Institute's Academic Council. As a result, the Committee APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme as outlined in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.2.4.:

Major Award

Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Science (Level 7) – reactivated programme SG057

9.2.5. Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

The Committee APPROVED the embedded award of the following programme as outlined in the Explanatory Memorandum circulated at ACC/A6/9.2.5.:

Host Award	Embedded Award
Baitsiléir Ealíon (onóracha) i Gnó agus Cumarsáid (Level 8)	Baitsiléir Ealíon i Gnó agus Cumarsáid (Level 7)

9.3. Programmatic Reviews for Approval under Delegation of Authority

9.3.1. Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.3.1. and NOTED the revalidation of the following programmes as a result of a programmatic review:

Major Award

- Higher Certificate in Arts in Community Youth Development (Level 6)
- Higher Certificate in Business in Computer Applications (Level 6)
- Higher Certificate in Science in Information Technology Support (Level 6)
- Higher Certificate in Engineering in Electronic Engineering (Level 6)
- Higher Certificate in Business (Level 6)
- Higher Certificate in Business in Health Services Management (Level 6)
- Higher Certificate in Science in Construction (Level 6)
- Bachelor of Arts in Heritage Studies (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Business (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and Financial Management (one-year add-on) (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts in Tourism (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Heritage Studies (Galway and Castlebar) (Level 8)
- Bachelor of Arts in Outdoor Education and Leisure (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Science in Computer in Information Technology Support (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Science in Construction in Refurbishment & Maintenance Management (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts in Personnel Management (Part-time, Galway and Castlebar) (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts in Art and Design (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies (Part-time) (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Business (Honours) (Level 8)
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Outdoor Education (Level 8)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computer Services Management (Level 8)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in General Nursing (Level 8)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Psychiatric Nursing (Level 8)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing (Level 8)

9.3.2. Limerick Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.3.2. and NOTED the revalidation of the following programmes as a result of a programmatic review:

Major Award

Higher Certificate in Engineering in Automobile Technology (Level 6)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering (Level 6)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Agricultural Mechanisation (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering in Road Transport Technology & Management (Level 7) – title change from Bachelor of Engineering in Road Transport Technology
Higher Certificate in Science in Applied Chemistry (Level 6)
Higher Certificate in Science in Environmental & Analytical Science (Level 6)
Bachelor of Science in Chemical Instrumentation/Analytical Methods (Level 7)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Chemical Instrumentation/& Analysis (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Pharmaceutical & Forensic Analysis (Level 8)
Higher Certificate in Science in Applied Biology (Level 6)
Bachelor of Science in Applied Biosciences (Level 7)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Bioanalysis & Biotechnology (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED that Dr. D. O’Callaghan had participated in this Programmatic Review and as a result, he withdrew from the discussion and decision.

9.3.3. Cork Institute of Technology

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.3.3. and NOTED the revalidation of the following programmes as a result of a programmatic review:

Major Award

Higher Certificate in Engineering in Electrical Engineering (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering (Level 7)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Electrical Power Systems (Level 8)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Electronic Engineering (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic Automation and Robotics (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering in Communications Systems (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering in Applied Electronics Design (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Electronic Engineering (Level 8)
Postgraduate Diploma in Engineering in Telecommunications Engineering (Level 9)
Master of Engineering in Telecommunications Engineering (Level 9)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Civil Engineering (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Structural Engineering (Level 8)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Mechanical Engineering (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Process Plant Technology (Level 8)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Biomedical Engineering (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Biomedical Engineering (Level 7)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Building Services Engineering (Level 6)
Bachelor of Engineering in Building Services Engineering (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering in Manufacturing Engineering (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Advanced Manufacturing Technology (Level 8)
Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Chemical & Process Engineering (Level 8)
Higher Certificate in Engineering in Automobile Technology (Level 6)
Bachelor of Arts in Transport Management and Technology (Level 7)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nautical Science (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science in Nautical Science (Level 7)
Bachelor of Engineering in Marine & Plant Engineering (Level 7)

The Committee REQUESTED clarification from the Executive that Programmatic Reviews were not used as an opportunity by providers to incorporate the validation of new programmes.

9.4. New Providers – First Programme(s) for Approval

9.4.1. Provider: New Media Technology College
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Film Production – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.4.1. together with some background information on the provider. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.4.2. Decision Postponed

9.4.3. Provider: Irish Institute of Purchasing and Materials Management
Programme: Higher Certificate in Business in Procurement – Major Award (Level 6)
Bachelor of Business in Procurement and Supply Management – Major Award (Level 7)
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Procurement and Supply Management – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.4.3. together with some background information on the provider. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.4.4. Provider: Independent College, Dublin**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Journalism – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.4.4. together with some background information on the provider. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

- 9.4.5. Provider: Independent College, Dublin**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychotherapeutic Studies – Major Award (Level 8)
Master of Arts in Psychoanalytical Psychotherapy – Major Award (Level 9)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.4.5. and the Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

The Committee NOTED that the programme validation panel had requested the provider to submit a revised submission document in respect of the proposed Master of Arts in Journalism.

- 9.4.6. Provider: Ballyfermot College of Further Education – City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee (BCFE-CDVEC)**
Programme: Higher Certificate in Arts in Applied Social Studies – Major Award (Level 6)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.4.6. together with some background information on the provider. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.5. New Programmes for Approval

- 9.5.1. Provider: Irish Management Institute**
Programme: Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Management Practice – Major Award (Level 9)
Master of Business in Management Practice – Major Award (Level 9)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.1. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.2. Provider: Irish Management Institute**
Programme: Certificate in Training and Development – Special Purpose Award (Level 7)
Certificate in Strategic Sales – Special Purpose Award (Level 7)
Certificate in Operations Management – Special Purpose Award (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.2. The Committee NOTED that the provider will be using integrated assessment in the course of these programmes. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.3. Provider: Irish Management Institute**
Programme: Certificate in First Line Management – Special Purpose Award (Level 6)
Certificate in Business Administration – Special Purpose Award (Level 8)
Certificate in Advanced Management – Special Purpose Award (Level 9)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.3. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.4. Provider: National Counselling Institute of Ireland**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Counselling and Psychotherapy – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.4. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

Mr. Tomás MacEochagáin withdrew from the discussion and decision of the next three items.

- 9.5.5. Provider: Griffith College, Dublin**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts in Business – Major Award (Level 7)
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business (Marketing) – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.5. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.6. Provider: Griffith College, Dublin**
Programme: Higher Diploma in Arts in Music Education – Major Award (Level 8)
Certificate in Music Teaching – Minor Award (Level 8) 20 credits
Certificate in Music Teaching – Minor Award (Level 8) 40 credits

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.6. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.7. Provider: Griffith College, Dublin**
Programme: Certificate in Training and Education – Special Purpose Award (Level 9)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.7. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

- 9.5.8. Provider: American College, Dublin**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting and Finance – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.8. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

- 9.5.9. Provider: Academy of Medical Laboratory Science**
Programme: Higher Diploma in Arts in Health Care Training and Quality Management – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.9. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

- 9.5.10. Provider: Tipperary Institute**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Rural Development – Major Award (Level 8)
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Small Medium Enterprise – Major Award (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Software Development – Major Award (Level 8)
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Information Technology in Multimedia and Communication – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.10. The Committee also NOTED the above programmes form total 4 year *ab initio* programmes. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.11. Provider: Carlow College**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English and History – Major Award (Level 8)
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in English and Spanish – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.11. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes subject to clarification on the Elective Modules outline in the Proposed Course Schedule.

- 9.5.12. Provider: Open Training College**
Programme: Certificate in Applied Management – Minor Award (Level 6)
Higher Certificate in Arts in Applied Management – Major Award (Level 6)
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Management – Major Award (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.12. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

- 9.5.13. Provider: Dublin Business School**
Programme: Higher Certificate in Arts in Legal Studies – Major Award (Level 6)
Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies – Major Award (Level 7)
Higher Certificate in Arts in Legal and Business Studies – Major Award (Level 6)
Bachelor of Arts in Legal and Business Studies – Major Award (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.13. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

9.5.14. Provider: St. Patrick's College, Thurles in partnership with Tipperary Institute
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Education in Irish and Religious Studies – Major Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation tabled as ACC/A6/9.5.14. The Committee APPROVED the specified programmes.

9.5.15. Provider: Military College
Programme: Diploma in Leadership, Management and Defence Studies – Special Purpose Award (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.15. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.5.16. Provider: National College of Ireland
Programme: Certificate in First Line Management – Special Purpose Award (Level 6)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.16. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.5.17. Provider: National College of Ireland
Programme: Master of Arts in Human Resource Management – Major Award (Level 9)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.17. The Committee NOTED that the Diploma Supplements relating to this programme will include information stating 'Masters, embedded 60 credits'. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.5.18. Provider: Institute of Business and Technology, Swords
Programme: Bachelor of Business – Major Award (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.18. The Committee NOTED that this programme is a 3 year *ab initio* programme resulting from the amalgamation of two previously validated programmes – Bachelor of Business (1 year add-on) and Higher Certificate in Business (*ab initio*). The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.5.19. Provider: Setanta College
Programme: Certificate in Resistance Training and Weight Training for Sports – Minor Award (Level 6)

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.19. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

9.5.20. Provider: An Garda Síochána College
Programme: Certificate in Senior Investigating Officer Studies – Special Purpose Award (Level 8)

The Committee NOTED the documentation tabled as ACC/A6/9.5.20. The Committee APPROVED the specified programme.

- 9.5.21. Provider: National Counselling Institute of Ireland (NCII)**
Report: on Prior Learning Assessment carried out by NCII in relation to learners who completed a Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy at NCII and learners of Roebuck, a counselling training organisation that has ceased trading.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.21. The Committee APPROVED the assessment recommendations of bridging programmes and certain module exemptions which allow these learners to advance to the BA in Counselling and Psychotherapy (Level 8) in the case of NCII and to the BA in Counselling Studies and Psychometric Testing (Level 7) in the case of learners of Roebuck College.

- 9.5.22. Provider: Institute of Physical Therapy and Applied Science**
Report: on Prior Learning Assessment carried out by the Institute of Physical Therapy and Applied Science in relation to learners who completed a Diploma in the Institute.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.22. The Committee APPROVED the assessment recommendations of admission of learners from the evaluated pre-existing programme to the award stage of the validated Bachelor of Science in Applied Health Science at IPTAS.

- 9.5.23. Provider: Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT)/Nanjing University of Information, Science and Technology**
Proposal: Collaboration between WIT and NUIST in the study area of Computer Science and Information Technology.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.5.23. The Committee APPROVED the Panel's recommendation that the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Computing be delivered by WIT in collaboration with NUIST and validated as a HETAC award and that HETAC policy on delegation of awards be revised along the lines proposed in the draft currently under consultation, further review of this programme would not be required prior to delegation of the programme, provided that validation conditions have been implemented.

9.6. Title Changes/Programme Amendments for Approval

9.6.1. Griffith College, Dublin, Cork and Limerick

Tomás MacEochagáin withdrew from discussion and decision of this item

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum regarding the regularising of programmes at the above provider's various campuses, together with relevant correspondence from Griffith College circulated as ACC/A6/9.6.1.(a) to (c) respectively. The Committee APPROVED the extension to the current arrangement to provide the Higher Diploma in Arts in Journalism and Media Communications on the Cork campus subject to the conditions specified in the memo. The Committee APPROVED the extension of intake date for the Higher Certificate in Business to include the September 2007 intake in order to facilitate integration, provide HETAC broadsheets and the new Provider title, Griffith College, Limerick on an Order of Council and NOTED that the provider is currently organising a programmatic review for this programme. The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to facilitate the provision of any HETAC approved Griffith College, Dublin programmes in Limerick on a planned basis, as a general facility subject to clarification of appropriate resources to HETAC in accordance

with the arrangements in place for the Cork campus. The Committee AGREED to the transfer of provision for the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting and Finance (since intake 2007), to facilitate production of broadsheets for learner records for June 2008 results. The Committee NOTED that this request arose as a result of the physical relocation of the college campus in Limerick and also NOTED that discussions on a site-visit by HETAC had taken place.

9.6.2. Hibernia College – Extension of Accreditation

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.6.2. The Committee NOTED the Executive had acceded to a request from Hibernia College for the extension of the current period of accreditation by one intake of learners in February 2009 for the Higher Diploma in Arts in Primary Education programme. The Committee NOTED that the provider is currently preparing for a Programmatic Review in September 2008.

9.7. Programmatic Reviews for Approval

9.7.1. Dublin Business School

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A6/9.7.1. and NOTED and APPROVED the title amendment and revalidation of the following programme as a result of a programmatic review:

Current Programme Title	New Programme Title
Master of Arts in Psychoanalysis Major Award (<i>Level 9</i>)	Master of Arts in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Major Award (Level 9)

9.8. Joint Awards

9.8.1. Griffith College, Dublin/Nottingham Trent University

Tomás MacEochagáin withdrew from discussion and decision of this item

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and correspondence circulated as ACC/A6/9.8.1. The Committee APPROVED the amendments as set out in the documentation, to one of the joint award programmes, the Bachelor of Laws, LLB (Honours). The Committee NOTED that the proposed amendments which relate to the addition of two new elective subjects have already been adopted by Nottingham Trent University.

9.8.2. Dublin Business School/Liverpool John Moore University

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as ACC/A6/9.8.2.(a) to (c). The Committee NOTED the draft revision of the joint awarding agreement between HETAC and LJMU which is being revised on foot of issues that have arisen and DBS's desire to extend the agreement. The Committee NOTED that this draft was recently circulated to DBS and LJMU for comment. The Committee NOTED that any feedback on the draft Agreement from Committee Members was welcomed. The Committee NOTED that the provider had commenced running a BA in Business Management (Leisure and Recreation), previously approved, subject to conditions having been met, by the Academic Committee at its Meeting on 15 October 2007. The Committee NOTED that LJMU were not satisfied that the specified conditions had been met prior to the commencement of this programme and NOTED that the provider felt that as the first year of the aforementioned BA is shared with an approved programme, it was confident that conditions had been met and had submitted a report to that effect to LJMU. The Committee NOTED and APPROVED the following change in programme title as a result of a

programmatic review:

Current Programme Title	New Programme Title
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business and Psychology	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business with Psychology

The Committee NOTED that where possible and practicable the Executive would endeavour to conduct joint Institutional Review processes at providers where Joint Award agreements are in place.

9.9. Validation of Research Degree Programmes

No business.

10. Amendment to Organisation Title

No business.

11. Any Other Business

The Committee NOTED an update on the National Framework Impact Study tabled as ACC/A6/11.1 and ACC/A6/11.2. The Committee NOTED that following circulation of a detailed questionnaire to all providers, HETAC had to date received 9 responses. The Committee NOTED that among items raised in the responses was the suggestion of a review of the restrictive titling convention adopted by HETAC, the need for greater distinction between the Level 6 Advanced Certificate (FETAC Award) and Level 6 Higher Certificate (HETAC Award), and the need for greater communication with Employers with regard to the use of learning outcomes in the recruitment process. The Committee NOTED that the initial findings had been presented to the Steering Group and that HETAC will submit a draft sector report to the Group on 11 July 2008.

The next meeting of the Academic Committee will take place in the Boardroom of HETAC Offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on Monday, 20 October 2008 at 11:15 a.m.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____