

**Academic Committee  
Minutes**

Minutes of the seventh meeting of the Academic Committee which took place on Monday, 20 October 2008 in the Boardroom, HETAC Offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 at 11:00 a.m.

**PRESENT:**

Chairperson:	Prof. Tom Boylan
Secretary:	Dr. Bryan Maguire
	Dr. Carol Gibbons
	Ms. June Hosford
	Mr. Tomás MacEochagáin
	Mr. Peter Mannion
	Rev. Darren McCallig
	Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan
	Ms. Marion Palmer

**APOLOGIES:** Ms. Tine Holm

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Dr. Peter Cullen (Items 1 - 4)
Ms. Karena Maguire
Mr. Ian McKenna
Ms. Tara Ryan
Mr. Liam Tracey (Items 5 - 10)
Ms. Caitriona Lawless

The recently appointed Chief Executive, Mr. Gearóid Ó Conluain, spoke briefly at the beginning of the meeting and THANKED the Committee for all their work to date and recognised the important role played by the Committee in assisting the Council. Mr. Ó Conluain OUTLINED his intention to make contact individually with Committee Members over the coming weeks and months.

**1. Committee Business**

The Minutes of the Meeting of 30 June 2008 circulated as ACC/M6 had been circulated electronically to Committee Members and were also circulated at the Council Meeting on 22 September 2008. The Minutes were CONFIRMED and SIGNED subject to the following amendment:

Page 12, the paragraph titled ACC/A6/9.4.5., correction of programme title to read, Master of Arts in Journalism.

“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.”

**1.2. Matters Arising**

The Committee NOTED the above revision to the Minutes of the sixth Meeting of the Academic Committee which took place on Monday, 30 June 2008.

- 1.3. The Committee NOTED and ADOPTED the Revised Terms of Reference for the Academic Committee circulated as ACC/A7/1.3.
- 1.4. The Committee NOTED and ADOPTED the Schedule of Meeting Dates circulated as ACC/A7/1.4. and NOTED that these meeting dates were unlikely to change in the short term, following the Budget day (14 October 2008) announcement of the Government intention to amalgamate the 3 bodies, HETAC, FETAC and the NQAI and to give the new organisation responsibility for the external quality assurance review of the universities (a function which is currently performed by the Irish Universities Quality Board and the Higher Education Authority).

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

### **2.1. Policy for Registration of New Providers**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Policy Document on Registration of New Providers and Procedures to be used in Addressing Applications to become a Provider of HETAC Awards 2008, circulated as ACC/A7/2.1.1 to ACC/A7/2.1.3. The Committee NOTED the need for greater clarity and robustness in policy in this area, in particular as the variety and number of applications for accreditation of new providers grows and WELCOMED the draft documents circulated. The Committee NOTED the intention to break the Registration Process for New Providers into six stages, namely the initial enquiry, the submission of a formal application, an administrative check (audit), convening a panel of peers/on-site check, if at this stage the provider has received initial approval, the Provider is then requested to submit an academic/training programme for accreditation, once the programme has been accredited, the application is then sent to Council for final agreement. The Committee NOTED the Executive's intention to place the reports of the administrative check and the panel reports before the Committee for its consideration. The Committee RECOMMENDED the Executive to proceed with the consultation process once the document has been revised to take account of suggestions and amendments which arose during the course of the Committee's discussion on the matter and REQUESTED the Executive to bring the post-consultation policy document to Council for its attention and adoption.

### **2.2. Collaborative and Trans-national Programmes and Joint Awards**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and Policy for Collaborative Programmes, Trans-national Programmes and Joint Awards circulated as ACC/A7/2.2.1. and ACC/A7/2.2.2 respectively. The Committee RECOMMEND the Policy to Council for adoption.

### **2.3. Participating in Evaluation Panels as Expert Assessors – A Guideline**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Guidelines on Participating in Evaluation Panels as Expert Assessors circulated as ACC/A7/2.3.1. and ACC/A7/2.3.2. respectively. The Committee NOTED this document superseded Appendix C of the Validation Process, Policy and Criteria for the Accreditation of Providers to Maintain a Register for a Specified Research Degree in a Specified Discipline Area which had been used as the guidelines for Evaluation Panels to date. The Committee NOTED the Policy was intended for use by HETAC but may provide assistance and guidance to providers where necessary. The Committee RECOMMENDED the Guidelines to Council for adoption.

**2.4. National Guidelines for Postgraduate Arts Research Programmes by Practice**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Draft Guidelines for Postgraduate Arts Research Programmes by Practice circulated as ACC/A7/2.4.1. and ACC/A7/2.4.2. respectively. The Committee NOTED these guidelines had been drafted under the guidance of the Working Group on Practice-based Research in The Arts and an initial draft had been issued at the Gradcam Conference in May 2008 and feedback had been incorporated into the current draft. The Committee NOTED that these Guidelines had also been circulated to the IUQB and the NQAI and REQUESTED the Executive to feed the Committee's comments back to the Working Group. The Committee RECOMMENDED the Executive to proceed with a joint consultation process with the IUQB.

**2.5. Minor, Supplemental and Special Purpose Awards**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Policy and Draft Guidelines for Minor, Special Purpose and Supplemental Awards circulated as ACC/A7/2.5.1. and ACC/A7/2.5.2. respectively. The Committee NOTED that Council had adopted the revised Policy on Minor, Special Purpose and Supplemental Awards at its meeting on 22 September 2008. The Committee AGREED that there is a need for a coherent set of Guidelines to accompany this Policy and REQUESTED the Executive to proceed with the consultation process.

**3. Awards Standards**

No business.

**4. Recognition of Professional Awards**

**4.1. Alignment of the Awards of UK Awarding Bodies with the National Framework of Qualifications**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum together with copies of the reports on the Alignment of the Awards made by EDEXCEL and by the Institute of Leadership and Management, with the Irish National Framework of Qualifications, circulated as ACC/A7/4.1.1. to ACC/A7/4.1.3. The Committee also NOTED the reports for the Council for Awards in Children's Care and Education, City and Guilds, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts, Trinity College, London and the Vocational Training Charitable Trust which were tabled at the meeting (ACC/A7/4.1.4. to ACC/A7/4.1.9.). The Committee NOTED the Executive had assisted the NQAI during the alignment process for the Awards of UK Awarding Bodies with the National Framework of Qualifications. The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to raise the issue of the credits and titles assigned to the UK Awards with the NQAI and to ask the Authority to reconsider this matter.

**5. Institutional Review Reports**

**5.1.** The Committee NOTED the Terms of Reference for the following Institutional Reviews, Institute of Technology, Sligo, Institute of Technology, Tallaght, Letterkenny Institute of Technology and Hibernia College circulated as ACC/A7/5.1.1. to ACC/A7/5.1.4.

**5.2.** The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Report of the Evaluation Group on the Application for Extension of Delegated Authority to Make Awards by the Institute of Technology, Carlow circulated as ACC/A7/5.2.1. and ACC/A7/5.2.2. respectively. The Committee NOTED the positive recommendation of the Evaluation Group to the Application for Extension of Delegated Authority to research Level 9 and 10 Awards of the National Framework

of Qualifications in the specific fields of Biotechnology and Molecular Environmental Science and RECOMMENDED the Evaluation Panel Report to the Council for its attention.

**6. Implementation of Recommendations of Review Panels**

No business.

**7. Quality Assurance Procedures**

7.1. The Committee NOTED the report of the meeting of the Quality Assurance Agreement Panel on 3 July 2008, circulated as ACC/A7/7.1. The Committee NOTED the change in format to the Minutes following the Committee's request at its meeting on 30 June 2008.

7.2. The Committee also NOTED that three other providers had satisfied the recommendations of previous Quality Assurance Panels.

**8. Validation of Programmes of Higher Education and Training**

**8.1. 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.

**8.1.1. Limerick Institute of Technology**

*Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan withdrew from the discussion and decision of this item.*

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.1.1. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programme as specified in the document circulated:

**Major Award**

Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical & Forensic Analysis (Level 7)

**8.1.2. Dundalk Institute of Technology**

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.1.2. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

**Major Award**

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Video and Film Production (Level 8)

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Sustainable Design (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Nursing (Level 7)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Building Surveying (Level 8)

**8.1.3. Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown**

*Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan withdrew from the discussion and decision of this item.*

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.1.3. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

**Major Awards**

Master of Arts in Language Education (English as a Second Language) (Level 9)

Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Language Education (English as a Second Language) (Level 9)

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Sports Management and Coaching (Level 8)

Bachelor of Arts in Sports Management and Coaching (Level 7)  
Higher Certificate in Arts in Sports Coaching and Administration (Level 6)  
Bachelor of Arts in Sports Management and Coaching (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Sports Management and Coaching (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Engineering in Mechatronics (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in International Business (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Business in International Business (Level 7)  
Higher Certificate in Business in International Business (Level 6)  
Bachelor of Business in International Business (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in International Business (Level 8)

#### **Minor Awards**

Certificate in Language Education (English as a Second Language) (Level 9)  
Certificate in Engineering (Level 6)  
Certificate in Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (Level 8)

#### **Special Purpose Award**

Certificate in Psychological Studies (Level 7)  
Certificate in ACCA Fundamental Skills Level (F4-F9) (Level 6)  
Certificate in Marketing Skills (Level 6)

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum tabled at the meeting as ACC/A7/8.1.3.(b) outlining a request from Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown to delegate authority for a Special Purpose Award, which is also a module from the professional qualification of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Committee AGREED that the process outlined in the Memorandum by which the alignment of the ACCA qualification to Level 9 of the National Qualifications Framework, together with the agreed quality assurance mechanisms in place at the Institute provide adequate recognition for the purpose of fulfilling Section 25(2) as set out in the Qualifications (Education and Training) Act 1999. The Committee REQUESTED the Executive to outline this type of situation in greater detail in the Draft Guidelines for Minor, Supplemental and Special Purpose Awards previously discussed under ACC/A7/2.5.1 and ACC/A7/2.5.2.

#### **8.1.4. Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology**

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.1.4. and ORDERED that authority be delegated to the above Institute for the following programmes as specified in the document circulated:

#### **Major Award**

Bachelor of Arts in Outdoor Education and Leisure with Geography (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and Financial Management (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED the Executive's explanation for the appearance of September 2006 Intake Dates for the above programmes, this is due to confusion following the initial roll out of Delegated Authority as to the nature of information which should be provided to HETAC by the IoT sector with regard to newly validated programmes and there are still some programmes from that period appearing in the system.

### **8.1.5. Institute of Technology, Tralee**

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.1.5. 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 Health Studies (Level 6) – *Embedded Standard of BSc (Honours) in General Nursing*

Higher Certificate in Science in Health Studies (Level 6) – *Embedded Standard of BSc (Honours) in Mental Health Nursing*

Bachelor of Science in Health Studies (Level 7) – *Embedded Standard of BSc (Honours) in General Nursing*

Bachelor of Science in Health Studies (Level 7) – *Embedded Standard of BSc (Honours) in Mental Health Nursing*

### **8.2. Title Changes under Delegation of Authority/Amendments to Orders in Council**

No business.

### **8.3. Programmatic Reviews for Approval under Delegation of Authority**

#### **8.3.1. Dundalk Institute of Technology**

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.3.1. and NOTED the revalidation of the following programmes as a result of a programmatic review:

#### **Major Award**

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Commercial Computing (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Information Technology Management (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Internet Technologies (Level 8)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biopharmaceutical Science (Level 8)

Bachelor of Arts in Community Sports Leadership (Level 7)

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Community and Sports Leadership (Level 8)

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting and Finance (Level 8)

Bachelor of Business (Honours) (Level 8)

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

Bachelor of Business in Marketing (Level 7) *Exit/Embedded Award*

Higher Certificate in Business in Marketing (Level 6) *Exit/Embedded Award*

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Public Relations (Level 8)

Bachelor of Business (Honours) in International Management (Level 8)

Bachelor of Business in International Business (Level 7)

Master of Arts in Accounting (Level 9)

Bachelor of Business in Event Management (Level 7)

Bachelor of Business in Hospitality Management (Level 7)

Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Event/Hospitality/Tourism Management (Level 8)

Bachelor of Business in Business Information Systems (Level 7)

Bachelor of Business in Management and Administration (Level 7)

Master of Business Administration (Level 9)

Master of Business Studies (Entrepreneurship and Marketing) (Level 9)

Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Entrepreneurship and Marketing (Level 9) *Exit/Embedded Award*

Bachelor of Arts in Performing Arts (Acting) (Level 7)

Bachelor of Arts in Video and Film Production (Level 7)

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Cultural Resources Studies (Level 8)

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Cultural Studies (Level 7)  
 Master of Arts in Cultural Innovation for the Arts (Level 9)  
 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies in Social Care (Level 7)  
 Higher Certificate in Arts in Community Studies (Level 6)  
 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Community Development (Level 8)  
 Higher Certificate in Arts in Borderlands Studies (Level 6)  
 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Borderlands Studies (Level 8)  
 Higher Certificate in Arts in Youth Work (Level 6)  
 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Youth Work (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Business in Healthcare Management (Level 7)  
 Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (Level 9)  
 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Humanities (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Health (Level 7)  
 Higher Certificate in Science in Food Science (Level 6) – change of title from  
 Higher Certificate in Food Science and Health  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Food Innovation (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science in Applied Bioscience (Level 7)  
 Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Level 7)  
 Higher Certificate in Science in Agriculture (Level 6)  
 Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Science (Level 7)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Environmental Biology (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Early Childhood Studies (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in General Nursing (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Midwifery (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Intellectual Disability Nursing (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing (Level 8)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Psychiatric Nursing (Level 8)  
 Higher Diploma in Science in General Nursing (Older Person) (Level 6)  
 Higher Diploma in Science in Intellectual Disability Nursing (Older Person) (Level  
 6)  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Health Awareness and Physical Activity (Level 8)  
 Higher Certificate in Arts in Health Promotion (Level 6)  
 Higher Diploma in Science in Mental Health Nursing (Adult) (Level 6)  
 Higher Diploma in Science in Orthopaedic Nursing (Level 6)  
 Higher Diploma in Science in Midwifery (Level 6)  
 Bachelor of Science in the Professional Management of Aggression and Violence  
 (Level 7)

#### **Minor Awards**

Certificate in Arts in Youth Studies (Level 6)  
 Certificate in Cross Border Community Development (Level 6)

#### **Special Purpose Awards**

Certificate in English Language, Western Society and Culture (Level 6)

The Committee APPROVED the extension of validation for one further intake only, for the following programmes:

Bachelor of Science in Computing in Commercial Computing  
 Bachelor of Science in Computing in Information Technology Management  
 Bachelor of Science in Internet Technologies  
 Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Biopharmaceutical Science

### **8.3.2. Institute of Technology, Sligo**

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.3.2. and NOTED the revalidation of the following programmes as a result of a programmatic review:

#### **Major Awards**

Bachelor of Science in Medical Bio Technology (Level 7) *Embedded Award*  
Master of Science in Biopharmaceutical Science (Level 9)  
Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Biopharmaceutical Science (Level 9)  
Bachelor of Science in Health Science and Physiology (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Public Health and Health Promotion (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Science (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Science (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Science (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Medical Bio Technology (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Medical Bio Technology (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Science in Forensic Investigation & Analysis (Level 7)  
Master in Science in Environmental Protection (Level 9)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Archaeology (Level 8)  
Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety & Health (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Occupational Safety & Health (Level 8)  
Higher Certificate in Science in Good Manufacturing Practice and Technology (Level 6)  
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Protection (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Environmental Science (Level 8)  
Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Environmental Protection (Level 9)  
Master of Science in Environmental Health & Safety Management (Level 9)  
Higher Certificate in Science in Fisheries Management (Level 6)  
Higher Certificate in Science in Environmental Management (Level 6)

#### **Minor Awards**

Certificate in Biopharmaceutical Science (Level 9)  
Certificate in Environmental Management (Level 6)

#### **Special Purpose Awards**

Certificate in Principles of Cell Biology & Bio Technology (Level 9)  
Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health (Level 6)  
Certificate in Compost Facility Operation (Level 6)

### **8.4. New Providers – First Programme(s) for Approval**

No business.

### **8.5. New Programmes for Approval**

No business

### **8.6. Title Changes/Programme Amendments for Approval**

#### **8.6.1. Tipperary Institute**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.6.1. and APPROVED the specified amendments to the following programmes:

#### **Major Awards**

Bachelor of Business (Honours)  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Sustainable Rural Development

### **8.6.2. Griffith College, Dublin**

*Mr. Tomás Mac Eochagáin withdrew from the discussion and decision of this item.*

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.6.2. The Committee APPROVED the specified amendments to the following programmes:

#### **Major Awards**

Bachelor of Arts in Fashion Design  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Fashion Design  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Interior Architecture  
Bachelor of Arts in Interior Design

### **8.6.3. National College of Ireland**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and documentation circulated as ACC/A7/8.6.3. and APPROVED the specified amendments to the following programmes:

#### **Major Awards**

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Financial Services  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Financial Services (part-time)  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting & Human Resource Management  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting  
Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management

## **8.7. Programmatic Reviews for Approval**

### **8.7.1. Griffith College, Dublin**

*Mr. Tomás Mac Eochagáin withdrew from the discussion and decision of this item.*

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum circulated as ACC/A7/8.7.1. and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes as a result of a programmatic review:

#### **Major Awards**

Higher Certificate in Science Computing (Level 6)  
Bachelor of Science in Computing (Level 7)  
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing Science (Level 8)  
Higher Diploma in Science in Computing (Level 8)  
Master of Science in Computing (Level 9)

### **8.7.2. National College of Ireland**

*Ms. Marion Palmer withdrew from the discussion and decision of this item.*

The Committee NOTED the content of the Explanatory Memorandum and documentation circulated as ACC/A7/8.7.2. and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme as a result of a programmatic review:

#### **Major Award**

Higher Diploma in Science in Computing in eLearning (Level 8)

**8.8. Joint Awards and Approval of Joint Awarding Agreements**

**8.8.1. Dublin Business School/Liverpool John Moores University**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and documentation circulated as ACC/A7/8.8.1. The Committee APPROVED the programmatic review including programme title change in respect of the following programme:

<b>Current Programme Title</b>	<b>Proposed Programme Title</b>
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business and Psychology BC24 180 ECTS	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business with Psychology BC24 180 ECTS

**8.9. Validation of Research Degree Programmes**

**8.9.1. Athlone Institute of Technology**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum, the report of the HETAC Panel on the assessment of the application by Athlone Institute of Technology for accreditation to maintain a Postgraduate Research Degree Register in Life & Physical Science to Level 10, Polymer Engineering to Level 10 and Software Engineering to Level 9, together with the Institute's response to that report, circulated as ACC/A7/8.9.1.(a)-(c). The Committee AGREED to accredit Athlone Institute of Technology to maintain Postgraduate Research Degree Registers in the following areas:

- Life and Physical Sciences, Levels 9 and 10, solely in areas reflecting the expertise of the research-active academic staff;
- Polymer Engineering, Levels 9 and 10;
- Software Engineering, Level 9.

**8.9.2. Dundalk Institute of Technology**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum, the report of the HETAC Panel on the assessment of the application by Dundalk Institute of Technology to submit to HETAC on a case-by-case basis, applications for registration of PhD programmes in the areas specified, together with the Institute's response to that report, circulated as ACC/A7/8.9.2.(a)-(c). The Committee APPROVED the request by Dundalk Institute of Technology to submit on a case-by-case basis, applications for registration of PhD programmes in the following areas:

- Smooth Muscle Research
- Freshwater Studies
- Social Networks, Environments and Technologies for Wellness and Ageing-in-place.

**8.10. Collaborative Provision Overseas**

**8.10.1. Dundalk Institute of Technology/Beijing International Studies University**

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and documentation circulated as ACC/A7/8.10.1. and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programme as a result of a programmatic review:

**Major Award**

Higher Certificate in Arts in Western Business & Hospitality (Level 6)

**8.10.2. Griffith College, Dublin/Globe Business College, Munich**

*Mr. Tomás Mac Eochagáin withdrew from the discussion and decision of this item.*

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and documentation circulated as ACC/A7/8.10.2. The Committee NOTED that a site visit had taken place on 2 July 2008 and AGREED that Orders of Council for the following programmes should be amended to allow for their provision in Globe Business College, Munich:

- Bachelor of Arts in Business (Level 7)
- Bachelor of Arts in Marketing (Level 7)

The Committee NOTED that these programmes would be delivered in accordance with the Quality Assurance procedures agreed with Griffith College, Dublin.

**9. Amendment to Organisation Title/Campus Changes**

The Committee NOTED the Information Note circulated as ACC/A7/9.1. outlining a satisfactory site visit to the new Limerick campus of the National Counselling Institute of Ireland.

**10. Any Other Business**

The Committee NOTED that at its meeting of 30 June 2008, the Executive had undertaken to raise the matter of Postgraduate Certificates and Titles of Programmes on Parchments at today's meeting and NOTED that this item did not appear on today's agenda due to its incorporation into the Draft Guidelines on Minor, Supplemental and Special Purpose Awards which were discussed under ACC/A7/2.5. at this meeting.

The Committee NOTED that the Executive had forwarded its submission on the Review of the National Framework of Qualification to the Qualifications Authority and also NOTED that all submissions would be published on the NQAI website and comments were invited.

**The next meeting of the Academic Committee will take place in the Boardroom of HETAC Offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on Monday, 19 January 2009 at 11:00 a.m.**

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Date: \_\_\_\_\_