

Committee of Council

Minutes of the first meeting of the Committee of Council which took place on Monday, 12 June 2006 in the Third Floor Meeting Room, HETAC Offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 at 2:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson/Chief Executive: Séamus Puirseil
Secretary: Tadhg Ó hÉalaithe
Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan

IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Bryan Maguire
Ms. Caitriona Lawless

1. The Committee NOTED the decision of Council (CM/33/7) at its Meeting on Monday, 29 May 2006 establishing a Committee under Section 56 of the Qualifications Act, consisting of the Chief Executive, Secretary of the Council and one other independent member and delegating to it the functions detailed hereunder. The Committee's Terms of Reference are as follows:

Functions

- (a) The approval of postgraduate applications for registration in the current academic year,
- (b) The making of awards,
- (c) Publication of documents,
- (d) Validation of courses and related matters
- (e) Such and any other matters as may require urgent decision by the Council.

The Committee, which will have a quorum of 2 members, will continue to function until a new Council appointed by the Minister for Education and Science has its first formal meeting.

All decisions made by the Interim Committee will be confirmed by the new Council at its first meeting upon appointment.

2. Minutes of Meeting of 11 April 2006

The Committee NOTED the Minutes of the Programme Accreditation Committee Meeting held on 11 April 2006.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes

None

4. Programme Approval

- 4.1. **Provider:** **Institute of Technology, Tallaght**
Programme: Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic and Telecommunications Systems
Bachelor of Engineering in Software and Network Engineering

The Committee NOTED documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.1. and the programmes were APPROVED subject to the following amendment:

- 4.2. **Provider:** **Institute of Technology, Tallaght**
Programme: Bachelor of Science in Bioanalysis and Chemical Analysis

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.2. and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.3. **Provider:** **Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Social Care *one year add on*
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Social Studies in Social Care *four year ab initio*

Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan withdrew from the meeting for the duration of the discussion on this item.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.3. and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.4. **Provider:** **Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology**
Programme: Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Cultural Event Management

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.4., and in particular, the Panel of Experts Recommendations in the area of Programme and Award Titles and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.5. **Provider:** **Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology**
Programme: Master of Arts in Public Culture Studies

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.5., and the programme was APPROVED subject to the following amendment:

The Committee RECOMMENDED that the Programme Schedules should be amended to bring Credit levels in line with the National Framework of Qualifications rather than the previous PG levels.

- 4.6. **Provider:** **Munster Academy, Munster Rugby, IRFU**
Programme: Special Purpose Award, Diploma in Professional Rugby,

60 Credits

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.6. and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.7. **Provider:** **National College of Ireland**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts in Management of Technology in Business
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Technology Management

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.7. and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.8. **Provider:** **Dublin Business School**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Multimedia
Bachelor of Arts in Film and Media

Dr. Bryan Maguire was in attendance for this item.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.8. and the verification by Dr. Maguire that no issues had been raised by the Panel of Experts to DBS's Response to the Panel's Report and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.9. **Provider:** **Dublin Business School**
Programme: Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Science
Bachelor of Arts in Social Science

Dr. Bryan Maguire was in attendance for this item.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.9. and the verification by Dr. Maguire that no issues had been raised by the Panel of Experts to DBS's Response to the Panel's Report and the programme was APPROVED.

- 4.10. **Provider:** **American College, Dublin**
Programme: Master of Business Studies in International Business

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/3.10. and the programme was APPROVED.

5. **The Defence Forces Brigade Training Centre – NCO Course**

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/4 and APPROVED the accreditation of the programme at the location specified in the document.

6. Dublin Business School – Bachelor of Arts in Film and Media

Dr. Bryan Maguire was in attendance for this item.

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/5 and APPROVED the reinstatement of the Film Studies stream subject to confirmation from the Council executive that the panel members had agreed to the reinstatement.

7. Dublin Business School – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Marketing with Event Management

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/6 and AGREED with the opinion expressed by Mr Joe Cox (HETAC) and Mr. John Cusack (Chair of Panel of Experts) that at no time during the Panel's deliberations was there evidence to suggest that a particular Panel Member was aware of the impending merger of DBS and the Business School with which the Panel Member is associated.

8. Tipperary Institute – Programmatic Review Report

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated as PAC/A16/7 and APPROVED the Report of the Programmatic Review Group subject to confirmation from Joe Cox that the Academic Council of Tipperary Institute is in agreement with the recommendations made by Cork Institute of Technology in their Programmatic Review.

9. Minutes of the Meetings of the Research Degree Programme Applications Panel

The Committee NOTED the Minutes of the Meetings of the Research Degree Programme Applications Panel held on 23 and 24 May 2006 and circulated as Item 8.

10. HETAC Research Degree Programme Applications – Panel Review Outcomes

The Committee NOTED the Panel Review Outcomes circulated as Item 9 and NOTED the large volume of applications which were “Recommended Subject to Conditions” or “Not Recommended”. The Committee FURTHER NOTED that a large number of providers appear to have significant problems with their Applications System and as a result were providing inadequate information to HETAC.

The Committee RECOMMENDED that a Workshop be held for providers in the coming months as a way of facilitating communication in this area and in an attempt to rectify any outstanding problems.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.