

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 4 June 2008 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost, Senior Lecturer, Registrar, Senior Tutor, Dean of Graduate Studies, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Professor B M Lucey, Dean of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Dr M E G Lyons, Dr H Gibbons, Dean of Health Sciences, Dr V A Campbell, Dr J P Gormley, Ms F M Haffey, Mr B Rock, Mr G Magee.
<i>Apologies</i>	Dr M H Adams, Professor D B Murray, Dr A O'Gara, Mr C Hallworth, Mr H Sullivan, Ms C Ní Dhubhda, Mr C Reilly, Mr D Walsh, Ms E Keaveney, Librarian.
<i>In attendance</i>	Secretary, Academic Secretary.
<i>Observers</i>	Dr M L Brennan, Dr P Coleman, Mr D L Parris, Dr G Biehler, Dr M J F Brown, Professor N M Claffey.
<i>By invitation</i>	Deputy Librarian (for CL/07-08/184).

SECTION A

CL/07-08/181 Minutes

- (i) *Minutes of the meeting of the 7th May 2008* were approved subject to the following corrections:
CL/07-08/155 The Senior Lecturer noted that for completion of the discussion, the following sentence should be added before the final sentence in paragraph 2, page 4: *"The revised proposal was for the core curriculum to normally comprise a maximum of 220 ECTS, as the elective curriculum would normally comprise a minimum of 20 ECTS."*

One Council member disputed the accuracy of the sentence "The Vice Provost noted that as part of the communication programme on restructuring it was recommended that a Joint Council of unions and management be established, but that the staff unions unanimously agreed that there should not be such a Council." Following some discussion it was agreed to rephrase the sentence to read *"The Vice Provost noted that as part of the communication programme on restructuring it was recommended that a Joint Industrial Council be established, but no agreement was reached to establish such a Council."*

- (ii) *Minutes of the meeting of the 14th May 2008* were approved.

CL/07-08/182 Matters Arising There were no matters arising.

CL/07-08/183 Provost's Report The Provost informed Council that Board at its meeting of the 21st May 2008 approved the nomination of Professor P.J. Prendergast for Vice Provost as of the 13th July 2008, and the appointment of Mr Chris Lyons as Chief Operating Officer who will take up his position at the end of June 2008.

CL/07-08/184 Library and College Archives - Annual Report 2006-07 A copy of the Library and College Archives Annual Report 2006-07 was circulated. The Deputy Librarian, Ms J Kurtz attended for this item. Introducing the report, Ms Kurtz drew Council's attention to the significant milestones in the Library Service and a number of challenges facing it.

The milestones for the academic year 2006-07 were noted as follows:

- The establishment of the Long Room Hub as a Research Institute and its award of a grant of €10m under PRTLII, providing the opportunity for the strategic development of special collections as a research driver.
- The establishment of the Digital Resources and Imaging Service, creating teaching and research resources in digital format.
- The extension of the Automatic Bookstack Request Service, greatly facilitating access to collections presently in closed access.
- Provision of funding for a replacement Library Management System, enabling a step-change in the quality of services and procedures required to control and disseminate the Library's 4.5million printed items and other resources.
- The creation of a central multi-media service area, providing a single point of access to collections of material in microform and portable electronic formats.
- Investment in electronic research resources, enabled through the HEA's investment in arts and humanities resources under the IReL initiative.
- Major exhibitions on Ireland and World War I, the centenary of Synge's *Playboy of the Western World* and sixty years of the Friends of the Library.

The challenges for 2006-07 were noted as follows:

- Storage is at a critical phase, with the Library unable to accept research materials and presently forced to plan for indefinite storage of its Legal Deposit and other research collections in off-site commercial premises.
- Allied to the lack of storage for growth, there is a requirement to address the re-balancing of open and closed access collections, with the objective of having all campus collections on open access.
- Migration from print to electronic media, requiring re-structuring of systems, budget and services.
- The current staffing and resource model is not aligned with the Library's client community nor its service priorities, requiring new staff structures and a revision to the allocation of resources.
- The present level of funding is not sustainable, resulting in reliance on tourist generated income for core services to undergraduate and postgraduate communities.
- The Library's national and international roles are often in conflict with its primary role in supporting teaching and research.

Ms Kurtz also drew Council's attention to some of the details in the report, including the trend away from the use of printed resources; the reduction in the use of materials from the closed access collections; the increase in library-based teaching on

the use of remote e-resources; a dramatic rise in the use of electronic services (41% of the Library's information budget is allocated to e-resources). Ms Kurtz also noted developments in respect of preservation and conservation activities as well as visitor and exhibition services in 2006-07.

Council welcomed the Annual Report 2006-07 on the Library and College Archives. Commenting on the increase in the use of e-resources, the Provost noted innovative student learning developments in the Cecil Green Library at Stanford University. Ms Kurtz noted that considerable progress has been made in embedding user information into the core curriculum in Trinity College. One member of Council expressed concern that e-learning and e-resources might give rise to social isolation of students and thereby adversely impact on the student experience. In response to this, it was commented that project-based learning uses e-learning, and students are increasingly participating in group study in the library. It was suggested that the increase in the use of e-resources might reflect the scarcity of printed books in high demand. It was also pointed out that the increase in the use of e-resources demands more fit-for-purpose facilities. In response to a question, Ms Kurtz confirmed that because of storage difficulties and the cost of maintaining the Library's collection, it was not possible as yet to provide the resources necessary to accommodate electronic backfiles. It was noted that because of copyright restrictions there is only scant availability of e-resources dedicated to 21st century literature. There is, in comparison, a wealth of e-journals dedicated to 18th and 19th century literature. It was further noted that there is also a scarcity of non-deposit European literary texts in the Library.

In response to a question on access to archival material, Ms Kurtz noted that an additional assistant librarian would be appointed as part of the Long-Room Hub initiative and this should speed up the process of listing newly acquired collections. Provision is also being made to establish an e-catalogue of manuscripts. The Graduate Students' Union representative urged the Library to encourage students' clubs and societies to contribute their material to the College archives. It was pointed out that establishment of an information budget for each School would have to be reconsidered in light of the new Faculty-structure. In response to a question about how the Library is planning to meet the challenges identified, Ms Kurtz noted that the Library is in discussions with the Director of Buildings to address the storage shortage, and that a plan for storage up to 2025 has been developed. It was suggested that the Library should review its opening hours with a view to increasing these, and that computers available in the Library should also be available for writing purposes.

The Provost thanked the Deputy Librarian for presenting the Library and College Archives Annual Report 2006-07 and commended the work of the Library staff.

CL/07-08/185 Undergraduate Course Proposals Copies of undergraduate course proposals leading to (i) a B.Sc. in Human Health and Disease and to (ii) a B.A. Moderatorship in Earth Sciences were circulated with papers for the meeting. The Senior Lecturer introducing this item informed Council that the Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Committee at its meeting on the 3rd June 2008 agreed to recommend to Council both proposals.

- (i) *B.Sc in Human Health and Disease*: the Senior Lecturer informed Council that the proposal leading to a B.Sc in Human Health and Disease is being proposed by the School of Medicine in partnership with the School of Biochemistry and Immunology. This four year degree programme complies with the new core and elective curriculum approved by Council at its meeting on the 7th May

2008 and complies with the College's regulations on the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System). The quota for the course is 40 students (25 EU and 15 non-EU) and provision will be made to comply with College's commitment to a 15% quota of non-traditional entrants.

Discussing this proposal, Council queried the award title of a B.Sc. for this course. It was confirmed that the award title was more appropriate to this programme as it was more commonly recognisable at national and international levels. In response to a query it was confirmed that all Bachelors of the University of at least three years' standing may proceed to the degree of Masters in Arts.

- (ii) *BA Moderatorship in Earth Sciences*: the Senior Lecturer introduced this item and informed Council that this course is being proposed by the School of Natural Sciences, led by Geography and Geology. The four-year degree programme complies with College's new core and elective curriculum, regulations on ECTS, and College's access policy. The proposed course quota is twelve students in the first intake, rising to 15 in the second intake, and to 20 in the third intake, if the appropriate staffing resources are in place.

Discussing this proposal, Council noted the need for additional resources and the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science confirmed that he was not consulted on resource issues for this course. The Students' Union Education Officer commented that there was already considerable demand on existing resources, especially laboratory space in Sciences, and any increases in the existing undergraduate student numbers must be matched with appropriate resources. It is expected that increases in student numbers would also bring additional financial resources, but Council was reminded of the tightening external fiscal circumstances and its adverse impact on the higher education sector. It was noted that College would have to find more creative responses to the worsening financial situation and this included different approaches to teaching undergraduate students. The Provost commented that Council's role is to consider the academic merits of the proposal and resource provisions was a matter of concern for the Faculty Deans and Heads of Schools. If the resources are not available then it was unlikely that the course could be offered.

Commenting generally on the recent increase in the number of direct entry undergraduate courses, the Provost stressed the importance of not undermining the non-denominated broad education programmes such as TR071, BESS and Engineering. Direct entry courses, because of their relatively small quotas, give the impression of high demand, but the large non-denominated courses provide a broad education which is the hallmark of a University of Dublin degree. Despite national downward trends in student demand for science, for example, TR071 continues to be very popular with second level students.

In response to a concern that Schools are citing high demand for similar courses in other Irish universities as a rationale for developing the course, the Academic Secretary commented that this is a reasonable indicator of demand for a course and should be one of the factors considered when developing new undergraduate programmes. Such information is also readily available through CAO (Central Applications Office) statistics.

Council agreed, subject to both courses developing learning outcomes, to the undergraduate course leading to a B.Sc. in Human Health and Disease, and to the undergraduate course leading to a B.A. Moderatorship in Earth Science.

CL/07-08/186 Report of the Programme Evaluation of the B.Sc. in Human Nutrition and Dietetics

A report of the programme evaluation of the B.Sc. in Human Nutrition and Dietetics dated May 2008 was circulated. The Senior Lecturer introduced this item and informed Council that a review of the B.Sc. programme was conducted on the 1st and 2nd of May 2008. The B.Sc. in Human Nutrition and Dietetics is con-jointly delivered by Trinity College and the Dublin Institute of Technology. During the academic year 2007-08 the Coordinating Committee for the B.Sc. in Human Nutrition and Dietetics undertook a full review of the curriculum and presented a revised curriculum for evaluation. The panel of reviewers which comprised two external reviewers made a number of recommendations which will be addressed by the Oversight Group for the programme and the Coordinating Committee and a revised curriculum will be brought to a future meeting of Council.

The panel of reviewers recommends, subject to the conditions and recommendations listed in the report, to the Academic Councils of Trinity College Dublin and the Dublin Institute of Technology the approval of the programme leading to the joint award of B.Sc. (Honours) Human Nutrition and Dietetics with classifications of First Class Honours; Second Class Honours, Upper Division; Second Class Honours, Lower Division and Pass of the University of Dublin and the Dublin Institute of Technology and an exit award of B.A. (Ordinary) Science

The Senior Lecturer noted that there is no precedent for a degree awarded jointly by the University of Dublin and another institution, and the *Statutes* do not appear to present any impediment. The award of a joint degree will require the approval of Board and Senate and it will be necessary to define and approve administrative arrangements across the institutions. There is a growing interest across the higher education sector - nationally and internationally - for the provision of joint degree awards as collaboration in the delivery of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes is becoming a key feature of higher education.

Following a lengthy discussion on this item, Council approved, in principle and subject to appropriate administrative and support procedures being developed and approved by Council, the award of a joint University of Dublin and the Dublin Institute of Technology award of B.Sc. (Honours) Human Nutrition and Dietetics. Council also recommended the development of a College policy on the award of joint degrees for consideration by Council at a future date.

CL/07-08/187 Any Other Urgent Business - Council Composition The Registrar informed Council that the procedures are now in place following approval by Board and the assent of the Fellows and the Visitor to carry out elections for the new Council.

SECTION B

CL/07-08/188 Information Policy Committee The Council noted and approved the recommendations as set out in the minutes of the Information Policy Committee from its meeting of 22 April 2008, which had been circulated.

CL/07-08/189 Research Committee The Council noted and approved the recommendations as set out in

the minutes of the Research Committee from its meeting of 8 May 2008, which had been circulated.

CL/07-08/190 Student Services Committee The Council noted and approved the recommendations as set out in the minutes of the Student Services Committee from its meeting of 29 April 2008, which had been circulated.

SECTION C

CL/07-08/191 Graduate Studies - Business Requiring Council Approval The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Dean of Graduate Studies, dated 27 May 2008, circulated.

CL/07-08/192 Diploma in Dental Nursing and National Dental Nurse Training Programme of Ireland - Distinction Grade The Council noted a letter from the Dean of the Dental School and Hospital, dated 7 May 2008, circulated, and approved a change in the distinction grades for the above programmes to 75-100%.

CL/07-08/193 Headship of Department The Council noted and approved the following nominations from 13 July 2008 to 12 July 2011:

- (i) **French** Professor D Scott;
- (ii) **Germanic Studies** Dr G Martin;
- (iii) **Political Science** Professor K Benoit.

CL/07-08/194 Heads of Discipline The Council noted and approved the following nominations:

- (i) **Centre for Language and Communication Studies** Professor D M Singleton - 13 July 2008 to 12 July 2011;
- (ii) **Clinical Speech and Language Studies** Dr M M Smith - 13 July 2008 to 12 July 2011;
- (iii) **Children's Nursing** Professor I Coyne - from 1 October 2008;
- (iv) **General Nursing** Ms P Cronin - from 1 October 2008;
- (v) **Midwifery** Ms M Carroll (in post from 13 July 2006) - for the academic years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010;
- (vi) **Psychiatric Nursing** Professor A Higgins (in post from 1 January 2007) - for the academic years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

CL/07-08/195 School Directorships

- (i) **Social Sciences and Philosophy** - The Council noted and approved the following nominations for two years from Michaelmas term 2008:
 - (a) Teaching and Learning (Undergraduate): Dr J Thijsen;
 - (b) Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate): Dr R Thomson.
- (ii) **Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies** The Council noted and approved the following nominations:
 - (a) Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate): Professor C Ó Cuilleanáin (13 July 2008 - 12 July 2010 - second term);
 - (b) Director of Research: Professor J Gratton (13 July 2008 - 12 July 2009 - second term).

CL/07-08/196 Masters in Social Work Programme - Directorship The Council noted and approved the nomination of Ms M Foreman, from September 2008 to September 2009.

CL/07-08/197 New Course Title - Business and Computing The Council noted and approved the recommendation of the Heads of the Schools of Business and Computer Science and Statistics to change the title of the recently approved undergraduate programme entitled 'Business and Computer Science' to 'Business and Computing'.

SECTION D

In compliance with the Data Protection Acts this information is restricted

Signed

Date