Dear Students,

As part of the Trinity Education Project the next academic year 2018/19 will see a substantial change in how the year is structured and laid out.

Attached you will find an information fact sheet on the new Academic Year Structure.

We would ask you to read this information carefully as these will impact on the 2018-19 academic years and may be useful in shaping your summer plans.

Key information contained in this communication includes:

1. The Academic Year Structure is changing – this will apply to all undergraduate and postgraduate students from 2018/19.

2. There will be an earlier start to the 2018/19 academic year with Orientation/Freshers’ Week starting on Monday 3 September 2018. In future years the academic year will end earlier, so the summer period will actually be longer. However, in the transition there will be a slightly shorter summer period in 2018.

3. Supplemental examinations for the 2017/18 academic year will also be earlier than usual - dates will be confirmed by the Academic Registry.

For more information on the Trinity Education Project please check out the website.

If you have any questions in relation to the new Academic Year Structure or the Trinity Education Project please contact the Project Team via email Trinityeducationproject@tcd.ie.

With best wishes

Chris

Professor Christopher Morash
Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer
The new Academic Year Structure will apply to all undergraduate and postgraduate students from 2018/19. This means that a long-term ambition of the Students’ Union, Michaelmas exams, will be a reality next year.

What are the important dates I need to know for planning for the summer of 2018?

- **Monday 3 September 2018**: Orientation/ Freshers’ week starts.
- **Monday 10 September 2018**: First week of teaching for 2018/19.
- **August 2018**: Supplemental exam period for the current academic year 2017/18. Exact dates in August are still to be confirmed and you will be notified as soon as they are approved by University Council.

How will the new Academic Year Structure benefit me?

It should facilitate the spread of different forms of assessment across the academic year resulting in fewer students sitting a large number of exams at the end of each year.

It should allow for more student mobility/exchange opportunities with easier transition for both incoming and outgoing students.
What are the main elements of the new Academic Year Structure?

- There will be two Semesters, Semester 1 and Semester 2, and each will include:
  - a) One Study/Review Week.
  - b) One Formal Assessment Week at the end of the semester - start dates for assessment will be confirmed by the Academic Registry.
  - c) One Revision Week - this week may also be used for assessment when it is not possible to accommodate all formal examinations within one week.

- Reassessment for Semester 1 and Semester 2 will take place at the start of Semester 1 of the next academic year.

- It is expected that students will be issued with provisional grades for Semester 1 towards the end of January/early February in Semester 2.

- In the 2018/19 academic year the Scholarship examinations will take place during the week commencing 7th January 2019.

- The 2018 Summer Session will be shorter due to transitioning from the current academic year structure to the new structure.

What does a semester-based system (semesterisation) mean?

A semester-based system is where modules can be wholly taught and assessed in a single teaching block or semester.

This will be a departure from our previous academic year structure where normally the two teaching terms of 11 weeks were followed by one annual assessment period of four weeks.

From 2018/19 there will be an assessment period after each 11-week teaching block.

Any questions?

Should you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact the TEP Team via trinityeducationproject@tcd.ie or SU education officer Alice MacPherson education@tcdsu.org. Check out the website for more information regarding the project.

www.tcd.ie/academic-services/tep