

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 28 September 2011 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, Registrar, Senior Lecturer, Dean of Research, Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Professor M Ó Siochrú, Professor Z Rodgers, Professor J Wickham, Professor G Watson, Professor D O'Donovan, Professor A McNabola, Professor T Connor, Professor D Brennan, Professor M McCarron, Professor S Smith, Dr H Mannan, Ms D Jones, Professor J Ohlmeyer, Professor A Piesse, Ms R Barry, Ms S Leydon, Mr D Ferrick, Mr M McAndrew.
<i>Apologies</i>	Senior Tutor, Dean of Graduate Studies, Professor E O'Dell, Dean of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Professor J P Labrador, Dean of Health Sciences, Dr A O'Gara.
<i>In attendance</i>	Librarian, Secretary to the College, Academic Secretary, Chief Operating Officer, Head of Central Academic Administration Services.
<i>Observer</i>	Secretary to the Scholars (Mr B Roantree).

SECTION A

CL/11-12/005 Co-options to Council Membership

Under the Chapter on the University Council of the 2010 Consolidated Statutes of Trinity College Dublin and of the University of Dublin, 4(1) (g) and Schedule 1, 3 (5), the Provost at the meeting of Council of the 20th September 2011 nominated two members to be co-opted to Council at this meeting. The nominations are (i) Vice-Provost for Global Relations, Professor J Ohlmeyer, and (ii) the Dean of Students, Professor A Piesse, both of whom will serve for the academic year 2011-2012.

Council endorsed the nominations, and the Vice-Provost for Global Relations and the Dean of Students joined the meeting.

CL/11-12/006 Statutory Declaration

Members attending Council for the first time made the statutory declaration.

CL/11-12/007 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of

- (i) March 4th, 2011 were approved and signed.
- (ii) June 15th 2011 were approved and signed.
- (iii) September 20th, 2011 were approved and signed.

CL/11-12/008 Matters Arising :

- (i) *Internationalisation of Academic Titles:* The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer reported that since Council last met, the Board had approved an amendment to the Schedule pertaining to academic titles set out in the 2010 Consolidated Statutes of Trinity College Dublin and of the University of Dublin. Since the introduction of the new titles on 29 August 2011 (first day of Michaelmas term) there continued to be discussion across College about the implementation of the new policy. Full implementation of the new titles will come into effect in the academic year 2012/13, and in the meantime a working group, chaired by the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer, will oversee the implementation and address any issues arising.
- (ii) *Staffing*
 - a. *Employment Control Framework:* The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer reported that in order to reduce the risks that the Employment Control Framework posed for the recruitment and retention of the best staff, the College intended to proceed with promotions in 2011/12. She was currently working with the HR Director as to how this could be achieved, and would bring a paper to Council for consideration in due course.
 - b. *Academic Staff Contract of Employment:* The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer reported that College had agreed the substantive changes to the contract with IFUT (Irish Federation of University Teachers), which had subsequently been approved by the Fellows. The resolution of outstanding minor issues should not hold up the College's implementation of the academic contract of employment. Board approval of the Academic Contract of Employment would be sought at its next meeting. Council members commended the College, and in particular the former Vice-Provost / Chief Academic Officer, Professor Marsh, for the way in which the consultative process was managed and for reaching an agreement.
- (iii) *Research Committee:* Referring to Actum CL/10-11/194, the College Secretary undertook to report back to the next meeting of Council whether the Council decision to refer the assessment of research output in the Arts and Humanities disciplines to the Research Committee had been addressed (Minute CL/10-11/161).

CL/11-12/009 Provost's Report

The Provost noted that the Provost's Report is a standing item of Council, however, he noted that he had recently delivered his inaugural address and that it served as a good statement of the issues facing College as well as his views on what should be done, and there was nothing to add at this time.

CL/11-12/010 Professional and Statutory Body Accreditation

A memorandum from the Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer dated September 19, 2011 together with revised procedures for professional and statutory body accreditation had been circulated. In introducing this item, the Vice-Provost / Chief Academic Officer advised Council that at its meeting of the 7th February, 2001, it had approved procedures for professional and statutory body accreditation. The procedures had been revised recently to take account of the new academic governance arrangements and were presented for Council's consideration. A significant number of professional programmes undergo professional and statutory accreditation and it is important that the Council, its relevant academic sub-committees, and the relevant academic officers are aware of the outcomes of such accreditation visitations of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Council discussed the proposal and it was pointed out that the Schools would need to confirm the dates of future accreditation visits for their respective courses.

Council approved the revised procedures for professional and statutory body accreditation.

CL/11-12/011 GeneSIS – Student Information System

The Senior Lecturer, introducing this item, informed Council that the Undergraduate Studies and the Graduate Studies Committees have discussed and recommend to Council the proposed new direct admissions process and the changes to course-related terminology.

(i) New Direct Admissions Process

A memorandum from the Senior Lecturer and the Dean of Graduate Studies, dated September 20th, 2011 had been circulated. The Senior Lecturer reported that over the last number of months the company (Tribal Education Ltd) implementing the new Student Information System had in conjunction with the College analysed the current admissions process and systems. Based on their findings it was proposed to streamline admissions processes in College to two methods: the existing CAO process and an on-line process for all direct applications, including all undergraduate diploma courses, postgraduate taught and research courses, different access groups and non-EU students. The proposed solution, which had been demonstrated to a cross section of the

College community, included the principle of one fee per course application with flexibility to waive fees where appropriate. Responding to a query, the Senior Lecturer confirmed that the rate at which the application fee would be set should not prohibit applicants from making multiple applications to the College.

Council noted and approved the proposal to streamline admissions processes in College to two methods: the existing CAO process and an on-line process for all direct applications.

(ii) **Course Related Terminology**

A memorandum from the Senior Lecturer and the Dean of Graduate Studies, dated September 20, 2011 had been circulated. The Senior Lecturer introduced this item. He noted that the proposed changes provided an opportunity to introduce a degree of standardisation in course-related terminology, which would be more uniformly understood by the College community and external bodies. Following the considerations of the Undergraduate Studies and Graduate Studies Committees, it was proposed that the following terminology be adopted:

Course A complete set of study/learning with an approved curriculum and assessment which comprises a series of modules. A course is usually delivered over a period of one or more academic years. Prospective students apply and are admitted to a course and normally remain on that course during the period of study.

Students may be offered choice within the course and may select options within the course curriculum. All students on a course, therefore, do not necessarily study exactly the same matter.

Programme A programme comprises a course and the intended award (the degree, certificate or diploma which is made to a student following the successful completion of a course).

The terms 'module' and 'subject' should be used as currently defined in College:

Module A self-contained unit of teaching, learning and assessment on a particular topic, with defined credit value, aims, learning outcomes, mode(s) of delivery, scheme of assessment, and possibly also pre- and co-requisites.

Subject In some courses – such as in TSM – the concept of a ‘subject’ is required and should be retained.

In the discussion that followed, clarification was sought on how the proposed changes would be implemented, especially as they related to webpages. The Senior Lecturer confirmed that the GeneSIS team would develop an implementation plan that would include updating webpages. It is expected that Directors of Teaching and Learning and School Administrators would be involved in the implementation of this change.

Council noted and approved the implementation of the proposed course terminology

CL/11-12/012 Postgraduate Diploma in Education

A memorandum from the Dean of Graduate Studies, dated 21st September, 2011 had been circulated. On behalf of the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Registrar introduced this item advising that following detailed consultation between the Irish universities and the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI) in the context of the ongoing process of implementing the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), the initial post-primary teaching qualification, previously known as the Higher Diploma in Education and latterly as the Graduate or Postgraduate Diploma in Education, is formally included on the NFQ at Level 8 with immediate effect. Heretofore, a varied nomenclature has been used by the universities to designate the initial post-primary teaching qualification. As a result of the decision to include the initial post-primary teaching qualification at NFQ Level 8, the title Postgraduate / Graduate Diploma in Education, which is associated with NFQ Level 9, will be replaced with the new title Professional Diploma in Education to avoid confusion with the Level 9 award type. The adoption of the new title by the universities would not affect student entitlements under the existing student maintenance grant schemes. It is proposed that this new title be used by all universities for programmes starting in September 2011 subject to ratification by their respective academic councils. If introduced nationally, the proposed award would be made to the graduates admitted to the course in 2011.

Council noted and approved the renaming of the Postgraduate Diploma in Education award to the Professional Diploma in Education in accordance with its national implementation.

CL/11-12/013 Quality

(i) Progress Plans

- a. *School of Natural Sciences*: The Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science brought Council through the progress report. Council noted and approved the progress report from the School of Natural Sciences.

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- b. *School of Nursing and Midwifery*: Professor McCarron, in the absence of the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, introduced this item. She highlighted in particular the lack of State funding for PhD students and postgraduate provision generally in the School of Nursing & Midwifery, and the challenges the School faced as a result of this. While no progress had been made with the Higher Education Authority (HEA), the matter was being advanced at a national level. The Provost suggested that consideration be given to the allocation of a portion of the fee income to the School as an interim measure.

The Vice-Provost / Chief Academic Officer undertook to raise the matter with the HEA.

Council noted and approved the progress report from the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

(ii) **Implementation Plan**

- a. *School of Psychology*: An implementation Plan for the School of Psychology, dated September 2011 had been circulated. The Dean of Arts Humanities & Social Sciences referring to the Report of the External Reviewers noted their acknowledgement of the School's excellence in research. The School was proceeding with immediate implementation of some recommendations whereas others would be more difficult to achieve and outside its control, in particular, the appointment of a new Head of School.

In response to a query regarding a mechanism of following up on outstanding issues following progress reports, it was proposed that a meta-review of quality review recommendations that have not been implemented should be conducted. It was agreed that the Quality Office should collate the data for the past three years, separating policy and resource issues for review at a future meeting of Council.

Council noted the progress of the implementation plan addressing the recommendations arising from the quality review of the School of Psychology.

CL/11-12/014 Any other urgent business

- (i) *Study Group International*: Responding to a query, the Senior Lecturer undertook to present Council with a progress report on the Study Group International Foundation Course at its next meeting.

- (ii) *Procedures for eligibility for Head of School*: The Provost advised Council that a condition of the current procedures for appointment to headship of school required the candidate to be on the Senior Lecturer grade or above. Owing to the moratorium on promotions, some Schools were experiencing difficulty in identifying candidates for the role owing to the lack of staff on the Senior Lecturer grade or higher. Council approved the Provost's recommendation that the current procedures be amended to state that candidates for election should *normally* be on the Senior Lecturer grade or above.

SECTION B

CL/11-12/015 Graduate Studies Committee *draft* minutes of the meeting of 15th September, 2011 as circulated were noted and approved by Council.

CL/11-12/016 Undergraduate Studies Committee *draft* minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2011 were approved. The Senior Lecturer drew Council's attention to Actum UGS/11-12/003, noting the Undergraduate Studies Committee's decision to revise its membership to include the Dean of Students as an *ex officio* member of the Committee, and the reallocation of the duties of the Academic Director of the Centre for Academic Practice and Student Learning (CAPSL) to the Senior Lecturer and the Dean of Graduate Studies. In response to a query, he confirmed that this change would not materially affect the work of CAPSL. Council's attention was also drawn to Actum UGS/11-12/006, noting that the Committee's discussion of the recently published discussion paper 'Entry to Higher Education in Ireland in the 21st Century'. The Provost, Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Office, and Senior Lecturer had attended a conference organised by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) and National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) on the issue. The Vice-Provost/Chief Academic Officer informed Council that she had invited the Senior Lecturer to establish a working party to develop a position paper on this matter for the College, which would be presented to a future meeting of Council for consideration.

SECTION C

CL/11-12/017 Council Meeting - Thomas Mitchell Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience
The Council noted that interviews for this Chair will be held on Friday 21 October 2011.

CL/11-12/018 Higher Degrees—Reports of Examiners

The Council noted and approved the reports of examiners on candidates for higher degrees, approved by the sub-committee of Board and Council on 15 June 2011 and noted by Board on 29 June 2011.

(i) Professional Higher Degrees by Research Alone

MD Linda Coate; Sinead Madeleine Murphy; Diarmaid Pdraig Ó Donghaile.

(ii) Higher Degrees by Research Alone

PhD Alison Adams; Cedric Assambo; Alicja Bobek; Shane Brennan; Sabina Brennan; Emma Calvert; Nicola Carr; Mary Phyllis Caulfield; Brian Cleary; Sarah Connell; Gemma Louise Davies; John Deenihan; Declan Martin Devane; Aoife Annette Donnelly; Brian Michael Donovan; Mohamed Elgendy; Jennifer Farrell; David Fennelly; Bronagh Teresa Mary Finnegan-Ćatibušić; Shane Leslie Finnegan; Colm Pdraig Flynn; William Stephen Forrest; Sonia Agnieszka Gluchowska; Thomas Gerard Harris; Patti Hayes; Laura Ann Healy; Eoin Healy; Laura Innocenti; Chaitanya Joshi; Darren Francis Kavanagh; Gemma Keegan; Sean Kennelly; Larizsa Krista; Micheal Larkin; Christophe Lincheneau; Lidia Domenica Matassa; Anne Mc Naughton; Katherine Priode Meyer; Brónagh Ni Chonail; Cornelia Opitz; Seamus Michael O'Shaughnessy; Johannes Passecker; Edel Thérèse Quirke; Ruslan Rakhmatullin; Laerke Recht; Daniel Rogers; Ellen Catherine Rowley; David Scanlon; Daniel Thomas Shanahan; Wayne Stables; Frauke Stock; Tigran Tchrakian; William Oliver Tobin; Austin Wartens; Kathryn Waterhouse; Almut Weitze; Fiona Wilson.

MSc Matthew Gara; Andrew Kelly; Orlagh Kelly; Ian O'Connell; Niamh Margaret Ryan; Sundar Raja Vadapoo.

MLitt Sarah Cassidy.

(iii) Amendments to Council list of 18 May 2011

The Council noted amendments to the text, as circulated.

CL/11-12/019 Administrative Arrangements, 3 July to 28 August 2011

The Council noted a memorandum from the Secretary to the College, circulated, dated 29 August 2011.

CL/11-12/020 Graduate Studies Business Requiring Council Approval

The Council noted a memorandum from the Dean of Graduate Studies, circulated, dated 20 September 2011 and approved:

- (i) the introduction of a one-year full-time option of the M.Sc. in Respiratory Physiotherapy;
- (ii) a change in duration for the Doctorate in Education (D.Ed.) course code 724 from 5 years part-time to 6 years part-time (in line with funding and the course's parallel structure with the part-time Ph.D.).

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CL/11-12/021 School Directors

The Council noted and approved the following nominations:

- (i) **Histories and Humanities - Director of Research (2011-2012)**
Professor J Horne;
- (ii) **Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies - Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) (2011-2013)**
Professor J Uhlich.

CL/11-12/022 Committees - Associated Colleges Degree Committee (see Actum CL/09-10/146 (v) of 21 April 2011)

The Council noted a memorandum from the Registrar, circulated, dated 9 August 2011 and approved the appointment of the Quality Officer *ex officio*, as a member of the Committee.

CL/11-12/023 International Committee

The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Registrar, circulated, dated 21 September 2011.

CL/11-12/024 Admissions - International Baccalaureate

The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Admissions Officer, circulated, dated 21 September 2011.

SECTION D

In compliance with the Data Protection Acts this information is restricted.

Signed

Date