

**UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN  
TRINITY COLLEGE**

**GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held at 10.15 a.m. on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013  
Boardroom, Provost's House

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**Present:** Professor Veronica Campbell, Dean of Graduate Studies (*Chair*),

Directors of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) as follows:

Professor Martin Fellenz, School of Business

Professor Isabel Rozas, School of Chemistry

Professor Simon Wilson, School of Computer Science and Statistics

Professor Ebrahim Al Awadi, School of Dental Science

Professor Stephen Wilmer, School of Drama, Film & Music

Professor Martine Cuypers, School of Histories & Humanities

Professor Jurgen Uhlich, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies

Professor Christer Gobl, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences

Professor John Stalker, School of Mathematics

Professor Anne-Marie Brady, School of Nursing and Midwifery

Professor Andrew Pierce, Aspirant School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics

Professor Tim Hicks, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy

Professor Stephanie Holt, School of Social Work and Social Policy

Mr Martin McAndrew, Graduate Students' Union President (*Ex officio*)

Mr Andrew McEwan, Graduate Students' Union Vice-President (*Ex officio*)

Mr Trevor Peare, Keeper of Readers' Services (in attendance *Ex officio*)

Ms Lee Mills, Information System Services Representative

**Apologies:** Directors of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) as follows:

Professor Conor McGuckin, School of Education

Professor Sam Slote, School of English

Professor Timothy Foster, School of Genetics and Microbiology

Professor John Gormley, School of Medicine

Professor Anna Davies, School of Natural Sciences

Professor Lidia Tajber, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Professor Mauro Ferreira, School of Physics

**In attendance:** Ms Jennifer Hill, Graduate Studies Office, Secretary to the meeting (*Ex officio*)  
Ms Helen Thornbury, Graduate Studies Office

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**GS/12-13/29 Minutes of 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013**

The minutes of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013 were approved by the Committee as circulated.

**GS/12-13/30 Matters Arising**

The Dean informed the Committee that the proposal from the Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) for a validated course, Master of Music in Performance, has been approved

by the University Council and will be a M.Mus. rather than a Master in Fine Arts.

The Professional Diploma in Education (Further Education) has been sent for external review.

Following discussion about the changes to the Irish Research Council funding (**GS/12-13/26**) the Dean has been liaising with Schools about the structured elements of their PhD. A template has been sent for completion to 15 Schools so far and remaining Schools would be contacted over the next 2 weeks.

### **GS/12-13/31 Doctorate of Music in Performance**

The Dean explained that this proposal is part of TCD's continuing relationship with the Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) and noted that a more recent version of the proposal has been submitted which includes some revised learning outcomes.

The Dean introduced Dr Deborah Kelleher and Dr Orla McDonagh from the Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) and invited them to speak to the proposal. Dr Kelleher informed the Committee that RIAM developed Bachelor and Masters programmes in Music Performance in the 1990s and the Doctor of Music in Performance degree, previously accredited by Dublin City University, had its first intake in 2006. Previous graduates include international prize-winners and seasoned performers and academics.

The programme will comprise a combination of taught components and performance and the award is based on the completion and submission of several recitals and a written dissertation.

In answer to a query regarding exit routes it was agreed that further consideration would be given to this by RIAM together with the Dean and the proposal amended accordingly.

It was also agreed that consideration should be given to appointing an External Programme Examiner and this should be noted in the proposal.

The School of Drama, Film and Music confirmed they are enthusiastic about this development and the continuing relationship with RIAM.

The Committee approved the course for submission to the University Council subject to the above amendments to the proposal and any additional amendments that may be required following the external assessor's report.

### **GS/12-13/32 Academic Case for Online Education**

The Dean noted that at the request of the Provost a Taskforce on Online Education was established and the circulated document prepared by the Taskforce was submitted for consideration by the University Council at the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013. The Dean summarised the four recommendations which are as follows:

- Recommendation 1: Trinity create a new annual officer position, such as an Associate Dean, to provide academic leadership to Trinity's technology-enhanced and online education initiative.
- Recommendation 2: Trinity expand its provision of online education to include the development of new high quality online courses, with associated fee, to enable more flexible modes of course delivery and reach new markets.
- Recommendation 3: Trinity expand its provision of online education to include the development of high quality open access courses as a public good and marketing opportunity.
- Recommendation 4: Trinity consider the implementation issues that are required in order to deliver recommendations 1-3.

and suggested the DTLPGs provide the document to staff in their Schools for information. It was clarified that while there is appetite in some Schools to develop fully online courses

there is also an interest in developing new blended courses. Online courses could be a possibility to reach students who are unable to attend campus but consideration needs to be given to the Student Experience.

It was noted that in conjunction with these developments further consideration should be given to students registering for individual modules and for options to enable a student to “pay per module”. The Dean confirmed that this issue has been raised with the GeneSIS project team.

### **GS/12-13/33 Arrangements for Submission of Calendar Part 2 Changes for 2013/14**

The Dean asked Jennifer Hill and Alexandra Anderson to update the Committee on the issuing of the Calendar Part 2 for 2012/13 and the arrangements for submission of changes for the Calendar Part 2 for 2013/14.

Jennifer Hill explained that due to extensive work required to produce revised Calendar Part 2 entries following the approval of the harmonized assessment and progression regulations by the University Council in June 2012, the production of the Calendar Part 2 for 2012/13 had been delayed. However, it is now available online and hard copies are currently being printed to be distributed in the next couple of weeks.

Alexandra Anderson informed the Committee that further work is still required to fully harmonise taught postgraduate courses and a set of guidelines will be circulated with the request for changes for the 2013/14 Calendar Part 2 to ensure that Schools are consistent with the harmonized assessment and progression regulations.

A deadline in May 2013 will be set for Schools to submit their Calendar changes but are encouraged to submit these as soon as possible to ensure that all required changes are approved by the Graduate Studies Committee at the remaining meetings, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2013.

### **GS/12-13/34 AOB**

The Dean noted that an Executive Steering Group has been established with representatives from UCD and TCD to consider the extent of academic collaboration between the institutions and where further collaboration may be warranted Schools were asked to bring any suggestions for new academic collaborations between UCD and TCD to the attention of their Faculty Deans.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11am.

Prof. Veronica Campbell

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013