

**UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN
TRINITY COLLEGE**

GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting held at 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 16th December 2010
Boardroom, Provost's House

Present: Professor Veronica Campbell, Dean of Graduate Studies (*Chair*),
Directors of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) as follows:
Dr Martin Fellenz, School of Business
Dr Siobhán Clarke, School of Computer Science and Statistics
Dr Paula Quigley, School of Drama, Film & Music
Dr Carmel O'Sullivan, School of Education
Professor Brian Broderick, School of Engineering
Professor Nicholas Grene, School of English
Dr Joseph Clarke, School of Histories & Humanities
Dr Caitriona Leahy, School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies
Dr Stefan Sint, School of Mathematics
Dr John Gormley, School of Medicine
Dr Andrew Harkin, School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences
Dr Mauro Ferreira, School of Physics
Dr Gillian Wylie, Aspirant School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics
Dr Gail McElroy, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy

Dr Patrick Geoghegan, Associate Dean of Research
Ms Simone Cameron-Coen, Graduate Students' Union Vice-President (*Ex officio*)
Mr Trevor Peare, Keeper of Readers' Services (in attendance *Ex officio*)

Apologies: Directors of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) as follows:
Dr Derek Nolan, School of Biochemistry and Immunology
Dr Claire Healy, School of Dental Science
Professor Tim Foster, School of Genetics and Microbiology
Dr Neville Cox, School of Law
Dr Jeffrey Kallen, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences
Dr Robin Edwards, School of Natural Sciences
Ms Anne-Marie Brady, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Dr Eoin O'Sullivan, School of Social Work and Social Policy

Ms Dearbhail Lawless, Graduate Students' Union President (*Ex officio*)
Ms Alex Anderson, CAPSL Representative (*Ex officio*)

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

GS/10-11/017 Minutes of 11th November 2010

The minutes of the meeting of 11th November 2010 were approved by the Committee as circulated.

GS/10-11/018 Matters Arising

The Dean confirmed that the accreditation of the M.Sc. in Laboratory Medicine had been completed and was positive. The course will now begin in September 2011 once all financial arrangements have been resolved and Council approval has been obtained.

GS/10-11/019 M.Phil. in Children's Literature

The Dean introduced Dr Pádraic Whyte and Dr Amanda Piesse and asked them to speak to the item. Dr Whyte explained that the study of children's literature is well established with the International Research Society for Children's Literature in its 40th year and the Irish Society for the Study of Children's Literature in its 8th. While there are Masters courses in universities around the world there is no full-time taught Masters course in Children's Literature in Ireland (a part-time course is provided at St Patrick's Drumcondra). It is intended that the programme will facilitate research in relation to the Pollard Collection, the bequest of more than 10,000 children's books left to the College by Mary 'Paul' Pollard, one time keeper of Early Printed Books, in 2005.

The programme will consist of four elements: a core module; two optional modules (one taken in each term); a research methods module (to develop research and analytical skills); and a dissertation module.

In answer to a question it was clarified that the plan is to establish the one-year full-time course before developing other options such as two-year part-time.

It was explained that while the dissertation itself is only 25 ECTS the student is required to also take the 5 ECTS Research Methods module and this follows the model of established M.Phil. programmes in the School.

It was agreed that a couple of elements in the proposal, particularly regarding resources, should be addressed before the proposal can be submitted to Council.

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

GS/10-11/020 Radiation Therapy Treatment Planning

The Dean introduced Dr Laure Marignol and asked her to speak to the item. Dr Marignol explained that Radiation Therapy Treatment Planning is being proposed as a second strand to the existing M.Sc. in Advanced Radiotherapy Practice.

Specific postgraduate education is required in order to work effectively and efficiently in radiotherapy treatment planning and while training is often done in-house in hospitals, there is currently no advanced course in radiation therapy treatment planning available externally in Ireland. The course will not only be open to radiation therapists but also to medical physicists and registrars working in Radiation Oncology.

The course will run over two years part-time. Year one will consist of taught modules and during the second year the student will undertake a substantial piece of research work and present this in the form of a dissertation. There will be the option of exiting after year one with a Postgraduate Diploma. Some of the taught modules will be shared with the existing strand and many of the same staff. However, clarification was sought regarding the non-TCD School of Medicine contributors and it was explained that they are the most appropriate and qualified people to teach the modules and the proposal will also be amended to clarify that many of these individuals actually have part-time contracts with the School of Medicine.

It was agreed that a couple of elements in the proposal, particularly regarding the non-TCD contributors and finances, should be addressed before the proposal can be submitted to Council.

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

GS/10-11/021 M.Sc. in Business and Management

The Dean introduced Dr Martin Fellenz who would speak to the item on behalf of the Course Director, Dr Denise Crossan.

Dr Fellenz explained the M.Sc. in Business Management will complement existing programmes in the School of Business, specifically the M.Sc. in Finance and M.Sc. in International Management, by offering an opportunity for non-business graduates to pursue a general course in business and management that does not require any significant work experience. This one year full-time course will enable anyone without a business background, including those from arts, science and engineering backgrounds, to be effective in a business organization.

The course comprises nine core taught modules which will cover core discipline areas; three elective taught modules which the student selects and a mandatory dissertation must also be completed.

It is felt that this is a timely and appropriate development.

In answer to a question on the large amount of work that appears to be involved in this course, it was explained that the course will be run the same as existing courses in the School with end of term examinations instead of large essays and written projects.

Clarification was sought on the additional fee incurred if a student takes the module of the International Residency Week and it was requested that explicit mention should be made in the proposal that all taught elements of the course are at Level 9. It was agreed that these areas of the proposal will be addressed before the proposal is submitted to Council.

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

GS/10-11/022 Copy Editing

The Dean requested the Committee to consider the document provided on Copy Editing and to approve the suggested Calendar Part 2 changes. Following a discussion, the Calendar changes were approved with agreement that other issues that have arisen, including "acknowledgements", will be discussed at a later meeting.

GS/10-11/023 AOB

The Dean made a general clarification that it is not appropriate for course proposal development to be undertaken by postdoctoral research fellows.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10.40am.

Prof. Veronica Campbell

Date: 7th January 2011