

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR REVIEW OF TRINITY ELECTIVES (TE)

Context

Trinity Electives were introduced as part of the Trinity Education Project, which began in 2020, to provide undergraduate students with interdisciplinary learning opportunities outside their main areas of study. Since then, the electives, under the oversight of the Trinity Electives Subcommittee (TESC) have played an important role in delivering College's commitment to breadth in the undergraduate programme. Having regard to the length of time that has elapsed since the introduction of the TEs and the general 'bedding in' of the Undergraduate Common Architecture, the Senior Lecturer has convened a subcommittee of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, chaired by the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Common Architecture/Chair of TESC to carry out a review of the academic effectiveness of the TEs.

Terms of Reference

The review committee is invited to assess and make recommendations to USC on the quality of the Trinity Electives, and specifically to:

- Engage with students and TE coordinators and with existing survey data to gain a robust insight into perceived strengths and weakness on the TE experience for students and academic colleagues.
- Review and comment on the overall quality of Teaching and Learning, especially as related to workload, modes of delivery, and assessment patterns, having regard to the TE principles outlined by College.
- To examine the operation of Trinity's Programme and Curriculum Design and Approval Policy as it related to TEs.
- To benchmark the TEs against sectoral practice in Ireland and the UK.
- To review the effectiveness of the governance, management and administration structures for TEs.

Membership

The membership of the Review shall be as follows

- Dr. Mark Sweetnam, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Common Architecture (Chair),
- Prof. Andrew Jackson, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Science Education,
- Mr. Dermot Cronin, Representative from Academic Registry,
- Ms Alison O'Flanagan, Second Representative Academic Registry
- Buster Whaley, SU Education Officer.
- 2 DUTLs:
 - Dr. Robin Edwards - School of Natural Sciences
 - Dr. Jan de Vries - School of Nursing & Midwifery
- 3 TE coordinators:
 - Dr. Nollaig Bourke – School of Medicine
 - Dr. Yekaterina Chzhen – School of Social Sciences and Philosophy
 - Prof. Carlos Rocha – School of Natural Sciences
- 1 School Manager:
 - Ms. Lizzie Whitcher – School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies
- Ms. Ellen Kampinga (Academic Affairs, Secretary to the Committee)

In addition, the committee will invite contributions as relevant from other areas of College, including the disAbility Service and Timetabling.

Timelines

The Committee will present its final report to the first USC meeting of AY26/27. However, it will adopt a modular approach to its work, allowing scope for interim recommendations to be implemented for AY26/27.