



Minutes of the Marino Institute of Education Associated College Degrees Committee (MIE ACDC)

Wednesday 10th May, 2017

Present:

Registrar (Chair): Prof. Paula Murphy

Dean of Graduate Studies: Prof. Neville Cox

Dean of Undergraduate Studies/Senior Lecturer: Prof. Gillian Martin

School of Education - Head: Prof. Andrey Loxley

2nd Representative from the School of Education: Prof. Colette Murphy

Quality Officer - Roisin Smith

Vice-President of Global Relations (for IFP item only): Prof. Juliette Hussey

President of Marino Institute of Education: Dr Anne O'Gara

2nd Representative from Marino Institute of Education: Dr Seán Delaney

Representatives of MIE Course Groupings -

International Foundation Programme: Brendan White

Postgraduate Taught Programmes including Further Education: Dr Gene Mehigan

MIE ACDC Secretary - Ewa Sadowska

Apologies:

Representatives of MIE Course Groupings - UG Programmes: Dr Patricia Slevin

ACDC/16-17/244 Minutes of ACDC of 8th February 2017

The *Minutes* were approved as circulated with a deletion of "sole" in Minute ACDC/16-17/238 on page 3.

ACDC/16-17/245 Matters arising

It was noted that all Actions had been attended to. In particular the Registrar noted that

Re. ACDC/16-17/240 The new postgraduate Master in Education Studies course in Leadership in Christian Education was approved by the University Council in April.

Re. ACDC/16-17/241 The new postgraduate Master in Education Studies course in Visual Arts was approved by the University Council in March.

ACDC/16-17/246 Standing item on International Foundation Programme (IFP)

The Vice-President of Global Relations was present for the item and provided an update on the current situation with respect to the IFP. She noted that twenty five students continued on the programme and that one had withdrawn. The students were doing well but it would be premature to discuss if they would progress to their chosen undergraduate courses in Trinity as provisional examination results would only be available later this month, hopefully in time to be discussed at the IFP Coordinating Committee on the 19th May. Some students had been interviewed for Medicine, and the School of Medicine had been very impressed with their performances. The MIE representative of the IFP clarified that significant additional supports had been put in place for some students in Mathematics and English for



Academic Purposes. According to recent feedback the IFP students were finding the programme very interesting but challenging.

The Vice-President of Global Relations advised that teaching staff would like to propose minor changes to some modules, particularly around assessment structures and weighting. These would be made at the Academic Council meeting in the MIE and then brought for approval at the relevant MIE ACDC meeting, as appropriate. In terms of governance, the Vice-President of Global Relations noted that regular weekly meetings took place between the Global Relations and the MIE representative of the IFP regarding the programme. The Trinity IFP Management Committee meeting on the 9th February approved the draft Calendar entry for 2017/18. The next meeting of the IFP Coordinating Committee will take place on the 19th May 2017. An EO had been recruited to provide part-time administrative support to the IFP Director. In terms of finance the actuals for 2016/17 show both MIE and TCD expenditure to be under budget, and therefore even though all regular courses in Trinity will rise by 3% in the coming year it had been agreed not to increase the IFP course fee for 2017/18. In terms of marketing it was noted that the MIE representative of the IFP would accompany the Global Relations representatives to China to attend the International Education Fair in October.

Applications for 2017/18 were showing a strong upwards trend with 121 applications received to date and 49 offers made including nine unconditional. More applications were still expected to come in. Thirteen applicants (out of 20) from China had already paid part of their fees, as did individual applicants from each of Taiwan, Malaysia and Kuwait. There was capacity on the course to expand its numbers in the future, and confidence was expressed in terms of the course meeting the recruitment target of forty for 2017/18. The Vice-President of Global Relations advised of a strong interest in the Engineering stream of the IFP from possible applicants in Kuwait. The intention would be to redress the current emphasis on Science and Engineering towards achieving a balance with the Social Studies and Business stream. The President of Marino Institute of Education expressed hope for a dynamic growth of the IFP in the future. The Quality Officer requested a summary evaluation report to be provided for the next meeting.

Action 1: The MIE representative of the IFP to provide a summary evaluation report for the next meeting.

Action 2: The Vice-President of Global Relations to provide a report on behalf of the Global Relations.

The Registrar congratulated all interested parties for the successful running of the programme. The Vice-President of Global Relations left the meeting at that point.

ACDC/16-17/247 Standing item on the QQI Quality Assurance of Linked Providers

The Quality Officer noted that since the last meeting she had discussed with MIE representatives a timeline for submission of MIE quality assurance procedures and the costs associated with the approval process. She confirmed that the approval process would take place during the 2017/18 academic year.



The Quality Officer subsequently spoke to the circulated *Linked Provider Appeal Procedure* required by the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) 2012 Act. She provided an overview of the document and explained that it had been adapted from a template agreed by all Irish Universities via the Irish Universities Association. This would ensure consistency in the appeals process for linked providers across all the Designated Award Bodies (DAB) in Ireland. She advised that the appeals procedure would be considered by the Quality Committee and the University Council (via the Quality Committee minutes) in 2017/18 academic year. The discussion centred on what might happen if a DAB proposed to withdraw accreditation for a linked provider which would not have a proper arrangement to protect its students. The Quality Officer responded that such a linked provider (LP) would not be complying with a legal requirement under the Protection of Enrolled Learners which in future would oblige all institutions, both DABs and LPs to have such arrangements in place. Trinity in its role as a DAB would ensure that its linked providers comply with the law both during a due diligence process before taking on a new linked provider and subsequently during an institutional review of the linked provider. All expressed the hope that it would not be necessary to avail of the appeals procedure.

ACDC/16-17/248 Standing update on communication:

a) Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Dean of Graduate Studies on policy and procedure issues relevant to MIE

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies stated that there were no issues she wanted to raise.

The Dean of Graduate Studies complemented the MIE for putting through the University Council good quality postgraduate courses due to commence in September 2017. The President of Marino Institute of Education thanked the School of Education for their assistance with the development of those courses, and noted that they would considerably broaden Marino's teaching offer and move the MIE from an institute of mainly primary education into the postgraduate space. She noted that an inter-institutional strategic collaboration between the MIE and Trinity was being further developed until 2020.

b) inter-institutional collaborations including research:

The Head of the School of Education noted that the submission in response to a Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH) Fund, Strand 1 Equity of Access to Initial Teacher Education (ITE) call from the HEA had not been successful but that a resubmission was requested in which closer integration across institutions in the Leinster Pillar 1 was understood to be required.

The President of Marino Institute of Education noted that the institute had in place multiple collaborative arrangements with various external institutions and internal offices in Trinity to cover areas such as special learning needs, disability, access to education, and travellers. A significant number of the MIE staff were research active, have a status of research fellows in Trinity and collaborate on various research groups in the School of Education. Some staff are PhD students in Trinity and closely collaborate with staff from the School of Education.



The Head of the School of Education noted that a stimulating collaborative research agenda had already been put in place but that it would need to be reinvigorated.

ACDC/16-17/249 To note and approve Calendar Part II and Part III changes for 2017-18 for validated MIE undergraduate and postgraduate courses

The MIE Registrar spoke to his circulated memorandum outlining proposed amendments to the Calendar for 2017/18 in relation to validated undergraduate and postgraduate courses offered by the MIE. The MIE Registrar explained that the changes reflected clarifications to the existing Calendar entries and the inclusion of three new validated Master in Education Studies courses which had been approved by the University Council to commence in September 2017, namely the MES in Inquiry-Based Learning, MES in Visual Arts and MES in Leadership in Christian Education. In a discussion which followed some changes were requested in relation to minor issues to do with course headings and admission section of two postgraduate courses.

Action 3: *The MIE ACDC Secretary to make the requested changes and submit the approved Calendar changes to the Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committee respectively.*

ACDC/16-17/250 To consider appointment of a new external examiner

The MIE Registrar spoke to his circulated memorandum presenting the CV of Dr Cathal de Paor from Mary Immaculate College as replacement for Dr Geraldine Magennis on Bachelor in Science (Ed St), Bachelor in Science (Early Childhood Ed), Prof Dip in Ed (Further Ed) from 2017/18 for three years. In a discussion which developed, the committee requested to see an amended CV of Dr Cathal de Paor to reflect more clearly his specific expertise in the area of Early Childhood Education and Further Education.

Action 4: *The MIE Registrar to forward Dr Cathal de Paor's amended CV for the next MIE ACDC in November.*

ACDC/16-17/251 AOB

The President of Marino Institute of Education advised the committee members that Dr Patricia Slevin, due to personal reasons, had recently resigned to take up a new role at the Institute of Technology Sligo. A new undergraduate programmes' representative would be put forward before the next meeting on 29 November 2017.

Action 5: *The MIE Registrar to advise the MIE ACDC Secretary of a new undergraduate programmes representative before the November meeting.*

There being no other business the meeting ended around 9.35am.

Date 10th May, 2017

Registrar _____