



Minutes of the Royal Irish Academy of Music
Associated College Degrees Committee
(RIAM ACDC)

Wednesday 1 February 2017 at 9am-11am
Conference Room 2026, Arts Building

Present:

Registrar (Chair): Prof. Paula Murphy

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

Head of School of Education: Prof. Andrew Loxley

Quality Officer: Roisin Smith

RIAM: Director & RIAM Research Representative: Deborah Kelleher

RIAM: Chair of Bachelor in Music Composition/ Performance Committees: Kathleen Tynan

RIAM: Chair of Master in Music in Performance Committee: Colma Brioscú

RIAM: Chair of Doctorate of Music in Performance Committee: Dr Kevin O'Connell

RIAM: Chair of Diploma in Music Teaching & Performance Committee: Elizabeth Csibi

RIAM: Chair of BMusEd Course Committee (RIAM): Marie Moran

RIAM: Administrative Officer, Registry: Frances Hogan

Apologies:

Dear of Graduate Studies: Prof. Neville Cox

Head of School of Creative Arts: Prof. Matthew Causey

2nd Representative from the School of Creative Arts: Prof. Simon Trezise

2nd Representative from the School of Education: Prof. Marita Kerin

In attendance:

RIAM ACDC Secretary: Ewa Sadowska

School of Creative Arts Administrator: Gail Weadick

The Registrar welcomed Prof. Andrew Loxley, interim Head of the School of Education, and Gail Weadick, *School of Creative Arts Administrator*, to the Committee.

RIAM ACDC/16-17/81 *Minutes of RIAM ACDC of 16 November 2016*

The minutes of the meeting were approved as circulated.

RIAM ACDC/16-17/82 *Matters arising*

The Registrar confirmed that *RIAM ACDC/16-17/78 Action 1* on the derogation to lower IELTS language requirement for RIAM courses would be brought for approval by the University Council via the RIAM ACDC minutes to be submitted for noting to the Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committees in February 2017.

RIAM ACDC/16-17/83 *Update on QQI Quality Assurance of Linked Providers – standing item.*

The Quality Officer advised that Trinity had written to the RIAM to commence the approval of linked provider quality assurance process under §33 (1) of the QQI Act and as outlined under the notification process §7.1 of the approved Linked Providers' Quality Assurance Procedure. The Quality Officer noted that the next step will be to arrange a meeting with RIAM representatives to discuss the standards that would apply to the RIAM quality assurance process, a timeline for submission of RIAM quality assurance procedures and also the costs



associated with the approval process and subsequent quality review. She anticipated that the final approval was likely to take place at the beginning of the following academic year. An additional schedule would be drafted with the assistance of the Trinity Solicitor to be added to the current Memorandum of Understanding which does not cover compliance with the QQI Act 2012

The Quality Officer also advised that she was preparing the annual institutional quality report to QQI and requested from the RIAM student numbers in programmes validated by Trinity in 2015/16.

RIAM ACDC/16-17/84 *Standing item on inter-institutional collaboration including research*

The RIAM Director spoke of an upcoming artistic collaboration of RIAM with The *Lir* National Academy of Dramatic Art in Trinity on a newly commissioned short opera *Vampirella* by Siobhan Cleary to be staged in the Smock Alley Theatre in March 2017. The music side of the production would be provided by students from the RIAM while the technical side by the *Lir*. She referred to a successful delivery as part of the 2016 summer school of a new MED strand in Music Education. She also noted that she had held a number of meetings with the Head of the Music Department aiming at scoping out possible future inter-institutional collaboration. The RIAM Director also advised of a successful Erasmus exchange visit in Budapest by the RIAM students who took part in the Opera Festival there in January. RIAM Opera made its first mark on the international stage with a performance of Monteverdi's *Tirsi e Clori* and Handel's *Clori, Tirsi e Fileno* at the historic and highly prestigious Liszt Academy in Budapest.

The Head of School of Education referred to the ongoing joint initiative *Quavers to Quadratics* between undergraduate students from the Schools of Education and Physics and involving BMusEd students from the RIAM. The initiative aims to popularise science through music, incorporating play, song and scientific investigation amongst primary school students.

RIAM ACDC/16-17/85 *Standing item on communication: an update by Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Dean of Graduate Studies on policy and procedure issues relevant to RIAM*

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies advised that the issue of the role of the external examiners had been raised by the University Council at the beginning of the academic year and was subsequently discussed at the Undergraduate Studies Committee where it was noted that practices varied across College. A central repository of good practice was being set up to use feedback from Schools. A report on the role of the external examiner would be produced for the University Council as well as College guidelines outlining the minimum requirements for the role. The RIAM Director remarked that such guidelines would be useful to note but there might be specific duties to do with artistic performance of students which external examiners perform in the Academy.

In reference to postgraduate matters in the absence of the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Quality Officer advised that the revised White Paper on QA of Research Degree Programmes would be on the Quality Committee Agenda for the meeting on 6 February. It was noted that both Trinity and the RIAM had provided their respective feedback to the QQI with regards to the first version of the White Paper. The Quality Officer agreed to forward the current consultation draft to RIAM and encouraged RIAM to submit feedback capturing in the



case of the RIAM the specificity of artistic research supervision by the due date of 20 February 2017. Finally, a reference was made that the Dean of Graduate Studies was working on the research supervision policy.

RIAM ACDC/16-17/86 Any Other Business

There was none and the meeting ended around 9.50am.

Section B

RIAM ACDC/16-17/87 The RIAM ACDC noted the minutes of the following validated course committee meetings taken place in the RIAM in 2015/16:

- (i) Diploma in Music Teaching and Performance Course Committee meetings on 9/10/15; 22/01/16; 4/03/16; 24/06/16
- (ii) Bachelor in Music Composition/Performance Course Committees meetings on 2/10/15; 11/12/15; 19/02/16;8/04/16
- (iii) Master in Music Performance Course Committee meetings on 16/10/15; 15/01/16; 11/04/16;24/06/16
- (iv) Doctorate in Music Performance Course Committee meetings on 1/10/15; 27/11/15; 28/01/16;10/06/16.

The Senior Lecturer/Dean of Undergraduate Studies suggested that student ID numbers should be used in the committee minutes instead of student full names for confidentiality reasons. The Registrar noted that none of the minutes had any items of particular relevance to the RIAM ACDC.

Registrar's signature: _____

Date: 1 February 2017