



**Minutes  
of the Governance Committee for the Legacy BEd Programme  
Monday 18 June 2018 at 3.30pm  
West Theatre Meeting Room**

*Present:*

*Registrar (Chair):* Prof. Paula Murphy

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

*Head of School of Education:* Prof. Damian Murchan

*1st Representative from DCU (Legacy BEd Course Director):* Rev. Prof. Anne Lodge

*2nd Representative from DCU (Deputy Dean):* Prof. Pádraig Ó Duibhir

*Apologies:*

*Quality Officer:* Roisin Smith

*In attendance:*

*Secretary:* Ewa Sadowska

***Legacy BEd /17-18/07 Minutes of 11 December 2017***

The minutes of the meeting were approved as circulated.

***Legacy BEd /17-18/08 Matters arising***

The Registrar noted that all matters arising were agenda items.

***Legacy BEd /17-18/09 Report from the Legacy BEd Course Director on course-related matters***

***a) External examiner's report***

It was confirmed that Dr Glenda Walsh would continue as external examiner on the legacy Bachelor in Education (BEd) course until Trinity's accreditation of the BEd cohort was complete, which would be not later than the conclusion of the 2018/19 academic year while a DCU-appointed external examiner would attend to more general aspects of the course until it was entirely phased out. There would be maximum two students in year 4 on the Trinity-validated BEd course in 2018/19.

The Legacy BEd Course Director noted that the BEd Court of Examiners had taken place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and was attended by Dr Walsh. The external examiner explained that she would submit her written annual report after the summer and verbally reported on a number of issues at the meeting.

She praised the excellent quality of dissertations and their rigorous double-marking. All dissertations were double-marked and because every year there would be discrepancies between the two markers the external examiner is asked to review those dissertations with the discrepancy higher than 5% whereas the marks with a lower discrepancy are averaged.

The external examiner also commented on 4<sup>th</sup> year and 3<sup>rd</sup> year modules examined such as Technology, Numeracy, Reflective Practice and School Placement Studies, and looked at a range of the 4<sup>th</sup> year elective modules (Small Schools/Multilevel Classes, Inclusive Education, Promoting



Health Children's Lifestyles) praising the high standard of student work and feedback. She also noted the one 3<sup>rd</sup> year Fail mark in Numeracy. The external examiner reported on a visit in March 2018 to a 4<sup>th</sup> year student on a school placement. The student was in a rural multi-level class. Great work was evidenced in terms of planning and good practice and the external examiner reported that the school personnel had spoken highly both of the student and the programme.

**b) Student evaluation outcomes of module satisfaction**

The Legacy BEd Course Director noted that as the student programme, placements and module evaluations were currently in progress, they would be reported on in detail at the next meeting.

**c) Student cases – student progression**

The Legacy BEd Course Director advised that all 34 students in the 4<sup>th</sup> year successfully passed their annual examinations and would graduate in November 2018. However, one of the two 3<sup>rd</sup> year students had failed the Numeracy module. The student would have an opportunity to re-sit the examination at the supplemental time in August 2018. The other student achieved a P1 and would rise with the year. No appeals were lodged in June 2018. Should an appeal hearing be required after the supplemental session the Legacy BEd Course Director would be in touch with the Registrar.

**d) Practice Placements**

The Legacy BEd Course Director reported that all 4<sup>th</sup> year students had undertaken the required 10-week placement in semester 2 and successfully completed it. 3<sup>rd</sup> year students undertook two 3-week practice placement sessions during 2017/18, i.e. in November 2017 and in March 2018. Both students successfully completed the placements. The placement supervision and assessment was undertaken by the CICE legacy team.

**e) Registration in 2017/18 and 2018/19 and respective graduations**

The Legacy BEd Course Director clarified that she had emailed a list to the committee secretary with student numbers, names and the 2017/18 examination results of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students. The list was subsequently forwarded to the Academic Registry to check against student registration records in Trinity.

One of the two 3<sup>rd</sup> year students will rise with her year in September 2018, and subject to passing year 4 will graduate in November 2019. The situation of the other 3<sup>rd</sup> student who has to undertake a supplemental examination will be reported on at the next meeting.

In a short discussion which followed it was noted that some small changes had been made to year 4 in 2018/19 but the curriculum remained true to the essence of the Trinity-accredited programme and would fulfil the Teaching Council requirements at the end of year 4.

**Legacy BEd /17-18/10 Proposed arrangements for rising 4<sup>th</sup> year students in 2018/19**

Professor Pádraig Ó Duibhir, Deputy Dean in the Institute of Education, spoke to his circulated memorandum on the arrangements agreed between DCU and Trinity with respect to former students of the Church of Ireland College of Education who entered the Trinity-validated B.Ed. programme prior to and including the 2014/15 academic year. Professor Ó Duibhir noted that the arrangements were consistent with article 1(e) of the Accreditation Agreement (August 2017), and had been agreed between DCU and Trinity in order to ensure that quality assurance measures were



in place in respect of the legacy cohort, thereby enabling Trinity to fulfil its obligations under the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012 specifically in relation to its validated BEd programme. He advised that the arrangements to operate for the academic year 2018/19 would consist of the appointment of a programme external examiner, consistent with Trinity requirements, policies and procedures in this regard (already provided for as noted under *Legacy BEd /17-18/09 (a)* above), and the application of all relevant Trinity regulations, policies and procedures related to, *inter alia*, programme learning outcomes, approval of examination results, examination appeals and award criteria.

Professor Ó Duibhir stated that those arrangements were consistent with and reflective of the Agreement that was in place between Trinity and the Church of Ireland Teacher Education DAC, custodian of the legacy cohort, and the related Agreement that was in place between the Church of Ireland Teacher Education DAC and DCU. He also noted that in addition, and consistent with the provisions of the Incorporation Agreement between DCU and the Church of Ireland College of Education, the legacy cohort would have equal access to the same student experience which would be secured through provision of access to excellence in teaching, learning and research at all levels in DCU and to the social, recreational and other services of the wider university, as well as through the denominational modules and placements by the Church of Ireland Centre. [Schedule 9 1 (d)].

Professor Ó Duibhir further noted that he had met twice during the current year with the two 3<sup>rd</sup> year legacy students and advised them of arrangements that would be put in place for their 4<sup>th</sup> year. He stated that the students would not be missing on any module content and would be following the same school placement arrangements as were in place in the current year. The Legacy BEd Course Director clarified that both students had signed a letter in 2015 noting that should they fail to complete the 4<sup>th</sup> year before the end of 2018/19 they would transfer to the DCU course. The head of the School of Education noted that the scale of changes to affect year 4 in 2018/19 was small and in keeping with the normal evolution of any degree programme, and that the programme would maintain its learning outcomes unchanged and the calculation of the students' final grade would be unchanged. The proposed arrangements for rising 4<sup>th</sup> year students in 2018/19 were approved.

***Legacy BEd /17-18/11 Dates of future meetings***

It was confirmed that there would be two meetings of the committee during the next academic year in December 2018 and in June 2019. The date of the first meeting was set for Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 11am in Trinity.

***Legacy BEd /17-18/12 Any other business***

There was none and the meeting finished at 4pm.

Registrar's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 18 June 2018