

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

The University of Dublin

Trinity College

A meeting of the University Council was held on Wednesday 7 May 2008 at 11.15 am in the Board Room.

<i>Present</i>	Provost, Vice-Provost, Senior Lecturer, Registrar, Senior Tutor, Dean of Graduate Studies, Dr M H Adams, Professor B M Lucey, Dr M E G Lyons, Dr H Gibbons, Dean of Health Sciences, Dr V A Campbell, Dr J P Gormley, Dr A O'Gara, Mr B Rock, Mr H Sullivan, Mr G Magee.
<i>Apologies</i>	Dean of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Dean of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, Ms F M Haffey, Mr C Hallworth, Ms C Ní Dhubhda, Mr C Reilly, Mr D Walsh, Ms E Keaveney, Professor N M Claffey.
<i>In attendance</i>	Librarian, Secretary, Academic Secretary.
<i>Observers</i>	Dr M L Brennan, Dr P Coleman, Mr D L Parris, Dr G Biehler, Professor D B Murray, Dr M J F Brown,
<i>By invitation</i>	Dr E O'Dell (for CL/07-08/156).

SECTION A

CL/07-08/152 Minutes The Minutes of the meetings of the 4th April, and both meetings of the 9th April 2008 were approved subject to a correction to Actum CL/07-08/137. This minute should read that the "report did not contain a table showing staff:student active research supervisory rates per School, as provided in the 2005-06 annual report, because there is a question as to the reliability of these data."

Dr O'Gara was added to the list of those present on 9 April 2008 (11.15 a.m.) and Dr Gibbons was added to the list of those present for the meetings of 4, and 9 (both) April 2008.

CL/07-08/153 Matters Arising The Provost informed Council that it is expected that a recommendation on the appointment of a Chief Operating Officer will be made to Board in the near future.

CL/07-08/154 Provost's Report The Provost noted the delay in the call for submissions for the PRTL (Programme for Research for Third Level Institutions) 2008.

CL/07-08/155 **Modularisation and Academic Year Structure** A memorandum on modularisation and academic year structure dated 28th April 2008 from the Senior Lecturer was circulated. The Senior Lecturer introduced this item, noting that consultation has taken place over a three year period.

- (i) *Academic Year Structure:* turning attention to the recommendations in respect of the academic year structure, the Senior Lecturer reminded Council that Board at its meeting of the 4th July 2007 (BD/06-07/374) and Council at its meeting of the 27th June 2007 (CL/06-07/217) approved in principle the introduction of a new academic year structure. The proposal before Council now addresses key operational issues associated with academic and administrative and support service areas. The Senior Lecturer outlined the proposal and each of the recommendations in respect of the academic year structure, and invited Council's consideration.

In the discussion that followed, one Council member registered his disappointment about the nature of the consultation on the proposals before Council. He noted that consultation with the Partnership Committee did not constitute consultation with individual staff unions and staff representative bodies. He acknowledged and expressed his thanks to the Senior Lecturer for his proactive engagement with the Partnership Committee, but argued that there were no formal meeting with unions and the Staff Office on the proposals in question. He further commented that without proper consultation with the staff unions, College has disregarded the Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT) agreement with College, the EU Directive on employment, and the relevant chapters in *Towards 2016*. He stated that consultation with the Partnership Committee was not a proxy for consultation between staff unions and staff representative bodies. The Senior Lecturer drew Council's attention to the membership of the Working Party on Modularisation and Academic Year Structure which included IFUT representation. The Vice Provost noted that as part of the communication programme on restructuring it was recommended that a Joint Industrial Council be established, but no agreement was reached to establish such a Council. The Senior Lecturer noted that there would be comprehensive consultation with staff unions during the implementation stages of the programme of work.

Referring to the recommendations, Council sought clarification on the operational detail relating to teaching outside the statutory terms, and timing of examinations, reading weeks and field trips. Responding to the specific questions, the Senior Lecturer confirmed that:

- (a) Any deviation from the recommendations in respect of teaching terms, and examinations times would require Council approval. This includes introductory courses, and early start-up programmes.
- (b) The wording in respect of examinations for 'one-semester' students reinforces the principle that College will not introduce end-of-semester examinations to replace existing regulations in respect of annual examinations for full-time undergraduate registered students.
- (c) The system of annual progression whereby undergraduate students of the College rise with their year on successful completion of their coursework and annual examinations and progress to the following year of study will be retained.
- (d) The recommendations refer to undergraduate and postgraduate activity.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

- (e) The third 12-week term covers annual examinations, research, and supervisory contact with postgraduate students.
- (f) Reading weeks should be coordinated at Faculty-level and, if possible, held at the same time within the teaching term.

Council noted there may be a need for flexibility in terms of delivering taught modules of a PhD programme especially where there is inter-institutional collaboration. It was pointed out that reading weeks held at the same time could present capacity constraints for the Library. The presentation of the proposal is very important, and Council noted that it should not be referred to as two teaching terms. There are three terms, two teaching terms and a third term focusing on examinations, supervision of theses and projects, and staff research.

Council, with Dr Gibbons dissenting, approved the following recommendations in respect of the academic year structure.

1. *College should adopt the proposed academic structure (see Appendix 1 to this Minute)*
 - 1.1 *All teaching be confined to the two 12-week terms - Michaelmas and Hilary. Any deviation from this will require Council approval.*
 - 1.2 *University examinations should normally be confined to the University annual and supplemental examinations periods as published in the Almanack. Any deviation from this will require Council approval.*
 - 1.3.i *Where applicable, Schools should determine in advance the timing of reading weeks, field trips and professional placements. In doing so, they should ensure that there are no timetabling conflicts between teaching requirements, field trips and/or placements.*
 - 1.3.ii *Where applicable, there should be uniformity in the timing of reading weeks at Faculty level.*
 - 1.3.iii *Schools should publish, where practicable and applicable, in the course handbook or on the web, the timing of reading weeks, field trips and professional placements.*

Council noted the recommendation in respect of the administrative and support services as follows:

- 2.i *Staffing issues in respect of work practices, especially during the transition period, should be addressed through consultation with staff representative bodies and heads of areas.*
- 2.ii *College should identify and provide the necessary resources to allow the implementation of the academic year structure in 2009/10. (It is envisaged that these will be required only for the transition period.)*
- 2.iii *College should minimise the loss of commercial revenue by making a timely decision on the adoption of the proposed new- academic year structure.*

- (ii) *Modularisation:* the Senior Lecturer drew Council's attention to the recommendations on a modular course structure. He noted the Bologna-related developments that have impacted on course curricula and structure to-date. The articulation of undergraduate and postgraduate course curricula in multiples of five ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) and a new focus on learning outcomes complement a modular course structure. The Working Party on Modularisation and Academic Year Structure recommended a course structure comprising a core curriculum and an elective curriculum. The core curriculum would normally comprise 200 ECTS credits over a

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

four year programme. This would include mandatory and optional courses within the student's programme of study. The elective curriculum would normally comprise 40 ECTS credits over a four year programme. Of this, 10 credits could be additional optional modules from within the student's main programme(s) of study. At least 30 ECTS credits would comprise a combination of either optional modules from other programmes, existing Broad Curriculum modules, and personal or professional skills development and community outreach programmes.

Following an assessment of implementation details of this proposal, it became clear that most undergraduate programmes provide for significant optional module choice within the student's main programme. College's undergraduate programmes are extremely broad and include provision for personal and professional development. The curriculum of courses accredited by outside bodies is influenced by professional requirements, and a high number of student contact hours (and therefore ECTS credits) are attached to clinical placements. Clinical placements satisfy the requirement that students have access to professional skills development, and in the review of courses it was found that placements could exceed 40 credits in terms of teaching hours. Most final year courses either require or allow students to opt to submit a dissertation. Students are normally required to develop their research and presentation skills to enable the production of a dissertation. This activity should satisfy the requirement that credit is allocated for 'personal or professional skills development and community outreach programmes.' In light of this assessment, the recommendation of the Working Group was revised to recognise that existing undergraduate programmes are on the whole very broad and offer considerable student choice within the discipline(s); that there are many initiatives that satisfy the requirement that students should have the opportunities within their core curriculum to develop personal and professional skills; that students have the opportunity to take electives outside their core curriculum. The revised proposal was for the core curriculum to normally comprise a maximum of 220 ECTS, as the elective curriculum would normally comprise a minimum of 20 ECTS. One significant departure from the Working Group's recommendations related to the students being required to take ten ECTS from outside their home programme.

Council in discussing the recommendation on modularisation, noted the importance of achieving a balance in the interpretation of ECTS. Sixty ECTS represent the maximum workload per year for undergraduate students, and the accepted norm in Ireland is 20-25 hours per ECTS. It was suggested that there should be exceptions to this norm where students are reading two subjects as part of their degree programme, such as the two-subject moderatorship programmes or Law and a Language. In response to this, the Senior Lecturer confirmed that these programmes must conform with the 60 ECTS requirement and, where necessary, Schools should revise the curricula of such programmes accordingly. The Students' Union representatives commented on the importance of closely monitoring student workload and the application of ECTS across all programmes. In considering the recommendation that ten ECTS should be from outside the students' home programme, there was some discussion about whether these should refer to 'non-cognate' or 'non-complementary' subjects. It was stressed that these ten ECTS should, as far as practicable, be in subjects that are not related to the student's core curriculum. It was suggested that the use of non-complementary might be a more appropriate term to use. The Senior Lecturer noted that the full implementation of this recommendation would depend on the introduction of fit-for-purpose student administration systems that allow, among other things, the provision of on-line module registration.

Council, with Dr Gibbons dissenting, approved the following recommendations in respect of modularisation.

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

- 3.0 *College should implement as soon as practicable the revised course structure which comprises a core curriculum and an elective curriculum.*
- (a) *The core curriculum will normally comprise a maximum of 220 ECTS credits over a four year programme. This will include mandatory and optional courses within the student's programme of study.*
 - (b) *The elective curriculum will normally comprise a minimum of 20 ECTS credits over a four year programme. Of this, at least 10 ECTS credits will comprise personal or professional skills development, and these may include, for example, placements, dissertations, and research skills. The elective curriculum will also provide the opportunity for students to take 10 credits¹ outside the students' main programme(s) of study.*
 - (c) *Any deviation from this core and elective curriculum will require Council approval.*
- 3.1 *The Senior Lecturer's Office should begin now to assess and make provision for the changes required to course regulations, assessments, administration and systems supports to enable the full implementation of this core and elective curriculum, and following this assessment, propose an implementation schedule to Council.*
- 3.2 *Subject to timetabling constraints and module availability, all new undergraduate degree programmes should comply with the new curriculum.*
- 3.3 *Effective from 2008-09, all students taking a BC course, including the BC language modules, where they are permitted by their home course regulations will obtain the associated credits within their 60 ECTS workload and have their BC mark incorporated within their end-of-year overall result, and the School offering the Broad Curriculum course will be assigned the corresponding FTSE/ ARAM credit.*

The Provost thanked the Senior Lecturer for his work on revising the academic year and course structures.

CL/07-08/156 *Statutes - Revision of the Chapters of the Statutes relating to Board and Council*
 A memorandum from the Statutes Review Working Party dated 25th March 2008 was circulated. Dr Eoin O'Dell, Chair of the Working Party, attended Council for this item. Dr O'Dell provided a brief introduction on the developments to-date, and noted that the proposed drafts before Council concerned chapters of the Statutes relating to Board and Council. The drafts reflect many aspects of the emerging drafting style which is considered more logical in layout, providing greater ease of navigation and coherency, and is less repetitive. He provided a brief summary of the draft Sections of the Statutes relating to Council, and informed Council that while these are more flexible and enabling than the existing text, they are still very much in the spirit of the current Statutes. Section 2 provides for the functions of Council, and in particular provides that the Council shall control the academic affairs of the University. A full draft of the Statutes is expected to be prepared by the 11th July 2008.

¹ The 10 ECTS should be modules from non-cognate/non-complementary disciplines.

Council approved the direction in which the Statutes Review Working Party was taking with the Statutes in general and more specifically with the drafts relating to Council.

The Provost thanked Dr O'Dell for attending Council and for his work on the review of the Statutes to-date.

CL/07-08/157 Review of the Agreement between the Irish School of Ecumenics and Trinity College, Dublin A memorandum from the Registrar dated 28th April 2008 was circulated. The Registrar introduced this item. A Review Committee was established in 2007 to review the 2000 Agreement between the Irish School of Ecumenics (ISE) Trust and Trinity College. The Review Committee, chaired by the Registrar, comprised Professor David Dickson (Registrar 2004-2007), Professor Patrick Prendergast (Dean of Graduate Studies 2004-2007), Dr. Noel Dorr (ISE Trust), Dr. Eda Sagarra (ISE Trust), Dr. Salters Sterling (ISE Trust), and Professor Linda Hogan (TCD). The College Secretary joined the Review Committee on July 9th 2007 and January 30th 2008. The Review Committee met four times and a final document was approved by the Review Committee at its meeting on January 30th 2008. The Registrar drew Council's attention to the five sections of the review report, namely, (i) academic matters, (ii) administrative and organisational matters, (iii) governance, (iv) finances, and (v) location. He highlighted in particular that a number of issues raised under the section on administrative and organisational matters have either been resolved or are close to resolution, namely the inclusion of the Belfast-based staff into all relevant College communication and the inclusion of ISA postgraduate courses in the new postgraduate online application facility. Under the governance section, the report recommends that the governance arrangements set out in the 2000 Agreement should be revisited to give expression to the new academic structures in Trinity College. It will be necessary to carefully coordinate the process towards the Aspirant School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics achieving full School status, and when appropriate to address the nature of the relationship between the School and the Milltown Institute. Under Finances the review report recommends that a continuance of HEA-targeted funding should be sought beyond the current agreement which expires at the end of 2008. A case will be made to the HEA to consider the ISE for funding under the proposed new HEA funding category of strategically important and vulnerable subjects.

In response to a query, the Registrar confirmed that negotiations between Trinity College and the Milltown Institute are on-going, and major developments are not expected until Michaelmas Term 2008.

Council noted the following recommendations in respect of governance and financial matters:

- (i) *Governance*
 - the Dean of the new Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (or his representative) should become a member of the ISE Executive Committee;
 - the governance arrangements set out in the 2000 Agreement be revisited in order to give expression to the new structures in College.
- (ii) *Financial matters*
 - in the context of College moving towards a full implementation of ARAM, consideration needs to be given as to how ISE (TCD)'s unique

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings

operating and financial situation as a postgraduate, all-Ireland School should be interpreted under ARAM;

- TCD and the ISE Trust will work together to ensure the continuance of targeted funding from the HEA for the ISE in its new School environment beyond December 2008 and recommends that negotiations with the HEA ensue as soon as possible.

Council approved the following recommendations in respect of academic and administrative and organisational matters:

- (iii) *On academic matters*, College should give consideration to how:
- the ISE could become involved in some undergraduate activities;
 - the academic activities on the Belfast campus can be supported and attract activities from other Schools;
 - the College could benefit from the School's considerable experience in outreach activities in order to strengthen those within the Republic.
- (iv) *On administrative and organisational matters*, a resolution of the following outstanding matters be actively pursued:
- the establishment of an appropriate administrative mechanism to ensure that the Belfast-based staff are included in all communications between College and academic staff;
 - the establishment of a system whereby Belfast-based ISE staff and students who need visas to live and study in the UK can be accommodated;
 - a solution that would enable the financial obligations incurred in ISE Belfast to be dealt with appropriately;
 - the inclusion of ISE programmes in the next phase of the roll-out of the Postgraduate Applications Centre project.

CL/07-08/158 Undergraduate Course Proposals A memorandum from the Senior Lecturer dated 30th April 2008 was circulated. The Senior Lecturer informed Council that the Undergraduate Teaching and Learning Committee (UTLC) at its meeting of the 29th April 2008 approved the undergraduate course proposals before Council, namely:

1. Moderatorship in Ancient and Medieval History and Culture (School of Histories and Humanities)
2. Bachelor in Business and Computer Science (School of Business and School of Computer Science and Statistics)
3. Bachelor in Political Science and Geography (School of Social Sciences and Philosophy and School of Natural Sciences)
4. Law and Business (School of Law and School of Business)
5. Law and Political Science (School of Law and School of Social Sciences and Philosophy)

The Senior Lecturer drew Council's attention to course proposals 4 and 5 and noted that they propose the award of LLB (Business) and LLB (Political Science) respectively. He advised Council that the award title LLB exists for the existing four year Law degree, and the titles LLB (French) and LLB (German) exist for the joint degree programmes of Law and French and Law and German. The award of LLB presumes that the student majors in Law. The two new course proposals follow the joint-honor model in providing for students to take both subjects equally in years 1 and 2, and permitting students to concentrate either on Law or the non-Law subject

in the final year. This model is typical of other Trinity undergraduate programmes leading to the award of BA (Mod). Concerning the title of the law degree proposals, the Senior Lecturer confirmed that LLB was the preferred nomenclature. He informed Council that the Head of the Law School, Professor Binchy, clarified that in teaching university-level Law, the subject matter can be defined either narrowly (as the study of rules and regulations etc) or more broadly (encompassing social, political and philosophical contexts). The award titles of LLB (Business) and LLB (Politics) are consistent with the wider philosophical approach of the Law School to teaching Law, and are also consistent with students obtaining an LLB degree if they choose to specialise in either Business or Politics rather than Law during the final stages of their study.

The Provost welcomed the developments in undergraduate education, and commented on the high level of innovation and collaboration across Schools and Faculties. The Senior Lecturer confirmed in response to a query, that the ARAM Taskforce had considered the financial elements of the programmes, and noted that as of the new academic year, all new course proposals will be processed through the School and Faculty Executives. This will provide a more comprehensive overview of all aspects of the proposals, including finances and other resources. It was suggested that one staff member should be designated as the contact person for students registered on the LLB (Business) and LLB (Political Science). The Senior Lecturer noted that the institution of a new degree award requires the approval of the Board and the Senate.

Subject to each course having clearly defined learning outcomes and being revised to allow students to take a minimum of 10 ECTS from outside the home programme as approved by Council in Actum CL/07-08/155, Council approved the following course proposals to commence in the academic year 2009-10 and leading to the named award:

- Moderatorship in Ancient and Medieval History and Culture
- Bachelor in Business and Computer Science
- Bachelor in Political Science and Geography
- Bachelor in Law and Business - LLB (Business)
- Bachelor in Law and Political Science - LLB (Political Science).

CL/07-08/159 Graduate Studies

- (i) **Structure of the Trinity PhD/Master Research Degrees** A memorandum from the Dean of Graduate Studies dated 28th April 2008 was circulated. The Dean of Graduate Studies introduced this item. She informed Council of the existing transfer procedures from the Masters to the PhD register. Currently research students are admitted to the research Masters register and undergo a transfer procedure, normally at the end of year two, to the PhD register. There is an increasing number of students who apply to the research register as graduates with a taught Masters degree, and it would be more appropriate academically to recruit such students directly to the PhD register. The Dean noted that Trinity College is the only Irish University with an entry *via* the Masters register, and this could present a promotional disadvantage for the College. When there is a delay in transferring eligible students to the PhD register, this can result in a financial loss to the School and College. The Graduate Studies Committee discussed this item, and agreed to recommend to Council that students be admitted directly to the PhD register. The first two years would be probationary and the students would need to undergo a

strict academic assessment process, equivalent to the current transfer procedure, in order to ensure that they have the potential to successfully complete a PhD. If students do not reach the required academic standard, they will be transferred to the Masters register. The Dean noted that students who aim to submit a Masters thesis only, can still enter onto the research Masters register, and the opportunity to transfer to the PhD register will remain open to eligible students.

Council welcomed the proposal and approved that as of 2008-09 eligible new entrants will be directly admitted to the PhD register.

- (ii) **Proposal for a Professional Doctorate in Counselling Psychology** A memorandum dated the 29th April 2008 from the Dean of Graduate Studies was circulated. Introducing this item the Dean of Graduate Studies noted that the proposal for a Professional Doctorate in Counselling Psychology had received a positive review from the external assessor. The Doctorate in Counselling Psychology is a full-time taught three-year course commencing in October 2009 and caters for a maximum of eighteen students and a minimum of sixteen. It will replace the existing two-year M.Sc. degree in Counselling Psychology as of October 2009. The Doctorate course will provide a more research focused qualification in Counselling Psychology, and will enable staff currently involved in the M.Sc. to further develop their research portfolio through supervising and co-supervising doctoral level research.

Council noted the proposal, and in discussions it was recommended and agreed that all course proposals in the future should be approved by the School Executive and School Committee.

Council approved the proposal leading to the award of a Professional Doctorate in Counselling Psychology to replace the existing M.Sc. in Counselling Psychology and to commence in the academic year 2009-10.

- (iii) **Proposal for a M.Sc. in Psychology (Applied Behaviour Analysis)** A memorandum dated the 24th April 2008 from the Dean of Graduate Studies was circulated. Introducing this item the Dean of Graduate Studies noted that the proposal for a M.Sc. in Psychology (Applied Behaviour Analysis) had received a positive review from the external assessor. The M.Sc. in Psychology is a full-time one-year course commencing in September 2008 and caters for a maximum of eighteen students and a minimum of sixteen. The School of Psychology offers a course leading to a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Behaviour Analysis and the M.Sc. responds to a strong community demand for professionals with a more advanced training in Applied Behaviour Analysis. The proposal was approved by the School Executive.

Council approved the course leading to a M.Sc. in Psychology (Applied Behaviour Analysis) to commence in the academic year 2008-09.

CL/07-08/160 Cessation of Academic Programmes

- (i) **B.A. Honors in Germanic Languages** An application to discontinue the B.A. Honors in Germanic Languages from the Head of the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultural Studies was circulated. The Senior Lecturer introduced this item drawing Council's attention to the policy that Council must approve all applications for the cessation of undergraduate and

postgraduate programmes. He noted the rationale for the cessation of the B.A. Honors in Germanic Languages and that the School Executive and the School Committee approved the cessation of the programme. The programme has faced considerable recruitment and retention difficulties and the application figures for 2008-09 are very low with only four first preferences for a course quota of eight.

In discussing this application, Council noted that students were involved in the discussions leading to the decision to cease the B.A. Honors in Germanic Languages. Concern was expressed about the loss of academic staff in the discipline.

Council approved the cessation of the B.A. Honors in Germanic Languages with the last new entrant intake in 2008-09.

- (ii) **Bachelor in Theology** An application to discontinue the Bachelor in Theology programme from Professor A D H Mayes was circulated. The Senior Lecturer informed Council that it is planned to replace the Bachelor in Theology with a Masters in Ministry. In line with current international practice, the proposed degree of Masters in Ministry is designed to provide a programme of professional training for those intending to work in a variety of ministerial contexts. The Registrar confirmed that discussions are on-going with the Church of Ireland Institute on the course structure of the Masters in Ministry. The School Executive and the School Committee of the Aspirant School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics have approved the discontinuation of the Bachelor in Theology.

Council noted that the demise of the Bachelor of Theology has cultural and historical significance for Trinity College, and commented on the importance of formally marking the end of the course at the graduation of its last cohort of students. While the historical links were considered valuable, equity, mutual respect and tolerance was stressed in College's association with external bodies. It was commented that where the training of religious ministries is linked to a secular institution, there is generally greater tolerance and acceptance of liberal values.

Council approved the cessation of the Bachelor in Theology with the last new entrant intake in 2007-08.

- CL/07-08/161 Admission Test as Part of the Criteria for Entry to Medicine** A memorandum from the Senior Lecturer dated 18th April 2008 was circulated. The Senior Lecturer introduced this item noting that Council had already approved the revised admissions criteria to medicine at its meeting on the 10th October, 2007 (see Actum CL/07-08/012). It was noted at that meeting that a proposal on the nature of the admissions test to be used would in due course be brought to Council for approval.

Since October 2007, the four universities involved in undergraduate medical education - UCC, NUI Galway, UCD, and Trinity College - have participated in the selection of appropriate tests to be conducted as part of the admissions process to medicine. The procurement process has now been completed, and the contract has been awarded to ACER (Australian Council for Education Research), which has a proven track record in the development, management and research of selection tests for undergraduate medical and health related programmes. The Irish Medical Schools have selected a test called HPAT-Ireland (Health Professionals Admissions Test-

Ireland). This test is paper based consisting of three modules or sections: Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving (combined module), Interpersonal Understanding, and Non-Verbal and Abstract Reasoning. Each section is allocated approximately 45 minutes and consists of 35-40 multiple choice format questions. Applicants to undergraduate medicine must have completed the test within the two year period immediately preceding admission to the programme.

The three sections of the HPAT-Ireland test carry equal weight and the maximum achievable score is 300. Leaving Certificate scores above 550 will be adjusted to a maximum score of 560, therefore, the maximum achievable score when the Leaving Certificate and test scores are collated is 860.

Council discussed the proposal, and noted the Dean of Health Science's comment that it is unlikely that prospective candidates would benefit from coaching in preparing for the test. The Dean also confirmed, in response to a query, that the number of places available in undergraduate medicine would double over the next few years. The importance of such tests being localised to Irish cultural norms was noted. It was pointed out, however, that the test would be open to all European applicants to medicine in Ireland, including A-level students. The Academic Secretary informed Council that prospective applicants to medicine under this new system must satisfy matriculation requirements in the repeat sitting of the Leaving Certificate. This is a significant departure from the existing policy on repeats, as for all other courses, repeat applicants who have already satisfied the matriculation requirements in the first or subsequent sittings of the Leaving Certificate only have to satisfy the points requirements for the course(s) of their choice.

Council approved the HPAT-Ireland test as part of the entry criteria to medicine at Trinity College commencing October 2009 and the condition that applicants must have completed the test within the two year period immediately preceding admission to the programme and that applicants must satisfy the university matriculation and the course requirements in the Leaving Certificate (or equivalent) presented for consideration for entry to medicine.

CL/07-08/162 Any Other Urgent Business Council noted that the current dispute between the Health Services Executive and the Pharmacy Industry is adversely impacting on final year Pharmacy students who are unable to secure placements. Placements are a prerequisite to pre-registration and Council recommended that the Dean of Health Sciences discuss the matter with the Head of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

SECTION B

CL/07-08/163 Heads of School Committee The Council noted and approved the recommendations as set out in the minutes of the Heads of School Committee from its meeting of 15 April 2008, which had been circulated.

CL/07-08/164 Student Services Committee The Council noted and approved the recommendations as set out in the minutes of the Student Services Committee from its meeting of 1 April 2008, which had been circulated.

SECTION C

CL/07-08/165 Draft Statutes on Council Composition - Ballot Papers (see Actum CL/07-08/138 of 9 April 2008) The Council noted and approved a circulated memorandum from the Registrar, dated 1 May 2008.

CL/07-08/166 Higher Degrees—Reports of Examiners The Council noted and approved the reports of examiners on candidates for higher degrees, approved by the sub-committee of Board and Council on the dates set out below and noted by Board at its meeting of 7 May 2008:

(i) **1 April 2008 - Higher Degrees by Research Alone**

PhD Peter Admirand; Matthew Bowden; Brian Caulfield; James Doherty; Helen Cleugh Finch; Jane Finucane; Keiko Inoue; David Barry Jordan; Sibylle Lehmann; Francis William Lewis; Brian McCormack; Anne-Marie Miller; Olivia Mollen; Erica Mullaney; Neil Fergus O'Boyle; Yvonne Mary O'Shea; Sri Chaitanya Das Pemmaraju; Alessia Piazza; Eileen Reilly; Aoife Ryan; Caroline Sutton; Cormac Toher.

MSc Clodagh Michelle Butler; Brian Durcan; Louise Lawlor; Patrick Joseph McCauley; Anthony McCoy; Florry O'Connell; Shane O'Regan.

MLitt Marion O'Connor; Alan Michael Reilly.

MCh Ivor Cullen.

(ii) **29 April 2008.**

(a) **Professional Higher Degrees by Research Alone**

MD Ibrahim Al Muntaser; Edel Duggan; Francis Martin Finucane.

(b) **Higher Degrees by Research Alone**

PhD Shane Bergin; Fiona Blighe; Charlotte Kathleen Callaghan; Lydia Carroll; Helen Cathcart; Arlene Crampsie; Yvonne Marie Daly; Eileen Denn Jackson; Erika Doyle; Gen Feng; Denis Finn; Anna Kamaralli; Conor Keelan; Eoin Anthony King; Richard Lee; Vanessa Liston; Susan Marble; Killian McAleese; Joanne McCarthy; Paul McDermott; Naoimh Aine McMahon; Patricia Moriarty; Amanda Murphy; Cathal Paul O'Brien; Paris O'Donnell; Susana Olmos; Catriona Louise Pennell; Cliona Rattigan; Sean Reynolds; Jennifer Sankey; Cidalia Maria Santos; Dubhfeasa Maire Slattery; Palmen Stanislavov Stamenov; Sarawood Sungkaew; Paul Anthony Ward; Laura Christine Watson; Liam Weeks.

MSc Claire Butler; Sherly George; Ronan Gerard Grace; Ruth McLoughlin; David McNally; Martin O'Toole; William Rodgers Lee.

MLitt Angharad Emma Dowling; Sinead Patricia Kelleher; Denis Tkachenko;

CL/07-08/167 Graduate Studies - Business of the Graduate Studies Committee requiring approval of the University Council The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the Dean of Graduate Studies, circulated dated 28 April 2008.

CL/07-08/168 Consolidated List of External Examiners 2008-2009 The Council noted and approved A memorandum from the Senior Lecturer, circulated dated 30 April 2008.

CL/07-08/169 Abridged Entry and the award of the BA Degree The Council noted and approved a memorandum from the School Administrator, School of Engineering, circulated dated 16 April 2008.

CL/07-08/170 School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences to note that Dr A Harkin will replace Dr J Clancy as Director of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) from 12 July 2008.

CL/07-08/171 Graduate School of Engineering Studies The Council noted and approved the request of the School of Engineering Committee and the School of Engineering Executive Committee for the renaming of the Graduate School of Engineering Studies to the 'Graduate School of Professional Engineering Studies' and the subsequent change in title for the Director to 'Director of the Graduate School of Professional Engineering Studies'.

CL/07-08/172 Course Directors of Moderatorships in the School of Chemistry The Council noted and approved the appointments of the following Course Directors for the direct entry courses offered by the School of Chemistry, 2008-2011:

- (i) Professor G W Watson: BA (Moderatorship) in Chemistry with Molecular Modelling;
- (ii) Dr J M Southern: BA (Moderatorship) in Medicinal Chemistry;
- (iii) Dr D A Mac Dónaill: BA (Moderatorship) in Physics and Chemistry of Advanced Materials.

SECTION D

In compliance with the Data Protection Acts this information is restricted

Signed

Date

Proposed Academic Year Structure

Appendix 1 to Minute CL/07-08/155

Cal. Wk	Dates 2009/10	Outline Structure of Academic Year	Notes	
1	31-Aug-09	Supplemental Examinations	Statutory Term (Michaelmas) begins 2 weeks earlier than at present to fit in + 2 teaching weeks & +1 reading week before Christmas. Supplemental exams require 2 weeks as at present.	
2	07-Sep-09			
3	14-Sep-09	PG Registration		
4	21-Sep-09	UG New Entrant Registration/Freshers' Week		
5	28-Sep-09	Teaching Week 1 Registration continuing studs	Michaelmas Lecture term begins 2 weeks earlier than at present	
6	05-Oct-09	Teaching Week 2 Registration continuing studs		
7	12-Oct-09	Teaching Week 3		
8	19-Oct-09	Teaching Week 4		
9	26-Oct-09	Teaching Week 5		
10	02-Nov-09	Teaching Week 6		
11	09-Nov-09	Teaching Week 7		
12	16-Nov-09	Teaching Week 8		
13	23-Nov-09	Teaching Week 9		
14	30-Nov-09	Teaching Week 10		
15	07-Dec-09	Teaching Week 11		
16	14-Dec-09	Teaching Week 12		Michaelmas term ends in Week 12
17	21-Dec-09			
18	28-Dec-09	Christmas Period	Break between teaching terms 4 weeks (as at present)	
19	04-Jan-10			
20	11-Jan-10			
21	18-Jan-10	Teaching Week 1	Hilary Term begins	
22	25-Jan-10	Teaching Week 2		
23	01-Feb-10	Teaching Week 3		
24	08-Feb-10	Teaching Week 4		
25	15-Feb-10	Teaching Week 5		
26	22-Feb-10	Teaching Week 6		
27	01-Mar-10	Teaching Week 7		
28	08-Mar-10	Teaching Week 8		
29	15-Mar-10	Teaching Week 9		
30	22-Mar-10	Teaching Week 10		
31	29-Mar-10	Teaching Week 11	Easter Week.	
32	05-Apr-10	Teaching Week 12	Hilary Term ends.	
33	12-Apr-10	Revision	Trinity Term begins	
34	19-Apr-10	Revision		
35	26-Apr-10	Annual Examinations 1	Annual Examination period: 4 weeks at present followed by 4 weeks for marking, examiners' meetings, publication of results, Courts of First Appeal and Academic Appeals. In practice this activity is likely to extend up to the end of statutory term.	
36	03-May-10	Annual Examinations 2		
37	10-May-10	Annual Examinations 3		
38	17-May-10	Annual Examinations 4		
39	24-May-10	Marking/Courts of Examiners/Results		
40	31-May-10	Marking/Courts of Examiners/Results		
41	07-Jun-10	Marking/Courts of Examiners/Results		
42	14-Jun-10	Marking/Courts of Examiners/Results		
43	21-Jun-10	Courts of First Appeal/Academic Appeals		Statutory (Trinity) Term ends
44	28-Jun-10			
45 to 52	05-Jul-10 to 23 August 10	Postgraduate dissertations/theses / Research 1-8	Research period: 8 weeks as at present between end of statutory (Trinity) term and commencement of statutory (Michaelmas) term. This period is also used for writing up Masters dissertations and research theses due for submission in September.	

Incorporating any amendments approved at subsequent Council meetings