

**UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN
TRINITY COLLEGE**

GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting held at 9.00 a.m. on Thursday 20th May 2010
Conference Room, College Green

Present: Professor Carol O'Sullivan, Dean of Graduate Studies (*Chair*),
Directors of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) as follows:
Dr Martin Fellenz, School of Business
Dr Stephen Connon, School of Chemistry
Dr Claire Healy, School of Dental Science
Dr Ruth Barton, School of Drama, Film & Music
Dr Carmel O'Sullivan, School of Education
Professor Brian Broderick, School of Engineering
Dr Sam Slote, School of English
Dr Stefan Sint, School of Mathematics
Dr John Gormley, School of Medicine
Dr Fintan Sheerin, School of Nursing and Midwifery
Dr Andrew Harkin, School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences
Professor Jonathan Coleman, School of Physics
Dr Kevin Tierney, School of Psychology
Dr Gillian Wylie, Aspirant School of Religions, Theology and Ecumenics
Mr Ronan Hodson, Graduate Students' Union President (*Ex officio*)
Ms Alexandra Murphy, Graduate Students' Union Vice-President (*Ex officio*)
Mr Trevor Peare, Keeper of Readers' Services (in attendance *Ex officio*)
Dr Patrick Geoghegan, Associate Dean of Research (in attendance *Ex officio*)

Apologies: Directors of Teaching and Learning (Postgraduate) as follows:
Dr Siobhan Clarke, School of Computer Science and Statistics
Professor Seamus Martin, School of Genetics and Microbiology
Dr Hazel Dodge, School of Histories & Humanities
Dr Jeffrey Kallen, School of Linguistic, Speech and Communication Sciences
Dr Paula Murphy, School of Natural Sciences
Dr Jim Levine, School of Social Sciences and Philosophy
Mr John Lawler, Acting Deputy Director of ISS

In attendance: Ms Jennifer Hill, Graduate Studies Office, Secretary to the meeting (*Ex officio*)
Ms Helen Thornbury, Graduate Studies Office

GS/09-10/039 Minutes of 20th April 2010

The minutes of the meeting of 20th April 2010 were approved by the Committee as circulated.

GS/09-10/040 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

GS/09-10/041 Draft Collaborative Agreement Framework with UCD

The Dean explained that an Inter-Institutional Agreement has been drafted to form a specific agreement for joint programmes with UCD. The agreement is designed to address the relevant legal, technical, administrative and operational issues. Three types of collaboration are considered in the agreement: joint degrees; programmes with shared elements; and module sharing.

It is essential for this agreement to be drawn up as many processes differ between TCD and UCD. It is planned that this agreement will be signed by the President of UCD and the Provost of TCD.

Section A of the agreement considers joint degrees, an area in which TCD and UCD are now almost converged on agreement. Some compromise regarding examinations has been required, as UCD have a

different grading system to TCD and provide a GPA. In response to a question regarding where Professional Doctorates fit into this agreement, it was confirmed that, at present, the document only relates to Certificate, Diploma and Masters courses. Professional Doctorates could be considered in the spirit of this document but many other factors, including external partners such as the HSE, will also need to be taken into consideration.

It was also discussed whether the student would require two computer accounts (one for each university) and whether this may cause a problem for communication. The Dean agreed to look into this.

This agreement has been brought to the GSC only for discussion and feedback at this stage, and not for approval as further changes will be required.

The Committee confirmed they were broadly supportive of this agreement.

GS/09-10/042 Innovation Academy Diploma/Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship: new modules for delivery from September 2010, plus Draft Course Proposal

The Dean introduced Professor Paul Coughlan and asked him to speak to the item.

Professor Coughlan is the new joint course co-ordinator of the Innovation Academy programme, and is tasked, together with Prof. Suzi Jarvis from UCD, with developing the curriculum for a new joint postgraduate Diploma/Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The purpose of today's presentation was to gain approval in principle for the outline proposal, with a view to bringing the full programme for approval during the 2010/2011 academic year. Furthermore, the committee was asked to formally approve two modules for delivery from September 2010, and that credits gained from passing these modules may count towards the full Certificate or Diploma, once formally approved next year.

Professor Coughlan presented the overall framework, and explained that the first cohort of students for the programme will be PhD students from TCD and UCD. This will provide them with another perspective on the work they are doing and sensitise them to opportunities for innovation that they may not otherwise be aware of.

He explained that there will be a first "block" of modules entitled "Innovation: from idea to value". This consists of two modules (worth 10 and 5 ECTS resp.) which were presented in detail. All Ph.D. students in TCD and UCD will be given the option of taking these modules (and ultimately the entire programme), while all PhD students in receipt of the Innovation Bursaries must take at least 10 ECTS of block 1 during their first year. The committee were requested to approve these modules for rollout in September 2010. A second block of modules, entitled "Capitalizing on Innovation", will be fully developed during the coming academic year by the two course co-ordinators. To complete a Certificate, students must complete the first block, and may accumulate the remaining 15 ECTS during the remaining three years of their PhD studies. For the Diploma, they must accumulate 60 ECTS in total. The committee were asked for approval in principle of the Innovation Academy Diploma/Certificate programme, with a view to bringing it for formal approval during the 2010/2011 academic year. They were also asked that any credits accumulated during the 2010/11 year by students taking the modules on "Innovation: from idea to value" be counted towards the Certificate or Diploma in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, once formally approved.

In response to questions, it was explained that, whilst the first block of modules is an integral element of the programme and that the award could thus not be made without this being completed, a year four student, for example, could take one or two modules that were particularly relevant to them from the second block. However, it should be noted that, while a student would get something out of taking a later module without having completed the first block, the Learning Outcomes would be significantly different in a qualitative sense.

It was suggested that, in addition to the HEA (to whom a PRTL proposal had been made to fund the Innovation Academy), other funding bodies (such as IRCSET; IRCHSS) should be consulted during the future development of the programme. It was also suggested that the name: "Innovation: from idea to value" be amended to better reflect the intended relevance of this programme to students in Arts and Humanities.

The Committee confirmed that they approved the two block 1 modules presented in detail for delivery from September 2010. They also gave their approval in principle for the draft proposal for the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Diploma/Certificate, and that credits from the approved modules would count towards the full programme once formally approved.

GS/09-10/043 AOB

Dr Carmel O'Sullivan confirmed that each School would soon be contacted regarding a meeting due to take place on 27th May regarding options for new mobile devices and technologies, including podcasting.

A query was raised regarding the rollover date for the PAC system and a request made for this date to be set in advance. It was confirmed that the Graduate Studies Office would liaise with PAC regarding this date and inform Schools as soon as possible. However, it was noted that due to the nature of the PAC system it is only possible to carry information for one year at a time and, as there are courses with January start dates to be accommodated, the rollover needs to take place later in the year. It was confirmed that to resolve this

issue, a system was being put into place to rate any applications who apply in the previous year to enable them to be rolled forward to the following year.

The Dean confirmed that the report from the working group on postgraduate modularisation had been presented to Council and was very well received and the recommendations accepted.

The Vice-Provost has set up a taskforce on Internationalisation and has requested EU and proposed non-EU quotas for each postgraduate course. Further information will be sent via email from the Graduate Studies Office in the next few days.

Dr Carmel O'Sullivan requested that attention be drawn to Item B2, which has been submitted to the Committee for Noting and Approval. This is a proposal for a new strand of the existing M.Ed. entitled Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. It is a postgraduate qualification for academic staff with both a theoretical and practical focus and can be taken over three years to qualify for the M.Ed., or can be exited after two years with a Postgraduate Diploma. Dr O'Sullivan requested the Committee to bring this to the attention of appropriate staff.

Section B for noting and approval

- a) The Committee noted and approved the Calendar Part 2 Changes for 2010
- b) The Committee noted and approved the memo from the School of Education regarding approval of a new strand of the M.Ed. programme entitled "Teaching and Learning in Higher Education".
- c) The Committee noted and approved the memo from the School of Education regarding changes to the CPD/Master of Studies (M.St.) in School Leadership and Educational Studies.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10.25am.

Prof. Carol O'Sullivan

Date: 4th June 2010