PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)

Wednesday 10 June 2015 at 9am
Boardroom, QQI Offices, 26-27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2

Note of the eleventh meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held in QQI offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on **Wednesday 10 June 2015 at 9am**

PRESENT:	**In attendance:**
Dr Padraig Walsh (Chairperson)	Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)
Dr Rhona Dempsey	Ms Róisín Sweeney
Ms Angela Lambkin	Mr Walter Balfe(Item 7)
Ms Orla Lynch	Ms Ann Graves (Item 9)
Ms Karena Maguire	Ms Grainne Power
Ms Trish O'Brien	
Ms Mary Sheridan	

APOLOGIES:
Dr Bryan Maguire

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14 APRIL 2015**

   The minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 14 April 2015 were CONFIRMED and SIGNED.

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

   There were no matters arising from the minutes.

3. **NOTE OF THE MEETING, REPORT FOR THE BOARD**

   3.1 Note of Meeting of 14 April 2015
   The committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 14 April, for publication on the QQI website.

   3.2 Report for the Board on the meeting of 14 April 2015
   The Committee NOTED the Report for the Board on the PAEC Meeting of 14 April 2015.

4. **PROGRAMME VALIDATION APPLICATIONS**

   4.1. **Further Education and Training (FET) Programmes**

      4.1.1 **FET Programme Validation applications**

         The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed verbal report presented.

         The Committee APPROVED the recommendations in respect of the validation of the programmes listed in the documentation circulated subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners (PEL) and fees being paid to QQI.

         The Committee DEFERRED the decision to validate applications from specified providers offering Boom Sprayer Pesticide Application programmes until a verification visit to the provider has been undertaken by a member of the Executive of QQI and an independent expert.

The Committee NOTED the additional validation processes undertaken in relation to the nationally developed programmes for the new ICT awards. A panel was constituted and met with the lead developer, Cork ETB. The panel recommended the programmes for validation (PG21636/PG21637/PG21638/PG21639).   A similar process will be adopted for other FET providers making programme validation applications in respect of these awards.

4.1.2   FET Summary Reports

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated and the detailed verbal report presented.

4.1.3   FET Programme Validation Applications Refusals

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated, the documentation tabled (programme evaluation forms) and the detailed verbal report presented. The committee agreed with the recommendation to REFUSE validation of the following two programmes:

- PG21472
- PG21618

This decision will be referred to the Programmes and Awards Oversight Committee for confirmation or rejection.

4.2 Higher Education and Training Programmes – Programme Validation

4.2.1   National College of Ireland

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

4.2.1.1 Certificate in Credit Union Compliance and Risk, Level 7, Special Purpose, 30 Credits

4.3 Devolution of Responsibility for Validation sub-processes

4.3.1   Griffith College

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated The Committee DEFERRED the decision to validate the following programme pending confirmation from the provider on (1) the NFQ level of the programme, and (2) location of delivery.

4.3.1.1 Certificate in Dual Career Development (Sport), Level 7, Special Purpose Award, 20 Credits

4.3.2   National College of Ireland

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

4.3.2.1   Higher Certificate in Science in Business Computing, Level 6, Major Award, 120 credits

4.3.2.2   Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Technology Management, Level 8, Major Award, 240 credits

4.3.2.3 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Early Childhood Education, Level 8, Major Award, 240 credits
Bachelor of Arts (Ordinary) in Early Childhood Education, Level 7, Major Award, 180 credits
Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Education, Level 6, Major Award, 120 credits
Certificate in Early Childhood Education, Level 6, Minor Award, 60 credits

4.3.2.4 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Adult and Workforce Education, Level 8, Major Award, 240 credits
Bachelor of Arts (Ordinary) in Adult and Workforce Education, Level 7, Major Award, 180 credits
Higher Certificate in Adult and Workforce Education, Level 6, Major Award, 120 credits
Certificate in Education, Level 6, Minor Award, 60 credits

4.3.2.5 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in HRM Strategy and Practice, Level 8, Major Award, 180 credits
Diploma in HRM Strategy and Practice, Level 7, Minor Award, 60 credits

4.3.2.6 Certificate in the Internet of Things, Level 9, Special Purpose, 30 credits

4.4 Validation of Research Degree Programmes
No Business

4.5 Springboard Approvals

The Committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum circulated. The Committee APPROVED the programmes submitted for validation under Springboard 2015. The committee NOTED the issues relating to the timing of the Springboard initiative and how this conflicts with the QQI validation process. It was AGREED that the Executive will take this up with the HEA through implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding developed between the two agencies.

4.6 Initial Validation
No Business

4.7 Validation Process

Validation Process for Apprenticeships
The Committee NOTED the *Validation Process for Apprentic*eships circulated.

The Committee NOTED that SOLAS is the provider in this case and that it has a transitional QA agreement with QQI based on legacy arrangements. The Committee also NOTED that the Executive needs to establish an MOU for the purpose of dealing with the validation process for five craft certificate apprenticeships:- Electrical; Plumbing; Carpentry and Joinery; Metal Fabrication; Heavy Vehicle Mechanic. Two particular aspects that should be included in that MOU are (1) Quality Assurance arrangements supporting how SOLAS are engaging with providers, and (2) the specific criteria for validation.

The Committee APPROVED the *Validation Process for Apprentic*eships

5. REVALIDATION

5.1 Children's Therapy Centre
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

5.1.1 Master of Arts in Creative Psychotherapy (Humanistic and Integrative Modality), Level 9, Major Awards, 120 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Play Therapy, Level 9, Major Award, 60 credits

5.2 Dublin Business School
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners and the position regarding the organisation structure and staffing in DBS:

5.2.1 Bachelor of Arts in Film and Media, Level 7, Major Award, 180
Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 credits
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Media, Level 7, Major Award, 180
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Journalism, Level 8, Major Award, 180 credits
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Science, Level 8, Major Award, 180 credits
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Arts, Level 8, Major Award, 180 credits

5.3 HSE Tullamore
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

5.3.1 Certificate in Diabetes Nursing, Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 10 credits
Certificate in Nurse Authority to Prescribe Ionising Radiation (X-Ray), Level 8, Special Purpose Award, 20 credits

5.4 Irish College of Humanities and Applied Science (ICHAS)
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

5.4.1 Master of Arts in Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits, add-on
Bachelor of Arts in Counselling Skills and Psychotherapy Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits

Master of Arts in Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

Master of Arts in Clinical Supervision in Professional Practice, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Supervision in Professional Practice, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

Master of Arts in Childhood and Adolescent Studies, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Childhood and Adolescent Studies, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

Master of Arts in Counselling and Pastoral Care, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling and Pastoral Care, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

Master of Arts in Leadership and Management in Professional Practice, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Leadership and Management in Professional Practice, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Counselling Studies, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits, add-on
Bachelor of Arts in Counselling Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits
Higher Certificate in Counselling Studies, Level 6, Major Award, 120 Credits
Certificate in Counselling Studies, Level 6, Minor Award, 60 Credits

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Counselling and Youth Studies, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits, add-on
Bachelor of Arts in Counselling Skills and Youth Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Counselling and Addiction Studies, Level 8, Major Award, 60 Credits, add-on
Bachelor of Arts in Counselling Skills and Addiction Studies, Level 7, Major Award, 180 Credits

5.5 National College of Ireland (NCI)

5.5.1 NCI – School of Computing

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the revalidation of the following programmes for five years from September 2015 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners:

Level 9
Master of Science in Cloud Computing, Level 9 Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Cloud Computing, Level 9, Major Award, 60 credits
Certificate in Cloud Computing for Business, Level 9, Minor Award, 30 credits
Master of Science in Web Technologies, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Web Technologies, Level 9, Major Awards, 60 credits
Master of Science in Mobile Technologies, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Mobile Technologies, Level 9, Major Award, 60 credits
Certificate in Application Development for Mobile Devices, Level 9, Minor Award, 30 credits
Level 8
Higher Diploma in Science in Web Technologies, Level 8, Major Award, 60 credits
Certificate in Web Technologies, Level 8, Minor Award, 30 credits
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing, Level 8, Major Award, 240 credits
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Business Information Systems, Level 8, Major Award, 240 credits
Level 6
Higher Certificate in Science in Computing (Applications and Business Support), Level 6, Major Award, 120 credits
Certificate in Web Design, Level 6, Minor Award, 30 credits
Certificate in Web Development, Level 6, Minor Award, 30 credits

5.5.2 NCI - School of Business

Level 9
Master of Business Administration, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits
Master of Science in Management, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Management, Level 9, Major Award, 70 credits
Master of Science in Entrepreneurship, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credit
Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Entrepreneurship, Level 9, Major Award, 70 credits
Master of Science in International Business, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Business in International Business, Level 9, 70 credits

Master of Arts in Human Resource Management, Level 9, Major Award, 90 Credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in HRM, Level 9, Major Award, 60 Credits

5.5.3 NCI - School of Arts

Master of Arts in Learning and Teaching, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits
Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Learning and Teaching, Level 9, Major Award, 60 credits

5.5.4 NCI - Programme Amendments

The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the amendments to the following programme for five years from September 2015:

Master of Science in Finance, Level 9, Major Award, 90 credits

6. QA FOR COLLABORATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL PROVISION AND JOINT AWARDING
No Business

7. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

7.1 The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated 1 with regard to Athlone Institute of Technology's application for an extension of Delegated Authority to include the making of awards for Level 10 research degree programmes in Network Communications and Software Engineering. The Committee APPROVED the proposal to extend AIT's existing delegated authority to make awards for Level 10 research degree programmes in Network Communications and Software Engineering.

8. RECOGNITION
No Business

9. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE
9.1 FSG - tracking of adjustments to published standards
The Committee NOTED the documentation circulated and AGREED the adjustments to published standards listed.

9.2 FSG - activity report
The Committee NOTED the verbal report and the activity report circulated.

10. CHANGE OF PROVIDER STATUS OF LEGACY HET AND FET PROVIDERS
No business.