

Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

Quality and Qualifications Ireland

PROGRAMMES AND AWARDS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PAEC)

Note of the third meeting of the QQI Programmes and Awards Executive Committee held in QQI offices, 26/27 Denzille Lane, Dublin 2 on **Wednesday 5 February 2014 at 10:00.**

PRESENT:

Chairperson: Dr Pádraig Walsh

Committee: Mr Walter Balfe
Ms Orla Lynch
Dr Bryan Maguire
Ms Kárena Maguire
Ms Trish O'Brien
Ms Mary Sheridan
Ms Andrina Wafer

In attendance:

Ms Deirdre Miller (Secretary)
Ms Therese Masterson (Key Executive)
Ms Angela Lambkin
Ms Róisín Sweeney
Ms Colette Harrison (Item 4)
Ms Ann Graves (Item 9)

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 12 DECEMBER 2013

The minutes of the PAEC Meeting held on 12 December 2013 were CONFIRMED and SIGNED.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Programmes validated subject to PEL confirmation

The executive provided an update on those programmes approved by the PAEC in the October and December 2013 meetings subject to Protection of Enrolled Learners (PEL) requirements being satisfied.

Paper and Policy recommendations on the GMAT and IELTS levels for entry to bachelor and master degree programmes

It was agreed that a sub-group of the PAEC would be established to look at correspondence received from Dublin Business School and the Higher Education Colleges Association (HECA) regarding the imposition of English language requirements as part of programme validation. The sub-group will make a recommendation to the Chair of the PAEC on this matter within a week.

3. NOTE OF THE MEETING OF 12 DECEMBER 2013

The committee APPROVED the Note of the PAEC Meeting of 12 December 2013 for publication on the QQI website.

4. PROGRAMME VALIDATION APPLICATIONS

4.1. Further Education and Training Programmes

4.1.1. 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 subject to confirmation of arrangements for Protection of Enrolled Learners (PEL) in line with QQI's interim procedures and clarification on monitoring issues where applicable.

4.1.2. Detailed Summary Reports

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

4.2. Higher Education and Training Programmes

4.2.1. HSE Regional Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Education, Blanchardstown

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated. The Committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme for five years from April 2014:

- ***Certificate in Psychosocial Interventions for Nurses (Level 8) Special Purpose 20 ECTS***

4.2.2. National College of Ireland – Extension of Validation

The committee NOTED the documentation circulated and APPROVED the extension of the validation of the following programme for one year to September 2014.

- ***BSc (Hons) in Computing, Major Award, Level 8, 240 ECTS***
- ***Higher Certificate in Computing, Major Award, Level 6, 120 ECTS***
- ***BSc (Hons) in Business Information Systems, Major Award, Level 8, 240 ECTS***
- ***Certificate in Business Analysis, Special Purpose Award, Level 8, 15 ECTS***
- ***BA Management Practice, Major Award, Level 7, 180 ECTS***
- ***Certificate in Management Practice, Special Purpose Award, Level 7, 60 ECTS***

4.3. Devolution of Responsibility for Validation sub-processes

No business

4.4. Validation of Research Degree Programmes

No business

4.5. Springboard Approvals

No Business

4.6. Initial Validation (under legacy process)

4.6.1. Galway Business School

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

The committee APPROVED the validation of the following programme, subject to clarification on a number of issues:

- Bachelor of Business, Level 7, 180 ECTS

4.6.2. Higher Education and Training Provider

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

The college applied for validation of the following programmes:

- Bachelor of Arts in Holistic Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 7, 180 ECTS
- Certificate in Holistic Counselling and Psychotherapy, Level 6, 30 ECTS

The committee ACCEPTED the recommendation of the panel that the college submit a revised submission to QQI for consideration within six months of the notification.

5. REVALIDATION

No business.

6. QA FOR COLLABORATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL PROVISION AND JOINT AWARDING

No business.

7. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

No business.

8. RECOGNITION

No business.

9. ROUTINE STANDARDS ACTIVITIES UPDATE

The committee NOTED the detailed verbal report and the documentation circulated:

- Framework Standards and Guidance - activity report
- FSG - Tracking of adjustments to published awards standards
- CAS Restatement of Policy and Guidelines Working Draft

The Committee agreed the approach to the executive adjustment to awards standards and noted the changes to date to various standards.

10. OUTSTANDING ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED BY ACADEMIC COMMITTEE AND INTERIM ADVISORY GROUP

The committee NOTED the Explanatory Memorandum and the Recommendations gleaned from the HETAC Academic Committee minutes and the detailed verbal report presented.

The Executive are to review the document and to identify the actions that need to be taken by the PAEC and PAOC and any other relevant committees.

11. REVIEW OF COMMITTEE OPERATIONS

No business

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Research Validation – Institute of Technology Tralee Review

At its last meeting the PAEC decided to request confirmation from IT Tralee, that it has implemented the three urgent recommendations (5, 10, 11) from the report of the Expert Panel review of validated research degree programmes in the Institute. It was confirmed that QQI has received and accepted confirmation that the three recommendations are in place. As a consequence, QQI is now in a position to accept applications from IT Tralee for approval of students initiating research degree programmes.