



**UCD Academic Council
Comhairle Acadúil UCD**

**Minutes of the meeting of Academic Council
Thursday 23 November 2023, 2pm
Auditorium, UCD Village**

Present: 67
In Attendance: 3
Apologies: 14

This meeting of Academic Council was chaired by the President, Professor Orla Feely.

The Chair informed members that items under Part 2 of the agenda are for decision en bloc and items under Part 3 are for information. Members were invited to indicate if they wanted any items from these parts moved to Part 1 for discussion. No items were raised.

Decision	Academic Council approved items from Part 2 and noted items from Part 3 of the agenda.
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1 Apologies

The Chair acknowledged that a number of apologies had been received.

2 Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2023 were approved.

Matters Arising

AC 27/04/23, Item 4 - Review of Academic Regulations for Research Degree Programmes

Academic Council, at its meeting on 27 April 2023, approved amendments to the Academic Regulations for Research Degree Programmes, effective from September 2023. Academic Council was now informed that the Chair of ACEC, acting on delegated authority, approved an additional minor amendment to the Research Regulations to ensure that approved changes to Section 7 would be mapped to the relevant sections in Section 8 and 9.

Declaration of potential conflicts of interest or perceived conflicts of interest

None were declared.

Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 27 April 2023. • Academic Council noted the that the Chair of ACEC, acting on delegated authority, had approved an additional minor amendment to the Research Regulations.
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PART 1

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL

3 Extern Examination Policy for Taught Programmes

The Chair of ACCE, Professor Peter Duffy, introduced this item.

The Academic Council Committee on Examinations (ACCE), following instruction from ACEC, revised the Subject Extern Policy so that it is reframed as an External Examination Policy for UCD Taught Programmes and includes provision for the appointment of Programme Externs if/when the work being carried out by those currently appointed as Subject Externs is better described as programme external examination. The Policy was endorsed by ACEC at its meeting of 5 October 2023.

The Chair thanked the Working Group for a robust piece of work.

Decision Academic Council approved the Extern Examination Policy for Taught Programmes.

4

- **ACEC Response to Academic Council Subcommittee Annual Reports 2022-2023**
- **AC Subcommittee Annual Reports 2022-2023 (for Noting)**

The Acting Registrar and Secretary to Academic Council, Professor Barbara Dooley, introduced this item.

In accordance with the Academic Council Standing Orders (section 5.4), Academic Council Subcommittees are required to submit an annual report to Academic Council. Annual Reports 2022-2023 were presented to ACEC at its meeting on 5 October 2023. The Chair of each Subcommittee was given an opportunity to briefly highlight:

- (1) areas of best practice captured in the report;
- (2) challenges or areas for future development/consideration;
- (3) items of note on the workplan for 2023-24.

The practice (introduced by the Acting Registrar in 2022) of allowing each Chair time to present and highlight key areas contained in the Reports served to enhance discussion and raise awareness of challenges that arise in specific areas. Key points highlighted by the Chairs are captured in the ACEC response to the Annual Reports. The Acting Registrar drew members attention to a recommendation contained in the ACEC Response that in future Academic Council might consider holding a special meeting for the Chairs of the Subcommittees to present the annual reports. This proposal will be explored further by the President and ACEC in 2023-24.

The President and Acting Registrar acknowledged the significant amount of work conducted by the Subcommittees, and thanked Chairs and members for their contribution. The AC Subcommittees have reached a level of maturity in recent years and were commended for their excellence, consistency, monitoring and professionalism.

During discussion it was acknowledged that the workload of a number of the Subcommittees is substantial and the volume of paperwork time consuming. The Chair of ACCE advised that measures have been introduced to help reduce the workload and make processes more efficient. The Chair expressed support for anything that can be done to reduce the workload of the Subcommittees.

The Chair also informed members that a call for nominations for the award of Honorary Degrees had been issued. Nominations shall be considered by ACCHDMA.

Decision

- **Academic Council approved the ACEC Response to the AC Subcommittee Annual Reports.**
- **Academic Council noted the AC Subcommittee Annual Reports.**

PART 2
ITEMS FOR APPROVAL BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL

5 Recommended Candidates for Award of Tenure 2023

At its meeting on 16 October 2023, the UCD Tenure Committee agreed to recommend to Academic Council for approval a number of Lecturer/Assistant Lecturers and Associate Professors for the award of tenure, effective 1 October 2023.

Decision Academic Council approved the Candidates for Award of Tenure 2023.

6 Academic Council Election Procedures

The current three-year term of elected members of Academic Council will cease on 31 August 2024. It is proposed to hold electronic elections in February/March 2024 for the three constituencies across the six Colleges. Academic Council will be formally notified of the outcome at its meeting in April 2024. Elected members will take office on 1 September 2024.

In the instance that there are unfilled seats following an election to the Academic Council, Colleges will conduct a local process to nominate and elect members to fill vacant seats. This is in line with the decision taken by Academic Council on 25 November 2021.

Decision Academic Council approved the AC Election Procedures.

7 Academic Centres Policy – Updated

The Academic Council Committee on Academic Centres (ACCAC), at its meeting of 17 May 2023, agreed to recommend to Academic Council the following revisions to the Academic Centres Policy:

- Formalising the role of Deputy Director (section 4.2)
- Reference to the research culture (section 3.v)
- Revise the recommendations that the ACCAC may make following the outcome of reviews of Centres (section 5)
- Include a note on gender balance (section 2.2)

Decision Academic Council approved the revisions to the Academic Centres Policy.

8 Academic Council Committee on Academic Centres (ACCAC) Report

ACCAC recommended the following items for approval to Academic Council:

- establish one new academic centre: *UCD One Health Centre (UCD OHC)*
- approve five new Academic Centre Directors:
 - UCD Centre for Critical Infrastructure Research: Assistant Professor Rui Teixeira
 - UCD Centre for Sustainable Development: Professor Supriya Garikipati
 - UCD Centre for Innovation, Technology & Organisation: Allen Higgins
 - UCD Centre for Emergency Medical Science: Professor Walter Cullen
 - UCD Centre for Human Reproduction: Dr Amy O’Higgins

Decision Academic Council approved the ACCAC Report and recommendations contained within.

9 Changes to AC Subcommittee Terms of Reference

Academic Council was asked to approve amendments to the following subcommittee Terms of Reference:

- University Programmes Board (UPB)
- Academic Council Committee on Honorary Degrees and Major Awards (ACCHDMA)

- Agriculture and Food Science Graduate Board Terms of Reference (A&FSTPB)

Decision

- Academic Council approved the amended UPB Terms of Reference.
- Academic Council approved the amended ACCHDMA Terms of Reference.
- Academic Council approved the amended A&FSTPB Terms of Reference.

10 New Head of School Appointment

Head of School appointments are presented to Academic Council for consultation in accordance with Statute 25 (Chapter 17, Paragraph 7).

College	School	Proposed Head of School	Duration
Engineering and Architecture	Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy	Associate Professor Oliver Kinnane	<u>Start Date:</u> 1 January 2024 <u>End Date:</u> 31 December 2028

Decision Academic Council endorsed the Head of School appointment as presented.

11 UCD Subject Register – Updates

Academic Council was asked to consider the following amendments to the UCD Subject Register:

- Proposal to Change the Subject Title 'Botany' to 'Plant Biology'.
- Request to remove the Subject 'Plant Genetic Engineering'.

Decision

- Academic Council approved the Subject title change on the UCD Subject Register from 'Botany' to 'Plant Biology'.
- Academic Council approved the request to remove the Subject 'Plant Genetic Engineering' from the UCD Subject Register.

12 New/Renewed Head of Subject Appointments

Head of Subject appointments are subject to Academic Council approval in accordance with Statute 25 (Chapter 17, Paragraph 11). Extensions are presented for noting.

School	Subject	Proposed Head of Subject	Duration
Politics & International Relations	Development Studies	Professor Patrick Paul Walsh	Extension Start Date: 01/09/2023 End Date: 31/08/2025
Politics & International Relations	International Relations	Professor Ben Tonra	Extension Start Date: 01/09/2023 End Date: 31/08/2025
Politics & International Relations	Politics	Prof. Niamh Hardiman	Extension Start Date: 01/09/2023 End Date: 31/08/2025

Decision Academic Council noted the Head of Subject extensions as presented.

13 Proposal for Emeritus Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor

The conferment of Emeritus status is subject to Academic Council approval (as per Statute 25 and the *Governing Authority Schedules of Reserved Decision-Making Authority and of Delegated Authority*).

Name	Emeritus Title	School	Retirement Year
Professor Adrian Ottewill	Emeritus Full Professor	Mathematics and Statistics	2023 (October)
Professor Abbey Hyde	Emeritus Professor	Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems	2023 (October)
Dr Wieland Fricke	Emeritus Assistant Lecturer	Biology & Environment Science	2023 (October)

Decision Academic Council approved the proposals for Emeritus titles as presented.

PART 3

ITEMS FOR NOTING BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL

14 Academic Council Committee Approved Minutes

Academic Council Subcommittee approved minutes were presented to Academic Council for noting, in line with the Academic Council Standing Orders.

Committee	Reference
ACCAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 17 May 2023 	23.02.N01a
ACCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 24 March 2023 Minutes of meeting held on 21 April 2023 Minutes of meeting held on 19 May 2023 Minutes of meeting held on 23 June 2023 Minutes of meeting held on 15 September 2023 	23.02.N01b
ACCSAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 12 December 2022 	23.02.N01c
ACCSCC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 19 October 2022 Minutes of meeting held on 14 December 2022 	23.02.N01d
ACEC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 1 March 2023 Minutes of meeting held on 31 May 2023 	23.02.N01e
ACQEC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 11 October 2022 Minutes of meeting held on 12 December 2022 Minutes of meeting held on 1 February 2023 	23.02.N01f

UPB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of meeting held on 3 May 2023 	23.02.N01g
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Decision Academic Council noted the Academic Council Subcommittee approved minutes as presented.

15 Faculty Promotions Committee Annual Report 2022-23

The purpose of the report is to provide Academic Council with an update on the Faculty Promotion process for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The Report also provides the cumulative statistics for the five year period from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2023.

Decision Academic Council noted the Faculty Promotions Committee Annual Report 2022-23.

16 UCD Code of Responsible Conduct of Research

The UCD Code of Responsible Conduct of Research was approved by the Governing Authority in December 2019. Since then, UCD has approved a new Policy on Research Data Management and updated from a code to a policy on Supervision of research degree students. This Code of Responsible Conduct of Research has been updated to incorporate these changes and to align with the revised HEA Principles of Good Practice in Research within Irish Higher Education Institutions (2022). In addition, there is the inclusion of a statement on Academic Freedom, and on Sustainability. In May 2023, UMT approved a new Employee Code of Conduct. As there is now considerable overlap between these two codes, we propose to reference this new Employee Code of Conduct, and remove some of the overlapping policy references, as outlined in the section below.

Academic Council was asked to note that the revised *UCD Code of Responsible Conduct of Research* was approved by UMT on 24 October 2023.

Decision Academic Council noted the revised Code of Responsible Conduct of Research.

17 Academic Council Subcommittee Membership 2023-2024

The complete list of Academic Council Subcommittee Membership 2023-24 is presented to Academic Council for noting at the first meeting of the academic year.

Decision Academic Council noted the membership of AC Subcommittees 2023-2024.

18 AC Schedule of Reserved Decision-Making Authority

The AC Schedule of Reserved Decision-Making Authority is presented to Academic Council at the first meeting of each year in accordance with the AC Standing Orders.

Decision Academic Council noted the AC Schedule of Reserved Decision-Making Authority.

19 UCD Subject Register

In accordance with the 'Procedures for the Emergence and Review of Subjects', the UCD Subject Register is noted at the first meeting of the Academic Council each year. The Subject Register outlines the University's Heads of Subject as of 3 November 2023.

Decision Academic Council noted the UCD Subject Register.

20 Conflict of Interest Policy

Academic Council was asked to note the Conflict of Interest Policy as per protocol at the first meeting of the academic year.

Decision Academic Council noted the Conflict of Interest Policy.

21 GDPR Summary for Committees

Academic Council was asked to note the GDPR Summary as per protocol at the first meeting of the academic year.

Decision Academic Council noted the GDPR Summary.

22 Academic Council Standing Orders

Academic Council was asked to note the Standing Orders as per protocol at the first meeting of the academic year.

Decision Academic Council noted the AC Standing Orders.

23 Revocation of the Craig Dobbin Professorship of Canadian Studies

Academic Council was asked to note that Governing Authority, at its meeting of 26 October 2023, agreed to revoke the Craig Dobbin Professorship of Canadian Studies, and invoke Statute 31.

Decision Academic Council noted that the Governing Authority agreed to revoke the Craig Dobbin Professorship of Canadian Studies and invoke Statute 31.

Other Business

The President offered her personal gratitude and thanks to Professor Barbara Dooley for her outstanding contribution in the role of Acting Registrar, Deputy President and Secretary to Academic Council.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: _____

Appendix 1 - Attendees at Academic Council 23 November 2023**Present: 67 In Attendance: 3 Apologies: 14****Chaired by: President, Professor Orla Feely**

Title	First Name	Last Name	In attendance
Full Professor	Aoife	Ahern	Apologies
Professor	Karen	Anderson	Yes
Dr	Pascale	Baker	
	Miranda	Bauer	Yes
Dr	Brett	Becker	Yes
Associate Professor	Alessandro	Benati	Apologies
Professor	Catherine	Blake	
Professor	Catherine	Blake	
Professor	Paula	Bourke	
Assistant Professor	Martin	Brady	
Professor	John	Brannigan	
Professor	Rory	Breathnach	
Full Professor	Don	Bredin	
	Aoibhinn	Brentnall	Apologies
Professor	Michael	Brophy	Yes
Dr	Conor	Buggy	Yes
Assistant Professor	Orla	Byrne	Yes
	Louise	Campbell	Apologies
Professor	Deirdre	Campion	Yes
Professor	Marie	Clarke	Yes
Full Professor	Danielle	Clarke	
Associate Professor	Marguerite	Clyne	Yes
Dr	Sandra	Collins	Yes
Dr	Philip	Cottrell	
Professor	Catherine	Cox	Yes
Professor	Tasman	Crowe	Yes
Full Professor	Mark	Crowe	Yes
	Tia	Cullen	Yes
Associate Professor	Paul	Curran	
Dr	Aoife	De Brún	Yes
Associate Professor	Sharae	Deckard	
Associate Professor	Kevin	Denny	
Associate Professor	Neil	Docherty	
Associate Professor	Suzanne	Donnelly	Yes
Professor	Barbara	Dooley	Yes
Associate Professor	Jos	Dornschnieder-Elkink	Yes
Professor	Evelyn	Doyle	
Professor	Peter	Duffy	Yes
Dr	Mark	Dukes	Yes

Associate Professor	John	Dunnion	
Assistant Professor	Paul	Dylan-Ennis	Apologies
Dr	Caroline	Elliot-Kingston	Yes
Professor	Niall	English	
Full Professor	Alexander	Evans	Apologies
Full Professor	Bryan	Fanning	
Dr	Rachel	Farrell	
Professor	Orla	Feely	Yes
Assistant Professor	Kelly	Fitzgerald	Yes
Associate Professor	Shane	Foley	Yes
Dr	Timothy	Frawley	
Full Professor	Nial	Friel	
Dr	Sarah	Fulham-McQuillan	Yes
Associate Professor	Helen	Gallagher	Yes
Full Professor	Susi	Geiger	Yes
Associate Professor	Amanda	Gibney	Yes
Full Professor	Martin	Grunewald	Yes
Professor	Suzanne	Guerin	Yes
Full Professor	Patrick	Guiry	
Dr	Vincent	Hargaden	Yes
Full Professor	Peter	Haughton	Yes
Associate Professor	Ciaran	Heavey	
	Erin	Hoare	Yes
Associate Professor	Maeve	Houlihan	
Associate Professor	Neil	Hurley	
Associate Professor	Georgiana	Ifrim	Yes
Professor	Lisa	Katz	Yes
Full Professor	Donncha	Kavanagh	Apologies
Full Professor	Michael	Keane	
Full Professor	Anne	Keegan	Yes
Full Professor	Peter	Kennedy	
Professor	Jason	Last	Yes
Professor	Madeleine	Lowery	
Professor	Steven	Loyal	
	Aisling	Maloney	
	Marc	Matouc	Yes
Assistant Professor	Tomás	McAuley	Yes
Full Professor	Eilish	McAuliffe	Yes
Professor	Paul	McCabe	Yes
Assistant Professor	Emma	McDaid	Yes
Associate Professor	Susan	McDonnell	Apologies
	Sarah	McGrath	Yes
Associate Professor	Tara	McMorrow	Yes
Associate Professor	Jonathan	McNulty	Apologies
Associate Professor	Maria	Meehan	Yes
Associate Professor	Julien	Mercille	
Full Professor	Frank	Monahan	Yes

Full Professor	Cal	Muckley	Yes
Professor	Cormac	Murphy	Yes
Dr	Neal	Murphy	Yes
	Cillian	Murphy	Yes
Full Professor	Liam	Murphy	Apologies
	Jill	Nelis	Yes
	Martha	Ní Riada	Yes
Full Professor	Michelle	Norris	Yes
Full Professor	Niamh	Nowlan	Yes
Dr	Harvey	O'Brien	Yes
Dr	Barry	O'Donnell	Yes
Associate Professor	Eoin	O'Neill	
Associate Professor	Emma	O'Neill	
Professor	Michael	O'Neill	Apologies
Associate Professor	Sharleen	O'Reilly	Yes
Professor	Aidan	O'Sullivan	
	Tsz Chang	Pang	Apologies
Professor	Federica	Pazzaglia	
Full Professor	Laurent	Pech	
Associate Professor	Paul	Perry	
Associate Professor	Antoinette	Perry	Yes
Associate Professor	Siofra	Pierse	Yes
Professor	Deirdre	Raftery	Yes
Full Professor	Mark	Scott	
Professor	Eugenia	Siapera	
Professor	Emma	Sokell	Yes
Full Professor	Rowland	Stout	
Professor	James	Sullivan	Yes
Professor	Aisling	Swaine	
Associate Professor	Alexander	Thein	Yes
Full Professor	Fiona	Timmins	Yes
	Tara	Toye	
Professor	Akke	Vellinga	Yes
Full Professor	Michael	Wallace	Apologies
Full Professor	Wenxin	Wang	Yes
Assistant Professor	Jessica	Whelan	Apologies
Professor	Taha	Yasseri	Yes

Non-members in attendance:
Siobhan Curran, University Secretariat
Jean Keating, Deputy Director, University Secretariat
Philip O'Hanrahan, University Secretariat