



RPL Implementation Steering Group

Funded by the Human Capital Initiative, the goal of the project is to make the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) an integral and vibrant part of higher education, one which offers lifelong learning opportunities of discernible value to learners and enterprise. The objective of this project is to build a consistent and coherent approach to RPL and the provision of RPL services within and across all Universities, Institutes of Technology, and the Technological Universities.

Purpose and Function

The RPL Implementation Steering Group is established to provide high-level oversight and coordination of the RPL work programme at UCD. The following work packages describe the goals and objectives for the continued implementation and optimisation of RPL practices and processes at UCD.

Work Package 1-Project Governance and Management

Work Package 2- Analysis and Research which will provide evidence based benchmarking against National, European and international good practice models and distance travelled over the lifetime of the project.

Work Package 3- Capacity building. RPL policies and procedures will be consolidated and strengthened and a range of innovative tools and resources developed, aligned to QQI high-level policies on access and progression.

Work Package 4- Pilot, review and expansion of HEI RPL practice with enterprise. This will be done pro-actively with target enterprise at local and regional levels, on the basis of identified opportunities and challenges through existing partnerships and outreach exercises. This will span across Higher Education disciplines and programmes, and types of enterprises.

Work Package 5- National RPL Framework will include a national understanding of RPL, with agreed language, principles and reference points, in keeping with the NFQ and QQI high-level policies.

Work Package 6-foresees the creation of an online RPL Platform for Irish HE. A database of precedence will be included to increase sustainability.

Work Package 7- Dissemination and Communication

Terms of Reference

The RPL Implementation Steering Group is established to provide high-level oversight and coordination of the RPL work programme by:

1. Reviewing and approving the programme scope.
2. Providing input into high level work package requirements.
3. Monitoring the programme to ensure that it is on course to deliver the outputs and benefits as set out in project proposal.
4. Acting as an escalation point for resolution of issues that cannot be managed at other levels.
5. Advising on policy.
6. Acting as champions for the project by communicating its successes and benefits.
7. Providing advice on matters relating to the project implementation, processes, systems and procedures.

Composition

The following are the current members of the implementation Steering Committee:

Professor Jason Last (Chair)	Dean of Students
Annemarie Lawley	Senior Project Manager
Jill O'Mahoney	Director: Admissions and Strategic Enrolment
Nessa O'Shaughnessy	Senior Manager Admissions
Martin Hurley	Senior Admissions Business Lead, University CRM
Bronwyn O'Callaghan	I.T. Services
Dr Bairbre Fleming	Director: Access and Lifelong Learning
Ciara Cloak	UCD Graduate Studies, Graduate Research Programme Manager
Associate Professor Alexander Thien	College of Arts & Humanities, School of Classics
Associate Professor Tara McMorrow	College of Science
Debra Heeney	College of Engineering & Architecture, Engineering Programme & Operations Manager
Danny Moran	College of Social Science & Law, Senior Programme Manager
Dr Orna O'Brien	College of Business, Director of Global Campus
Associate Professor Mary Ryder	School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems
Associate Professor Marc Scanlon	College of Science, School of Computer Science

The Group may co-opt representatives from across the University as appropriate.

The Group may establish, whether from within its own membership or otherwise, such sub-groups and advisory groups as it may think fit, to advise and report on any of the above matters.

Committee Support

The RPL Implementation Steering Group shall be supported by the Senior Project Manager.

Conduct of Business

- The RPL Implementation Steering Group shall meet every four to six weeks.
- The meetings shall be convened by the Chair with a minimum of seven days' notice of a meeting.
- The members of the Group may nominate others to attend meetings on their behalf.

Reporting Responsibility

The RPL Implementation Steering Group shall report to UMT Education Group with reports indicating items for decision and items for communication. Items for decision should be accompanied by the recommendation of the Group.