MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 206
OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
OF DUNDALK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
HELD ON FRIDAY 19th JUNE, 2026.

Meeting No 206

206.1.1 In attendance:

Dr. Diana Bogusevschi	Dr. Conor Brady	Dr. Breda Brennan
Dr. Kevin Burns	Dr. Anita Byrne	Mr. Dermot Clarke
Dr. Adele Commins	Ms. Karen Commins	Ms. Amy Connolly
Dr. Coleman Dennehy	Ms. Sinead Dunne	Dr. Sheila Flanagan
Dr. Joe Gildea	Mr. Peter Gosling	Dr. Peadar Grant
Dr. Edel Healy	Prof. Colette Henry	Ms. Helen Howley
Mr. Shane Hill	Dr. Siobhan Jordan	Dr. Diako Khodaei
Dr. Briege King	Dr. Moira Maguire	Dr. Annaleigh Margey
Dr. Eamonn Martin	Prof. Fergal Mc Caffrey	Ms. Irene Mc Causland
Ms. Catherine McCloskey	Mr. Pat Mc Cormick	Dr. Martin Mc Hugh
Dr. Ruth Mc Keever	Dr. Kevin Mc Kenna	Dr. Patricia Moriarty
Ms. Linda Murphy	Mr. Paul Murphy	Dr. Kieran Nolan
Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan	Ms. Deirdre O'Malley	Dr. Teresa O'Rourke
Ms. Michelle O'Shea	Ms. Denise Quigley	Mr. Conor Reidy
Dr. Brendan Ryder	Ms. Jacqueline Toal	Dr. Arjan Van Rossum

205.1.2 Apologies:

Dr. Paul Mac Artain	Dr. Jade Pollock	

205.1.3 Absent:

Ms. Tobi Bewaji	Mr. Frank Brady	Ms. Maeve Caraher
Dr. Tim Mc Cormac	Mr. Gerry O'Brien	Ms. Geraldine O'Connor
Ms. Eimear Rice		

Guest: Mr Eamonn Murphy, Examinations Officer

206.1.4 Minutes & Matters Arising of Academic Council Meeting No. 205

Minutes of Meeting No. 205 Approved

Proposed by: Mr. Dermot Clarke
Seconded by: Mr. Peter Gosling

Matters arising

Dr. Anita Byrne provided an update on the recently established working group and its initial discussions regarding accessibility within Academic Council meetings.

Dr. Anita Byrne, Ms. Catherine McCloskey and Dr. Joe Gildea met on 3 June 2026 for a preliminary discussion on how best to progress this work. The group agreed to review existing evidence and

examples of good practice and to reconvene with a view to developing a Charter for Accessibility in Academic Council Meetings.

It is anticipated that a draft Charter will be presented to Academic Council for consideration at its September meeting.

The President agreed that feedback from Academic Council members should be gathered to inform the development of the Charter.

Dr. Joe Gildea requested an amendment to the minutes of Meeting No. 205 to more accurately reflect the discussion that had taken place. Following consideration by Council, it was agreed that the following sentence be added:

"A discussion took place on the operation of Academic Council meetings in relation to inclusion and accessibility issues."

It was also noted that motions had been circulated via the meeting chat function to facilitate ease of access for members.

The President acknowledged the significant contribution of Mr. Pat McCormick and extended best wishes to him in his new role and during his secondment.

206.2.1 Student Voice

No report presented

206.3.1 Ratification of Results (AC:DOC:206:03:01)

Motion 206.01

That the Academic Council confirms the results of the Examinations as listed in the Examination Result Listing. (AC:DOC:206:03:01)

Proposed by: Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan
Seconded by: Dr. Sheila Flanagan

Votes:	**36**
In Favour:	**36**
Against:	**0**
Abstention:	**0**

Mr. Eamonn Murphy, Examinations Officer, joined the meeting to present the examination results to Academic Council.

Each Head of School subsequently presented the results for their respective School and acknowledged the significant contribution of their teams, including Heads of Department, academic and administrative staff, the Registrar's Office, and the Examinations Office. Appreciation was also

expressed for the support provided by Ms. Sinead Dunne, Ms. Olly Keegan, Ms. Linda Murphy and Mr. Anthony Murray.

The Registrar commended the work of the Examinations Office and extended her thanks to Mr. Eamonn Murphy and his team, noting their professionalism and commitment throughout the examination process.

The President echoed these sentiments, congratulating all involved and acknowledging the scale, complexity and detail of the examination report.

DkIT Examinations Office Report on May 2026 Session Examinations

Result Processing for the May 2026 Session

Between the four schools and the Examinations Office, results were processed for 5786 students from the 2025/2026 second semester.

Examination Overview May 2026 Session

In the May Examination Session, a total of 3818 students sat 378 separate examinations over 10 days across 4 main venues primarily.

- A total of 267 students were facilitated with a smaller / separate room as part of their additional need requirements, with a further 25 sitting within a main venue.
- There was a 22% increase year on year in students requiring a separate (1-1) venue.
- In total 65 invigilators managed the examination sessions.

Examination Spot-checks & Examination Infringements May 2026 Session

- Approximately 730 spot checks were carried out during the examinations.
- 3 students were found with prohibited material in the exam halls, and/or in breach of the regulations.

Queries during the Examinations

The total amount of examinations that took place was in the region of 378. The table below shows a breakdown of the type and number of queries reported during the examinations

Exit Awards

6 Exit Awards were processed in this session.

Examination Processing

Recent examination processing cycle successfully managed a substantial workload, handling a total of 280 ticket across all four schools

206.4.1 Register of Prizes

Motion 206.02

That the Academic Council confirms the establishment of the following School Prize(s) in the School of Informatics and Creative Arts (AC:DOC:206:04:01) (AC:DOC:206:04:02):

- Liam Reilly Prize for Songwriting
- Score Draw Music Prize for Audio Postproduction

Proposed by: Dr. Adele Commins
Seconded by: Dr. Arjan Van Rossum

Votes:	**38**
In Favour:	**38**
Against:	**0**
Abstention:	**0**

Dr. Adele Commins presented two additional prizes for the School of Informatics and Creative Arts to Academic Council for approval.

Liam Reilly Prize for Songwriting

This prize is named in honour of Dundalk native Liam Reilly, musician and singer-songwriter and member of Bagatelle who died in 2021.

This prize will be awarded to the student who receives the highest mark in the 'Elements of Popular Music: Songwriting' Module (academic year 2026-2027), a shared module on Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Audio and Music Production and Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Music and Performance Technologies delivered in Year 2.

The title of this module will change to 'Songwriting' following Programmatic Review for students from 2027-2028 academic year as the current programme is being phased out.

Score Draw Music Prize for Audio Postproduction

This prize will be awarded to the student who receives the highest mark in 'Postproduction Sound for Media', module on Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Audio and Music Production.

The title of this module will change to 'Audio Postproduction' for students from 2028-2029 academic year as the current programme is being phased out.

206.5.1 Recruitment Events dates 2026/27 - for Noting (AC:DOC:206:05:01)

The Recruitment Events dates for 2026/27 were noted.

206.6.1 Policies

Motion 206.03

"That the Academic Council approves the updating of the Placement Common Policy and Procedure for Social Care (AC:DOC:206:06:01)(AC:DOC:206:06:02)."

Proposed by: Dr. Annaleigh Margey
Seconded by: Dr. Patricia Moriarty

Votes:	**38**
In Favour:	**38**
Against:	**0**
Abstention:	**0**

Dr. Annaleigh Margey presented the main changed to the updated Placement Common Policy and Procedure for Social Care to Academic Council including the changes to failure of placement and fitness to practice panels.

It was noted that these changes only apply to Social Care programmes.

206.7.1 Approval of entry requirements

Motion 206.04

That the Academic Council adopt the entry requirements as listed, and the associated quotas with immediate effect (AC:DOC:206:07:01)

Proposed by: Ms. Sinead Dunne
Seconded by: Ms. Linda Murphy

Votes:	**39**
In Favour:	**39**
Against:	**0**
Abstention:	**0**

Ms. Sinead Dunne presented a set of entry requirements to Academic Council for immediate effect following the validation of the Certificate in Accessing Higher Education.

It was agreed as part of the validation that students who successfully complete the programme may seek entry to Level 7 and Level 8 programmes at DkIT.

The purpose of this document is to agree access pathways for graduates of the Certificate to 1st year of Dundalk Institute of Technology programmes. Where places are limited quotas will apply.

All applicants from the Certificate are required to apply via CAO for 1st year entry.

Entry to Level 7 programmes using the DkIT Certificate in Accessing Higher Education

For DkIT programmes where **standard** entry requirements apply:

- A minimum GPA of 40% is required in the AHE DkIT Certificate

For DkIT programmes where **specific** entry requirements apply:

- A minimum GPA of 40% is required in the AHE DkIT Certificate

AND

- The specific additional entry criteria must be met with either the leaving certificate or other recognised equivalent qualifications.

Places will be offered in order of merit.

Entry for Level 8 programmes with the DkIT Certificate in Accessing Higher Education

For DkIT programmes where **standard** entry requirements apply

- A minimum GPA of 50% is required in the AHE DkIT Certificate

For DkIT programmes where **specific** entry requirements apply:

- A minimum GPA of 50% is required in the AHE DkIT Certificate

AND

- Specific additional entry criteria must be met with either the leaving certificate or other recognised equivalent qualifications.

Places will be offered in order of merit

An IELTS requirement is in place for those whose first language is not English.

Access Pathways/Quotas for Programmes where places are restricted:

Programme	Description	Quota Minimum 5% of places
DK784	Veterinary Nursing	1
DK862	Social Care	3
DK870	General Nursing	1
DK872	Intellectual Disability	1
DK874	Mental Health Nursing	1
DK877	Midwifery	1
DK880	Health and Physical Activity	1
DK882	Agriculture	1
DK888	Nutrition and Health	1

206.8.1 Validations - School of Health and Science (AC:DOC:206:08:01)

Motion 206.05

That the Academic Council ratifies approval of the following programme(s) (AC:DOC:206:08:01):

Department	Programme Title(s)	Validation Type	NFQ Level	Award Class	ECTS Credits	Delivery Mode(s)
Nursing, Midwifery and Early Years	Master of Science in Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Studies	New	9	Major	90	Part-time, Blended
Nursing, Midwifery and Early Years	Postgraduate Diploma in Science in Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Studies(Entry and Exit)	New	9	Major	60	Part-time, Blended
Nursing, Midwifery and Early Years	Certificate in Science in Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence studies (Entry and Exit)	New	9	Minor	30	Part-time, Blended
Nursing, Midwifery and Early Years	**Certificate(s)** Certificate in Trauma Informed Practice for Domestic, Sexual & Gender-Based Violence Contexts (Special Purpose Award; designated as a Micro-credential). Certificate in Theoretical, Policy and Legislative Context of Domestic, Sexual & Gender- Based Violence Studies (Special Purpose Award; designated as a Micro-credential). Certificate in Advanced Studies in Coercive Control (Special Purpose Award; designated as a Micro-credential). Certificate in Engaging with Perpetrators of Domestic, Sexual & Gender-Based Violence (Special Purpose Award; designated as a Micro-credential). Certificate in Children & Adolescents in the Context of Domestic, Sexual and Gender Based Violence (Special Purpose Award; designated as a Micro-credential). Certificate in Sexual Violence, Abuse and Consent Studies (Special Purpose Award; designated as a Micro-credential.)	New	9	Special-Purpose Awards	10	Part-time, Blended

Proposed by: Dr. Edel Healy
Seconded by: Dr. Arjan Van Rossum

Votes: 39
In Favour: 39
Against: 0
Abstention: 0

Dr. Edel Healy and Dr. Briege King presented a suite of proposed programmes in the area of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (DSGBV) Studies. The programmes have been developed through the River Project in collaboration with CELT and MOVE Ireland.

The growing significance of DSGBV as a public health and human rights issue across Ireland was highlighted. They noted the substantial increase in reported incidents in recent years, alongside rising levels of disclosures to frontline support organisations and increasing demand for specialist services.

The proposed curriculum has been designed as a flexible, stackable and incremental Level 9 educational pathway, intended to support the diverse range of professionals working within the DSGBV sector across both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The programmes aim to enhance professional knowledge, skills and capacity in responding to the complex challenges associated with domestic, sexual and gender-based violence.

Dr. Healy noted that the programme is the first of its kind in Ireland and has already generated significant interest, as evidenced by strong engagement at an information webinar held earlier in the week. The programme is scheduled to commence in September 2026.

In concluding the presentation, Dr. Healy acknowledged the contribution of the programme development team, with particular thanks to Dr. Briege King and Ms. Kathleen Nallen, as well as the support provided by the Registrar's Office and the Admissions Office throughout the programme development and approval process.

Motion 206.06

That the Academic Council ratifies approval of the following programme(s) (designated as a micro-credential) (AC:DOC:206:08:02):

Department	Programme Title(s)	Validation Type	NFQ Level	Award Class	ECTS Credits	Delivery Mode(s)
Nursing, Midwifery and Early Years	Certificate in Contemporary Instruction Practice in Professional Management of Complex Behaviour	New	9	Special-Purpose	5	Part-time Blended

Proposed by: Dr. Edel Healy
Seconded by: Dr. Arjan Van Rossum

Votes: 38
In Favour: 38
Against: 0
Abstention: 0

Dr. Briege King presented the proposed 5-credit Special Purpose Award, *Certificate in Contemporary Professional Practice in Professional Management of Complex Behaviour Instruction*.

The programme has been developed to support the continuing professional development of practitioners by providing an opportunity to upskill to Level 9. The proposed micro-credential certificate is specifically designed for graduates in Professional Management of Complex Behaviour (PMCB)

The programme will support graduates in maintaining professional competence and ensuring continued alignment with relevant professional, regulatory and organisational policy requirements.

206.9.1 Periodic Review

(A) Programmatic Review 2025/2026 -School of Business and Humanities-Part 1: Self-Assessment-Peer Review Group (PRG) Report and School Response (including Quality Enhancement Plan)

Motion 206.07

That the Academic Council ratifies the Peer Review Group (PRG) Report and School Response (including Quality Enhancement Plan) for the School of Business and Humanities Programmatic Review 2025/2026 (AC:DOC:206:09:01).

Proposed by: Dr. Arjan Van Rossum
Seconded by: Dr. Sheila Flanagan

Votes:	**39**
In Favour:	**39**
Against:	**0**
Abstention:	**0**

Dr. Arjan Van Rossum presented the suite of documents for the Programmatic Review of the School of Business and Humanities for the next five years. He acknowledged the significant amount of work undertaken by faculty members, Chairs, stakeholders, Heads of Department, Programme Directors, and their respective teams in preparing the review with a special thanks to Dr. Brendan Ryder.

Dr. Patricia Moriarty thanked all staff within the School of Business and Humanities, including the Heads of Department and Programme Directors, as well as the staff of the Registrar's Department, for their contributions and support throughout the review process.

Programmatic Review 2025/2026-School of Business and Humanities-Part 2: Review of Programmes-Programme Peer Review Group (PPRG) Reports and School Responses

Motion 206.08

That the Academic Council approves the (re)validation of the following programmes considered as part of the Programmatic Review 2025/2026 in the School of Business and Humanities for the next five years (AC:DOC:206:09:03), (AC:DOC:206:09:04), (AC:DOC:206:09:05) (AC:DOC:206:09:06).

Department of Business Studies

Programme Title	NFQ Level	HET Award Type	ECTS	Delivery Mode(s)	Programme Type
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Business with Management	8	Major	240	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Business in Business with Management	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Business with Management	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Business in Business and Management	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Business Studies (Honours)	8	Major	60	Full-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Data Analytics for Business	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in International Business with Technology	8	Major	240	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Business in International Business with Technology	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in International Business with Technology	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Business in International Business with Technology	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Business (Honours) in International Business with Technology	8	Major	60	Full-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Sustainability for Business	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	New
Certificate in Financial Technology in Business (Fintech)	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	New
Bachelor of Business Studies (Honours)	8	Major	240	Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Business Studies	7	Major	180	Part-time Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Business Studies	6	Major	120	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Accounting	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	15	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Marketing	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	15	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Introduction to Management	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Communication Skills	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Introduction to Digital Marketing	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Management Fundamentals	6	Minor	20	Part-time Blended	Existing

Certificate in Employment Law	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Master of Business in Entrepreneurship and Marketing	9	Major	90	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Entrepreneurship and Marketing	9	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in English for Corporate, Professional and Academic Communication 1	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part-time blended	New
Certificate in English for Corporate, Professional and Academic Communication 2	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part-time blended	New
Master of Business in Strategic Data Analytics for Business	9	Major	90	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended, Full-time Online, Part-time Online	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Strategic Data Analytics for Business	9	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended, Full-time Online, Part-time Online	Existing
Master of Business in Responsible Entrepreneurship	9	Major	90	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Business in Responsible Entrepreneurship	9	Major	60	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Responsible Entrepreneurship	9	Minor	30	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Entrepreneurship Competence	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Research Methods and Ethics	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Responsible Entrepreneurship and the Responsible Enterprise	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Resourcing the Responsible Enterprise	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Corporate Entrepreneurship and Innovation	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Responsible Business Strategy	9	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	10	Full Time Blended, Part-Time Blended	Existing

Master of Science in Management and Leadership	9	Major	90	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Lean Six Sigma	7	Special-Purpose	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Engaging with Further and Higher Education (Pathways)	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Navigating Further and Higher Education (Headstart)	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part-time Blended	Existing
Department of Hospitality Studies					
Programme Title	**NFQ Level**	**HET Award Type**	**ECTS**	**Delivery Mode(s)**	**Programme Type**
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Hospitality Management with Business	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality Management with Business	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality Management	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Hospitality Skills	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Hospitality Management	8	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Certificate in Hotel Revenue Management	7	Minor	10	Part time Blended, Part time Online	New
Certificate in Fundamentals of Marketing	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part time Blended Part time Online	Existing
Certificate in Introduction to Revenue Management and data analytics	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part time Blended Part time Online	Existing
Certificate in Sustainability and Resource Management	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part time Blended Part time Online	New
Certificate in Digital Marketing Management	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part time Blended Part time Online	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Event Management with Marketing	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Event Management with Marketing	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Event Management	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Event Studies	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Event Management	8	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Certificate in Event Risk and Safety Management	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part-time Blended Part-time Online	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Culinary Arts	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time	Existing

Higher Certificate in Arts in Culinary Arts	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Culinary Enterprise	8	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time	Existing
Certificate in Food Safety Management	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Part-time blended Part-time online	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Business, Marketing and Tourism Management	8	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Online, Part-time Online	New
Department of Humanities					
Programme Title	**NFQ Level**	**HET Award Type**	**ECTS**	**Delivery Mode(s)**	**Programme Type**
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Arts	8	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Cultural Landscapes-Newgrange and the Boyne Valley	6	Special-Purpose	15	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Archaeological Excavation and Recording	8	Special-Purpose	15	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Archaeological Excavation and Recording, with Osteology	8	Special-Purpose	15	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Prehistoric Ireland: From First Settlers to the Bronze Age	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Irish Literature: Poetry, Fiction and Social Change	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Early Modern Ireland	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Globalisation and Political Economy	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in War and Peace: Europe Since 1918	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in the Struggle for Democracy	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in the Irish Revolution 1912-1924: History, Legacy, Memory and Commemoration	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Genocide, Social Darwinism and Racial Science	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Community Development, Sustainability and Active Citizenship	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care	8	Major	240	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Social Studies	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing

Higher Certificate in Arts in Applied Social Studies	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Master of Arts in Leadership, Management and Innovation for Social Care	9	Major	90	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Online, Part-time Online, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Leadership, Management and Innovation for Social Care	9	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Online, Part-time Online, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Leadership, Management and Innovation for Social Care	9	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Online, Part-time Online, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing Exit
Certificate in Multidisciplinary Approaches to Understanding and Responding to Adult Safeguarding	8	Special-Purpose	10	Online/Blended	Existing
Certificate in Applied Social Care Practise	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Continuing Professional Development in Social Care	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Care in a Multicultural Context	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Applied Youth Work	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Youth Work	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Applied Youth Studies	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Community Youth Work	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Youth Studies	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Youth Work	8	Major	60	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Introducing Sociological Thinking	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Youth Work Relationships	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing

Certificate in Addiction in a Youth Work Context	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Sport and Exercise, with Business	8	Major	240	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Sport and Exercise, with Business	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Sport and Exercise, with Business	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Sport, Exercise and Enterprise	7	Major	180	Full-time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Sport, Exercise and Enterprise	6	Major	120	Full-time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Sport, Exercise with Enterprise	8	Major	60	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Athlete Monitoring Technology	7	Special-Purpose	10	Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Exercise Psychology and Behavioural Change	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in New Venture Development for Sport	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Exercise and Sports Psychology	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Nutrition Fundamentals	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Strength and Conditioning	8	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Foundations of Physical Literacy and Child Development	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Coaching Children for Movement Mastery and Lifelong Activity	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Gym Instruction 1: Foundations of Exercise Delivery	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Gym Instruction 2: Applied Practice	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Group Training: Circuit and Group Instruction	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Personal Training: Advanced Practice	6	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Youth Athletic Development	7	Special-Purpose (and designated as micro-credential)	5	Full-time	Existing
Certificate in Foundation Studies	6	Special-Purpose	60	Full-time	Existing

Certificate in Access to Higher Education	6	Special-Purpose	30	Full-time	Existing
Department of Management Financial Studies					
Programme Title	**NFQ Level**	**HET Award Type**	**ECTS**	**Delivery Mode(s)**	**Programme Type**
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Accounting and Finance	8	Major	180	Full-Time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Accounting and Finance	6	Major	120	Full-Time	Existing
Bachelor of Business (Honours)	8	Major	180	Full-Time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Business in Business	6	Major	120	Full-Time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Digital Marketing and Strategic Communication	8	Major	240	Full-Time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing and Strategic Communication	7	Major	180	Full-Time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Digital Marketing and Strategic Communication	6	Major	120	Full-Time	Existing
Certificate in Doing Business in New and Emerging Markets	8	Micro-credential (legacy policy)	5	Part-Time	Existing
Certificate in New Product Development	7	Micro-credential (legacy policy)	5	Part-Time	Existing
Certificate in Creativity, Innovation and Teamwork	6	Micro-credential (legacy policy)	5	Part-Time	Existing
Certificate in Sales Management and Practice	6	Micro-credential (legacy policy)	5	Part-Time	Existing
Certificate in Branding and Customer Relationship Management	6	Micro-credential (legacy policy)	5	Part-Time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing and Public Relations	7	Major	180	Full-Time	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Digital Marketing and Public Relations	6	Major	120	Full-Time	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Global Marketing and Strategic Communication	8	Major	60	Full-Time	Existing

Proposed by: Dr. Patricia Moriarty
Seconded by: Dr. Arjan Van Rossum

Votes: 38
In Favour: 38
Against: 0
Abstention: 0

(B) Programmatic Review 2025/2026-School of Informatics and Creative Arts-Part 1: Self-Assessment-Peer Review Group (PRG) Report and School Response (including Quality Enhancement Plan)

Motion 206.09

That the Academic Council ratifies the Peer Review Group (PRG) Report and School Response (including Quality Enhancement Plan) for the School of Informatics and Creative Arts Programmatic Review 2025/2026 (AC:DOC:206:09:07).

Proposed by: Dr Arjan Van Rossum
Seconded by: Dr Sheila Flanagan

Votes:	**37**
In Favour:	**37**
Against:	**0**
Abstention:	**0**

Dr. Arjan Van Rossum presented the suite of documents associated with the Programmatic Review of the School of Informatics and Creative Arts for the forthcoming five-year period.

He acknowledged the substantial commitment, collaboration, and effort invested in the review process by faculty members, Chairs, stakeholders, Heads of Department, Programme Directors, and their respective teams. He noted that the successful completion of the review was the result of extensive consultation, planning, and engagement across the School.

Prof. Fergal Mc Caffrey expressed his appreciation to all staff within the School of Informatics and Creative Arts, including the Heads of Department, Programme Directors, and Dr. Gerard (Bob) McKiernan, for their dedication and significant contributions throughout the review process.

He also extended his thanks to the staff of the Registrar's Department for their guidance and support. In addition, he acknowledged the valuable assistance provided by Dr. Moira Maguire and Dr. Gerry Gallagher of CELT, whose expertise and advice contributed significantly to the review, and Dr. Ronan Bree for his support in securing N-TUTOR funding.

Dr. Van Rossum concluded the presentation by conveying a special word of thanks to Dr. Brendan Ryder in recognition of his commitment, leadership, and contribution to the successful completion of the Programmatic Review. It was noted that one set of programmes within the Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music will need to be addressed in September.

Ms. Sinead Dunne noted that a significant programme of operational activity must now be undertaken to ensure that all programmes are fully prepared for implementation and are ready to support the September 2026 student intake.

Programmatic Review 2025/2026-School of Informatics and Creative Arts-Part 2: Review of Programmes-Programme Peer Review Group (PPRG) Reports and School Responses

Motion 206.10

That the Academic Council approves the (re)validation of the following programmes considered as part of the Programmatic Review 2025/2026 in the School of Informatics and Creative Arts for the next five years (AC:DOC:206:09:08), (AC:DOC:206:09:09).

Department of Computing Science and Mathematics
Department of Visual and Human-Centred Computing

Programme Title	NFQ Level	HET Award Type	ECTS	Delivery Mode(s)	Programme Type
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Development and Operations Engineering	8	Major	240	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Development and Operations Engineering	7	Major	180	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Development and Operations Engineering	7	Major	180	Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Science in Development and Operations Engineering	6	Major	120	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in CyberSecurity and Computing Infrastructure	8	Major	240	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in CyberSecurity and Computing Infrastructure	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in CyberSecurity and Computing Infrastructure	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Higher Certificate in Science in Computing in CyberSecurity and Computing Infrastructure	6	Major	120	Blended	New
Certificate in Programming	6	Minor	20	Online	Existing
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence	8	Major	240	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence	7	Major	180	Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Science in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence	6	Major	120	Blended	Existing
Certificate in Large Language Models and Agentic AI	9	Minor	20	Online	Existing
Certificate in Large Language Models	9	Minor	10	Online	Existing
Certificate in Agentic AI	9	Minor	10	Online	Existing
Certificate in Data Analytics	8	Minor	20	Online	Existing
Master of Science in Applied Data Science	9	Major	90	Part-time Online, Full-time Blended	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Data Science	9	Major	60	Part-time Online	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Data Science	9	Major	60	Part-time Online, Part-time Blended	Existing
Master of Science in Applied Data Science (part-time)	9	Major	90	Part-time Online	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Data Science (Exit Award) (part-time)	9	Major	0	Part-time Online	Existing
Certificate in Data Analytics and Visualisations	9	Minor	30	Online	Existing
Certificate in Data Analytics with Python	9	Minor	20	Online	Existing
Certificate in Applied Artificial Intelligence	9	Minor	30	Online	Existing

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Software Development	8	Major	240	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Software Development	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Software Development	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Higher Certificate in Science in Computing in Software Development	6	Major	120	Blended	Existing
Master of Science in Computing in Medical Device Software (Structured)	9	Major	90	Online	Existing
Certificate in Computing in Medical Device Software	9	Minor	30	Online	Existing
Master of Science in Computing in Digital Health Innovation	9	Major	90	Blended	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Computing in Digital Health Innovation	9	Major	60	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in Games Development	8	Major	240	Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Games Development	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in Games Development	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Higher Certificate in Science in Computing in Games Development	6	Major	120	Blended	Existing
Master of Science in Computing in Computer Animation Production	9	Major	90	Online	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Computing in Computer Animation Production	9	Major	60	Online	Existing
Master of Science in Computing in Games and Extended Reality	9	Major	90	Online	Existing
Postgraduate Diploma in Computing in Games and Extended Reality	9	Major	60	Online	Existing
Certificate in 2D/3D Digital Animation Production	7	Minor	40	Online	Existing
Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Computing in AI Engineering	8	Major	240	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in AI Engineering	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Bachelor of Science in Computing in AI Engineering	7	Major	180	Blended	New
Higher Certificate in Science in Computing in Artificial Intelligence Engineering	6	Major	120	Blended	New
Department of Creative Arts, Media and Music					
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Creative Media	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Creative Media	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Creative Media	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Creative Media	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Digital Media Design	7	Special-Purpose	40	Part-time Online	Existing

Certificate in User Experience Design	7	Special-Purpose	40	Part-time Online	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Audio and Music Production	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Audio and Music Production	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Audio and Music Production	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Arts in Audio and Music Production	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Music and Performance Technologies	8	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Diploma in Music Studies	8	Major	60	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Music and Mathematics	8	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New
Certificate in Sound Design and Implementation for Interactive Media	7	Special-Purpose	40	Part-time Online	Existing
Certificate in Irish Traditional Music	7	Minor	10	Part-time, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Musical Theatre	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New
Bachelor of Arts in Musical Theatre	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts in Musical Theatre	7	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Higher Certificate in Musical Theatre	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Drama, Theatre and Film	8	Major	240	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New
Bachelor of Arts in Drama, Theatre and Film	8	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New
Bachelor of Arts in Drama, Theatre and Film	8	Major	180	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New

Higher Certificate in Arts in Drama, Theatre and Film	6	Major	120	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	New
Master of Arts in Creative Practice	9	Major	90	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing
Certificate in Creative Practice	9	Minor	30	Full-time, Part-time, Full-time Blended, Part-time Blended	Existing

Proposed by: Prof. Fergal Mc Caffrey
Seconded by: Dr. Arjan Van Rossum

Votes: 39
In Favour: 39
Against: 0
Abstention: 0

206.10.1 DkIT/QUB's Strategic Partnership

The President, Dr. Diarmuid O'Callaghan, commenced the presentation to Academic Council on the DkIT/QUB Strategic Partnership by outlining the following key points:

- An exciting opportunity to develop a University College in Dundalk as part of an all-island university group.
- The creation of a Technological University College, to be known as **Dundalk University College**.
- Dundalk University College would operate as a college of Queen's University Belfast.
- Alignment with Queen's academic standards would facilitate the conferral of Queen's University awards on graduates who complete their programmes in Dundalk.
- The partnership would support research and innovation in the region through a strong Shared Island proposal.
- Dundalk would remain an independent college, funded and recognised by the State, with existing staff contracts of employment remaining unchanged
- It will not result in an opportunity to study on current Queen's programmes in Dundalk rather than Belfast
- DkIT will not be altering its core mission, which is to produce work-ready graduates that meet the regional needs.

Dr. Sheila Flanagan, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Brendan Ryder continued the presentation.

Academic Council noted an update on the proposed strategic partnership between Dundalk Institute of Technology (DkIT) and Queen's University Belfast (QUB), following the signing of the Heads of Agreement on 2 March 2026.

Academic Council was informed that the partnership is intended to establish a new category of higher education institution, a Technological University College, while maintaining DkIT's independent status, mission, funding arrangements, and existing staff employment conditions. Members noted that the

final name of the new institution remains subject to approval and confirmation through the relevant legislative and regulatory processes. The partnership is not a merger and will focus on enhancing academic provision, research, innovation, and regional development through an all-island university collaboration.

An update was provided on the legislative process required to enable the partnership, including the publication of the General Scheme of the Technological Universities All-Island University Group (Amendment) Bill 2026 and ongoing pre-legislative scrutiny. The anticipated timeline for enactment is summer 2027, with the establishment of the new Technological University College targeted for autumn 2027.

The main change to Governing Body is

"2 External Members nominated by a partner university by appointment by the Governing Body. This member cannot be Chairperson. "

A new Academic Board will be established which will be separate from Academic Council.

Work is also progressing on the academic integration programme, including academic due diligence, quality assurance arrangements, programme alignment, and preparations for the introduction of Queen's awards through a phased implementation process beginning with postgraduate research provision.

Members were advised that significant work remains to ensure operational readiness across academic and support services, with ongoing engagement taking place with internal and external stakeholders, regulatory bodies, and partner organisations thorough a high-level road map.

The need for a co-ordination strategy between Registrar's Office and Schools to ensure there is no mismatch between academic integration work and the progression of opportunity exploration with Schools was noted.

Updates were also provided on the Higher Education Authority approval process, the Shared Island funding proposal, and plans for future branding and collaborative initiatives.

The future for Dundalk Institute of Technology will include opportunity for collaborative engagement DkIT/Queen's staff and students- Research & Innovation; Teaching & Learning; Civic Engagement; Students Support Services; Students Union (TEF Funding)

Subject to this regulatory approval process and a successful application by Dundalk Institute of Technology, students entering DkIT in September 2026 can expect to graduate from Dundalk University College which will be a designated awarding body in its own right.

Subject to legislative approval, and a successful application by Dundalk Institute of Technology, it is anticipated that new entrants to undergraduate honours and postgraduate taught programmes from September 2027 may register for Queen's awards from Dundalk University College, a College of Queen's University Belfast. Subject to the same regulatory approval and as part of the strategic partnership, it is anticipated that first-year PhD students who enrol from January 2027 may register for Queen's awards from Dundalk University College.

The presentation concluded with a question-and-answer session.

Dr. Joe Gildea asked whether the workload would increase, based on his experience of teaching in England. In response, Dr. Flanagan highlighted that the programmes being delivered would remain Dundalk Institute of Technology programmes, although they would be awarded by Queen's University. She confirmed that there would be no change to the terms and conditions of employment for staff members.

Mr. Peter Gosling queried whether it was envisaged that the same individuals would sit on both the new Academic Council and the Academic Board. Dr. Flanagan responded that the final details were still being worked out; however, they would be two separate structures with different responsibilities.

Ms. Sinead Dunne, Admissions Officer enquired about the current admissions policies. It was noted that incoming students would remain registered as Dundalk students; however, the associated policies would require further review.

201.11.1 A.O.B.

The meeting concluded with the President wishing Mr. Gerry O'Brien, outgoing Students' Union President, and Ms. Tobi Bewaji, outgoing Vice President for Student Engagement, the very best as their terms of office come to an end on 1 July.

The President also congratulated Ms. Bewaji on her election as Students' Union President and Mr. Kshitiz Mittal, who has been elected Vice President for Student Engagement, and welcomed them both to their roles on the Academic Council.

Dr. O'Callaghan also acknowledged Ms. Teresa Ward's contribution to the Academic Council.