

Report of Validation Panel for a Special Purpose, Minor or Supplemental Award

Date of Meeting: 04-06-2013

Named Award: Certificate
Programme Title: Certificate in Mechanical Science
Award Type: Special Purpose Award
NFQ Level: 6
Intakes Commencing: 02-09-2013
ECTS/ACCS Credits: 20

PANEL MEMBERS

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit
Dr Hugh McGlynn, Head of School of Science and Informatics (Chair)
Dr Liam McDonnell, Head of Department of Applied physics and Instrumentation
Patrick McCormack, Stryker Ltd Carrigtwohill, Cork

IN ATTENDANCE

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit

PROPOSING TEAM MEMBERS

Name / Function / Academic Unit
Mr Matt Cotterell, Head of School Mechanical and Process Engineering
Dr Gerard Kelly, Head of Department of Mechanical Biomedical and Manufacturing Engineering
Mr Dan O'Brien, Department of Mechanical Biomedical and Manufacturing Engineering
Mr Michael O'Mahony, Department of Mechanical Biomedical and Manufacturing Engineering

BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

This Special Purpose Award will provide learners with the basic principles of static stress and strain, dynamics, fluid mechanics and mathematics. Additionally it is designed to allow learners with appropriate qualifications and experience to apply for entry onto level 7 degrees in Mechanical Engineering or equivalent.

The proposed Certificate in Mechanical Science is a 20 ECTS-bearing offering at level 6 and will be delivered on a part-time basis over 2 semesters.

FINDINGS OF THE PANEL

*NOTE: In this report, the term “Requirement” is used to indicate an action or amendment which in the view of the Panel **must** be undertaken prior to validation and commencement of the Programme. The term “Recommendation” indicates an item which the Course Board (or other relevant Institute unit) should implement at the earliest stage possible, and appropriate implementation of which should be the subject of ongoing monitoring.*

[Provide a brief introductory statement and expressions of appreciation here if you so wish.]

On consideration of the documentation provided and discussion of the programme with the proposers, the Panel has arrived at the following Findings, Requirements and Recommendations:

1. Validation Criteria

1.1 Is there a convincing need for the programme with a viable level of applications?

Overall Finding Yes

Finding(s): Yes, need for programme

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.2 Are the level and type of the proposed award appropriate?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Level 6 appropriate

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.3 Is the learning experience of an appropriate level, standard and quality?

Overall Finding: Yes

Panel felt that proposers should give some consideration to MATHS600 Essential Maths Skills as an alternative to Technological Maths 101.

Finding(s): Learning experience at appropriate standard and quality

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.4 Is the programme structure logical and well designed (including procedures for access, transfer and progression)?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Programme gives learners the opportunity to enter Level 7 programme BEng in Mechanical Engineering.

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.5 Are the programme management structures adequate?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Course Board will be convened for this programme and course coordinator appointed.

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.6 Are the resource requirements reasonable?

Overall Finding: Yes

Course will run using existing modules and instances of delivery, hence no additional resource requirement needed.

Finding(s): Appropriate resources within School/Department to run this programme

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.7 Will the impact of the programme on the Institute be positive?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Course will attract learners from Trades sector and provide opportunities for progression for learners. This will add to the portfolio of offerings within the Institute and have a positive impact.

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

2. Other Findings

Panel complimentary of the proposers' excellent initiative

CONCLUSION

Based on the above findings, the Panel recommends to Academic Council:

That the Programme be validated for five academic years, or until the next programmatic review, whichever is soonest, subject to implementation of the Requirements above, and with due regard to the Recommendations made.