

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

Date of Meeting: 3rd June, 2014

Named Award: Certificate

Programme Title: Lean Sigma Green Belt

Award Type: Special Purpose Award

NFQ Level: 7

Intakes Commencing: September 2014

ECTS/ACCS Credits: 15

PANEL MEMBERS

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit
Dr Joe Harrington, Head of School of Building & Civil Engineering
Cian Long, SrTechnics Continuous Improvement Engineer, SR Technics Airfoil Services
James Kilduff, Lecturer, Department of Construction

IN ATTENDANCE

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit

PROPOSING TEAM MEMBERS

Name / Function / Academic Unit
Daithi Fallon, Head CAMMS
Mark Stokil, Lean Sigma Programme Coordinator
Michael P O' Mahony, Lecturer, Department of Mechanical, Biomedical and Manufacturing Engineering
Michael McGrath, CAMMS Manager

BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

CAMMS operates a suite of Lean Sigma programmes which it wishes to align more clearly with what is professionally recognised and what is offered external to CIT. For a short time CAMMS previously operated two parallel suites of 'Lean' and 'Six Sigma' programmes. These disciplines have moved towards each other and now the industry norm is 'Lean Sigma' programmes, incorporating the principles of both.

This new Special Purpose Award (SPA) 'Lean Sigma Green Belt' supersedes the previous programme 'Lean Six Sigma Green Belt' and complements this realignment.

Demand for the programme is well established as CAMMS have been successfully running a 'Green Belt' programme for more than five years. A number of companies have sent students onto various levels of the Lean Sigma programmes

and on occasion CAMMS have run specific deliveries for particular organisations including, for example, the HSE, SrTecnics and Pfizers. This new programme is already funded under the Springboard 2014 scheme and will be offered in the academic year 2014-2015.

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): The need for the programme is well established as this programmes predecessor has been run successfully for a number of years; a clear demand into the future is projected.

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

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

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): This programme is at level 7 on the NFQ .

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

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

Overall Finding: Yes

[Findings on individual modules should be included in this section. Please ensure modules are appropriately referenced by including the module code, correct module title, and module level.]

Finding(s): The new programme makes the ‘Green Belt’ project more explicit by creating a new five credit discrete module ‘Lean Sigma Green Belt Project’. There are subsequent minor modifications to the original two modules as a result. The level, standard and quality of all modules are appropriate to the programme outcomes and level. The external panel member, Cian Long, is satisfied with the proposed changes and is happy to recommend the new module based on a number of minor amendments.

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

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

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): The Green Belt lies within a suite of Level 6 to Level 8 programmes in this discipline. CAMMS is very experienced in issues of access for students based on experiential and prior learning. Therefore issues relating to access, transfer and progression are well accounted for.

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

1.5 Are the programme management structures adequate?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): CAMMS is very experienced in the academic management of these programmes. CAMMS resides within the School of Mechanical, Process and Electrical Engineering and is able to call on all of the academic supports available from the School

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

1.6 Are the resource requirements reasonable?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Lean Sigma programmes are run through CAMMS on a self-financing basis. Resource approval is in place on this basis.

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

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

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): CAMMS programmes are an excellent exemplar of industry and student engagement within CIT.

Requirement(s):

Recommendation(s):

2. Other Findings

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.