CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ

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

Date of Meeting: 18-06-2015

Named Award: Certificate

Programme Title: Certificate in Building Information Modelling

Award Type: Special Purpose Award

NFQ Level: 7

Intakes Commencing: 14-09-2015

ECTS/ACCS Credits: 15

PANEL MEMBERS

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit
Dr Hugh McGlynn, Head of School of Science and Informatics (Chair)
Mr. James Duggan, A ssociate Director, ARUP
Mr. Paul Brennan, Project Manager, BAM
Mr. Fergus Delaney, Lecturer, Department of Process, Energy & Transport, CIT

IN ATTENDANCE

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit

PROPOSING TEAM MEMBERS

Name / Function / Academic Unit
Dr Joe Harrignton, Head of School Building and Civil Engineering
Mr Des Walsh Head of Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering
Mr Ted McKenna, Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering
Mr Jim O'Byrne, Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

This programme is a response to the skills needs in productivity enhanced Building Information Modelling (BIM) systems which have been identified by the industry and which have been articulated in the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs report and in the Skills for Construction section of the Springboard+ Guidance for Higher Education Providers on Current and Future Skill Needs of Enterprise 2015 reports. As identified in the latter report 'The reality is that the industry is moving towards a situation where BIM is becoming an essential requirement internationally. The implications for Irish construction are clear, unless construction contractors and service providers are able to work in a BIM environment they are likely to find themselves at a serious competitive disadvantage, particularly in overseas markets.

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.*

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): Proposing panel actively engaged Construction Industry to guage need, feedback from same indicated a need for this offering in light of proposed changes to legislation. 20 places currently funded through Springboard, but additional opportunities for Graduates in Civil Engineering and Built Environment to up-skill/re-skill in area of BIM.

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

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

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Level 7 modules are appropriate

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

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

Overall Finding: Yes

Modules offered allow leaners to acquire of necessary theoretical and practical skills in both know how and know why aspects of Building Information Modelling.

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): Panel discussed proposed modules, how they fitted together and potential progression routes for learners. Proposing panel indicated a suite of offerings in this area at Graduate Diploma and Master level in

future. It was determined that the offering was fit for purpose at the appropriate level and content and assessments were appropriate.

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

1.5 Are the programme management structures adequate?

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Course Boards 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

Finding(s):

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 leaners form the Construction sector. 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 complementary of the excellent proposal which has strong Industry demand. Consideration to be given to inclusion of Technologies in title of programme i.e. Certificate in Building Information Modelling Technologies, at future offerings.

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.

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