Report of Validation Panel

Date of Meeting: 17 May 2013

Named Award:	Master of Science
Programme Title:	Interior Architecture / Architectural Technical Design [*proposed as*: Technical Architecture]
Award Type:	Master's Degree
Award Class:	Major
NFQ Level:	9
Intakes Commencing:	September 2013
ECTS/ACCS Credits:	90

PANEL MEMBERS

Name / Function / Institution
Ms Eva Juhl, Institutional Review Facilitator, CIT (Chair)
Ms Fiona Cameron, Designer / Interior Architect, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford
Mr Derek O'Leary, Director, O'Leary Architecture + Design, Cork
Ms Sima Rouholamin, Lecturer in Architectural Technology, Dublin Institute of Technology
Mr Michael Roulston, Lecturer in Interior Architecture / Interior Design, IT Sligo

IN ATTENDANCE

Name / Function / Institution
Ms Marguerite Lynch, QA Administrator, Registrar's Office (notetaker)

PROPOSING TEAM MEMBERS

Name / Function / Department
Dr Joe Harrington, Head of School of Building & Civil Engineering
Ms Katherine Keane, Head of Department of Architecture
Mr Martin Boylan, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr Kevin Busby, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr Jim Cahill, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Ms Gillian Carey, Lecturer, Department of Construction
Mr Declan Fallon, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Dr Jim Harrison, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr Denis Healy, Lecturer, Centre for Craft Studies, School of Mechanical, Electrical and Process Engineering
Ms Sarah Mulrooney, Lecturer, Department of Architecture

Ms Deborah Ní Riain, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr James O'Callaghan, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr Marc O'Riain, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr Jason O'Shaughnessy, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Mr Garrett O'Sullivan, Lecturer, Department of Architecture
Ms Deirdre Ryan, Lecturer, Department of Architecture

BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

The proposal from the Department of Architecture submitted to the Validation Panel is for two 90-credit *Master of Science* (Level 9) programmes *in Interior Architecture* and *in Architectural Technical Design* (*original proposed title: Technical Architecture*) respectively, to be delivered in full-time or ACCS mode. An embedded exit award is not to be offered on either programme. The Masters are proposed as separate degree programmes leading to separate awards. However, they share a common studio philosophy and have a considerable degree of overlap in structure and content, with co-delivery envisaged for all shared modules. All elective modules included in the programmes as submitted are pre-approved modules already delivered on other programmes within the School of Building & Civil Engineering and in other Schools, some of which are in other faculties (Business & Humanities, CIT Crawford College of Art & Design). Current resource projections are reliant on the efficiencies to be achieved through the extensive sharing of modules as envisaged.

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 commencement of the Programme. The term "**Recommendation**" indicates an item to which the Institute/Academic Council/Course Board should give serious consideration for implementation at an early stage and which should be the subject of ongoing monitoring.*

The Panel members would like to thank the members of the proposing teams for their constructive engagement with the Panel during the review sessions, and appreciate the enthusiasm and commitment of the teams which was obvious in the documentation and the panel discussions.

The Panel has considered the documentation provided and has discussed the programme with the proposers. Based on this, the Panel has arrived at a number of Findings, Requirements and Recommendations as follows.

1. Detailed Findings

1.1 NEED FOR THE PROGRAMME

Validation Criterion: Is there a convincing need for the programme with a viable level of applications?
Overall Finding: Yes, subject to certain Requirements and/or Recommendations

Issues surrounding the emergent nature of the professional fields, the professional role of graduates, the expectations of entrants and the profession, the regulatory context, and professional accreditation/registration with RIAI and RIBA were discussed at some length between the Panel and the programme team, and a number of related requirements and recommendations made by the Panel under various headings.

The Head of Department of Architecture outlined that accreditation with RIAI or RIBA was not currently sought for the Masters programmes, though the Department was engaging with RIAI on the accreditation of the BSc (Hons) in Architectural Technology, and was seeking RIBA Part I accreditation for the BSc (Hons) in Interior Architecture.

With regard to past graduate destinations of the Honours Bachelor in Interior Architecture, the Panel heard that ca. 50% had obtained design-related positions outside of Ireland. Graduates of the undergraduate programme had not generally gone for RIBA Part I. In the view of the Department, a career path outside of accreditation did exist for interior architects and architectural technologists. In those disciplines, graduates worked as members of a team, and accreditation was of greater relevance to sole practitioners. Panel members considered however that there was presently no way around RIBA Part II accreditation for Masters graduates who wanted to be certain that they would be able to gain international validation and acknowledgement for their chosen career path in the profession.

Somewhat different but related questions regarding professional profile and accreditation presented themselves to Architectural Technologists. In the Irish context, the Building Control Act constituted the regulatory framework for RIAI professional registration. The discussion on professional identity and recognition focused on the expectations of potential entrants and the profession arising from the originally proposed title *MSc in Technical Architecture*. A number of salient points are summarised under 1.2.1 below.

Following discussion, the Panel makes the following recommendations specifically related to need for the programmes:

1.1.1

Recommendation: The Department of Architecture should clarify its vision of and approach to professional recognition of its programmes across its entire portfolio of offerings (with a particular focus, in the present context, on Interior Architecture, but encompassing both Architectural Technology and Architecture also) in the short and medium term. This should be done with a view to managing and steering the expectations of incoming students regarding their future professional role. These expectations are important, and it should be fully clear to entrants from the outset what they will be, and what professional profile they will have, on graduation. The consistency of the profession will also need to be considered in these deliberations. (See also 1.2.2 below.)

1.1.2

Recommendation: To maximise the appeal of the programmes to different groups of potential entrants and to support viability, the Department should consider additional modes of delivery and funding streams. Should the programme team envisage part-time delivery also, it would need to ensure that an appropriate Workload Breakdown for part-time delivery is included in the descriptors for all relevant modules.

A Panel requirement on the programme entry requirements is included under 1.4.2 below.

1.2 AWARD

Validation Criterion: Are the level and type of the proposed award appropriate?
Overall Finding: Yes, subject to certain Requirements and/or Recommendations

The titles originally proposed for each degree programme (*MSc in Interior Architecture* and *MSc in Technical Architecture*) were discussed between the Panel and the programme teams.

1.2.1

With regard to the *MSc in Interior Architecture*, the Panel noted that it was not unusual internationally for programmes at different levels in the respective qualifications frameworks to carry the same detailed programme title, with the distinction resting on the preceding award type (e.g. Honours Bachelor, Master's degree) alone.

1.2.2

The Panel noted that the proposed title of *MSc in Technical Architecture* had already been the subject of some discussion between the Department of Architecture and the external experts consulted at the Content Review stage. On foot of concerns raised regarding the legal context for professional practice of architecture and architectural technology in Ireland, the Department had revised the title to *MSc in Architectural Technology*, but had subsequently reverted to *Technical Architecture*.

The Panel agreed that Architectural Technology was an emergent field, and that the professional profile of the Architectural Technologist had developed well beyond a traditional understanding of 'draughts(wo)man'. Panel members stated that in their view a significant higher education provider such as CIT clearly had a role to play in pushing the boundaries of current perceptions and supporting the development of an emergent professional area.

However, the meeting agreed that the first obligation of the Institute was to its learners and graduates. The present regulatory environment in Ireland restricted the use of the title 'Architect' to graduates of RIAI-accredited architecture programmes proper, and this was unlikely to change in the short term. As well as that, in a continental European context Technical Architecture could be understood as quite a different qualification, with a very different graduate profile to that developed by the Masters programme here presented. It needed to be clear to all that graduates of this Masters programme were highly skilled and specialised technologists, not architects. If the term 'architecture' was used in the programme title only with a view to gaining an initial competitive advantage, there was a danger that this might actually worsen the existing uncertainties in the area and damage the professional standing of graduates.

For these reasons, the Panel considered that a programme title of *MSc in Technical Architecture* might be misleading for potential entrants, and might raise false expectations regarding the background training required to make satisfactory progress in the programme, and regarding professional profile and professional body recognition entitlements upon graduation.

Requirement: The Panel therefore asks the Department to revise the proposed title of the programme. The Panel members stated they considered *MSc in Architectural Technology* to be an acceptable title which is appropriate to the nature of the programme and the profile of the graduate. However, the Department was free to suggest an alternative title better suited to convey the direction of developments in the professional field, giving due regard however to both the regulatory context in Ireland and the potential expectations raised in entrants and the profession both nationally and internationally.

1.3 LEARNING EXPERIENCE (INCL. MODULES)

Validation Criterion: Is the learning experience of an appropriate level, standard and quality overall?

Overall Finding: Yes, subject to certain Requirements and/or Recommendations

The proposed Programme Outcomes as presented to the Panel are attached as Appendix 1.

The Panel notes that only (4) modules on each of the proposed programmes are new draft modules (the large core studio modules in Semesters 1 and 2 and the two Semester 3 studio and research modules). All other modules are pre-approved modules, most of which are already delivered either on cognate programmes in the School of Building & Civil Engineering on programmes hosted by other Schools or indeed Faculties (School of Business, CCAD).

The Panel was informed that the new draft modules for the *MSc in Interior Architecture* had been considered by the CIT module moderator and externally reviewed by Mr Neville Knott, Lecturer and Programme Coordinator, BA in Interior Design & Furniture, DIT and Ms Elizabeth Kirby, Director, Elizabeth Kirby Designers, Dublin.

The draft modules for the *MSc in Architectural Technical Design* were previously reviewed by Mr Cormac Allen, Head of Department of Architectural Technology, DIT, and Mr Niall Healy, Managing Director, healycornelius Design Consultancy, London, Sheffield and Killarney.

1.3.1

Depending on entrant numbers, the Department stated that there would be a possibility that the large-credit core studio modules of the two programmes would be delivered together in the same studio space. The Panel heard that the studio pedagogy, built on individual interaction between the learner and project supervisor on the learner's chosen area of investigation, complemented by a series of shared workshops and seminars, not only made this possible, but meant that each learner could follow her or his chosen specialism while benefitting from the synergies that the presence of learners with other backgrounds could create. In addition, project teams in professional reality were also inter-disciplinary. The Panel noted this, but emphasised the importance of strengthening of the individual programme profiles as outlined elsewhere in this report.

1.3.2

Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the assessments across modules should be reviewed, with a view to identifying ways in which the written assessments could be made less onerous. Suggestions for how this could be achieved included reducing the length of some essays and requiring learners to hand up presentation slides rather than a separate written report. Alternative assessment methods could also be considered in some modules.

1.3.3

Requirement: Any revisions to Module Descriptors or Semester Schedules made to address the recommendations and requirements in this require sign-off from the CIT Module Moderator and the Registrar's Office prior to approval by the CIT Academic Council.

1.4 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

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

Overall Finding: Yes

The Panel notes that the programme structure had also already been the subject of external peer evaluation by Mr Neville Knott and Ms Elizabeth Kirby for *Interior Architecture*, and Mr Cormac Allen and Mr Niall Healy for *Architectural Technical Design*. The Semester Schedules as proposed are in Appendix 2.

1.4.1

The high level of similarity between the programmes, including the large studio modules, was a matter of concern for the Panel. While it was appropriate that each programme should develop the learners' core specialism through a studio pedagogy, the Panel considered that the professional roles of and market for graduates of the two degrees were actually very different. The programmes as submitted, however, shared most modules, and moreover the expression of the specialism in the core studio modules rested largely on individual learning outcomes, with distinctions between other elements (e.g. Description, Indicative Content) not very deep. The question did present itself therefore if what was submitted was in fact two separate and distinct programmes, requiring separate entry profiles and capable of producing distinct graduate profiles on completion. As it was, the Panel considered that a prospective student would not be able to ascertain the precise focus and detail of their intended course of study from the official programme and module descriptors to be published on the CIT website.

Requirement: The Panel therefore asks the proposers to define and state the distinctive mission, scope, thematic areas, boundaries and employment potential of each programme more clearly and strongly. Following on from this, the proposers should ensure that the distinctive nature and themes of each programme emerge clearly from the programme documentation (programme & module descriptors as well as supplementary programme literature, such as student handbooks, marketing literature, etc.).

In particular, the distinct profile of each specialism should be expressed clearly and in sufficiently specific detail in the core studio module descriptors for each programme (incl. the Educational Aim, Indicative Content and Coursework Descriptions).

By way of example, the Panel considers "sustainability" too broad to usefully define the distinct approaches of each specialism to this theme. Conversely, specific thematic strands which the programme team might consider for each would be 'Typological Analysis for Adaptive Reuse' for the *MSc in Interior Architecture* and 'M & E and Costing' for the *MSc in Architectural Technical Design*. Retrofitting is a strand which could be foregrounded more strongly on either programme, with different emphases as appropriate to each specialism.

1.4.2

Requirement: In addition, the Department needs to specify separate and distinct entry requirements for each programme which clearly set out the specific prior learning requisite to enable appropriate progress towards the achievement of the specialist learning outcomes of each programme. The specific meaning of "cognate" for each programme should also be defined.

1.4.3

Requirement: The Department is also asked to review the selection of elective modules included in Semesters 1 and 2 of each programme, with a view to aligning them better with the strengthened thematic focus. The Panel suggests that the main function of the electives included in a programme of this nature and at this level should be to provide specific, in-depth theoretical support for the specialist areas of investigation in the major studio modules.

While the Panel acknowledges present viability constraints, discussion with the proposing team showed that there are additional cognate modules currently running in the School which had not been included in the Schedules, and which in the Panel's view would be well suited to supporting the specialisms (e.g. the modules on the Level 8 SPA *Certificate in Mechanical & Electrical Quantity Surveying*: BULD8022 *Building Services Evaluation,* BULD8024 *M&E Cost Planning,* and BULD8023, *M&E Measurement*; all 5-credit Advanced level modules). The actual availability of modules from other areas specifically included as part of the elective selection on offer (rather than selected by individual learners under Free Choice) will need to be ascertained.

In this context, the Panel notes and supports the stated intention of the proposers to provide guidance to each learner on the selection of electives most appropriate to her/his individual studio investigation and research at the beginning of each semester.

1.4.4

The Panel observed that the same elective module (BULD8021 *Building Thermal Dynamic Analysis*, Advanced level, 5 cr.) is included in Semester 1 and Semester 2 of the *MSc in Architectural Technical Design* as submitted.

Requirement: The Department should either remove one instance of this module, **OR** include an elective regulation in Semester 2 explicitly stating that learners may not register for modules previously completed.

1.5 PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Validation Criterion: Are the programme management structures adequate?

Overall Finding: Yes.

The proposers stated that each programme would have a separate Programme Board. The Panel noted this.

1.6 RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

Validation Criterion: Are the resource requirements reasonable?

Overall Finding: Yes

The Panel was assured on behalf of the President and Head of Faculty/College/School that appropriate resources in terms of staffing and facilities will be put in place when the programme is validated.

With regard to physical facilities, the Head of Department stated that two separate studio spaces were available for separate delivery of the studio modules on each programme if justified by entrant numbers. To ensure viability with smaller numbers, however, there was a possibility that both cohorts would be taught together in the same physical space in the studio modules (see also 1.3.1 above).

1.7 IMPACT ON THE INSTITUTE

Validation Criterion: Will the impact of the programme on the Institute be positive?

Overall Finding: Yes

2. Conclusion

Based on the above findings, the Panel concludes that the *MSc in Interior Architecture* and the *MSc in Architectural Technical Design* meet the required standards for the respective award at Level 9 of the National Framework of Qualifications.

As the requisite revisions require specialist input, however, the Panel asks that the revised Programme Descriptors, Book of Modules, and statements of entry requirements for both programmes should be resubmitted to the Validation Panel as well as the CIT Registrar's Office for approval before a recommendation for validation can be made to the CIT Academic Council.

Once the Validation Panel and CIT Registrar's Office have satisfied themselves that the revised *MSc in Interior Architecture* and the revised *MSc in Architectural Technical Design* meet the criteria for validation of a new programme adopted by the CIT Academic Council, the Panel recommends to Academic Council that the *MSc in Interior Architecture* and the *MSc in Architectural Technical Design* be validated for five academic years, or until the next programmatic review, whichever is soonest.

FOLLOW-UP:

The revised Programme Descriptors, revised Books of Modules and Departmental Response were circulated to Panel Members for their consideration on 31 May 2013. Following desk-review of the revised materials by the Panel and the Registrar's Office, implementation of requirements is confirmed as follows:

Implementation of Requirements
1.2.2 Complete. The revised title of ***MSc in Architectural Technical Design*** is approved by the Validation Panel.
1.3.3 Complete. Module Moderator / Registrar's Office Sign-Off 18 June 2013.
1.4.1 Complete. Based on the mission statements supplied and the amendments to the studio module descriptors, the Panel considers this requirement to be met. **SUPPLEMENTARY FINDING**: The Panel comments that the amendments made to the core studio module descriptors are less substantial than the Panel would ideally have liked to see. It is the Panel's view that the programme profiles (as expressed in the descriptors) and mission statements would benefit from introduction of greater specificity at the next point of review.
1.4.2 Complete. Direct entry to the MSc in Interior Architecture will be limited to entrants with a Level 8 undergraduate degree, with an achievement of 50% or higher, in Interior Architecture. Direct entry to the MSc in Architectural Technical Design will be limited to entrants with an L8 degree (with 50% or higher) in Architectural Technology. Applicants with a Level 8 qualification in defined cognate fields will have to undergo a portfolio review and interview to assess their potential to succeed in the programme. Such applicants may also be required to undertake bridging studies as directed by the Department to build up the requisite technical proficiency and studio skills.
1.4.3 Complete. Addressed through inclusion of removal of Module MGMT8005 *Entrepreneurship* and inclusion of Modules BULD8022/8023/8024 in the *MSc in Architectural Technical Design*. With these changes, the Panel is agreeable to consider the requirement met, but makes a supplementary recommendation as follows: **SUPPLEMENTARY RECOMMENDATION**: The Panel asks that the elective selection on offer in each programme should be revisited following establishment of the programmes, with a view to tailoring it better to the individual focus and profile of each programme.
1.4.4 Complete. Duplicate Module BULD8021 *Building Thermal Dynamic Analysis* removed from Semester 2.

Appendix 1 – Proposed Programme Outcomes

Master of Science in Interior Architecture

Programme Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme the learner will be able to :

PO1	**Knowledge - Breadth**	A wide and systematic knowledge of design, aesthetics, technical, engineering and construction principles and the design process for Interior Architecture; an understanding of the key parameters and the technical, environmental, economic, social and cultural issues pertaining to this discipline.
PO2	**Knowledge - Kind**	A critical awareness of current issues in interior architecture practice and design; a knowledge of the latest technical developments and limitations to their application.
PO3	**Skill - Range**	Mastery of a range of specialist design and research tools and methods of investigation and analysis in the field of interior architecture; the ability to use architectural principles to design and develop innovative solutions to complex challenges in architecture.
PO4	**Skill - Selectivity**	The ability to select appropriate advanced skills and use new methods required for novel situations and the ability to develop to a high level, new skills in emerging techniques as required in interior architecture design and analysis; the ability to undertake analysis of a design and justify decisions throughout a particular design process.
PO5	**Competence - Context**	The ability to act at a variety of professional levels, particularly in the initiation, development and promotion of design solutions; the ability to identify and critically appraise potential projects and opportunities, conduct appropriate research and undertake the design and development of solutions for complex interior architecture challenges.
PO6	**Competence - Role**	The technical competence to take significant responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, lead and initiate activity in interior architecture practice.
PO7	**Competence - Learning to Learn**	The ability to self-evaluate learning, identify knowledge gaps and take responsibility for the pursuit of academic and professional development.
PO8	**Competence - Insight**	The ability to scrutinise and reflect on the impact of interior architecture on culture and social norms and the ability to critically evaluate methods of change.

Master of Science in Architectural Technical Design

Programme Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme the learner will be able to :

PO1	**Knowledge - Breadth**	A wide and systematic knowledge of scientific, technical, engineering and construction principles and the design process for the technical design of architecture; an understanding of the key parameters and the technical, environmental, economic, social and cultural issues pertaining to this discipline
PO2	**Knowledge - Kind**	A critical awareness of current issues in architectural technical design; a knowledge of the latest technical developments and limitations to their application.
PO3	**Skill - Range**	Mastery of a range of specialist design and research tools and methods of investigation and analysis in the field of architectural technology; the ability to use architectural technology principles to design and develop innovative solutions to complex challenges in architectural technology.
PO4	**Skill - Selectivity**	The ability to select appropriate advanced skills and use new methods required for novel situations and the ability to develop to a high level, new skills in emerging techniques as required in architectural technical design and analysis; the ability to undertake analysis of a technical design and justify decisions throughout a particular technical design process.
PO5	**Competence - Context**	The ability to act at a variety of professional levels, particularly in the initiation, development and promotion of technical design solutions; the ability to identify and critically appraise potential technical solutions and opportunities, conduct appropriate research and undertake the technical design and development of solutions to complex architectural technical design challenges.
PO6	**Competence - Role**	The technical competence to take significant responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, lead and initiate activity in architectural technology practice.
PO7	**Competence - Learning to Learn**	The ability to self-evaluate learning, identify knowledge gaps and take responsibility for the pursuit of academic professional development.
PO8	**Competence - Insight**	The ability to scrutinise and reflect on the impact of architectural technology practice and technical design on culture and social norms and the ability to critically evaluate methods of change.

Appendix 2 – Semester Schedules

Master of Science in Interior Architecture

Semester 1

Mandatory								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
INTR9010	Research Skills and Practice (Approved)	JOSEPH HARRINGTON	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	100.0%	0%
No Code Yet	Interior Arch Strategy Studio (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	15.0	1.00	1.00	100.0%	0%

Elective								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
ARCH8003	Conservation 1 (Approved)	JOSEPH HARRINGTON	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	40.0%	60%
BULD9002	Contract Admin/Dispute Resolve (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	100.0%	0%
INTR9013	Const. Project Management (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	40.0%	60%
MECH8026	Commercial BER (Approved)	DAITHI FALLON	Advanced	5.0	4.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
MGMT8018	Strategic Management 1 (Approved)	BRIAN MC GRATH	Advanced	5.0	4.00	2.00	30.0%	70%
MMED8025	Multimedia Production (Approved)	ROSE MC GRATH	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
FREE6001	Free Choice Module (Approved)	PAUL GALLAGHER	N/A	5.0	4.00	0.00	50.0%	50%

Semester 2

Mandatory								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
INTR9011	Research Project Development (Approved)	JOSEPH HARRINGTON	Expert	5.0	1.00	1.00	100.0%	0%
No Code Yet	Interior Arch Development (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	20.0	1.00	1.00	100.0%	0%

Elective

Mod Code	Module Title	Co-ordinator	Level	Credits	FT Hours Contact Hours	PT Hours Contact Hours	Course Work	Final Exam
ARCH8004	Conservation 2 (Approved)	KATHERINE KEANE	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
CTEC8005	New Media Production (Approved)	ROSE MC GRATH	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
INTR9007	Eng. Project Management (Approved)	DES WALSH	Expert	5.0	2.50	0.00	100.0%	0%
INTR9009	Global Project Management (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	50.0%	50%
MGMT8009	Intl Strategies & Org (Approved)	CAROLINE O REILLY	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
MGMT9003	Managing Innovation (Approved)	DON CROWLEY	Expert	5.0	3.00	3.00	100.0%	0%
FREE6001	Free Choice Module (Approved)	PAUL GALLAGHER	N/A	5.0	4.00	0.00	50.0%	50%

Semester 3

Mandatory								
Mod Code	Module Title	Co-ordinator	Level	Credits	FT Hours Contact Hours	PT Hours Contact Hours	Course Work	Final Exam
No Code Yet	Interior Arch Doc Studio (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	10.0	0.50	0.50	100.0%	0%
No Code Yet	Research Doc + Dissem (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	20.0	0.50	0.50	100.0%	0%

Master of Science in Architectural Technical Design

Semester 1

Mandatory								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
INTR9010	Research Skills and Practice (Approved)	JOSEPH HARRINGTON	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	100.0%	0%
No Code Yet	Technical Design Strategy (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	15.0	1.00	1.00	100.0%	0%

Elective								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
BULD8024	M&E Cost Planning (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Advanced	5.0	3.00	3.00	60.0%	40%
BULD8022	Building Services Evaluation (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Advanced	5.0	3.00	3.00	100.0%	0%
INTR8018	Energy Systems Modelling (Approved)	MATTHEW COTTERELL	Advanced	5.0	4.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
BULD8021	Building Thermal Dynamic Analysis (Approved)	DAITHI FALLON	Advanced	5.0	4.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
ARCH8003	Conservation 1 (Approved)	JOSEPH HARRINGTON	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	40.0%	60%
BULD9002	Contract Admin/Dispute Resolve (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	100.0%	0%
INTR9013	Const. Project Management (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	40.0%	60%
MECH8026	Commercial BER (Approved)	DAITHI FALLON	Advanced	5.0	4.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
MGMT8018	Strategic Management 1 (Approved)	BRIAN MC GRATH	Advanced	5.0	4.00	2.00	30.0%	70%
MMED8025	Multimedia Production (Approved)	ROSE MC GRATH	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
FREE6001	Free Choice Module (Approved)	PAUL GALLAGHER	N/A	5.0	4.00	0.00	50.0%	50%

Semester 2

Mandatory								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
INTR9011	Research Project Development (Approved)	JOSEPH HARRINGTON	Expert	5.0	1.00	1.00	100.0%	0%
No Code Yet	Technical Design Development (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	20.0	1.00	1.00	100.0%	0%

Elective								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
BULD8023	M&E Measurement (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Advanced	5.0	3.00	3.00	100.0%	0%
MECH8027	Building Energy Calculations (Approved)	DAITHI FALLON	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
ARCH8004	Conservation 2 (Approved)	KATHERINE KEANE	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
CTEC8005	New Media Production (Approved)	ROSE MC GRATH	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
INTR9007	Eng. Project Management (Approved)	DES WALSH	Expert	5.0	2.50	0.00	100.0%	0%
INTR9009	Global Project Management (Approved)	DANIEL CAHILL	Expert	5.0	2.00	2.00	50.0%	50%
MGMT8009	Intl Strategies & Org (Approved)	CAROLINE O REILLY	Advanced	5.0	3.00	0.00	100.0%	0%
MGMT9003	Managing Innovation (Approved)	DON CROWLEY	Expert	5.0	3.00	3.00	100.0%	0%
FREE6001	Free Choice Module (Approved)	PAUL GALLAGHER	N/A	5.0	4.00	0.00	50.0%	50%

Semester 3

Mandatory								
Mod Code	**Module Title**	**Co-ordinator**	**Level**	**Credits**	**FT Hours Contact Hours**	**PT Hours Contact Hours**	**Course Work**	**Final Exam**
No Code Yet	Technical Design Dissemination (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	10.0	0.50	0.50	100.0%	0%
No Code Yet	Research Doc + Dissem (Draft)	KATHERINE KEANE	Expert	20.0	0.50	0.50	100.0%	0%

CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ

Master of Science Proposal
Interior Architecture
Architectural Technical Design
Response to Panel

31st May 2013

Department of Architecture
School of Building and Civil Engineering

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Programme Title

The nomenclature MSc Technical Architecture has been revised to be consistent with the RIAI language for describing the Architectural Technologist as a technical designer. The revised title is;
MSc Architectural Technical Design

Mission Statement: Master of Science in Interior Architecture

Including Programme Specification, Mission and Boundary of programme, approach to Professional Accreditation

Master of Science in Interior Architecture

The primary intention of the programme is to provide advanced specialism in Interior Architectural Design a route of progression for graduates of level 8 programmes in Interior Architecture to a taught level 9/MSc qualification. This in turn would provide the opportunity for progression to level 10/PhD. While graduates of Interior Architecture are not currently subject to registration of title in Ireland, they are expected to work in architectural practice alongside Architects and Technologists and as such, need to develop a strong technical and professional practice competence. This proposed programme is not intended to be a route to accreditation for the title Architect nor is the course in any way intended to address the practice of Architecture as it relates to new buildings or facades. There is currently no accreditation available for this programme.

The proposed CIT Master of Science in Interior Architecture builds from the high standards of competence in the level 8 program in Interior Architecture. It seeks to add opportunities for specialism and self-development in areas of practice management, marketing/business development, sustainability and dissemination/communication. A suite of elective taught modules are supported by studio discipline modules which offer individual opportunities to integrate and assimilate knowledge and research into a self-directed studio based project with practice level expectations. This seeks to increase competencies and improve employment prospects for the level 9 graduate in partial supplement to the lack of opportunity for workplace experience.

The focus of the CIT undergraduate and postgraduate programmes is to produce graduates for collective commercial practice rather than independent private operators. The role of the interior architect is to be seen in this context, circumscribed by the interior of the building envelope working alongside related disciplines in Architectural practice. In the past, the education of interior designers did not suit commercial Architectural practice as the graduates did not have the knowledge, language, communication, technical competence or flexibility to match other disciplines within practice, thus limiting employment opportunities and progression in commercial practice. This led many educational institutions across the world to re-examine the scope and role of the commercial interior professional.

Note: Interior Architects in Irish Profession tend to be members of the Institute of Designers in Ireland who are affiliated to the European Council of Interior Architects. The RIAI do not represent Interior Architects in Architectural practice. There is no route to accreditation for the professional Interior Architect and typically, graduates would

work with a registered Architect in all aspects of practice. This proposed course is not a route to accreditation for the title Architect nor is the course in any way intended to address the practice of Architecture as it relates to new buildings or facades. In the past other disciplines such as Architectural Technologists may have used the title Architect in practice (Pre protection of title), competing for the same new build market. This has never been the case in terms of Interior Architects; their specific market tends to be delimited by the existence of a building and confined to its interior, and is as such not a threat to the business of Architects. Indeed many successful large Architectural practices have profitable Interiors teams focused on fit-out projects. In the past these have included practices like Scott Tallon Walker (STW), Robinson Keefe Devane (RKD), Murray O Laoighre (MOLA), Henry J Lyons (HJL), Horan Keoghan Ryan (HKR), O'Riordan Staehli Architects, Reddy Architecture, Wilson Architecture and others. Such types of practices are the target employment group of graduates. However the higher standards of knowledge in sustainable building performance and compliance may make them more flexible and attractive to smaller architectural practices.

Mission Statement: Master of Science in Architectural Technical Design

Including Programme Specification, Mission and Boundary of programme, approach to Professional Accreditation

The intent of this programme is to provide advanced specialisms in Technical Design and a progression route for graduates of the Level 8 BSc Honours in Architectural Technology programme to a Level 9 MSc qualification. This in turn would provide the opportunity for progression to level 10/PhD for appropriate candidates. The Ladder system of progression is at the core of CIT educational policy. This proposed MSc programme is not intended to be a route to accreditation for the title Architect nor is the curriculum in any way intended to satisfy the competencies of architectural education defined in Article 46 of the EU qualifications directive 2005.

Currently there is no accreditation available for the proposed MSc programme. The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland (RIAI) accredits level 7 and level 8 programmes in Architectural Technology and has developed a Standard of Knowledge, Skill and Competence for Practice as an Architectural Technologist which is divided into seven Sets - Context, Technology, Regulation, Procurement, Communication, Management and Professionalism. The MSc curriculum provides the opportunity to deepen investigation within these seven areas but more importantly facilitates self-directed research leading to expertise and specialist skills. These are the technical specialist skills relied upon by the Architect in the practice of Architecture and relate to the requirements of emerging Building Control Acts, regulations/legislation, Energy Design Strategy, 2020 Carbon Targets, etc.. As Architects are becoming more and more dependent on specialist expert roles the proposed MSc in Architectural Technical Design addresses this evolution by facilitating the development of the specialist technical skills required by legislation.

The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland (RIAI) is the leading professional body in Ireland for architects and architectural technologists, ensuring that both its architect and architectural technologist members are equipped with the necessary skills to deliver the services they offer. In 1974 the RIAI created the membership category of Architectural Technician. Since then the profession of architectural technician has developed significantly in terms of professional practice and in the provision of education at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. In recognition of this RIAI

Council agreed in 2009 to alter the technician membership title from 'architectural technician' to 'architectural technologist'. (Though not protected, use of either title is prescribed under the Building Control Act 2007). The RIAI regards the professional Architectural Technologist as a ***technical designer,*** *skilled in the application and integration of construction technologies in the building design process.*

Programme Structure

The 90 credit programmes provides three streams of investigation across three semesters; studio 45 credits, research 30 credits, and 15 credits of electives. The learner initiated major area of focus can be pursued through the studio and research streams which provide opportunity for self-directed research. The electives provide the opportunity to develop an area of minor focus or supplement the major focus. The intention of this structure is to provide the opportunity for each learner to develop an individually directed focus of investigation and expertise within the programme. The core of the programme is the studio pedagogy of investigation, exploration, analysis, testing, synthesis, and innovative response through the applied components of project-based work on complex challenges; rapid iteration and testing of multiple solutions; frequent formal and informal critique; consideration and inclusion of diverse issues; the use of precedent and holistic critical thinking; the creative use of constraints and the exploitation of communication tools.

	Semester 1 Autumn	**Semester 2** Spring	**Semester 3** Summer
STUDIO – Core Specialism	15 credits	20 Credits	10 Credits
RESEARCH- Core Specialism	5 Credits	5 Credits	20 Credits
ELECTIVES	10 Credits	5 Credits	

Educational Aim, Core Specialisms and Elective Streams

Interior Architecture

The intention of this programme is to develop advanced design, aesthetic, analytical, technical, assessment, appraisal and research skills in Interior Architecture. The structure of the programme facilitates the development of a self-directed specialist focus in design with expertise in the discipline developed through studio explorations and research investigations. A minor focus in interdisciplinary themes can be integrated through the availability of elective modules. Graduates of this programme will be well equipped to meet the challenges of contemporary sustainable interior architecture practice and provide leadership through innovative expertise in design with advanced conceptual understanding, detailed factual knowledge, specialist skills and an overall holistic approach. The programme includes theoretical and practical content aimed to predict future best-practice in environmental responsibility.

Core Specialisms/Major Focus through studio and research

- Design Discipline Specialization
- Building Adaption/ Retro fit
- Sustainable Design
- Self- directed investigation

Minor Focus through elective modules

Professional Practice Modules

- Contract Administration and Dispute Resolution

- Construction Project Management
- Global Project Management
- Engineering Project Management

Digital Representation Modules
- Multimedia Production
- New Media Production

Business and Marketing
- Strategic Business Management
- Managing Innovation
- International Strategies and Organization

Electives
In Semesters 1 and 2 elective options are included to provide maximum opportunity to the learner to custom design his/her programme of study. The modules included afford the opportunity for the development of knowledge, skills and competences in a range of additional disciplines.

Modules which may broaden the learner's knowledge skills and competency in leadership and management are available in;
- Construction Project Management
- Strategic Business Management
- Global Project Management
- Engineering Project Management
- Managing Innovation

Modules which deliver knowledge, skills and competency related to contemporary practice support, competitiveness and growth are:
- Contract Administration and Dispute Resolve
- International Strategies & Organisation

Discipline support skills and knowledge are provided in the following modules:
- Commercial BER
- Multimedia Production
- New Media Production
- Building Thermal Dynamics
- Energy Systems Modelling
- Building Energy Calculations

Free Choice Elective: With advanced planning and prior approval, dependant on availability and scheduling, learners can identify modules at the advanced and expert level which particularly support their curriculum goals to satisfy their elective(s).

Programme Outcomes – Interior Architecture

Knowledge Breadth	A wide and systematic knowledge of design, aesthetics, technical, engineering and construction principles and the design process for Interior Architecture; an understanding of the key parameters and the technical, environmental, economic, social and cultural issues pertaining to this discipline.
Knowledge Kind	A critical awareness of current issues in interior architecture practice and design; knowledge of the latest technical developments and limitations to their application.
Skill Range	Mastery of a range of specialist design and research tools and methods of investigation and analysis in the field of interior architecture; the ability to use architectural principles to design and develop innovative solutions to complex challenges in architecture.
Skill Selectivity	The ability to select appropriate advanced skills and use new methods required for novel situations and the ability to develop to a high level, new skills in emerging techniques as required in interior architecture design and analysis; the ability to undertake analysis of a design and justify decisions throughout a particular design process.
Competence Context	The ability to act at a variety of professional levels, particularly in the initiation, development and promotion of design solutions; the ability to identify and critically appraise potential projects and opportunities, conduct appropriate research and undertake the design and development of solutions for complex interior architecture challenges.
Competence Role	The technical competence to take significant responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, lead and initiate activity in interior architecture practice.
Competence Learning to Learn	The ability to self-evaluate learning, identify knowledge gaps and take responsibility for the pursuit of academic and professional development.
Competence Insight	The ability to scrutinise and reflect on the impact of interior architecture on culture and social norms and the ability to critically evaluate methods of change.

Educational Aim, Core specialisms and Elective Streams

Architectural Technical Design

The intention of this programme is to develop advanced technical, analytical, assessment, appraisal and research skills in architectural technical design. The structure of the programme facilitates the development of a self-directed technical specialist focus with expertise in the specific areas of sustainable, performance-based, energy-efficient technical design developed through studio exploration and research investigations supported by elective modules. A minor focus in interdisciplinary themes can be integrated through elective modules. Graduates of this programme will be well equipped to meet the challenges of contemporary sustainable, performance-based, energy-efficient architectural technology practice and provide leadership through innovative expertise in technical design with advanced understanding, detailed factual knowledge and specialist skills. The programme includes theoretical and practical content aimed to predict future best-practice in environmental responsibility.

Core Specialisms/Major Focus through studio and research

- Environment, Sustainable Design
- Low Energy
- Innovative Technology, Materials
- Self-directed investigation

Minor Focus through elective modules

Professional Practice Modules

- Contract Administration and Dispute Resolution
- Construction Project Management
- Global Project Management
- Engineering Project Management

Energy Modules

- Commercial BER
- Building Thermal Dynamics Analysis
- Energy Systems Modelling
- Building Energy calculations

Digital Representation Modules

- Multimedia Production
- New Media Production

Business and Marketing Modules

- Strategic Business Management
- Managing Innovation
- International Strategies and Organization

Electives

In Semesters 1 and 2 elective options are included to provide maximum opportunity to the learner to custom design his/her programme of study. The modules included afford the opportunity for the development of knowledge, skills and competences in a range of additional disciplines.

Modules which may broaden the learner's knowledge skills and competency in leadership and management are available in;

- Construction Project Management
- Strategic Business Management
- Global Project Management
- Engineering Project Management
- Managing Innovation

Modules which deliver knowledge, skills and competency related to contemporary practice support, competitiveness and growth are:

- Contract Administration and Dispute Resolve
- International Strategies & Organisation

Discipline support skills and knowledge are provided in the following modules:

- Commercial BER
- Multimedia Production
- New Media Production
- Building Thermal Dynamics

- Energy Systems Modelling
- Building Energy Calculations

Free Choice Elective: With advanced planning and prior approval, dependant on availability and scheduling, learners can identify modules at the advanced and expert level which particularly support their curriculum goals to satisfy their elective(s).

Certificate in Mechanical & Electrical Quantity Surveying – Modules

The three 5-credit modules in the Certificate in Mechanical and Electrical Quantity Surveying also provide a focused option for learners and will be included in the Elective options. This approved special purpose award has been designed and structured as an integrated suite of modules with the Measurement module intended to be delivered last. Learners on the MSc in Architectural Technical Design will be advised accordingly.

- Building Services Technology Evaluation
- Cost Planning of Mechanical and Electrical Services
- Measurement of Mechanical and Electrical Services

Programme Outcomes – Architectural Technical Design

Knowledge - Breadth	A wide and systematic knowledge of scientific, technical, engineering and construction principles and the design process for the technical design of architecture; an understanding of the key parameters and the technical, environmental, economic, social and cultural issues pertaining to this discipline
Knowledge - Kind	A critical awareness of current issues in architectural technical design; knowledge of the latest technical developments and limitations to their application.
Skill - Range	Mastery of a range of specialist design and research tools and methods of investigation and analysis in the field of architectural technology; the ability to use architectural technology principles to design and develop innovative solutions to complex challenges in architectural technology.
Skill - Selectivity	The ability to select appropriate advanced skills and use new methods required for novel situations and the ability to develop to a high level, new skills in emerging techniques as required in architectural technical design and analysis; the ability to undertake analysis of a technical design and justify decisions throughout a particular technical design process.
Competence - Context	The ability to act at a variety of professional levels, particularly in the initiation, development and promotion of technical design solutions; the ability to identify and critically appraise potential technical solutions and opportunities, conduct appropriate research and undertake the technical design and development of solutions to complex architectural technical design challenges.
Competence - Role	The technical competence to take significant responsibility for the work of individuals and groups, lead and initiate activity in architectural technology practice.
Competence - Learning to Learn	The ability to self-evaluate learning, identify knowledge gaps and take responsibility for the pursuit of academic professional development.
Competence - Insight	The ability to scrutinise and reflect on the impact of architectural technology practice and technical design on culture and social norms and the ability to critically evaluate methods of change.

Entry Requirements

It is likely that the initial demand for the proposed programmes will be primarily from recent graduates of the BSc (Hons) in Architectural Technology and Interior Architecture Programmes; over time more demand is likely from part-time students in this discipline or possibly from students from a range of cognate disciplines wishing to up-skill and/or specialise. The developing relationship with Fanshawe College, Ontario is likely to provide an on-going source of students for the proposed programme who will enter year 4 of the BSc Hons Architectural Technology programme and progress to the MSc programme if appropriate.

Interior Architecture

It is expected that the majority audience for this programme will be from within Interior Architecture. Candidates entering the MSc programme with a BSc Hons in Interior Architecture will have a minimum of 50% average. Candidates from the cognate discipline of Interior Design will also require a 50% average. The programme structure is very strongly organised around the self-directed studio module with 45 of the 90 credits dedicated to studio. Cognate disciplines would be expected to be studio based programmes within the disciplines of Architecture and Built Environment; BSc Hons Architecture, BSc Hons Architectural Technology. Learners entering from non-studio based disciplines would expect to have to build skills in addition to the 90 credits of the MSc programme, either before entering the twelve month MSc programme or during a part-time or access enrolment. In this case a custom designed programme of study will be developed under the guidance of the department. The well- established Request for Prior Learning (RPL) process at CIT can be utilised for cognate and non-cognate applicants.

Architectural Technical Design

It is expected that the audience for this programme will originate within Architectural Technology. Candidates entering the MSc programme with a BSc Hons in Architectural Technology will have a minimum of 50% average. The programme structure is very strongly organised around the self-directed studio module with 45 of the 90 credits dedicated to studio. Cognate disciplines would be expected to be studio based programmes within the disciplines of Architecture and Built Environment Studies; BSc Hons Architecture, BSc Hons Interior Architecture, BSc Hons Interior Design. Learners entering from non-studio based disciplines would expect to have to build skills in addition to the 90 credits of the MSc programme, either before entering the twelve month MSc programme or during a part-time or access enrolment. In this case a custom designed programme of study will be developed under the guidance of the department. For example a learner transferring from Structural Engineering into MSc Architectural Technical Design could enrol part time in the MSc programme and complete the MSc modules in the sequence of Elective Modules, Research Modules and lastly Studio Modules while simultaneously enrolling in undergraduate modules to develop studio skills. Also the well- established Request for Prior Learning (RPL) process at CIT can be utilized for cognate and non-cognate applicants.

Core Specialism and Elective Selection

The programme will start with an introduction to the Core Specialisms and the Elective Streams. Support seminars will be provided to assist learners in selecting a direction of research and investigation.

Modes of Delivery

The MSc in Interior Architecture and the MSc in Architectural Technical Design will be offered in the following options;

- Full Time
- Part Time
- Access

The department does not control the scheduling of Elective modules delivered by other departments within other programme and all learner schedules will have to adjust accordingly.

Suggested routes for part time or access learning would include completing the programme in the following instalments and order;

- 15 Credits of electives
- 30 credits of research
- 45 credits of studio

Special Purpose Awards and Springboard Funding
Potential for parcelling the programme into smaller segments to satisfy special purpose awards exist in the following groupings;

Studio Modules 1 and 2 = 35 credits
Technical Design Strategy/ Interior Arch Strategy Studio
Technical Design Development/ Interior Arch Development

Research Modules 1, 2 and 3 = 30 credits
Research Skills and Practice
Research Project Development
Research Documentation and Dissemination

15 Credit Certificate
The Certificate in Mechanical & Electrical Quantity Surveying is composed of three 5-credit modules which also provides a focused option for learners and will be included in the Elective options.

Research Professional Funding
Cork Institute of Technology subscribes to Research Professional, an online database of research funding opportunities and research policy and practice news. This subscription enables Learners to search for available content, and set up email alerts to stay informed on new funding opportunities or news articles. This will be available to MSc students and BSc Hons students prior to entering the MSc programme.

Module Descriptors

All module descriptors will be updated to reflect options for Full time, part time and Access Delivery including workload breakdown.

The core studio modules will be revised to reflect comments from the review panel.