

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

Date of Meeting: 06-06-2013

Named Award: Certificate
Programme Title: Certificate in Innovation in the Process Industries
Award Type: Special Purpose Award
NFQ Level: 9
Intakes Commencing: 02-09-2013
ECTS/ACCS Credits: 35

PANEL MEMBERS

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit
Dr Hugh McGlynn, Head of School of Science and Informatics (Chair)
Mr Harvey Makin, Department of Applied Physics and Instrumentation
Mr Shane Horgan, EHS Team Leader Pfizer Ireland
Mr Dermot O'Brien, Director of Process Development & Commercialisation, MSD Ireland

IN ATTENDANCE

Name / Function / External Institution OR CIT Academic Unit

PROPOSING TEAM MEMBERS

Name / Function / Academic Unit
Mr Matt Cotterell, Head of School of Mechanical and Process Engineering
Dr Michael J O'Mahony, Head of Department of Process, Energy and Transport Engineering
Mr Noel Duffy, Department of Process, Energy and Transport Engineering
Dr Sandra Lenihan, Department of Process, Energy and Transport Engineering
Mr Pat Kennedy, Department of Process, Energy and Transport Engineering

BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED PROGRAMME

The EGFSN/Forfás Report: Future Skills Requirements of the Manufacturing Sector to 2020 has identified specific skill shortages and gaps across the Biomedical and Biopharmaceutical industries and in particular for Innovation within the pharmaceutical, medical device and food industries.

The proposed Certificate in Innovation in the Process Industries is a 30 ECTS credit offering at level 9 and is a response to the Springboard Initiative to address this skills shortage.

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): Springboard initiative indicates need for skills in this area, course proposed meets this skills shortage.

Requirement(s): none

Recommendation(s): none

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

Overall Finding: Yes

Finding(s): Level 9 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

Suite of modules offered allow learners to acquire of necessary skills in Innovation within the Biopharmaceutical sector

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 the title of the proposed course and determined in agreement with proposers that a more appropriate title of Certificate in Process Industries Advancements and Innovation would benefit the course and its learners.

Requirement(s): Title of course be changed to Certificate in Process Industries Advancements and Innovation

An additional module MGMT 9003 Managing Innovation to be included as a mandatory offering in Semester 2 of the course (additional resource implication to be met within proposing Department)

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): Course will run using existing modules and instances of delivery, hence no additional resource requirement needed. However, the additional module MGMT 9003 Managing Innovation which is to be included as a mandatory offering in Semester 2 of the course to be met within the resources of the proposing Department.

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 through the Springboard initiative and provide opportunities for progression for learners onto the MEng in Chemical and Biopharmaceutical Engineering programme. 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 excellent proposal as a means of fostering innovative thinking within the Biopharma sector

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.

Implementation of Requirements

1.4 Complete.

Course title changed to ***Certificate in Process Industries Advancements and Innovation.***

Module MGMT9007 *Managing Innovation* added to Semester 2, bringing the overall credit load of this Certificate course to 35 ECTS credits.

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