

Academic Council

Summary of Meeting held on 6 December 2023

1.	<p>Awards</p> <p>(a) Awards approved by Chair's Action: Graduate Research School Board</p> <p>(b) Ratification of Awards:</p> <p>(i) Graduate Research School Board (ii) Faculty of Arts and Humanities (iii) Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment</p>
2.	<p>A Level - Leaving Certificate Recommendations</p> <p>Academic Council noted the Report of Universities Ireland's Working Group in relation to Leaving Certificate – A Level Equivalencies which was tasked with making recommendations on the points equivalencies used for A Levels and the Leaving Certificate to redress an imbalance for A Level Applicants to CAO programmes.</p> <p>It was noted that the current system requires A level students to have four A levels, one of which must be Mathematics, to make it possible to achieve maximum points and that the revised Equivalencies would mean that it will be easier for students from the North to access education in the South.</p> <p>Academic Council adopted the proposed revised Leaving Certificate – A Level Equivalencies as outlined in Table 2 of the document.</p> <p>It was noted that it may be possible for CAO to implement the revised Equivalencies for 2024/25 intake but that this is dependent on their timely adoption by individual Universities across the state.</p>
3.	<p>Current University Academic Working Groups</p> <p>Academic Council noted the Current University Academic Working Groups.</p> <p>It was noted that there are currently 8 Working Groups each reporting to Academic Council or one of the four Sub-Committees.</p> <p>It was also noted that the Academic Affairs website/intranet, which is currently under development, will provide up-to-date information on the Working Groups.</p>
4.	<p>Draft Academic Calendar 2024/2025 and Feedback</p> <p>Academic Council approved, in principle, the draft Academic Calendar 2024/2025 and noted the feedback received.</p> <p>It was noted that based on the feedback received the Calendar has been revised to move Semester 2 Review week to Week 13.</p> <p>As per the approved process for agreeing the calendar further and final feedback from all stakeholders is requested to be submitted by end of January 2024. A final draft academic calendar will be brought forward to the next meeting on 24 February for approval, followed by website publishing.</p>

NOTE: This is an informal summary of an Academic Council meeting. It does not in any way prejudice the official minutes of the meeting which will be presented to the next ordinary meeting of Academic Council and which are the sole authoritative record of Academic Council business.