



MINUTES

Meeting	: SETU Academic Council
Meeting Number	: 22
Date	: 19 May 2026
Duration	: 10.15am – 12.45pm
Attendees	: Prof. Veronica Campbell (Chairperson), Dr. Derek O’Byrne (Secretary), Ms. Amanda Freeman-Gater, Mr. Aubrey Storey, Mr. Brian Power, Dr. Cara Daly, Dr. Cathal Nolan, Dr. Ciara O’Hagan, Mr. Conor Phelan, Dr. Daire O’Broin, Dr. David Scanlon, Dr. Eileen Doyle-Walsh, Ms. Eleanor Kent, Ms. Emer McGann, Ms. Erin Foley, Dr. Frances Hardiman, Ms. Hannah Polson, Dr. Hazel Farrell, Dr. Helen Murphy, Dr. Janette Davies, Dr. Ken Thomas, Dr. Laura Keane, Dr. Laurence Fitzhenry, Prof. Marie Claire Van Hout, Dr. Mrinal Chadha, Dr. Paula Rankin, Dr. Pauline Flanagan, Dr. Richard Coady, Dr. Stephen Whelan, Dr. Suzanne Denieffe, Dr. Tony Murphy, Ms. Yvonne Scully
In attendance	: Dr. Chris O’Riordan (items 2,5 & 6) Dr. Brian Jackson (item 7) Dr. Mike Kinsella, Dr. Siobhan Rudden (item 9) Dr. Colette Moloney (observing)
Secretariat	: Ms. Margaret Maher
Apologies	: Dr. Anne Graham Cagney, Dr. Claire O’Gorman, Dr. Corinne Power O’Mahony, Mr. Daniel Fagan, Mr. David O’Callaghan, Dr. Dean Callaghan, Mr. Derek Sheridan, Dr. Eugene Crehan, Dr. Geraldine Cleere, Mr. Gregg Murphy, Dr. Karen Hennessy, Dr. Katherine Cagney, Dr. Kevin Doolin, Dr. Maeve Doyle, Mr. Martin Walshe, Mr. Michael Tobin, Dr. Paula Lane, Ms. Sadhb Reddy, Ms. Siobhan Wall, Dr. Thomas O’Toole

Dr. Derek O'Byrne informed members that the Chairperson, Prof. Veronica Campbell, would be joining the meeting late. He assumed the role of Chair until her arrival.

1. Minutes of Academic Council Meeting of 21 April 2026

AGREED: Minutes of Academic Council Meeting of 21 April 2026 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

2.1 Members were reminded that an online training session for Academic Council members will take place on 9 June at 3pm. The topic of the session is Academic Risk and Academic Risk Management.

2.2 Communication Plan re disabling AI detection features in Turnitin

A Communication Plan regarding the disabling of AI detection features in Turnitin was circulated prior to this meeting. At the Academic Council meeting of 03 March 2026, Academic Council approved the proposal to disable AI detection features in Turnitin. The requirement for clear and timely communication, including an explanation of the rationale for this decision, was emphasised. The plan presented today will support clear and effective communication across the University.

The Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Teaching & Learning issued an e-mail to all Faculties in semester one asking that all staff be made aware that AI detection in Turnitin should not be relied upon as a sole indicator of misconduct and is insufficient to justify a disciplinary process without other supporting evidence. A similar e-mail will be issued next week.

2.3 Working Group on Academic Council Review

Dr. Chris O'Riordan provided a brief update on the Working Group, noting that its first meeting took place on 18 May 2026, however, it was agreed that there is currently insufficient Council representation to progress.

One further meeting is planned before the end of the academic year to develop an action/implementation plan based on the reports produced. Additional volunteers are required, and interested members are asked to e-mail Dr. D. O'Byrne.

3. Policies for approval

There were no policies for approval.

4. Committee Reports

4.1 Research & Research Programmes Committee

The Draft Minutes of the Research & Research Programmes Committee meeting of the 5 May 2026 were circulated prior to this meeting.

AGREED: As per the Committee Report the following were approved by Academic Council:

Application Type	Number of Applicants
Examiner nominations for research postgraduate candidates submitting for award	6

Members noted that Minute RPC 107 Action 2 should be amended to read “The RII Office will conduct a SWOT consultation and bring feedback from RPC to the Commercialisation and Tech Transfer Committee”.

Members were advised that SETU is target to meet the metrics set out in Strategic Plan for Research, Innovation and Impact, Connecting Research to Impact 2025–2028. Currently, SETU has 27 Post Doctoral researchers with a target of 38, 219 candidates for PhD with a target of 400, One Spin-out with a concerted effort to get another up and running.

Members further noted Expressions of Interest (EOIs) were received for the INSPIRE (Infrastructure for Research and Innovation) Programme, a national fund established by the Irish Government and overseen by Research Ireland and the Higher Education Authority to modernise research equipment and infrastructure across higher education. SETU is targeting circa €5.5m in funding for year 1.

Members also noted that development of the One Health South East, the pan University virtual Research and Knowledge Transfer Institute, will continue with a second staff consultation on 16 June.

4.2 Taught Studies Programmes, Teaching & Learning Committee

The Draft Minutes of the Taught Studies Programmes, Teaching & Learning Committee meeting of the 5 May 2026 were circulated prior to this meeting.

AGREED: The following were approved by Academic Council:

Programme Validations

- CE3: BSc in Software Development and Artificial Intelligence & BSc (H) in Software Development and Artificial Intelligence
- Certificate in Veterinary Preceptorship
- BA (H) in Home Economics; BA (H) in Home Economics (International)

Minor Changes

- BA (Hons) in Psychology

The Committee approved the proposal, pending an updated Minor Change application form which includes all relevant programmes that offer the module.

Late APR Changes for 2026/27 academic year

- Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning
- Postgraduate Diploma in Arts in Teaching and Learning
- Certificate in UDL: Practice and Strategy

Programmes Changes for 2027 CAO (AIL Coordinated)

New Proposed Name	Exact Name per SETU/CAO Website	TPC Committee Comment
B. Eng (Hons) in Manufacturing Engineering	BSc (Hons) in Manufacturing Engineering	The Committee approved the proposed change
B. Eng in Electronic Systems Design	BEng (Hons) in Electronic Engineering	The Committee approved the name change but request that the Faculty reconsider the proposal, particularly if the proposed title would be understood by applicants.
B. Eng. in Biomedical Engineering	BEng (Hons) in Biomedical Electronics	The Committee approved the proposed change.
M Sc. in Industrial Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure	MSc in Industrial Networks and Cybersecurity	The Committee approved the proposed change.
Master of Engineering in Mechanical and Materials Engineering	MEng in Applied Materials	The Committee approved the proposed change.
BA (Hons) in Global Business	BA (Hons) in International Business	The Committee approved the proposed change.

A memo regarding “*Proposal to pause programme amendment applications and align changes with Academic Unit Reviews*” was circulated prior to this meeting. The aim of the proposal is to facilitate a stable curriculum upon which to base the alignment of the academic portfolio across the University.

It is recommended that amendments to existing programmes—encompassing both minor and significant changes—and applications for the approval of new programmes comprising primarily existing modules be paused. Programme validation and amendment panels would be paused from 20 June 2026 and applications for minor amendments to programmes (apart from administrative-type amendments) would not be accepted post 1 September 2026. Instead, any proposed modifications to programmes should be incorporated into the Programmatic Review conducted as part of the relevant Academic Unit Review. It is proposed to continue to facilitate urgent administrative-type minor changes to ensure the continued delivery of programmes e.g. swapping delivery of modules between semesters to facilitate unavailability of staff.

AGREED: The proposal to pause programme amendment applications and align changes with Academic Unit Reviews was approved by Academic Council.

4.3 Student Experience Committee

The Draft Minutes of the Student Experience Committee meeting of the 12 May 2026 were circulated prior to this meeting.

Members noted that the Thematic Review on Student Retention took place on 22–23 April 2026. Although the Panel’s final report has not yet been received, initial feedback was positive. The Panel highlighted multiple examples of good practice and emphasised the value of establishing a framework to embed these initiatives across SETU. It also recognised the

proactive use of data, the high proportion of commuter students, and the importance of social spaces. The final report will be presented to Academic Council once received.

Members also noted that the Working Group on the Student Survey is currently reviewing the survey data and will provide an update to the Joint Quality Committee at its next meeting. Benchmarking against other Technological Universities and the wider higher education sector is now available. A new dashboard will be developed to facilitate access to and analysis of the findings.

4.4 GenAI Steering Group

The GenAI Steering Committee Report May 2026 was circulated prior to this meeting. Members noted that updated student guidelines are currently being developed, with the final version to be presented to Academic Council for noting at its June meeting.

5. Teaching, Learning, Assessment and Feedback Strategy

The document entitled *“Memo for Academic Council re Teaching, Learning, Assessment and Feedback (TLAF) Strategy Draft Documents,”* together with six supporting documents presented to Academic Council at the April 2026 meeting and two additional chapters developed since April were circulated prior to this meeting. Dr. Chris O’Riordan presented the documents, beginning by acknowledging the significant contribution of Dr. Gina Noonan, in particular, as well as all of the members of the Working Group involved in their development. Dr. O’Riordan advised members that the strategy is intended to be a “living document” and noted that a supporting implementation plan will be required.

Members noted that Generative AI should be explicitly referenced within the strategy, and that the workload associated with external examiners requires review. It was highlighted that, within the draft Assessment chapter, the proposed range is not suitable for all disciplines and should be broadened, while over-assessment was also identified as an issue. Members expressed a desire to see greater emphasis on challenge-based learning and work-based learning, and noted that the evolving nature of the workplace should be more clearly reflected. It was further observed that feedback approaches for first-year students require additional consideration, with specific guidance needed in this area. Members noted that the thematic review on retention has taken place and that the final report is due, and that it is expected to identify further areas for inclusion in the strategy. Members also indicated that external bodies should be able to recognise their role and relevance within the document, and that a definitions or glossary section should be included.

Members noted that amendments would be made following the discussions at Academic Council, after which the documents would be circulated to the wider university community for broader engagement, and subsequently brought back to Academic Council for further consideration.

Professor Veronica Campbell joined the meeting and resumed the role of Chair.

6. Academic Regulations 2026/27

Draft Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026–2027 together with seven associated draft supporting documents, were circulated prior to this meeting. Dr. Chris O’Riordan thanked all those who had contributed to these.

AGREED: The Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-27 along with the following Supporting Documents to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027 were approved by Academic Council.

- Work Placement of Learners (Interim based on old ADF System): Supporting Document 1 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027
- Examination Rules (Interim based on old ADF System): Supporting Document 2 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027
- Examination Rules (Interim based on old SAM System): Supporting Document 3 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027
- External Examining (Interim based on old ADF System): Supporting Document 4 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027
- External Examining (Interim based on old SAM System): Supporting Document 5 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027
- Viewing Examination Scripts and Examination and Assessment Review Procedures (Interim based on old ADF System): Supporting Document 6 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027
- Recheck, Viewing of Examination Scripts and Academic Appeals Procedure (Interim based on old SAM System): Supporting Document 7 to Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2026-2027

AGREED: All staff e-mail will be sent on 1 September 2026 by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Teaching and Learning to advise staff of the new documents being in place and being effective from that date.

7. Professional Doctorate Framework

Documents *“Framework & Guidelines for PhD by Prior Publication”* *“Extending PhD Pathways – Executive Summary for Academic Council”* & *“SETU Awards Standards (Professional Modes)”* were circulated to all members prior to this meeting. Prof. Marie Claire Van Hout introduced the documents and Dr. Brian Jackson joined the meeting and presented on the documents outlining the aims which include to grow PhD numbers, expand Doctoral training offerings, elevate and diversify research to meet regional needs and develop and translate research for regional impact.

Members welcomed the documents and noted the opportunities they present to advance PhD provision. Members queried whether PhD by Prior Publication is open to external staff and were advised that this will be reviewed. It was also noted that the supports available to staff undertaking supervisory roles require further consideration. Members further observed that the awards titles need to be developed. Members emphasised that the principle of supervisor teams, as previously established, should be retained.

AGREED: Documents *“Framework & Guidelines for PhD by Prior Publication”* *“Extending PhD Pathways – Executive Summary for Academic Council”* & *“SETU Awards Standards (Professional Modes)”* were approved by Academic Council. Award title will be brought to a future meeting of Academic Council.

Chairperson thanked Dr. Brian Jackson for attending the meeting today and Dr. Jackson left the meeting.

8. Ratification of Examination Results

A list of programmes approved at exam board meetings was presented to Academic Council for ratification.

AGREED: Academic Council noted and approved exam results determined at examination boards for the Departments and programmes listed in Appendix A.

9. Update on EU Conexus

Dr. Michael Kinsella and Dr. Siobhan Rudden joined the meeting and provided an overview of the EU-CONEXUS European University Alliance. Dr Helen Murphy then updated Academic Council on the Joint Masters in Leadership for Sustainable Urban and Coastal Development, which has been developed across the 9 European university partners following the European approach to programme validation. SETU is the lead partner for this joint Masters degree. The programme was considered by an international panel on 11–12 May; while the panel report is due in June, initial feedback has been very positive.

It was noted that the programme has progressed through the EU-CONEXUS Alliance Governing Body, EU-CONEXUS Academic Council, and the EU-CONEXUS Academic Council Subgroup for Quality Assurance, with the next step being review of the external panel report via the Taught Programmes Committee of SETU.

AGREED: The validation approach for the Joint Masters in Leadership for Sustainable Urban and Coastal Development via the European approach was noted, with the programme being brought to Academic Council for final approval at a future meeting.

10. A.O.B. and Open Discussion Time

- Sustainability concerns were raised regarding the use of solar panels on new buildings. Members were advised that sustainability approaches align with public sector investment regulations and the President undertook to provide a full response after the meeting.
- Members acknowledged the value of initiatives such as TU RISE in providing opportunities for staff. However, it was noted that the timing of such initiatives should be carefully considered to support staff engagement.
- Members paid tribute following the sad passing of Prof. John Wells. They noted that he will be a significant loss to the community and acknowledged his substantial contribution to Academic Council.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Academic Council Meeting 19 May 2026

Item 8 – Ratification of Examination Results

Academic Council Meeting 19 May 2026
Examination Ratifications
Campus: Carlow & Wexford



Faculty	Department	Banner Programme Code	Programme Title	Stage	Number of Learners	Exam Board Date
Science	Health and Sports Sciences	CW_SARPH_P	Developing and Pilot Testing a Gender-Responsive Suicide Prevention Training Programme targeted at Construction Industry Managers in Ireland	Award	1	23/04/2026
Engineering and Built Environment	Electronic Engineering and Communications	CW_EEREN_P	Advancing Operational Technology Security: Novel Frameworks for Active Scanning and Hybrid Anomaly Detection, Using Leaky Bucket Algorithm and Principal Component Analysis	Award	1	23/04/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_BBRBU_M	Defining Local Food	Award	1	23/04/2026
Science	Health and Sports Sciences	CW_SARPH_P	Delivering resistance training to older adults: comparison of methods and their impacts on participant experience, adherence, physical and psychological outcomes	Award	1	23/04/2026
Science	Applied Sciences	CW_SARPH_P	Developing protein-rich crops for Ireland	Award	1	23/04/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_KCSOC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Development	1	115	28/11/2024
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_KCSOC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Development	2	117	28/11/2024
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SABRC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Brewing and Distilling	1	76	28/11/2024
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SABRC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Brewing and Distilling	2	73	28/11/2024
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SWSFC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	1	73	19/11/2024

Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SWSFC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	2	79	19/11/2024
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_KCSOC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Development	1	107	22/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_KCSOC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Development	2	109	22/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_KCSOC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Software Development	3	115	22/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SABRC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Brewing and Distilling	1	67	22/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SABRC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Brewing and Distilling	2	76	22/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SABRC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Brewing and Distilling	3	73	22/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SWSFC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	1	65	19/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SWSFC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	2	75	19/01/2026
Wexford	Wexford Campus	CW_SWSFC_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	3	72	19/01/2026

Academic Council - 19 May 2026
Examination Ratification - May 202400, Jan 202500
Waterford Campus



Faculty	Department	Banner Programme Code	Programme Title	Stage	Number of Students	Exam Session	Exam Board Date
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EINFE_B	BEng (H) in Information Engineering	1	36	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EINFE_B	BEng (H) in Information Engineering	2	35	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EINFE_B	BEng (H) in Information Engineering	3	33	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EINFE_B	BEng (H) in Information Engineering	4	32	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EELAE_B	BEng (H) in Electrical and Automation Engineering	1	36	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EELAE_B	BEng (H) in Electrical and Automation Engineering	2	35	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EELAE_B	BEng (H) in Electrical and Automation Engineering	3	33	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EELAE_B	BEng (H) in Electrical and Automation Engineering	4	36	Jan 202500	22/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EEINS_R	MEng in Electronic Information	5	59	May 202400	17/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EEINS_R	MEng in Electronic Information	6	59	May 202400	17/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EEINS_R	MEng in Electronic Information	7	59	May 202400	17/04/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EEINS_R	MEng in Electronic Information	5	59	Jan 202500	15/05/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EEINS_R	MEng in Electronic Information	6	59	Jan 202500	15/05/2026
Engineering	Engineering Technology	WD_EEINS_R	MEng in Electronic Information	7	59	May 202400	17/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KACMI_B	BSc (H) in Applied Computing Practice	1	33	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KACMI_B	BSc (H) in Applied Computing Practice	2	36	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KACMI_B	BSc (H) in Applied Computing Practice	3	36	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KACMI_B	BSc (H) in Applied Computing Practice	4	33	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KINTI_B	BSc (H) in Internet of Things Systems	1	36	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KINTI_B	BSc (H) in Internet of Things Systems	2	35	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KINTI_B	BSc (H) in Internet of Things Systems	3	35	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KINTI_B	BSc (H) in Internet of Things Systems	4	31	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KSOFE_B	BSc (H) in Software Engineering	1	34	Jan 202500	23/04/2026

Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KSOFE_B	BSc (H) in Software Engineering	2	34	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KSOFE_B	BSc (H) in Software Engineering	3	36	Jan 202500	23/04/2026
Science & Computing	Computing & Mathematics	WD_KSOFE_B	BSc (H) in Software Engineering	4	34	Jan 202500	23/04/2026

Presented by: Dr. Derek O'Byrne
Vice President for Academic Affairs, Teaching & Learning