



## **SOUTH EAST TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY**

### **COURSE EVALUATION 3**

#### **ASSESSORS' REPORT TO ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**COURSE EVALUATED:** Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology with  
Biopharmaceutical Science

**SCHOOL:** Science and Computing

**DEPARTMENT:** Science

## **INTRODUCTION**

The following is a review report to Academic Council from the panel of assessors on the proposal from the School of Science and Computing at South East Technological University to change certain aspects of the Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science through the University's Course Evaluation Stage 3 (CE3) process. In accordance with the regulations governing the evaluation of new programme proposals, as set out in the South East Technological University *Programme Quality Assurance Enhancement Policy and Procedures*, the programme proposal was reviewed by a panel of assessors.

The panel of assessors who contributed to this report were:

- Dr Suzanne Denieffe, Head of School of Humanities and Academic Council Representative, South East Technological University (Chair)
- John Calvo, Quality Assurance Director, Eurofins BioPharma Product Testing, Dungarvan
- Dr Adrienne Fleming, Senior Lecturer, School of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Science, Technological University Dublin.
- Dr Colette Moloney, Assistant Registrar, SETU Waterford
- Prof John Stephens, Lecturer, Department of Chemistry, Maynooth University

In accordance with the regulations set out in the aforementioned *Programme Quality Assurance Enhancement Policy and Procedures*, a review meeting took place on 20 April 2023. The review meeting was conducted virtually via Teams. The following members of the South East Technological University team were present:

- Prof Peter McLoughlin, Head of School of Science and Computing, SETU Waterford
- Dr Orla O'Donovan, Head of Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Maria Cahill, Department of Computing and Mathematics, SETU Waterford
- Dr Lee Coffey, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Wayne Cummins, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Colin Dillon, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Sheila Donegan, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Barbara Fazekas, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Helen Fox, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Kathleen Greenan, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford

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- Dr Audrey Hearne, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Helen Hughes, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Mike Kinsella, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Nabla Kennedy, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Claire Lennon, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Edel McNeela, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Eleanor Owens, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Sweta Rani, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr David Scanlon, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Graece Tan, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford
- Dr Bernadette Whelan, Lecturer, Department of Science, SETU Waterford

The assessors wish to thank the members of the development team for engaging generously and openly with the review process.

## **SUMMARY RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONDITIONS**

### *2.1 General Remarks*

The panel commends the School on the quality of the documentation submitted and the engagement, commitment and collegiality displayed by the School team. The panel notes the workload for academic, technical and administrative staff in facilitating legacy students to complete the programme, once the changes proposed are implemented. The panel **recommends approval of the changes proposed for the Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science** until the next School Review in the School of Science and Computing. **Approval is conditional on the submission of a revised programme document that takes account of the recommendations outlined below; and the submission of a summary document describing the responses and actions of the School to address the recommendations made by the review panel.** Areas for attention have been emboldened in the text for convenience of reference.

### *2.2 Recommendations*

- **The School should consider now, or at the next opportunity to review, if it would be beneficial to offer a work placement module as an elective in Semester 6.** A work

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placement could allow learners valuable industry experience but, unless the work placement module is graded, the calculation of the overall degree classification would need consideration so that a minimum of 60 credits contributes to the classification and that the classification is calculated from the same semesters for all learners. The inclusion of a work placement module could also allow the programme to fully mirror the initial 3 years of the BSc (H) in Molecular Biology with Biopharmaceutical Science programme.

- **At the next opportunity to review the programme, the School should reflect on the progression of the learner through the programme and consider if module pre-requisites are required to ensure that learners have achieved the necessary knowledge and skills to undertake the more advanced modules.**

**Signature**



Dr Suzanne Denieffe (Chair)

**Date:**

**3-5-2023\_**