

## EXTERNAL REVIEW REPORT OF NEW PROGRAMMES

1.	<b>Title of Programme(s):</b> (incl. Award Type and Specify Embedded Exit Awards)	Certificate in Design (Special Purpose Award)				
2.	<b>NFQ Level(s)/ No. ECTS:</b>	Level 9 10 ECTS				
3.	<b>Duration:</b>	2 weeks				
4.	<b>ISCED Code:</b>	0210				
5.	<b>School / Centre:</b>	Galway School of Design & Creative Arts				
6.	<b>Department:</b>	Letterfrack Campus, The National Centre for Excellence in Furniture Design and Technology				
7.	<b>Type of Review:</b>	<b>New Programme:</b>	<b>Yes:</b>	X	<b>No:</b>	
		<b>Differential Validation:</b>	<b>Yes:</b>		<b>No:</b>	
8.	<b>Date of Review:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2018				
9.	<b>Delivery Mode:</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	X	<b>Part-time</b>		<b>Blended</b>
10.	<b>Panel Members:</b>	Dr Seamus Lennon (Chair) Dr Cormac Quigley Mr Colm Kelleher Mr Paul Nash (External Member) Ms Carmel Brennan (Secretary)				
11.	<b>Proposing Staff:</b>	Mr Dermot O'Donovan Dr Susan Rogers				
12.	<b>Programme Rationale:</b>	The overall aim of the proposed Special Purpose Award is to offer an opportunity for professional and emerging designers to develop skills of research, critical reflection and design practices, situated in an environment that inspires creativity and innovation.				
13.	<b>Potential Demand for Entry:</b>	19 – 24 places There is interest in the programme from designers in Ireland and overseas.				

14.	<b>Stakeholder Engagement:</b>	A number of design experts from Ireland and abroad have agreed to participate in the delivery of the proposed programme.
15.	<b>Graduate Demand:</b>	Graduates should have the potential to develop collaborative partnerships and to further develop their professional network from an international perspective.
16.	<b>Entry Requirements, Access, Transfer &amp; Progression:</b>	<p>Applicants must have a level 8 or equivalent award in a design discipline. Applicants must submit a digital portfolio in order to be considered for a place on the programme. Portfolios must showcase creativity and personality and the application of effective design principles. Portfolios will be graded, and those receiving 40% or above will be ranked in order to allocate places.</p> <p>Applicants with a level 7 award may also apply (or students in year 3 of a 4-year design programme) by portfolio but must provide a certified copy of results of modules/stages completed to date and complete a personal statement in order to be considered for a place.</p>
17.	<b>Programme Structure:</b>	<p>The programme consists of one 10 ECTS module called 'Design Unplugged'.</p> <p>It is envisaged that the primary delivery of the programme will take place during a 2 week summer school, with participants required to engage in work prior to and following these weeks.</p>
18.	<b>Learning, Teaching &amp; Assessment Strategies:</b>	<p>The two weeks of the summer school will be structured into morning workshops led and facilitated by lecturers. The research and creative elements of the programme will be located in the design studio on the Letterfrack Campus. Afternoons will be focused on research and exploration of the local land- and seascapes through organised field trips and personal exploration. Reading, researching, discussions and presentations will be integral to the learning strategies adopted for the programme. Participants will engage in 'desk crits' with teaching staff and daily 'pin-up' reviews of work with their studio groups. At the end of the delivery period students will produce a public group exhibition.</p> <p>Assessment will involve a precedent research study, workshops and excursions, final design and exhibition and a reflective journal.</p>

19.	<b>Resource Implications:</b>	The panel is satisfied that the programme will be staffed by people with suitable experience and expertise. Details of the programme board composition should be specified in the proposal document. The organisation of a programme after June 20 <sup>th</sup> is outside the normal period of teaching expected and any exceptional employment arrangements should be fully documented for the information of the Executive. Technical support will also be required. It is planned that this programme will be self-funding, and that the fee paid by participants will cover all costs.
20.	<b>Synergies with Existing Programmes:</b>	None.
21.	<b>Findings and Recommendations:</b>	<b>General:</b>
		<p>The panel welcomed the development of this programme and in particular were very complimentary of the novel delivery structure targeting a practitioner cohort. It was felt that the development of this type of programme was in line with GMIT's strategy to increase flexible delivery and CPD programmes.</p> <p>The panel expressed serious concern about the fact that the programme is being advertised on the Design West website as an approved level 9 programme which is in breach of Code of Practice No. 2. This needs to be removed with immediate effect.</p> <p>The panel approves the programme subject to the following conditions (8) and recommendations (5):</p>
		<p><b>Special conditions attaching to approval (if any):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The programme as presented does not satisfy the student workload requirement for 10 ECTS. The proposers need to address the issue of student workload so that it is fully aligned with the proposed ECTS.</li> <li>2. Programme learning outcomes need to be revised to ensure that they are expressed at level 9, using the QQI design award standards as reference. The number of learning outcomes should be appropriate for the size of the programme.</li> <li>3. Module learning outcomes need to be revised to ensure that they are expressed appropriately for the module level.</li> </ol>

		<p>4. Entry requirements should refer to level 8 applicants only, and should make reference to GMIT's Recognition of Prior Learning policy.</p> <p>5. The programme's assessment strategy should be revised to make reference to a student portfolio of work, each element of which should be attempted. Students achieving each of the learning outcomes will achieve a pass grade.</p> <p>6. The module descriptor must explain the repeat assessment methodology.</p> <p>7. Mechanisms must be in place to ensure that all programme board members are familiar with programme delivery and assessment quality assurance.</p> <p>8. All acceptances should be managed in coordination with the GMIT Admissions Office.</p>	
		<p><b>Recommendations of the panel in relation to award sought:</b></p>	
		<p>9. A proposal from the group to rename the programme as 'Certificate in Design Research and Practice' is considered appropriate.</p> <p>10. Booklists should reflect the sociological and geographic elements of the programme.</p> <p>11. Consider limiting the non-practitioner intake onto the programme.</p> <p>12. Include the end of module exhibition in the module descriptor.</p> <p>13. Ensure that students are provided with resources and guidance to ensure they are prepared for the reflective practice element of the programme.</p>	
22.	FAO: Academic Council:		
		Approved:	
		Approved subject to recommended changes:	X
		Not approved at this time:	
	Signed:		
		Chair	Secretary

