



Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh
Atlantic Technological University

PROGRAMME VALIDATION PANEL REPORT FORM

Date of Evaluation	21 Nov. 2022
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Programmes Title(s)	Quality Assurance with Project Validation Technologies with Project
Award Title(s):	Certificate in Quality Assurance with Project Certificate in Validation Technologies with Project
Programme Code(s)	SG_EQUAP_E06 SG_EVALP_E06
NFQ Level	6
ECTS credits	60

Evaluation Panel Member:

Name & title	Job title & place of work	Role on panel
Stephen McManus	Former Registrar, Dundalk Institute of Technology	Chairperson
Mr Paul Butler	Assistant Lecturer MTU - Department of Mechanical, Biomedical, and Manufacturing Engineering	Academic Expert
Dr Claire Brougham	Lecturer, Technological University Dublin	Academic Expert
Anne Kent	Contract Manufacturing Engineer at Integer Holdings, New Ross, Co. Wexford	External Industry Expert
Gemma Lyons	QA Compliance, ATU Sligo	Recording Secretary

Declaration Regarding Any Conflicts of Interest: The members of the Panel signed a form confirming that they did not have any conflict of interest.

Meeting groups

Institute Management: Dr Xavier Velay, Head of Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Programme development team: Fionnuala Farrell, Lecturer, Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Persons met by validation panel

Name & title	Role in Institute	Rationale for presence at validation.
Dr Xavier Velay	Head of Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering	Head of Department
Fionnuala Farrell	Lecturer, Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering	Programme chair
Ms Fiona Donovan	Lecturer, Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering	Programme team member

Note: In the context of this report, a condition indicates an action or amendment which in the view of the validation panel must be undertaken prior to the commencement of the new (or revised) programme. Conditions are mandatory for Approval of the Programme(s). A recommendation indicates an action or amendment which in the view of the panel should be given serious consideration by the programme development team for implementation.

Validation criteria	Sufficient evidence / Insufficient evidence
<p>Rationale for the programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophy underpinning the programme e.g. market for programme in the region and its relevance to the region • Graduate profile and employment opportunities for graduates • Rationale for the programme e.g. School's/Institute's strengths/opportunities • Programme Aims and Objectives • Expected intellectual development and Programme learning outcomes • Related existing programmes. 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>The need for both programmes was clearly articulated. The programmes presented appeared straight forward in terms of the objectives. Demand for the programmes was clearly presented. The student workload required for the programmes versus the existing 30 credit offering was clearly outlined.</p>
<p>Programme structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery type (semesterised or stage-based) • Proposed mode of delivery (i.e., in-class, on-line, blended, full time and/or part time) • Planned intake numbers (over the full duration of the programme) • Role of placement 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>The panel discussion focused on the project module where the panel felt that the area of the project should be in either a quality or validation specialism, see recommendation below. In exceptional circumstances where this may not be possible in the workplace the college should provide project set-up in either specialism.</p>
<p>Resources (over the full duration of the programme)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities and human and material resources available to mount the programme • Clarification of any staffing requirements • Location of the delivery • Specific s requirements: lecture rooms, laboratories, library, Information technology and other student supports • Confirmation regarding any new facilities and staffing requirements 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>The programme team confirmed that existing staff can deliver these programmes. The programmes are eligible to apply for springboard funding. No new facilities are required.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special requirements (e.g. remote access for distance learners) 	
<p>Access, Transfer and Progression Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student admission requirements • Progression criteria from one stage to the next and to higher levels on the NFQ • Non-standard entry (e.g. mature candidates and candidates with experiential learning) • Transfer policy into the programme and onto other programmes 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>Panel discussion focused on the potential progression using a combination of both 30 credit modules to allow for greater accumulation of academic credits. The programme team explained that the 3 existing 30 credit modules will remain, therefore a student can take an additional individual 30 credit module. The programme team agree this could be made clearer to online support, see recommendation below.</p>
<p>Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A matrix exhibiting the academic pathway and the relationship between modules • The consistency between the programme content, teaching methods and the programme learning outcomes • Balance between the depth and breadth of the programme • Rigour of the academic standard in the final stage of the programme • Student workload • Practice: the role and management of placement or work-based projects. 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>Module MATH06086, “Introduction to engineering Mathematics (Quality)” was discussed and the programme team outlined that content has been considered to address student ability. New for 2022 is the entrance exam with repeat options that has led to fewer issues around mathematic ability.</p> <p>Discussion around weekly time allocation to students for project was discussed, see recommendation below. The programme team presented slides outlining delivery.</p>
<p>Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appropriateness of the modes of assessment to be used • The balance between the marks awarded for different assessment modes (e.g. continuous assessment, projects, reports, sit-down examination) 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>The panel discussed how the programme assesses work done by an individual student versus group work. The programme team satisfied this discussion by explaining the use of individual logbooks, presentations, talks, project declaration and Q&A sessions.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmation that all of the programme learning outcomes are appropriately and adequately assessed within the set of module assessments. 	<p>Student roles and responsibilities are outlined as part of programme introduction.</p> <p>Discussion around facilitating repeats was clear and satisfactory.</p>
<p>Staffing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality and specialities of staff available to support the programme Technical and administrative support Staff development Industrial/commercial profile of staff Research and publications 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p>
<p>Programme Administration and Quality Assurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedure for managing programme Student support student counselling and tutorial arrangements Aspects of programme which highlight and foster study skills, independent learning and the inculcation of individual responsibility in students EU and international aspects if appropriate Feedback mechanisms e.g. use of surveys, focus groups and follow-up actions. 	<p>Sufficient evidence provided</p> <p>No additional requirements to current QA system. There were no conditions requested in the EAP1 submission.</p>
<p>Commendation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The panel commend the flexibility of the programme structure and felt that this would facilitate engagement of students. The panel commend the quality of the documentation presented. The panel commend the foresight to bring this relevant programme to market where there is a clear gap and appetite for upskilling in industry. <p>Condition: None</p>	

Recommendation:

1. The panel recommend that the project area undertaken should be aligned to the programme area i.e. Quality or Validation.
2. The panel recommend that the programme team highlight the potential progression available for students to take both an additional 30 credit module, to give them a total of 90 credits, if desired.
3. The panel recommend that the programme team review the time allocation to students for the project module and the level of engagement by students with the thought module leaders, e.g., through completion of a survey to ensure that the level of support is adequate.

Overall decision of the panel

The panel agreed to recommend to the Academic council the approval of the following programme:
Certificate in Quality Assurance with Project
Certificate in Validation Technologies with Project

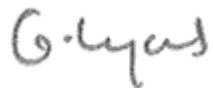
Chairperson:



Date Thursday 24th of November 2022

Stephen McManus

Secretary:



Date: _____ 24 Nov. 2022 _____

Gemma Lyons

Programme Schedules

Certificate in Quality Assurance with Project **SG_EQUAP_E06**

Module Code	Module Title	Stage	Semester	M/E	Delivery hours (weekly)*	Credits	CA %	EXAM %	PROJ %	PRAC %
ELET06001	Work Based Project	Stage 1	Semester 1 & 2	Mandatory	3**	30	0	0	100	0
MGMT06033	Fundamentals of Management 1	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	5	30	70	0	0
MGMT06037	Fundamentals of Management 2	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	5	30	70	0	0
QLTY06003	QUALITY AND PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES 1	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	5	30	70	0	0
QLTY06004	QUALITY AND PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES 2	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	5	30	70	0	0
MATH06083	Introduction to Engineering Mathematics (Quality)	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	10	20	80	0	0

Certificate in Validation Technologies with Project **SG_EVALP_E06**

Module Code	Module Title	Stage	Semester	M/E	Delivery hours (weekly)*	Credits	CA %	EXAM %	PROJ %	PRAC %
GMP06001	GMP 1 QUALITY ASSURANCE	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	10	40	60	0	0
QLTY06005	Metrology and Calibration	Stage 1	Semester 2	Mandatory	2.75	5	25	50	0	25
VALD06002	Validation applications	Stage 1	Semester 2	Mandatory	2.75	5	40	60	0	0
QLTY06006	Introduction to Regulatory Affairs	Stage 1	Semester 2	Mandatory	2.75	5	40	40	20	0
ELET06001	Work Based Project	Stage 1	Semester 1 & 2	Mandatory	3**	30	0	0	100	0

VALD06001	Validation Principles	Stage 1	Semester 1	Mandatory	2.75	5	40	60	0	0
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* Based on 24 students and includes the online lecture, set-up, teaching after 6pm allowance, module maintenance, and labs

** Project supervision and scheduled online lectures