

## New Programme Validation SPA

### Section A

### Report of the External Review Panel

<b>Programme Reference Number:</b>	S011
<b>Faculty/School(s):</b>	Business
<b>Department(s):</b>	Business

#### Details of Programme Reviewed

<b>Title:</b>	<i>Certificate in Action Learning</i>
<b>Type of Award:</b>	Special Purpose Award
<b>NFQ Level:</b>	7
<b>ECTS:</b>	10
<b>ISCED:</b>	0413
<b>Duration:</b>	1 Semester
<b>Proposed Student Intake:</b>	20
<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	May 2024
<b>Delivery Mode(s):</b>	On campus / Online / Blended

<b>Date of Review:</b>	April 24 <sup>th</sup>
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#### Review Panel

Panellist Role	Name	Job Title
Chair	Dr Breda McTaggart	Head of School, ATU
External Academic Expert*	Prof David Coghlan	Professor, TCD
Industry Representative*	N/A	
Academic/Head of Department	Seamus Lennon	Head of School, ATU
Student Representative	N/A	
Academic Secretary	Dr Simon Stephens	Assistant Registrar
Recording Secretary	N/A	

\*One or two external members of panel in total.

\*All external members of the panel have declared that they have no conflict of interest.

## **Programme Design Team**

The panel met the staff listed below during the review process.

Ms Patricia Doherty, HoD Business
Dr Meadh Ruane, Lecturer, Business
Dr Anne Burke, Senior Lecturer, Business

## **Introduction**

This programme will provide participants with an overview of Action Learning (AL). The key concepts and principles of AL will be covered, and participants will learn the value of AL to support leadership development, reflective practice and collaborative learning.

See Appendix for Entry Requirements, Programme Learning Outcomes and Approved Programme Schedule.

## **Rationale for Programme(s)**

Action Learning is a dynamic problem-solving method that amplifies learning across individual, organizational, and industry levels. This method is especially effective for complex, 'wicked' problems that are characteristic of today's business landscape - challenges that require innovative, collaborative solutions. This programme aligns with other programmes in the Faculty of Business which has a strong record of delivering action learning oriented and practice-based programmes for industry.

## Validation Criteria

ATU's Developing and Validating New Taught Programmes Policy specifies that new programmes must comply with the following criteria for validation:

1. The programme aims and learning outcomes are clear and aligned with the proposed award title. **No. Need revision and enhancement.**
2. The rationale for the programme is well informed and justified. **Yes**
3. The design of the programme is suitably structured and fit for purpose. **Yes**
4. The design of the programme ensures that students can successfully achieve the Programme Learning Outcomes. **Yes**
5. The teaching, learning and assessment strategy is well planned and appropriate for the discipline area and type of award. **Yes**
6. Assessment techniques are fair, valid, reliable, consistent and a credible measure of the academic standard attained by students. **Not clear, need for detailed assessment plan.**
7. The planned resources, including staff, physical, online, library and student supports, sufficiently support the teaching, learning and assessment strategy for the programme. **Yes**
8. The programme facilitates lifelong learning for a diverse student population by setting out appropriate entry requirements and opportunities for access, transfer, and progression. **Yes**
9. There is demand for potential graduates from the programme. **Yes**
10. The learning environment and mode of delivery are consistent with the needs of the intended students of the programme and accessible and appropriate support services for students have been provided for. **Yes. Please customise the TLA for each of the 3 modes.**
11. Students will be well informed on the requirements of the programme, guided to relevant resources and supported in their studies in a caring environment. **Yes**

## Findings

### Overall Finding

Validated without changes	
<b>Validated subject to condition(s) and/or recommendation(s)</b>	<b>YES</b>
Rejected	

### Reason for Overall Finding

An interesting programme that will add to the portfolio of SPAs within the Faculty of Business.

### Commendations

The Validation Panel advises Academic Council of the following commendations.

N/A

### Conditions

The Validation Panel advises Academic Council that subject to satisfying any condition(s) detailed below, the panel is satisfied that the proposed programme(s) meets the validation criteria as set out in Atlantic Technological University's Developing and Validating New Programmes Policy.

N/A

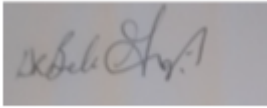
### Recommendations

The panel advises Academic Council that the Programme Development Team and/or the Department should take cognisance of any recommendations outlined below.

1. Provide an overview of the target student group for the programme.
2. Review the programme overview and PLOs to emphasise the "*theoretical*" focus of the programme. Review the PLOs to ensure that they are commensurate with 10 ECTS. Consider reducing the number of PLOs.
3. Review and enhance the mapping of this specific programme to the ATU Award Standards pp. 5-6.
4. Provide additional details on the assessment plan and specific sub-components (remove reference to "presentation").
5. Provide details on the use of AL sets within the class time and how this connects to the assessment.
6. The TLA strategy should be described in more detail and be distinct for the 3 different modes of delivery.

## Report Approval

This report has been agreed by the evaluation panel and is signed on their behalf by the chairperson.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature appears to be 'Dr Breda McTaggart' written in a cursive style.

Validation Panel Chair

**Dr Breda McTaggart**

**24.04.2024**