Appendix 3.4
Letterkenny Institute of Technology
Report of the Panel of Assessors

PART 1
GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT:  Department of Design and Creative Media

DATE OF VISITATION: 27 May 2016

PROGRAMMES EVALUATED:
BA (Hons) in Animation (1 Year Add on)

MEMBERS OF PANEL OF ASSESSORS:

- Dr Joe Ryan, Athlone IT (Chair)
- Keith Foran, Lecturer in Animation, IADT
- Mr Mike Fox, Head of Department of Design, LIT
- Mr Conán Fitzpatrick, Co-Course Director, Lecturer in Computer Animation, Ulster University
- Edward Harte, 360 Productions

Secretary to Panel: Dr Joanne Gallagher Head of Department of Science

INSTITUTE STAFF:
Mr Micheal Margey, Head of School of Science - business
Ms Nollaig Crombie, Head of Department of Design and Creative Media
Ms Crona O Donohue,
Ms Mary Gallagher,
Ms Tena Patten,
Mr Cormac O Kane,
Mr John Mc Closkey,
Mr Josh McNutt.

PART 2  
FINDINGS OF ASSESSORS

The Panel of Assessors are satisfied that the proposal adequately addresses the following criteria:

(1) Education and Training Requirements

The programme is consistent with the Institute's mission, avoids redundant provision and makes efficient use of resources (collaborating where this is beneficial).

(2) Unity

There is an underlying unifying theme and the modules are bonded by interactions which are either implicit or explicit. The proposal demonstrates how the standard (of knowledge, skill and competence), determined by QQI for the named award to which the programme proposes to lead, evolves throughout the programme as a whole.

(3) Teaching and Learning

The proposed approach to teaching and learning is clearly indicated and justified.

(4) Learner Assessment

The learner assessment methods are fully elaborated and consistent with QQI's policy on fair and consistent assessment. The assessment methods are capable, among other things, of demonstrating attainment of the standards of knowledge, skill or competence, determined by QQI, for the related award.

(5) Resources

The proposed staffing levels are appropriate and the levels of qualifications and competence of the staff is sufficient to deliver the programme. The necessary facilities available in terms of accommodation, equipment, and library and information technology resources are satisfactory to support the proposed programme.

(6) Quality Assurance

The proposal demonstrates how the Institute's quality assurance procedures have been applied in the development of the proposed programme and satisfactory procedures exist for the on-going monitoring and periodic review of programmes.

(7) Programme Title and Award Title

The award title is consistent with the named awards determined by QQI. The programme title is clear, accurate, succinct and fit for the purpose of informing prospective learners and other stakeholders.

(8) QQI Standards

The learning outcomes of the programme are stated in such a way that the compliance with the appropriate QQI standard is demonstrated.

(9) Access Transfer and Progression
This programme incorporates the procedures for access transfer and progression that have been established by the NQAI and is consistent with QQI policy in accommodating a variety of access and entry requirements.

PART 3 RECOMMENDATIONS

(For the attention of the Academic Council)

General Comments:

The Chair of the panel, on behalf of the panel;

- Extended compliments to the programme team on a very positive professional engagement with the validation process during a difficult week for the Department.
- Extended compliments to the Department on the quality of the documentation
- Encouraged and welcomed the flexibility of the programme in terms of the variation on the semesterization structure.
- Complimented in particular the Creativity and Innovation Module.

The Panel of Assessors advises the Academic Council that the Institute and the School/Department should take cognisance of following recommendations:

1.) The panel recommends that the programme team revisit the Module learning outcomes on the Preproduction module.

2.) The panel recommends that the title of the Dissertation module and the last MLO of this module be revised to broaden the scope of the module assessment, so as to allow for the support of students with different learning styles whilst maintaining the academic rigour of the programme. This revision would in turn permit flexibility in the assessment of module learning outcomes. Suggest revised title: Dissertation and/or Industrial Report.

Response from the Department of Design and Creative Media to recommendations

1.) The Programme Team has revisited the Module Learning Outcomes for the Pre-Production module has redrafted them to be more open to alternative forms of concept development and production methodologies. The indicative content has been changed to allow for a range of pre-production methodoligies with the animatic and storyboard not being the only final output.

2.) The team acknowledges the recommendation on amending the Dissertation module and will consider alternative ways to broaden the assessment model. MLO 5 will be amended to reflect this change.
The Panel of Assessors advises the Academic Council that approval of the programmes subject to
general conditions of approval together with the following additional conditions:

1.) Further detail to be included in the documentation in terms of the types of assessment that
are being conducted in the programme.
2.) Further detail to be included surrounding indicative content – for example detail the use of
industry mentors in the document.

Response from the Department of Design and Creative Media to Conditions

1.) The assessment section of the module descriptors has been revised to include the types of
indicative assessment for each specific module rather following the Institute module template.

2.) The indicative content section of the modules has been amended to include more detail on how the
module runs, including detail such as industry mentors in the industry project module.

PART 4 ATTACH PROPOSED PROGRAMME SCHEDULE(S)

Dr Joe Ryan
Chairman to Panel
(Registrar, Athlone IT)
Date

Billy Bennett
(Registrar, Letterkenny IT)
Date 11/7/16.
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