
REVISED ACADEMIC PROGRAM ENTRY AND APPROVAL COMMITTEE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

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1. Proposal

The purpose of this paper is to seek Academic Board's approval of a 90 day program approval process and to endorse the terms of Reference of the Academic Program Entry and Approval Committee (APEAC).

2. Background

Given the need for agile and continued program renewal, and perceptions of delays caused by the ways PAEC operated, a revised process is proposed that would see the academic coherence and compliance tested in parallel with the market demand for particular programs.

A total duration of 90 days is deemed desirable to ensure that new programs can be offered to potential students within a reasonable timeframe. This rapid turnaround time also avoids excessive resources allocated to the preparing of programs when there is no market for them.

2. Discussion

As illustrated in the attached diagram, under the revised process, the approval of program is initiated when a faculty sketches a concept proposal. A working group is then constituted, comprised of members from either one faculty (in the case of a specific discipline) or more (for cross disciplinary programs). The working group also includes representation from LQS to ensure that the program structure adheres to the AQF as well as any other regulatory requirements, as well as internal policy principles, so that a new program can be deemed compliant before it is considered by the new approval committee.

The demand for the program concept, and the fuller proposal emerging from the working group, can be tested according to various market research activities, with the view of providing an informed opinion as to its viability. Various financial projections undertaken with the support of Finance Services can then provide an indication of sustainability.

Recommendation: That Academic Board approve the revised 90 days program approval process and the Terms of Reference of the new Academic Program Entry and Approval Committee, effective immediately

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Attachments: Proposed 90 day program approval process
Revised Program Approval and Entry Committee Terms of Reference

Proposed 90 day program approval process

