Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology Agreed Minute

The HEA acknowledges and appreciates the work undertaken by IADT in preparing the Compact Documentation submission in the context of this the first cycle of Strategic Dialogue. Documented feedback on the draft compact has been conveyed to IADT. This feedback has been informed by an extensive HEA exercise of evaluation of the submission, including analysis by an external panel set up to provide an independent assessment of the overall performance of the institution, against the backdrop of its mission.

HEA recognises that this is the first year of strategic dialogue and this is a developmental process. In year 2, HEA will have regard to the agreed outcomes of the dialogue process this year, including not only specific objectives and indicators proposed, but also any feedback to institutions regarding the overall composition of the compact. Institutions are expected to have regard to this feedback and to demonstrate that they have incorporated it into their processes for next year’s cycle.

Subject to the above, the HEA and IADT agree that the mission, planned profile and targets, as now set out in the accompanying Compact, are consistent with the national objectives set for the higher education system and are appropriate to the place of IADT within the system. This agreement takes full cognisance of the strategic dialogue meeting which took place on 16th December 2013. The following issues are taken from the Strategic Dialogue Meeting held on the 16th December 2013. It is recognised that this does not represent a full minute of the meeting but focuses on issues of particular importance.

Meeting Ireland’s human capital needs
The HEA noted the central importance of job creation for the Government and the important role Higher Education plays in that domain. IADT agreed and noted the range of efforts underway to support this objective.

Higher education landscape
IADT noted that they would be interested in being a recognised college of UCD but, in view of the current policy position, are happy to focus instead on generating successful collaborations with UCD and ultimately, UCD/NCAD.

Benchmarking
IADT also accepts the need for more benchmarking and will consider this further in future cycles of the strategic dialogue process. They noted the difficulties of finding exact benchmark institutions. The HEA international panel suggested an additional approach would be to benchmark core processes e.g. selecting extern examiners from high quality peer institutions.

Regional cluster
In respect of regional clusters, IADT committed to participate and co-operate in the regional cluster but will also seek to be champions for the thematic cluster of the arts.
Excellent teaching and learning and quality of the student experience

In respect of teaching and learning, IADT outlined how they are able to use interventions such as peer observation of teaching as ways to identify developmental needs and this was commended by the international panel representatives.