

NCAD Agreed Minute

The HEA acknowledges and appreciates the work undertaken by NCAD 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 NCAD. 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 NCAD 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 NCAD within the system. This agreement takes full cognisance of the written responses to HEA feedback and of the strategic dialogue meeting which took place on 13th January 2014. **The following issues are taken from the Strategic Dialogue Meeting held on 13th January 2014. It is recognised that this does not represent a full minute of the meeting but focuses on issues of particular importance.**

Institutional Consolidation

HEA notes ongoing work between UCD and NCAD to discuss a process of consolidation and will continue to engage with both institutions as this develops further. In the context of this transition, it is noted that NCAD is working to create a model whereby its distinct identity is preserved but also builds on capacities within UCD to provide an improved quality of teaching and research.

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. NCAD agreed and noted the range of efforts underway to support this objective highlighting recent work, mapping the diversity of employment opportunities available to graduates and feeding this into their alumni strategy. NCAD graduates secure employment in many areas not traditionally associated with art and design and in particular, their contribution to the commercialisation agenda was also noted. 2

Participation, Equal Access and Lifelong Learning

NCAD explained that their plans to increase student numbers take account of student and industry demand and will also be facilitated through increased space arising from the discussions with Diageo, and from reworking their methods of teaching and classroom delivery.

High Quality, Internationally Competitive Research and Innovation

It was noted that research in this domain contributes to the broader engagement agenda.