

Inter-Institutional Collaborative Agreement

**For the Purpose of Enabling Module Delivery, Student Mobility and Credit Exchange
Across the
Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance Graduate Education Strand**

Between

**University College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University, NUI, Maynooth,
Dublin Institute of Technology and Institute of Technology, Tallaght**

**With Respect to the
Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance Graduate Education Strand**

- (1) University College Dublin, having its principal place of business at Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland
- (2) The Provost, Fellows and Scholars of the College of the Holy and Undivided Trinity of Queen Elizabeth near Dublin, having its principal place of business at College Green, Dublin 2, Ireland
- (3) Dublin City University, having its principal place of business in Glasnevin, Dublin 9, Ireland
- (4) National University of Ireland, Maynooth, having its principal place of business in Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland
- (5) Dublin Institute of Technology, having its principal place of business at 143-146 Rathmines Road, Dublin 6, Ireland
- (6) Institute of Technology, Tallaght, having its principal place of business in Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland

hereinafter are known as the ‘institution(s)’.

1. Background

The Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance (hereinafter called “DRHEA”) is an initiative funded by the Higher Education Authority’s Strategic Innovation Fund. The DRHEA began in the second quarter of 2008 to create a coherent framework of access to higher education and enhance progression through and mobility across programmes and institutions in the Dublin region.

The DRHEA has a Board, with external representatives, and also a Management Committee, which comprises the members of the alliance’s four strands of activity. A coordinating structure has been created to manage the DRHEA Graduate Education Strand which is known as the DRHEA Graduate Education Coordination Committee comprising the Deans of Graduate Studies or their equivalent from each of the partner institutions. The DRHEA will radically reposition the Dublin region as an international centre for graduate education. The Coordination

Committee have developed the Graduate Education Network, identifying discipline leaders and administrative contact points in each participating institution. The committee have agreed that there are six disciplines to be developed in the alliance in the first instance:

- Physics
- Chemistry
- Engineering
- Biomedical Sciences
- Politics/Sociology/Public Policy
- Economics

2. Purpose

This Inter-Institutional Collaborative Agreement between the parties is to enable student mobility and credit exchange across the DRHEA Graduate Education Strand.

3. Agreed Guiding Principles

All parties, in accordance with the principles of equality, module delivery and mutual benefit, hereby agree to mutually recognise disciplinary modules provided by each of the members to the DRHEA Graduate Education Strand in accordance with the following guiding principles:

1. Individual modules are mainly the responsibility of one institution - the primary institution for delivery of the specific module:

- The internal quality systems for modules in each of the institutions are recognised by all members
- Modules will be provided at an appropriate advanced level
- The module provider is responsible for module quality, delivery and assessment
- Several institutions may contribute to the development and delivery of the module
- 1 credit is equivalent to 20-25 hours of student effort
- Module information may be mirrored on other institutional systems as well as the providing institution
- Students must be approved by their supervisor and/or Programme Coordinator, as appropriate, to take a DRHEA Graduate Education Strand module and accepted by the module coordinator in the host institution

Inter-Institutional Collaborative Agreement re Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance
Graduate Education Strand **June 2009**

2. Each individual student will be registered to only one institution from which their award will be received.

3. Students attending modules in partner institutions should be granted visitor/external status in those institutions.

4. Records of student achievements in each institution delivering the modules will be maintained for the purpose of tracking their activities. Where the electronic student information system allows, students should be designated 'visiting/external status' commensurate with their needs, and their activities/achievements entered into the host institution's system.

This agreement does not supersede or replace any existing Memoranda of Understanding or other agreements between or among the participating institutions. Rather it serves specifically to ensure that the DRHEA Graduate Education Strand has the required institutional commitments, implied by the original endorsement of the DRHEA by the participating institutions.

This Inter-institutional agreement has been put in place to initiate the operation of the DRHEA Graduate Education Strand with respect to student mobility and credit exchange. **This agreement is for the period 1st September 2009 to 1st September 2012** at which point the agreement will be reviewed.

3. Signatures: To be signed by the Registrar or their equivalent from each institution in the DRHEA Graduate Education Strand:

Signature (1)

Name:

Dated:.....

Position.....

Institution: University College Dublin

Signature (2)

Name:

Dated:.....

Position.....

Institution: Trinity College Dublin

Inter-Institutional Collaborative Agreement re Dublin Region Higher Education Alliance
Graduate Education Strand **June 2009**

Signature (3)

Name:

Dated:.....

Position.....

Institution: Institute of Technology, Tallaght

Signature (4)

Name:

Dated:.....

Position.....

Institution: National College of Ireland, Maynooth

Signature (5)

Name:

Dated:.....

Position.....

Institution: Dublin Institute of Technology.

Signature (6)

Name:

Dated:.....

Position.....

Institution: Dublin City University