

Academic Council, University College Cork

Item 5.1 on AC Agenda

2 December 2005

SNCDC REPORT ON RESPONSE OF FACULTIES TO SNCDC REPORT ON THE WIDER USE OF STUDENT EVALUATION EXERCISES

The Academic Council at its meeting on the 25th February adopted the SNCDC Report on the Wider Use of Student Evaluation Exercises which required that:

Every member of the academic staff responsible for teaching a module, or significant part of a module, should undertake a student evaluation survey at the completion of each module (short surveys undertaken at some point during a module can also be beneficial and should be encouraged). The data and results of surveys should remain confidential to the individual academic staff member but Heads of Department should satisfy themselves, as far as practicable, that such surveys have been carried out annually for all modules in their Departments.

The purpose of this exercise is to continually improve and upgrade the quality of each module in the UCC curriculum. The SNCDC report acknowledged that student evaluation exercises should be seen as part of a wider process involving class representatives, department staff-student committees and other feedback mechanisms.

The SNCDC has sought information on the extent to which student evaluation exercises have been carried out in the academic year 2004/2005. The attached information has been supplied by the Deans.

The SNCDC notes that while student evaluation exercises are carried out in respect of all modules in some Departments, in the case of others, the use of such evaluation exercises is not universal. This may be because the report was adopted by Academic Council at a relatively late stage in the last academic year. Departments should endeavour to ensure that such evaluations are carried out in respect of all modules this academic year. In order to facilitate this, the contents of this report could be drawn to the attention of staff by Heads of Department towards the end of each teaching period. Staff members could be referred to sources of sample questionnaires such as those on the Quality Promotions

Office website at: <http://www.ucc.ie/quality>