EXTRACT FROM TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE MINUTES: 13.12.11

11.138 Academic Planning and Progression from Year 2

 The Committee noted the interim report from a working group on academic planning and progression pathways. The group had explored the issues around a decision point for year 2 students, either to proceed to a placement year or to enter final year under the exceptional rule for students without placement. (Students also had the option of requesting leave of absence in the hope of finding a late placement.) The restriction on MaSN coupled with the economic downturn had made this a more critical matter for academic planning, complicated by the fact that a high proportion of courses had changed the placement year’s status from compulsory to optional.

 It was noted that the implications of the cut-off date would need to be communicated early to staff, students and placement providers. Although there might be limited opportunity for discretion after the cut-off date, the University could not guarantee enrolment in the placement year for the DPP award after that time.

 AGREED that:

 i) 31 August be set as the decision point for progression to placement or final year and that Faculties ensure that monitoring was integrated with the academic planning process;

 ii) the Sub-Committee ensure clear and early communication to staff, students and employers about the options available to students, the deadline for decisions and the use of discretion thereafter;