



UCD Curriculum Review and Enhancement Process

Aine Galvin

Director of Teaching and Learning



Key Objectives of UCD Strategy 2015-2020



UCD Vision for 2020

Educational Experience:

- *Student-focused, research-led*
- *Breadth and depth*
- *Develop knowledge, skills and attitudes graduates need to succeed in and contribute to society*



Strategy
2015-2020



Strategic Initiative 2 of UCD Strategy: Defining educational excellence



- Outcomes-led curriculum review and enhancement
- Defining and enabling the UCD degree (structure, duration, flexibility, elective provision)
- Expanding learning outside the classroom
- Providing excellence in student academic advice
- Supporting the providers of the UCD education experience
- Measurement and demonstration of educational excellence



Curriculum Review and Enhancement Process Context

UCD Modularised and semesterised in 2006

(+) Enhanced flexibility, choice, mobility

(-) Reduced programme-level focus & coherence

Opportunity to build on strengths and address issues

Focus on programme-level coherence & high level outcomes



Curriculum Review Enhancement Themes

- 1) Embedding research in the undergraduate experience
- 2) The development of discipline specific & wider set of attributes and capabilities
- 3) Effective definition and assessment of outcomes
- 4) An expansion of the use of technology to enhance learning

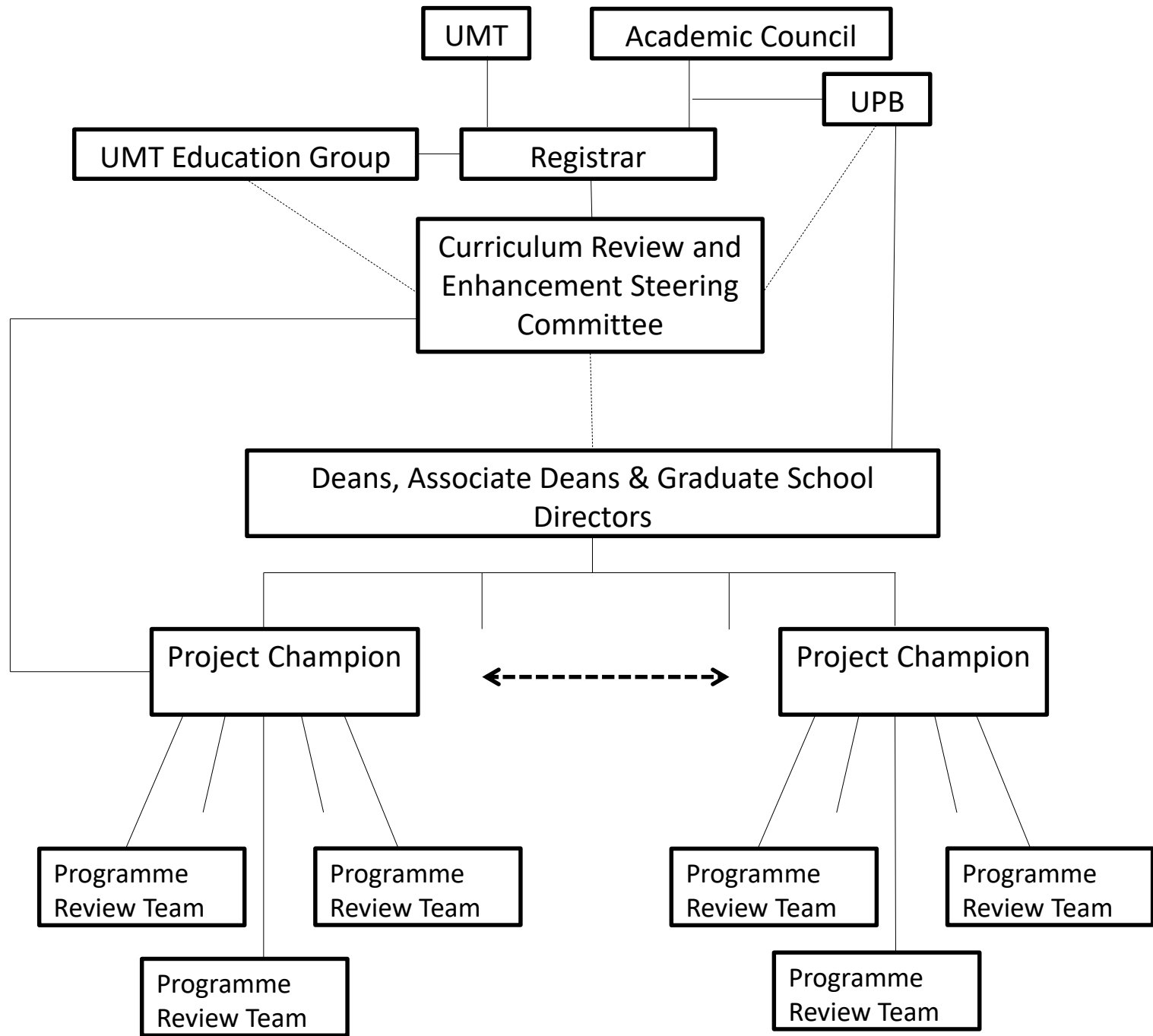


Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process

Supporting Framework

- Rationale for the review and specific review themes
- Organisational structure and responsibilities
- Review Process Guidelines
- Support and training for key staff (project champions)
- Timelines and deliverables
- Communication strategy
- Data capture and online mapping tool





A key element of the CRE process was the programme team's dialogue and collaboration: an important component of any curriculum design process (Uchiyama & Radin, 2009).

Coherence

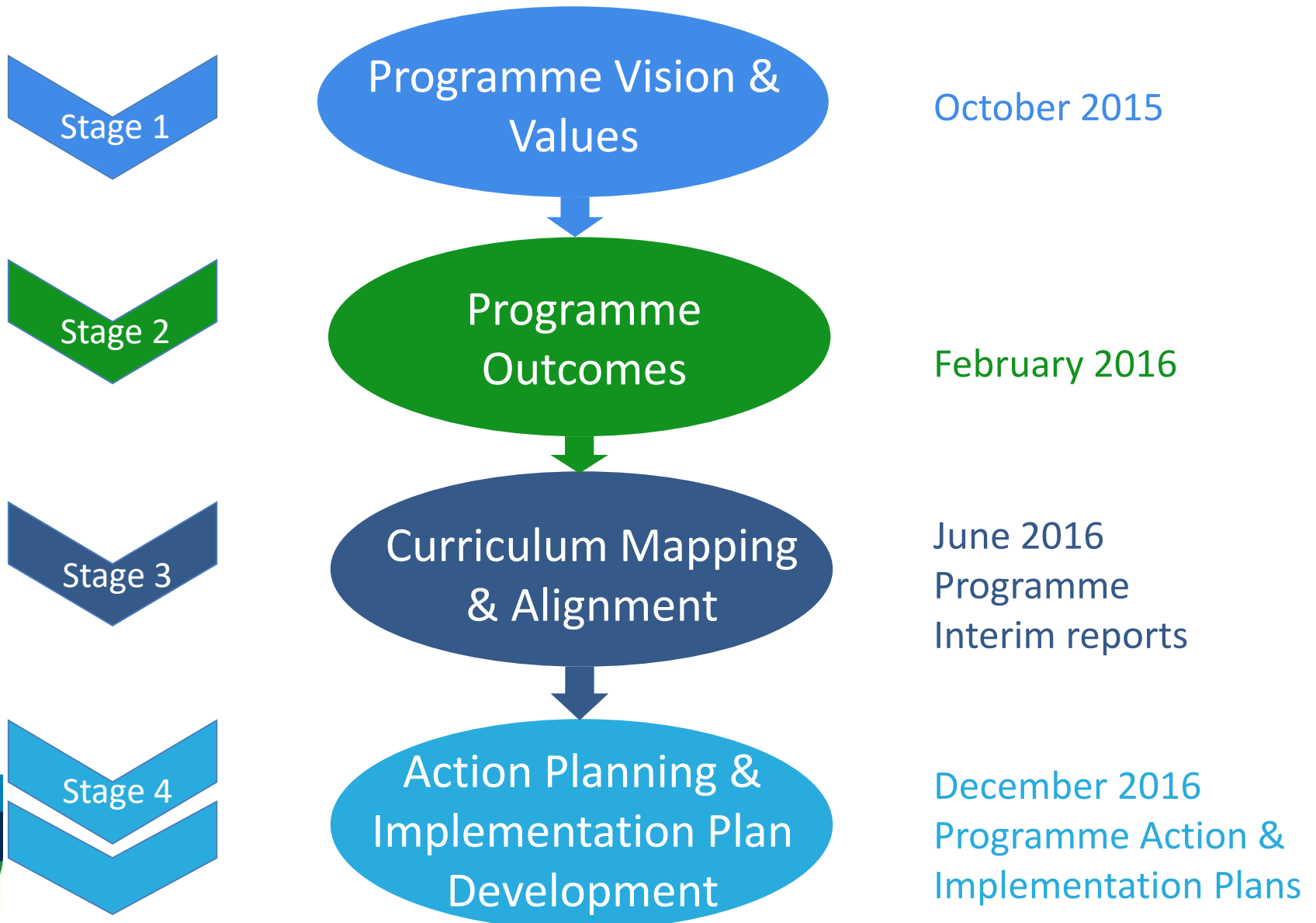
Continued conversation

Transparency

Shared ownership



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Overview & Deliverables



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Overview & Deliverables (1)

Project Champion

> Local-level Process Plan

- *Organisational details*
- *Deliverables and responsibilities*
- *Stakeholder consultation plan*

> Monthly progress reports to Steering Committee

> Interim Report synthesis (end Stage 3)

> Final Report (end Stage 4)



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Overview & Deliverables (2)

Programme Review Team's Interim Reports (post-mapping, to Project Champion)

- 1) Alignment
- 2) Gaps
- 3) Repetition or redundancies
- 4) Assessment issues
- 5) Resources



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Overview & Deliverables (3)

Programme Director's Action & Implementation Plan (post review, to Project Champion)

- 1) Programme structure
- 2) Teaching & Learning strategy
- 3) Assessment and feedback
- 4) Staff support and training
- 5) Monitoring and evaluation
- 6) Timeline, milestones & deliverables



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Scale

- Approximately 600 programmes/majors
- 15 Programme Boards & 3 Boards of Studies
- 15 Project Champions
- > 1,100 Module Co-ordinators
- 50% programmes 100% mapped
- 75% programmes > 80% mapped
- 13% programmes < 50% mapped



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Evaluation

Positives

- Greater awareness of programme & programme coherence
- Greater awareness regarding assessment practices & alignment with learning outcomes
- Starting point for university-wide curriculum enhancement initiatives
- Shift from module to programme view of curriculum
- Opportunity to engage with students re. curriculum
- Process had enables positive change and sharing of good practice
- Reporting tool was useful



Curriculum Review & Enhancement Process Evaluation

Areas for Development

- Clarity & communication around objectives
- Academic structures
- Timeframe
- Technical Aspects – online data capture and mapping tool
- Implementation of the CRE recommendations



Small Group Discussion

- Organise yourselves into groups of 4 people
- Discuss and reflect on the CRE process undertaken by UCD and consider how you might implement such a process in your own institution (10 mins)
- Report back on:
 - One observation/point of learning from UCD CRE process
 - One question