



TUS

**Technological University of the Shannon:
Midlands Midwest**
Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Sionainne:
Lár Tíre Iarthar Láir

www.tus.ie

Faculty of Business and Humanities

Department of Sport and Early Childhood

Report of Differential Validation Panel, 10th March 2025

for the

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Sport Science (Common Entry)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report outlines, in summary form, the proceedings and findings of the differential validation visit for the proposed Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Applied Sport Science (Common Entry) held on 10th March 2025. The differential validation visit was undertaken in accordance with TUS Academic Regulations. A differential validation panel makes an independent impartial judgement on a programme proposal.

2.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 Higher Education Provider

Provider	Technological University of the Shannon (TUS)
Faculty	Business and Humanities
Department	Sport and Early Childhood
Date of Visit	10 th March 2025

2.2 Programme Evaluated

Programme Title	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Sport Science (Common Entry)
Award Title	Bachelor of Science
NFQ Level	Level 8
ECTS Credits	240
Format	Bachelor of Science
Proposed Start Date	September 2025
Duration	4 Years

2.3 Differential Validation Panel of Expert Assessors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Prof. Marie Parker Jenkins	Prof. Emeritus of Education (Chairperson)
Dr. Karen Mullins	UPMC
Dr. Arthur Dunne	SETU
Mr. JJ O'Brien	Student Representative

2.4 University Staff

Dr. Amy McGuire	Head of Department of Sport and Early Childhood Studies
Programme Team	Michael Fennelly, Aaron Grant, Keith Hennessey, Philip Hennessey, Theresa Norton, Donnacha Mulcahy, Joe Mulcahy, Dr. James Griffin, Dr. Amy McGuire, Amy McNamara, Craig Walters, Dr. Damien Young.
Tertiary Manager	Dr. Sarah O'Toole

2.5 Documentation

- 1) Proposed Programme Document.
- 2) Summary of Comparative Programme Changes.
- 3) TUS Policy and Procedures for Differential Validation Policy of a Major Award.

3.0 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXTERNAL VALIDATION PANEL

3.1 Findings

The External Validation Panel of Assessors recommends approval of the proposed programme and associated embedded awards listed, subject to the Conditions and Recommendations specified in Sections 3.2 and 3.3, respectively:

- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Applied Sport Science (Common Entry)

3.2 Conditions

No conditions apply.

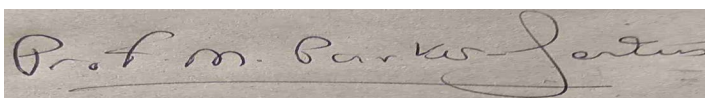
3.3 Recommendations

- 1) Review the module learning resources and reading lists to ensure consistency in terms of detail and incorporate the most recent reference materials as appropriate.
- 2) Review the context of use of the verb 'Design' in the Stage 1 learning outcomes to ensure it is used appropriately and achievably.

3.4 Commendations and Observations

The panel commend the programme team for:

- 1) their collaboration with Tipperary ETB and for their responsiveness in utilising the differential validation process as an opportunity to enhance access and progression via the tertiary education initiative.
- 2) presenting an innovative and attractive programme offering with clear progression pathways for students.
- 3) providing a mix of modules for the development of multiple skill sets, as the learner progresses.
- 4) the inclusion of Philosophy and Ethics and an associated emphasis on scholarship.
- 5) the comprehensive and detailed documentation including the rationale for the programme changes, comparative mapping and revised programme document.
- 6) the enthusiasm of the programme team and the constructive discussions and helpful clarifications provided during the validation visit.



18/03/2025