



TUS

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

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Faculty of Business & Humanities

Department of Business & Financial Services

Report of Differential Validation Panel

Differential Validation Panel, 24th February 2026

for the

Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Business and Law

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report outlines, in summary form, the proceedings of the differential validation visit for the proposed:

- **Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Business and Law**
- **Bachelor of Business in Business and Law**

and the findings and conclusions of the Panel held on 24th of February 2026. The validation 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

Institute: Technological University of the Shannon
Faculty: Business and Humanities
Department: Business and Financial Services
Date of Visit: 24th of February 2026

2.2 Programmes Evaluated

Programme	Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Business and Law
Award Title	Honours Degree
NFQ Level	Level 8
ECTS Credits	240
Delivery Mode	Full time
Proposed Start Date	2026
Duration	4 years

Programme	Bachelor of Business in Business and Law
Award Title	Degree
NFQ Level	Level 7
ECTS Credits	180
Delivery Mode	Full time
Proposed Start Date	2026
Duration	3 years

2.3 Differential Validation Panel of Expert Assessors

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Prof. Marie Parker-Jenkins (Chair)	Emeritus Professor of Education, UL.
Patricia Doherty	ATU
Dermot Gallagher	Industry Representative
Amy Kelly	Student Representative
Dr Sarah O'Toole	Secretary to Panel

2.4 Institute Staff

Dean of Faculty of Business & Humanities	Dr. James Griffin
Head of Department of Business & Financial Services	James Collins
Programme coordinator	Jean Forbes-Cook

Programme Team:

Derek McInerney, James Griffin, Pat Fitzgerald, Rachel Walsh, Teresa Nash-Casey, Jennifer Lawler, Paul Okeeffe, Richard O'Keeffe, Sandra Ryan, Patricia Quigley, Marion Carroll, Ken O' Brien, Gillian Clogan.

2.5 Documentation

1. Existing and Proposed Programme Documents.
2. Summary of Rationale for the Proposal.
3. Summary of Comparative Programme Changes.
4. TUS Policy and Procedures for Differential Validation Policy of a Major Award.

3.0 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXTERNAL VALIDATION PANEL

3.1 Main Findings

The Panel of Assessors recommends approval of the proposed:

- **Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Business and Law**
- **Bachelor of Business in Business and Law**

3.2 Conditions

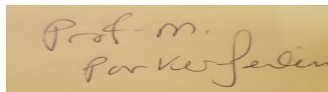
No conditions apply.

3.3 Recommendations

- 1) Consider the development of clear procedures to accommodate students who move from work placement to the Business Problem Solving module and vice versa.
- 2) Review the work placement syllabus in the context of Study Abroad or add a Study Abroad syllabus.
- 3) Consider the requirement for students to attend campus everyday while they are taking the Business Problem Solving module.
- 4) Review the references across all modules to ensure the most recent and relevant references are included.

3.4 Commendations and Observations

- 1) The panel commends the programme team for their understanding of important issues such as AI, and their use of real-world case studies to explore these challenges.
- 2) The panel commends the programme team who demonstrated a clear understanding of aligning the programme to incorporate the work placement.
- 3) The panel commends the programme team for the engaging discussion and the responses to questions from the panel.



Signature of Chairperson

Date: 24/02/2026