

## SCULPTURE DEPARTMENT, NCAD

### Response to the Peer Review Group Report

The Department welcome the report as reflecting very positively on the staff, the course, on our students and recent graduates and the educational dynamics at play in empowering students as 'creative citizens' in our culture. We are particularly pleased that the initial document submitted by the Department which narrated substantial changes in working arrangements, philosophy and in our internal and external relationships already undertaken in the last number of years, has been recognised and supported with enthusiasm. Our engagement with the Quality Assurance Process has been positive and understood as continuing a culture of self improvement and being supported to do so.

The Peer Review Group has enthusiastically confirmed that the positioning of the department is understood to be entirely consistent with the kinds of flexibility required in meeting changes in 3<sup>rd</sup> level education and the continuing expansion of 4<sup>th</sup> level postgraduate research culture, whilst maintaining a distinct philosophy, approach and ethos in relation to practice and scholarship.

The Department is excited by expanding research potentials and pathways in terms of generating resources, situations and scholarship for both staff and students. We look forward to generating further research opportunity from within the college and outside it with an awareness of the spectrum of available options with the support of our colleagues.

The Department acknowledge some aspects of 'housekeeping' that require our attention and are already being addressed.

In terms of resources we will continue to think and act flexibly around our plant and space resources and their renewal, consistent with our needs and our relationships with other stakeholders and partnerships.

We are pleased that our partners and students and Department alumni made a strong and empowered impression on the Peer Review Group. They are part of participating in and leading in debates and practice in our culture and are reframing and recalibrating new possibilities in respect to place, space, audience and authorship.

The Department would like to thank the Peer Review Group for their careful consideration, scholarship and expertise and look forward to creatively leading and managing further change.

Philip Napier, Head of Sculpture  
3/4/2009