

SENATE

Title of paper: Leading Edge Curriculum Framework update

Main purpose of the paper: For information

Presenter(s): Professor Ruth Valentine, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Education

Date of paper: Wednesday 16 September 2026

Purpose of the paper

To provide an update on the progress of the Leading Edge Curriculum (LEC) Framework implementation

Relation to strategy and values

Education Strategy

Recommendations:

The Leading Edge Curriculum Framework presentation provides an update on the pilot programmes, changes made for Phase 2 based on the pilot lessons learned and the schedule for Phase 2 implementation.

Consultation to date (including any previous committee consideration and its outcome):

- Colleagues in the pilot programme teams (to inform lessons learned)
- Leading Edge Curriculum Workstream Leads (to inform lessons learned)

Information Classification:

- ☐ Strictly Confidential – Information that is deemed of higher risk if inappropriately disclosed. This includes information defined as ‘Special Category’ information in the UK GDPR.
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Leading Edge Curriculum

Senate update: 23.9.2026



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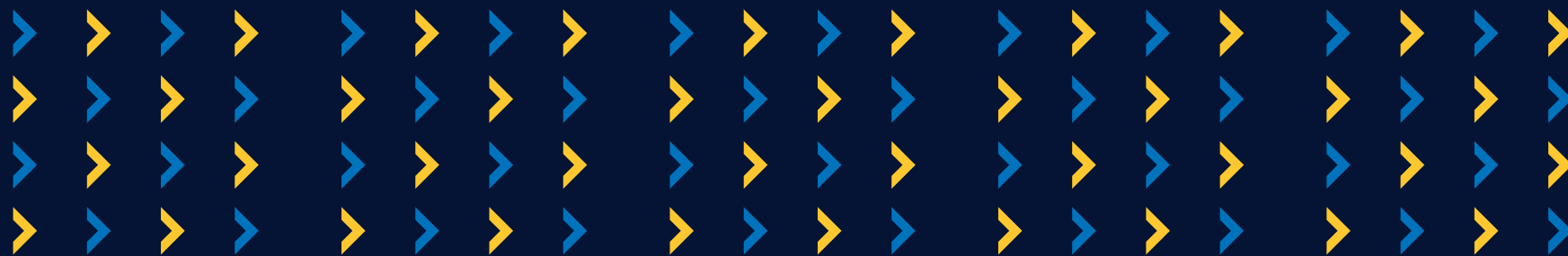


ENCOUNTERS
WITH THE
LEADING EDGE



Curriculum Transformation

Pilot Phase Update

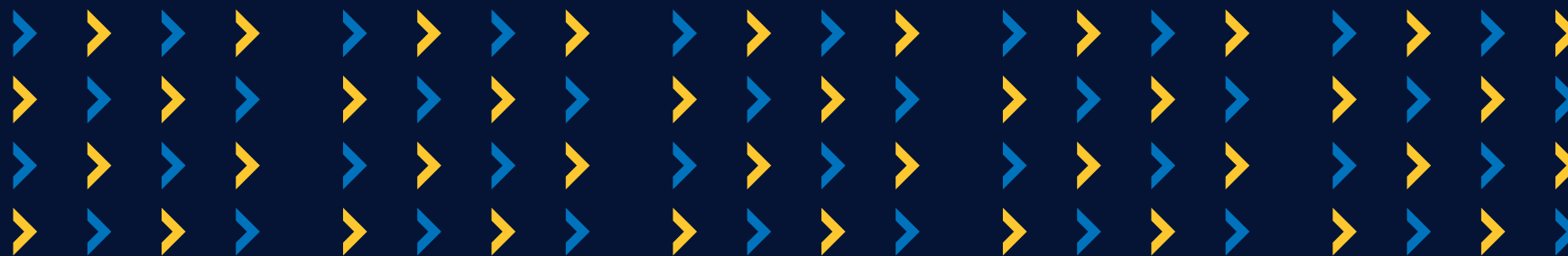


Pilot Programme Clusters Update

Faculty	Programme Cluster	Programme pre-LEC	New programme title post-LEC	Status
FMS	Biomedical, Nutritional and Sport Sciences	BSc Sport and Exercise Science	n/a	Critical Read Panel w/c 7 September
		BSc Nutrition with Food Marketing	n/a	Completed Critical Read
		MDiet Dietetics	n/a	Critical Read Panel w/c 7 September
		BSc Human Nutrition	n/a	Dean approval – end of September
HaSS	Music	BA Folk and Traditional Music		Suspended 26-27 for 3 years
		BA Contemporary and Popular Music	n/a	Internal Quality Assurance completed
		BA Music		
	Media	MA Media and Journalism	MA Journalism, Media and Communication	Due to be published w/c 23 September
		MA International Multimedia and Journalism	MA Global Media and Communication	
		MA Media and Public Relations	MA Public Relations, Media and Strategic Communications	
	Translation & Interpreting	MA Translation and Localisation	MA Applied Translation, Interpreting and Localisation Technologies	Internal Quality Audit completed
		MA Conference Interpreting		
		MA Translation Studies		
		MA Translation and Interpreting		
SAgE	Agriculture and Social Sciences	BSc Agriculture with Farm Business Management	n/a	Stage One modules approved
		BSc Agriculture		
		BSc Animal Science		
		BSc Food Business Management and Marketing		
		BSc Sustainable Land and Business Management		
		BSc Agri-Business Management		
	PGT Energy Management	MSc Energy Management (Renewable Enterprise)	n/a	Approved
		MSc Energy Security		
	AI and Data Science	BSc AI	n/a	Approved and marketed
		BSc Data Science	n/a	Approved and marketed

Curriculum Transformation

Pilot Lessons Learned



What we've learned from Phase 1 – Curriculum Transformation

The pilot validated the value of the LEC framework and provided key insights to strengthen delivery for Phase 2

What's working

- ✓ Clear, shared framework enabling more coherent programme design
- ✓ Stronger collaboration across teams through a common language
- ✓ Greater focus on programme-level student experience and outcomes
- ✓ Structured design workshops translating principles into practice
- ✓ Growing communities of practice across academic and PS teams
- ✓ Improved alignment with marketing and programme narratives

Insights shaping Phase 2

- Strengthening preparation and readiness before design begins
- Introducing clearer timelines and more sustainable pacing
- Improving cross-team alignment and reducing duplication
- Enhancing communication and engagement across stakeholders
- Supporting colleagues with clearer roles, guidance and capacity

These insights are shaping how we're **strengthening delivery** for **Phase 2**



What we're strengthening for Phase 2

Stronger Preparation & Readiness

- Introduced a **6-week readiness phase**
- **Guidance, templates and processes** in place upfront
- Programme-level **data packs** to inform design
- **Structured training** and programme orientation

More realistic timelines and pacing

- Extended design phase to **8 weeks**
- **Full academic year delivery schedule** confirmed in advance
- Dedicated support for **post-design completion**

Stronger communication and support

- Dedicated **Change Management support** for comms and engagement
- More **proactive and planned communication** approach
- Introduction of **LEC champions and good practice case studies**
- Fully resourced **Curriculum Transformation Team and LEC Fellows**

Improved alignment and ways of working

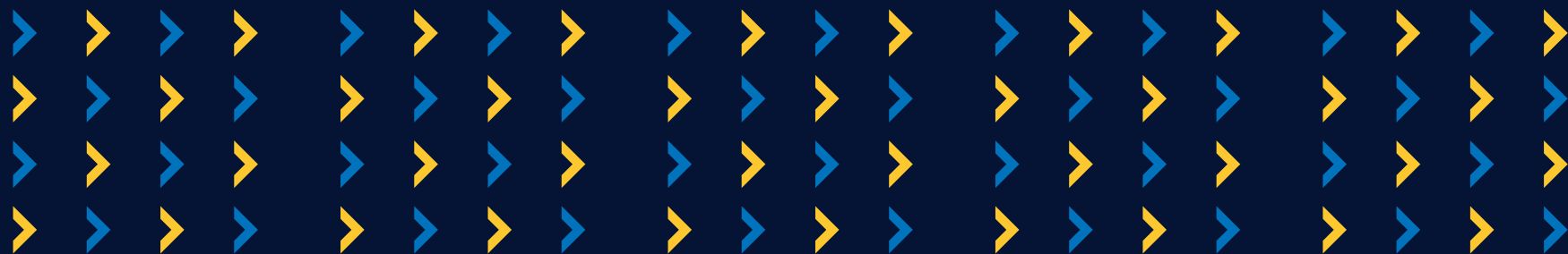
- **Greater coordination** across workstreams
- **Reduced duplication** through clearer processes
- **Clearer roles, expectations and support model**

Phase 1 Pilot Evaluation: May – June 2026

This positions Phase 2 to deliver with greater clarity, consistency and sustainability.



Phase 2 schedule



Leading Edge Curriculum Phase 2

Key

- Green: Readiness (7 weeks)
- Blue: Design workshops (8 weeks)
- Pink: Programme approval (8 weeks)
- Purple: Online course profile development

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