**National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA)**

###### Nominations for TUI Representatives (Development Groups)

The NCCA advises the Minister for Education and Skills on the curriculum and assessment for early childhood education, primary schools and post-primary schools. In order to support curriculum development and reform the Council establishes development groups to support comprehensive planning, coherence and consistency across subjects, short courses and programmes. They play a central role in guiding the work of the Council and its advice to the Minister. Development Groups will be formed for each subject and some short courses offered at junior cycle and senior cycle and for specific issues and programmes e.g. Special Needs, Leaving Certificate Applied, Guidance.

TUI nominates representatives (usually two) to each NCCA Development Group. This provides a valuable opportunity for practising teachers to influence the development of curriculum specifications and related assessment approach and strategies. Equally, it ensures that the interests and concerns of the TUI and its members are represented and considered as part of the development process.

To be nominated by the TUI to an NCCA Development Group you must:

* Be appropriately qualified in the subject/discipline area and have relevant experience at the appropriate level (junior cycle and/or senior cycle).
* Have a familiarity with general developments in the subject/discipline area. Practising teachers will have acquired this as part of their normal teaching responsibilities or other roles in areas such as guidance or special education.
* Be familiar with general trends and issues in curriculum development and assessment or other areas. (The necessary information will be generated through the work of the development group).
* Be a member of the TUI and be nominated by your local TUI Branch.

If you sit on an NCCA Development Group on behalf of the TUI, you are required to:

* Attend meetings as scheduled by the NCCA. Frequency of meetings varies across development groups. Substitution needs and travel and subsistence costs will be met by the NCCA.
* Become conversant with TUI policies in relation to curriculum and assessment issues and other areas and represent these as appropriate on the development group.
* Provide regular feedback to TUI on developments and changes that are being considered and proposed. Feedback forms are available from head office or the TUI website. Direct contact and discussion with the TUI Education and Research Officer, who will provide support to nominees as appropriate, is also expected.
* Attend occasional meetings/seminars organised by TUI to support internal dialogue. (Travel and subsistence will be met by TUI in line with its policy).
* Occasionally provide comments to the media on the state examinations in co-operation with TUI head office. Please note nominees should not make unauthorised comment on behalf of TUI to the media.

***If you are interested in being nominated to an NCCA Development Group contact your local TUI Branch.***