The Ideas Lab
Teaching Enhancement Unit
Open Education Unit

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DIGITAL LEARNING

2019
HOSTED WORLD CONFERENCE ON ONLINE LEARNING
NOVEMBER
Attracted 600+ delegates from over 80 countries
IGOLA & ATS STEM PROJECTS
JANUARY
Over €3.5m for externally funded projects

2018
GLOBAL STRATEGIC FUTURELEARN PARTNERSHIP
SEPTEMBER
Approved by DCU Governing Authority
LAUNCH OF IRISH 101
JANUARY
Minister launches FutureLearn course

2017
ONLINE UNIVERSITY OF SANCTUARY SCHOLARSHIPS
JUNE
Scholarships for refugees and asylum seekers
IDEAS LAB ESTABLISHED
MARCH
New Unit to foster an innovation culture

2016
MAJOR DIGITAL LEARNING RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM
NOVEMBER
Building stronger national research culture
PILOT OF LOOP REFLECT
AUGUST
Taking lead in e-portfolio for learning

2015
LAUNCH OF FIRST IRISH HORIZONS REPORT
MAY
Envisioning the future of higher education
BUILDING DIGITAL CAPACITY
JANUARY
Collaborative National Focus projects

2014
LAUNCH OF LOOP AND DCU CONNECTED
AUGUST
Launch of new digital learning platforms
DIRECTOR ARRIVES
JANUARY
Minister’s first choice of digital learning

2013
OFFICIAL LAUNCH BY MINISTER OF EDUCATION
NOVEMBER
National institute for Digital Learning (NIDL) officially launched by Dublin City University (DCU) on 28th November 2013 by Rosi Quinn, Minister for Education and Skills, and Lord David Blunkett, Internationally Digital Champion.

KEY FACTS

50K+
Since first offering of Irish 101 in January 2018 over 30,000 learners from more than 130 countries have registered for a DCU FutureLearn course

FUTURELEARN LEARNERS

€6M+
Each year significant increase in the amount of external Government funding secured for DCU Connected online distance programmes

SPRINGBOARD+ FUNDING

700+
Over past six years an impressive range of scholarly outputs produced by NIDL staff exploring new models of teaching and learning

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

€4.5M
NIDL has led or played key role in more than twenty externally funded research and development projects which support digital learning

EXTERNAL PROJECT FUNDING

200% GROWTH IN LOOP USE
12,000+ STUDENTS USING REFLECT LAUNCH OF ZOOM

200% GROWTH IN LOOP USE
12,000+ STUDENTS USING REFLECT LAUNCH OF ZOOM

BY THE NUMBERS

1000+
The number of students registering for DCU’s online programmes has increased each year with 485 new DCU Connected learners in 2019

DCU CONNECTED ONLINE STUDENTS

22
NIDL has hosted or played major role in organising a range of local, national and international teaching and learning conferences

CONFERENCES HOSTED

25
NIDL staff and project accomplishments recognised through a variety of national and international awards, prizes and fellowships

EXTERNAL AWARDS

12
NIDL leadership extends to staff serving in executive roles on key national and international professional bodies and associations

PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

5500+ TWITTER POSTS
215 BLOG POSTS
30K+ BLOG VIEWS

BY 2019...