



Advancing knowledge and practice

Vision

The School of Nursing and Human Sciences at DCU is a leader in education, research and community engagement with the aim of supporting practice and scholarship in nursing and human sciences, in Ireland and internationally.

We deliver world-class interdisciplinary educational programmes, practice development and research in mental health, intellectual disability, adult health, child health, psychology, psychotherapy, healthcare, health & society, sexuality studies, dementia, homelessness prevention and intervention.

Mission

1. To provide high quality, research-informed, student-centred learning opportunities to our undergraduate and postgraduate students.
2. To develop high-quality, high-impact, meaningful research across a range of disciplines.
3. To contribute to improving the quality of life of populations by engagement with communities, health care providers, professionals, policy makers and the media.
4. To contribute to evidence-based improvements in health and social care delivery.
5. To recognise the unique qualities of our staff and support well-being and ongoing professional development.

Values and principles

Throughout all our teaching, research, practice, and community engagement we will demonstrate our values through:

- Our professional integrity.
- Our commitment to inclusiveness and diversity
- Our spirit of inquiry
- Our openness:
 - Individually and collectively we are proactive in listening to and learning from students, service providers and patients/clients, experts by lived experience, policy influencers/makers and, as appropriate other key external stakeholders nationally and internationally.
- Our commitment to integration.
 - We will adopt a multi-faceted, collaborative and multidisciplinary approach in meeting the needs of students, service providers and patients/clients and in influencing the ongoing development and improvement of Ireland's systems for promoting health and well-being.
- Empowerment.
 - We recognise that people achieve and make their most significant contribution when they have experience, confidence and respect.

Expanding on our 2004-2014 strategy **Leading Practice: education, research and innovation**, our goals are:

1. To **develop practitioners and leaders** who are knowledgeable and competent, and are effective at individual, multi-disciplinary and organisational levels
 2. To **push boundaries** by leading world class research by building capacity, encouraging scholarly debate and evaluating our practices to learn, change and impact on social and health issues.
 3. To **play our part** in establishing and maintaining collaborative partnerships, to extend the breadth and depth of our capacity and opportunities.
 4. To **embrace opportunities** by thinking and acting creatively.
 5. To **build potential** by optimising the abilities and motivations of our staff and students to enable the School to operate successfully in a competitive and changing environment, supported by adequate and appropriate human resources, facilities and organisational infrastructure.
-

PLAYING OUR PART TO MEET DCU STRATEGY *TRANSFORMING LIVES AND SOCIETIES* GOALS:

From Vision to Performance: Our unique strengths and our commitments

DCU Strategic Priorities	Uniqueness of SNHS. What we do best includes:	Commitments. Building on our unique strengths, we will continue to:
Transformation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working to our diverse and complementary professional strengths.• Caring for our students.• Demonstrating good interaction between programmes.• Contributing to practice and societal change through the Healthy Living Centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build further creative learning spaces and opportunities.• Build relationships between our programmes.• Collaborate across different disciplines in SNHS.• Generate new collaborative research, education and community engagement opportunities and relationships.
Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Showing a strong focus on and valuing human strengths and social interactions.• Relating and growing symbiotically with service providers and policy-makers in our core areas.• Operating academic practice and innovations through the Healthy Living Centre.• Reach out to communities and inform practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Influence the drivers of change for human health, well-being & care locally, nationally & internationally at individual & societal level.• Commit to growing inter-disciplinary collaborations in both practice & research.• Build on the strengths of the SNHS in terms of our capacity to attract funding.

DCU Strategic Priorities	Uniqueness of SNHS. What we do best includes:	Commitments. Building on our unique strengths, we will continue to:
Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing interdisciplinary opportunities for our staff, students and communities. • Providing rich and diverse student experiences. • Engaging with practitioners and communities through the Healthy Living Centre. • Engaging in unique partnerships based on our collective strengths. • External engagement with community groups and organisations. • Engagement in public debates on health and social care issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make visible and grow our community engagement commitments. • Maintain & cultivate student engagement. • Increase our engagement across DCU communities. • Examine the potential for more international exchanges to benefit staff and students. • Grow our existing collaborative partnerships.
Translation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combining our efforts to appreciate the complexity of translation –understanding knowledge, generalisation, translation, value based and positive change. • Connecting research, teaching / learning and service to communities through the Healthy Living Centre. • Translating knowledge to societal benefit and change in diverse areas, for example science, practice etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate practice needs into our teaching and learning and vice versa. • Show results and impact of our partnerships. • Grow our publications and scholarly outputs. • Show leadership in developing future partnerships. • Build our website & use of social media.