Contents

2 Welcome

4 About the Graduate Entry Medicine Programme

6 Curriculum

8 Teaching and Learning

10 Teaching Hospitals

12 Research

14 UCC Student Experience

16 Our Students

18 Why UCC for Graduate Entry Medicine?

20 Research at CoMH

Welcome

UCC is very proud of its Graduate Entry Medicine Programme. Our graduates are recognised internationally as excellent clinicians and critical thinkers with an enthusiasm for life-long learning. We provide doctors of the future with a world class, student-centred and evidence-based medical education, informed by societal needs. The medical curriculum at UCC emphasises the integration of life sciences and clinical practice from the outset. Students have early clinical exposure and patient care is at the centre of the learning experience. Developing students' research skills is an integral part of the programme and our students have the opportunity of working with world-class researchers.

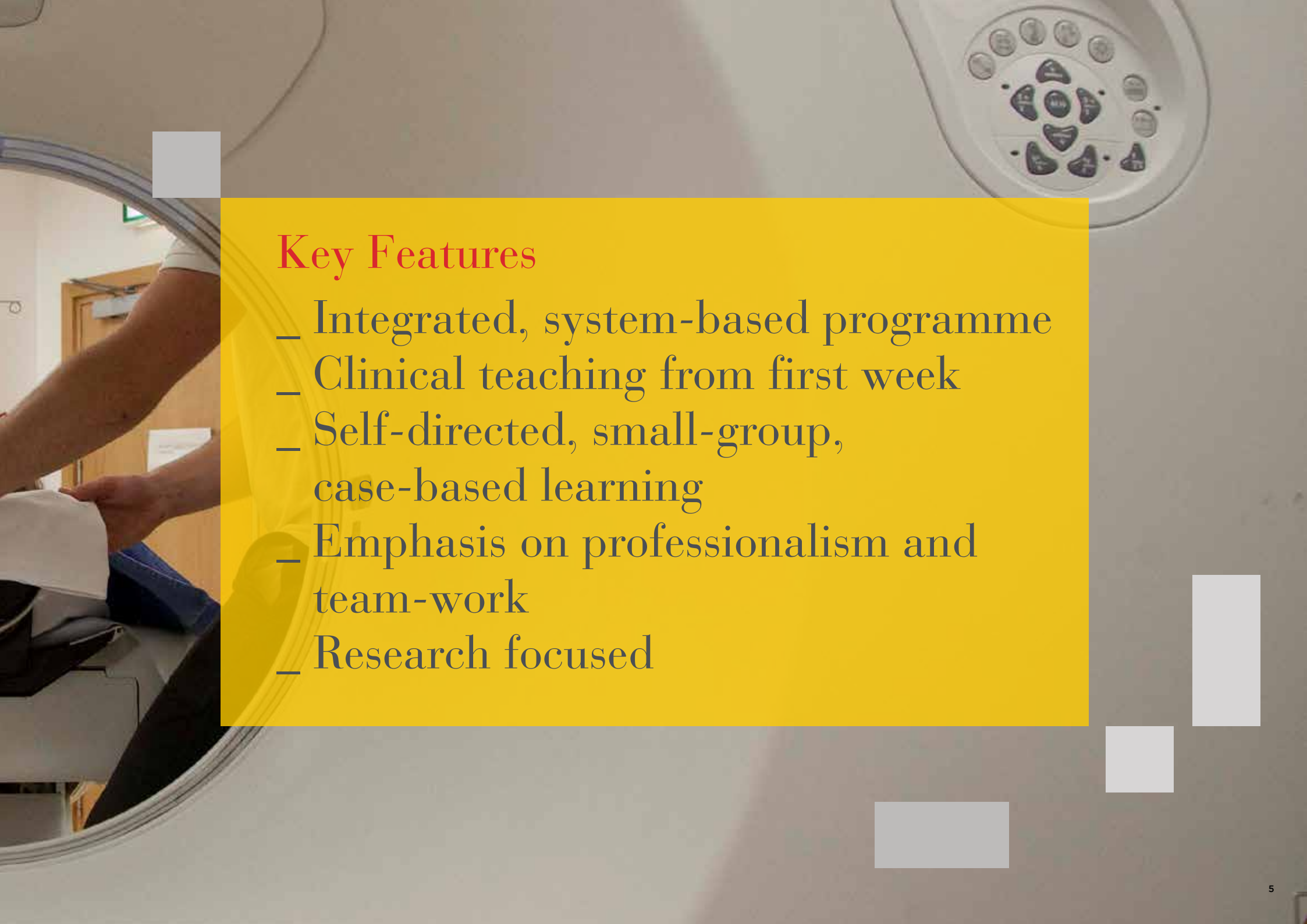
We are proud of our reputation for excellence in medical training and we look forward to welcoming you to our School of Medicine at UCC.

Mission:

“To provide graduate students with an integrated, holistic, student-centred medical curriculum based on the principles of adult learning and emphasising professionalism and life-long learning skills.”

About the Graduate Entry Medicine Programme

The School of Medicine at University College Cork has a long tradition of excellence in teaching, research and scholarship. Since 1849, the University has taught the art and science of Medicine to students from all over the world. The Graduate Entry Medicine programme was developed in 2008 and is specially designed to cater for the advanced learning styles of the mature, university-experienced student. The 4-year degree programme is available to Irish and international graduates who hold a primary degree in any discipline and who would like to study Medicine.



Key Features

- Integrated, system-based programme
- Clinical teaching from first week
- Self-directed, small-group, case-based learning
- Emphasis on professionalism and team-work
- Research focused

Curriculum

INTEGRATED, SYSTEMS-BASED, RESPONSIVE

The medical curriculum at UCC reflects best practice in medical education and is under constant review. From the beginning of their medical education, students learn clinical skills and professionalism alongside basic medical sciences so that knowledge is acquired in an integrated, patient-centred and holistic way. The curriculum is further enhanced by a wide range of elective modules ranging from library projects to the Humanities. Research is a key element of UCC medical education, and all students have structured teaching in research methodologies and complete a research project in the final two years of the programme.

The curriculum is divided into four streams:

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

CLINICAL SCIENCE AND PRACTICE

PERSON, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

RESEARCH AND STUDENT-SELECTED ELECTIVES

The curriculum is horizontally and vertically integrated.

Recognising the unique abilities of Graduate Entry Medicine students, UCC has developed a special curriculum for the first four trimesters which includes:

- **Small group, case-based learning**
- **Tutorials**
- **Clinical skills teaching**
- **Laboratory sessions**

Emphasis is placed on self-directed learning and teamwork and students have early clinical exposure in both hospital and community settings. Graduate Entry Medicine students merge with Direct Entry (school-leaver) students during Year Two, allowing all students the same clinical and teaching experiences. All UCC Medicine graduates are awarded the same Medical Degree – Bachelor in Medicine, Bachelor in Surgery, and Bachelor in the Art of Obstetrics (MB, BCh, BAO).

Curriculum at a Glance

Year 1

- Foundations of Medical Science (Anatomy, Biochemistry, Pathology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Physiology)
- Clinical Science and Practice
- Professional Development
- Behavioural Science and Communication Skills
- Epidemiology and Public Health

Year 2

- Foundations of Medical Science
- Clinical Science and Practice (including Family Practice attachments)
- Clinical Elective
- Epidemiology and Public Health
- Student Selected Module

Year 3

- Clinical Practice and the Fundamentals of Adult Disease
- Psychiatry and Behavioural Medicine
- Reproduction, Pregnancy, Child Health and Development
- Forensic Medicine
- Research and Professionalism in Medicine
- Clinical Elective

Year 4

- Principles and Practice of Surgery
- Principles and Practice of Internal Medicine and General Practice
- Principles and Practice of Paediatrics and Child Health
- Principles and Practice of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Research and Professionalism in Medicine (Final Year Project)

Teaching and Learning

STUDENT-CENTRED, PATIENT-FOCUSED, SYSTEMS-BASED

The emphasis in UCC is on individual and personalised tuition in small classes. Much of the teaching is case-based. Patient contact begins early in the first year of the Graduate Entry Medicine Programme, leading on to full time clinical attachments in Year 2. Our clinical teachers are all highly experienced clinicians and eager to help students reach their full potential. Central to this is a research-active Medical Education Unit, where faculty engage in a wide variety of medical education research projects.

TEACHING ENVIRONMENT

Most of the early teaching takes place in Brookfield Health Sciences Complex (BHSC), a modern, purpose-built healthcare teaching facility with state-of-the-art lecture theatres, seminar and tutorial rooms and clinical skills teaching rooms. The Clinical Skills unit has an advanced Human Patient Simulator and simulated hospital wards for clinical skills and Patient Safety training. BHSC also has an excellent medical library. The science laboratories (including the renowned FLAME Anatomy lab) are located in the adjacent Western Gateway Building (linked to BHSC by a footbridge over the River Lee). BHSC is also home to ASSERT, an advanced simulation research centre.
The School of Medicine also offers intercalated degree programmes and an ERASMUS student exchange programme.

Teaching methods at UCC reflect best practice in medical education and are continuously reviewed.

Teaching Hospitals

UCC has a large network of affiliated teaching hospitals with dedicated teaching staff and coordinators. Most of our hospitals are located a short distance from the School of Medicine. The hospital network encompasses all specialities and students experience a wide range of teaching. Many of our hospital consultants lead large international clinical research projects and most are North American trained. The hospitals have strong Speciality Training Programmes/Residency Programmes under the auspices of the National Postgraduate Training Colleges (Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland).

CORK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Cork University Hospital, incorporating the Cork University Maternity Hospital, is an 820 bed tertiary referral hospital. All of the major specialties are practised here and the hospital accommodates the majority of student core clinical attachments. It is the only Level 1 Trauma Centre in Ireland.

MERCY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

Mercy University Hospital was established in 1857 and has a long tradition in medical education. Located in the busy centre of Cork city, this 340 bed hospital offers a wide range of specialty services.

SOUTH INFIRMARY-VICTORIA UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

South Infirmary-Victoria University Hospital is a 260 bed hospital and is the regional centre for ENT and Dermatology services.

BON SECOURS HOSPITAL

Bon Secours Health System has two large hospitals in Cork and Kerry with a commitment to medical education. The hospitals provide a wide range of clinical teaching in Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics and Anaesthesia.

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WATERFORD

University Hospital Waterford is a 505 bed teaching hospital offering a wide range of speciality services including a busy Emergency Department. The hospital is a designated National Cancer Control Centre.

OTHER AFFILIATED HOSPITALS:

- **Bantry General Hospital**
- **University Hospital Kerry**
- **Mallow General Hospital**
- **Marymount University Hospital and Hospice**
- **South Tipperary General Hospital, Clonmel**
- **St. Finbarr's Hospital**

Research – Structured and Supported

STUDENT RESEARCH

A culture of research is fostered among our students from the start of their medical training. All students receive structured teaching in research methodologies and are offered a variety of research-based student selected modules. Students complete a research project during their final two years, many of these in association with clinical and translational principal investigators, research groups and research institutes at UCC.
UCC medical students are frequent recipients of undergraduate research scholarships (Health Research Board, Science Foundation Ireland). Increasingly, students present their research at national and international meetings and publish their work in peer-reviewed journals.

UCC is Ireland's premier research institution, attracting the highest peer-reviewed research income per head nationally and home to two-thirds of Ireland's most cited researchers.

The UCC Student Experience

A number of factors combine to make the student experience at UCC an enjoyable and memorable one, where students form life-long friendships and develop new skills and talents.

UCC CAMPUS

The UCC campus is one of the most beautiful in Europe - an idyllic garden campus on the banks of the river Lee, within walking distance of a historic city steeped in culture and tradition.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

UCC has a large range of high-quality student accommodation within a short walk of campus.

SPORT AND LEISURE

UCC has outstanding sports facilities, including a 25 metre swimming pool, 72 acres of playing fields, athletic tracks, and a superb indoor Sports Centre (Mardyke Arena). UCC has over 55 sports clubs ranging from traditional team sports to adventure sports such as paragliding, kite surfing and parachuting. Cork city is also an ideal city in which to run or cycle and many students go hiking and surfing at the weekends.

CORK CITY

Cork is Ireland's second largest city (population 300,000) and is a cosmopolitan, modern city with a vibrant café, restaurant and nightlife culture. Cork's international airport is only 6 km from campus and the city has well-developed rail and bus connections.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

UCC has an extensive network of clubs and societies ranging from sports to music and theatre. MedSoc and SurgSoc organise a busy social calender for medical students. The Surgeon Noonan Society organises student summer electives to Africa (students bring medical supplies and financial aid to rural communities). Medical students at UCC are also actively involved in Médicins Sans Frontières and a number of outreach programmes (annual Teddy Bear Hospital, Prep-for-Med School).

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Cork is gate-way to some of Ireland's most scenic locations. Hike and cycle in our mountains, forests and glens; sail and surf around Ireland's spectacular coasts.

CULTURE

Cork has a rich tradition of culture – architecture, theatre, music, art, literature and poetry and hosts the world-famous jazz, choral, film and folk festivals.

- **Nominated by Lonely Planet as one of top 10 World Cities**
- **European Capital of Culture 2005**

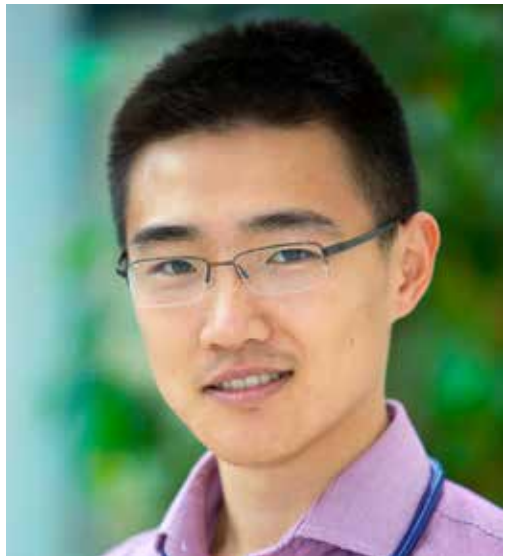
International Students

University College Cork has a long history of international student admissions. Today, almost 3000 international students from 100 countries attend UCC. The University does everything possible to make the transition to Ireland and UCC a positive one.

The International Education Office at UCC is a “one-stop shop” for international students providing information on all aspects of studying in UCC - programmes of study, application and immigration procedures and help with registration and orientation.

The international Education Office also organises a variety of social events throughout the year.

Meet Our Students



Jiashan Wang, Canada
During my time at UCC, I had the opportunity to gain clinical experience in various hospitals both in the city and in the surrounding towns. The doctors I've met have been very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about teaching. I also had the opportunity to play for the university volleyball team, which kept me in touch with life outside Medicine – very important for medical students! I found Cork to be a beautiful city full of friendly people, and I thoroughly enjoyed my four years here.

Nicole Cosgrove, Cork
I chose UCC's Graduate Entry Medicine Programme because it's an engaging and stimulating course with a balance of didactic sessions and self-directed learning. The focus is on clinical medicine from day one, thereby providing the optimal learning environment. In addition, there is a great support network in the Graduate Entry Medicine Programme - medical school staff, faculty and fellow students have all been hugely supportive and it's been very easy to settle in.

Denis Hopkinson, Canada
Studying Medicine at University College Cork as a North American makes me feel confident about my career in Medicine. I attribute much of this confidence to the excellent academic and clinical teaching at UCC. In the first two years, we are given a solid foundation in science and unparalleled clinical skills teaching begins in the first semester. The clinical years are characterised by caring for an endless array of patients at numerous hospitals in Cork and throughout southern Ireland, with frequent tutorials provided by inspiring house officers and consultants. Finally, the medical school faculty and staff are eager to listen to our concerns and provide great support throughout our time here at UCC.

Ciara Fahy, Galway
In UCC, there is very early clinical exposure which was my main reason for coming here. There's a lot of 'hands on' learning and the early clinical teaching has been fantastic. This summer I was awarded a research bursary and my work involved looking at Health Service use by patients with pre-eclampsia. I come from an Arts background and had no research experience but found it very easy to get involved in research.
The great thing about the Graduate Entry Medicine Programme is that it accepts students from all backgrounds – it's been great working with people from all different disciplines.

20 Reasons to choose UCC for Graduate Entry Medicine

1 Long established medical school with an excellent international reputation

2. Rich tradition of teaching, research and scholarship

3. Ranked in the top 2% of universities worldwide

4. Ireland's leading research institute

5. Long history in international student admission

6. Superb modern facilities in purpose-built medical school

7. Integrated and dynamic medical curriculum

8. Case-based small group learning

9. Excellent results in USMLE examinations

10. Early clinical experience

11. ERASMUS programme

12. Small class size

13. Work with UCC's world renowned Research Groups

14. Dedicated and experienced teaching staff

15. Excellent post-graduate training opportunities in Ireland and abroad due to active alumni network

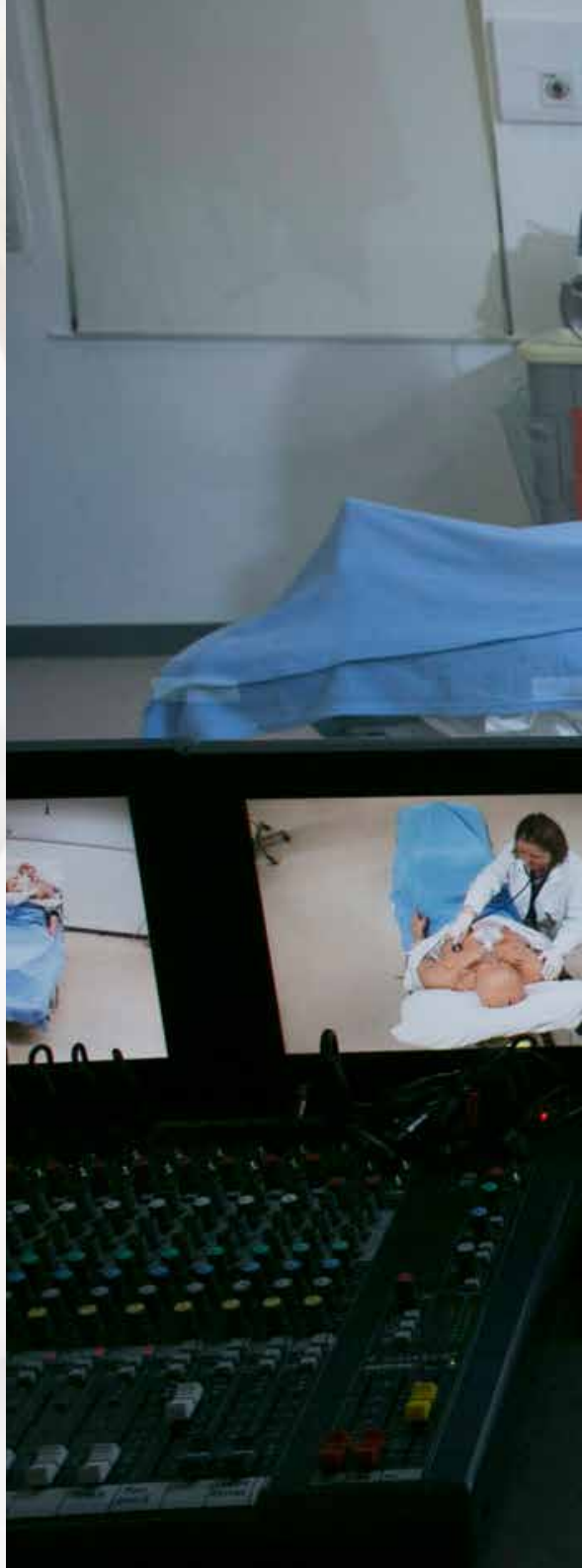
16. Premium student accom-modation within walking distance of the medical school

17. Excellent student welfare and mentoring services

18. First-rate sporting and exercise facilities

19. Ireland's most beautiful campus, within walking distance of Cork city

20. Closely-knit student community leading to life-long friendships



Research at College of Medicine and Health (CoMH)

IRELAND'S LEADING RESEARCH INSTITUTION

UCC is an internationally competitive, research-led University and home to world-renowned research centres.

A Reputation for Excellence

IMPACT

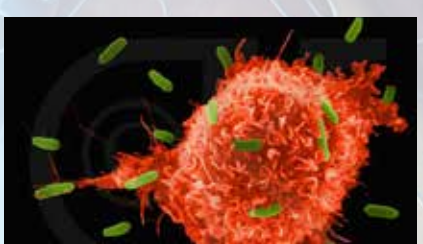
UCC research has significant impact — in the 2013 QS World University Rankings, UCC increased its 'Citations per Faculty' ranking by 27 places in 1 year alone.

FUNDING

One of the highest-funded research universities in Ireland.

CoMH Research – Facts and Figures

- Annual research income - €17 Million
- Peer reviewed publications - over 600 per annum
- Number of PHD/MD students - 194
- APC Science Foundation Ireland funding - €36 Million

5 Key Research Themes

- FOOD AND HEALTH - ALIMENTARY PHARMABIOTIC CENTRE (APC)
- WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH - INFANT
- PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH
- CANCER RESEARCH - CORK CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE
- SIMULATION AND TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED LEARNING - ASSERT