



Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement Funding in Higher Education 2019: Developing Disciplinary Excellence in Learning, Teaching, and Assessment

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**A TRADITION OF
INDEPENDENT
THINKING**



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

The national body responsible for leading and advising on the enhancement of T&L in Irish HE.

Students to have an excellent T&L experience, informed by up-to-date research, and facilitated by enhanced learning environment and enhanced teaching approaches.

Work informs, and is informed by, a range of national policies e.g. National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030.

Supporting T&L innovation and enhancement through current fund – Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund (570k) and RFAM investment (€5m)

Strategic Priorities of the National Forum

1. The Professional Development of those Who Teach

Promoting evidence-based, flexible, inclusive professional development for all those who teach, reflecting the contextual needs and drivers within and across higher education institutions.

2. Teaching and Learning in a Digital World

Supporting those who learn, teach, and support learning to embrace and harness the potential of digital technologies with the goal of enhancing learning, teaching, and overall digital capacity.

3. Teaching and Learning Enhancement within Disciplines

Recognising that disciplines are a key unit of change in higher education, with a focus on disciplinary excellence in learning, teaching and assessment.

4. Student Success

Developing a vision of success, in partnership with students, with the aim of providing all students with the opportunity to fulfil their potential and become creators of knowledge who are community engaged, ethically conscious, professionally competent and equipped to flourish in a global world.

All proposed initiatives must be clearly aligned to one of the four strategic priorities of the National Forum

Funding 2019

- Funding allocated directly to institutions.
- UCC allocation of €483,000 + support from OVPLT = €0.5m.
- Competitive internal application process to distribute funds.
- Administered in UCC by the OVPLT through the Centre for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL).

T&L Initiative Types

T&L Initiative Type 001/19: Supporting and Highlighting the Value of Teaching and Learning Enhancement within Higher Education Institutions (seed funding for small scale projects)

T&L Initiative Type 002/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement within Disciplines.

T&L Initiative Type 003/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement across Disciplines.

T&L Initiative Type 004/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement in Collaboration with Professional Bodies and/or Industry Partners.

T&L Initiative Type 001/19: Supporting and Highlighting the Value of Teaching and Learning Enhancement within Higher Education Institutions

Seed funding to support a number of small-scale learning enhancement projects (LEPs).

Projects to support engagement with teaching and learning enhancement by individuals/small teams.

UCC Context:

- €25,000 (NF) + support from OVPLT = funding for approx. 20-25 small projects.
- €2000 available per project.

Similar to T&L Research and Enhancement Fund (OVPLT) in previous years.

T&L Initiative Type 002/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement within Disciplines

Enable discipline groups to engage with the [Disciplinary Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Assessment \(DELTA\) Framework](#).

Capacity building and planning tool – capture, articulate, and support T&L enhancement plans.

The Framework has five pillars:

1. Strategy and Capacity Building
2. Teaching and Learning Practice
3. Design of Learning
4. Assessment OF/FOR/AS Learning
5. Evidence-Based Approach

T&L Initiative Type 002/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement within Disciplines

The discipline group can focus generally on all elements of the DELTA Framework or on a particular element that responds to a priority need at this time.

This funding stream may also support the efforts of disciplinary groups/programme teams towards a national [DELTA award](#).

Medium (30-50k) and large (100-150k) proposals are invited.

T&L Initiative Type 003/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement across Disciplines

Will enable an inter-disciplinary approach to teaching and learning enhancement.

Sharing of good practice and key lessons between discipline groups/multidisciplinary programme teams.

Gaining from the collective knowledge and expertise that exists across disciplines.

Medium (30-50k) and large (100-150k) proposals are invited.

T&L Initiative Type 004/19: Teaching and Learning Enhancement in Collaboration with Professional Bodies and/or Industry Partners

Aims to ensure alignment between programme content and the needs of students beyond graduation.

Welcomes proposals from discipline groups and programme teams who have identified ways in which collaboration with professional bodies and/or industry partners has the potential to enhance teaching and learning content and practices and the success of students beyond higher education.

Medium (30-50k) and large (100-150k) proposals are invited.

Internal Application Process

- Application form will be available on the OVPLT website after the session today.
- The application form is the same for all initiative types.
- Completed application form should be submitted to l.lee@ucc.ie before 5pm on Friday August 30th 2019.
- One email per application with any relevant documents as attachments.
- All applications should be signed off by the Head of School, College or Unit.

Internal Application Process

- Brief form asking you to outline:
 - Description of the initiative
 - Proposal alignment with UCC's Academic Strategy
 - Project alignment with one of the four Strategic Priorities of the National Forum
 - Impact on those who teach and those who learn
 - Sustainability of initiative
 - Dissemination
 - Breakdown of costs
 - Short resume of applicant or team

Max word limit for any section is 250 words

Initiative Types 002-004: Two-step review

Having completed the internal application process, successful UCC applications will be submitted to the National Forum for final review by Tuesday 8th October 2019.

Feedback on each proposal will be provided by an international review panel.

Submissions to the National Forum for final review have two parts:

1. The completion of a brief online form (information required will be the same as that for the UCC internal application process)
2. T&L Initiative teams must also provide a video/recorded presentation* (not more than 12 minutes) that clearly outlines:
 - Title of T&L Initiative
 - T&L Initiative team members and institution/s
 - Overview of the proposed Initiative
 - Context - Why is this project important?
 - Key deliverables anticipated (include what change will result from this project?)

*Internal support will be provided for the creation of videos/recorded presentations

Who can apply?

All UCC staff involved in teaching and the support of student learning are eligible to apply.

Lead applicant must have a contract of employment until at least December 2020.

Inter-institutional collaboration (between higher education institutions in the Republic of Ireland) is permitted for initiative types 002-004 (collaborative space on NF website).

- *Each institution allocates budget to the initiative separately.*

Budget

Initiative type 001

Maximum funding available per proposal = €2,000.

Initiative types 002-004

Medium (30-50k) and large (100-150k) proposals are invited

As per the requirements of the National Forum:
All funding must be **spent** by December 2020

Initiative Costs

Eligible costs include:

- The purchase of essential materials, books or software
- Purchase of learning resources
- Pay costs
- Attendance at training courses
- Staff development
- Dissemination costs
- Consultant/subcontractor costs
- Equipment (funding cannot be used to buy equipment over the value of €15,000. Not more than 20% of total budget to be spent on equipment).
- Travel and subsistence

Selection criteria for internal application process

- Demonstrated innovation and impact
- Originality of initiative
- Potential to enhance student learning and engagement
- Relevance to UCC's Academic Strategy
- Alignment with one of the four strategic priorities of the National Forum
- Focus on how knowledge and best practice will be shared
- Enhancement of the learning and teaching practice of the applicant(s)
- Sustainability of the initiative
- Appropriate costings
- Targets lie outside normal School/College/unit funding
- Overall quality of application
- The Head of School/Unit should be supportive of the application

Important dates

Internal proposal Submission Date: **30th August 2019**

Submission of proposals within initiative Types 002-004 to National Forum for review: **8th October 2019**

Recommendations from international review panel: **31st October 2019**

Funding allocation: **November 2019**

Supporting documentation

Please see Guidelines & Information for Applicants: will be posted to OVPLT website after today's session.

Application form for all initiative types: will be posted to OVPLT website after today's session.

National Forum Call Document: available on NF website and will also be posted to OVPLT website.

National Forum Collaborative Space and FAQ: available on NF website.

Contact

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