

## Postgraduate Research Students, University of Galway

### School of Biological and Chemical Sciences

#### 2025 Action Plan

		<b>Actions</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status*</b>
1	<b>Research Infrastructure and Facilities</b>	<p>Good rating for students having (i) a suitable workspace, (ii) access to computing resources, (iii) access to library facilities, and (iv) access to specialist resources and facilities.</p> <p>Optimisation of lab space, sharing of resources, access plan for equipment.</p>	Vice-Dean CoSE, HoS, R&D chair	<b>*In Progress</b>
2	<b>Supervision</b>	<p>Supervisor contact being reviewed annually at GRC and any issues advised to supervisor(s).</p> <p>Adherence to college PGR guidelines in place.</p> <p>Not enough responses in the 2025 PGR Survey → increase participation within the school</p>	GRC	<b>*In Progress</b>
3	<b>Research Culture</b>	<p>Running of section-based research seminar series is underway.</p>	Section vice-heads, PGR	<b>*In Progress</b>

		<p>More get-together activities for PGR to promote interaction and discussions.</p> <p>Also, research seminars run by other university-wide units such as Ryan Institute, IDHI, etc will be more widely disseminated to our research students.</p>		
<b>4</b>	<b>Progress and Assessment</b>	Mandatory induction provided by Graduate Studies. Follow up session to be organised by School PGR to provide ongoing information on expectations for PhD degree.	Vice-Dean CoSE, PGR, Dean of GS.	<b>*In Progress</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Research Skills</b>	<p>Good rating for students having (i) appropriate skills on research methodologies, (ii) critical analyses of data, (iii) improved creativity and innovation in research, and (iv) research integrity.</p> <p>Continue to promote the skills within PGR, including the mandatory research integrity training as part of the PGR degree.</p>	Academic Staff, GS	<b>* In Progress</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Other Transferrable Skills</b>	<p>Career Support and Professional Development Seminar Series taking place and Researcher Development Centre explanation annually to PGR.</p> <p>Topics include Research careers, Grant writing skills, Intellectual Property, Galway Green Labs, Preparing for a job beyond</p>	Vice-Dean CoSE, Director of GS, RDC	<b>*In Progress</b>

		<p>academia, Open science / Open scholarship, Entrepreneurship Media writing, Developing Leadership Skills</p> <p>Engage with past graduates working in non-academic organisations to share their experience, allowing current students to improve networking opportunities</p>		
7	<b>Responsibilities and Support</b>	<p>Personal Career Development Plan being included as part of GRC process.</p> <p>Clear role of GRC members, also for mentoring.</p> <p>Lack of knowledge on various student supports (recreation, health) requires info day at the beginning of each academic year.</p> <p>SBCS GS committee has PGR representatives to bring attention of any issues</p>	GRC, PGR, Graduate Studies.	<b>*In Progress</b>
8	<b>Personal Outlook</b>	<p>GRC meetings will discuss students satisfaction in the institution and address issues with support staff.</p> <p>PGR representatives in all school committees. Feedback</p>	GRC, School, Graduate Studies.	<b>*In Progress</b>

		<p>important to ensure satisfaction during PGR degrees.</p> <p>Work-life balance concept more embedded as part of the GRC process</p>		
9	<b>Development Opportunities</b>	<p>Personal Career Development Plan being included as part of GRC process.</p> <p>Increased Career Support and Professional Development available through Researcher Development Centre.</p> <p>Information about training within the Technology Transfer Office on entrepreneurship</p>	GRC, School, Graduate Studies.	<b>*In Progress</b>
10	<b>Motivations</b>	<p>Low motivation for improving career prospects. Research days should encourage participation of non-academic speakers to showcase careers outside academia.</p> <p>Engage with UG students early to ensure clear motivations to undertake PGR degrees.</p>	Academic staff, R&D committee, Section Vice-heads	<b>*Not started</b>
11	<b>Career</b>	Career Support and Professional Development Seminar Series and Researcher Development Centre.	Vice-Dean CoSE,	<b>*In Progress</b>

**\*Not Started**

**\*In Progress**

**\*Complete**

**\* Many of the above actions will be addressed at annual GRC meetings, as a result it is planned that the GRC form completed by students will be revised to reflect these additional actions.**

**The above actions are tentative and will require the approval of the new CoSE Vice-Dean for Graduate Studies**