

# **Lecturer in Business Information Systems**

Permanent full-time post

**Contract Type A** 

Ref #: 011039









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| College                   | Business, Public Policy and Law             |
|---------------------------|---|
| School                    | J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics |
| Post Title & Subject Area | Lecturer in Business Information Systems    |
| Post Duration             | Permanent full-time                         |
| Level                     | Lecturer Type A                             |
| Reports to                | Head of School                              |

At University of Galway, a Type A post equates to 60% teaching, 20% contribution and scholarly Activity and 20% research.

As this post has a teaching priority focus, the successful candidate will exhibit significant teaching experience at third level.

## JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited for a permanent full-time Lectureship (Type A) in Business Information Systems at University of Galway, Ireland. The appointment will be situated at the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics, within the School's Business Information Systems (BIS) discipline. Type A posts have a teaching focus, with duties spanning *teaching:research:contribution* in the ratio 60:20:20. As such, the successful candidate will exhibit significant teaching experience at third level. We are seeking a talented individual with expertise and teaching experience across a range of areas of Business Information Systems, with particular technical expertise and experience in two or more of the following: Business Analytics, Databases, Applied Cybersecurity, Business Deployment of Artificial Intelligence, Business Application of Data Science.

University of Galway has been inspiring minds since 1845 as a research-led university. University of Galway one of the oldest and largest universities in Ireland. The University of Galway community comprises 19,700 students, 18% of whom are international students from over 122 countries. The University employs over 2,500 staff, 27% of which are international staff. With over 135,000 alumni and research collaborations with over 5,000 institutes in 178 countries globally, our international reach and impact are significant and growing.

University of Galway is counted among the Top 275 universities in the world according to the most prestigious rankings (QS), positioned in the Top 2% globally. University of Galway is ranked #1 in Ireland and Top 50 in the world in the 2024 THE IMPACT Rankings and was awarded Sunday Times University of the Year in 2022.

University of Galway is an international university with global ambition, but with deep roots in the region and nationally. Its location on the very edge of Europe gives University of Galway a unique perspective. University of Galway is at the heart of a distinct and vibrant region, renowned for its unique culture, creative industries, medical technologies, marine ecology and economy, and innovation.

University of Galway is committed to creating an inclusive environment where diversity is celebrated, and everyone is afforded equality of opportunity. To that end the university adheres to a range of equality, diversity and inclusion policies. We encourage applicants to consult those policies here. We welcome applications from everyone, including those who identify with any of the protected characteristics that are set out in our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy.

J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics is one of three Schools within the College of Business, Public Policy and Law at University of Galway. The School has over 2,700 students, over 140 faculty, research and professional services staff, and over 30 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The School is AACSB, AMBA and EFMD programme accredited, is a member of PRME and holds an Athena Swan Silver award for equality.

J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics is for the public good. Energised by its regional edge on the west coast of Ireland, it is a globally-engaged School of Business and Economics for the public good that makes a transformative impact for students, society and business.

The School's Strategic Plan 2021-2025 is centred around four key strategic priority areas of research and impact, teaching and learning, external engagement and internationalisation. J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics champions core values of respect, excellence, openness and sustainability. Its vision is to make a global impact for the public good by addressing grand challenges through its

teaching, research and influence on public policy. The School is committed to delivering value to all its stakeholders and especially to students, external business, industry and policy partners, its community and society.

The School's BIS discipline is recognised nationally and internationally for excellence in research and teaching through scholarly contribution to academia, industry and contributing to the wider society. The discipline consistently ranks in the top QS-ranked 150 universities in the world in Information Systems. Discipline staff have published in journals such as Information Systems Research, Journal of the Association of Information Systems, Information Systems Journal, European Journal of Information Systems, and Journal of Information Technology. In addition to a vibrant PhD student cohort, anchored in the BIS discipline are the successful BSc BIS undergraduate programme, and 3 postgraduate taught programmes: MSc IS Management, MSc Business Analytics, and the MSc Cybersecurity Risk Management.

For informal enquiries, please contact Prof Tom Acton, Head of Discipline of BIS, by email at <a href="mailto:thomas.acton@universityofgalway.ie">thomas.acton@universityofgalway.ie</a>

Additional information on the School is available at: <a href="https://www.universityofgalway.ie/business-public-policy-law/cairnes/">https://www.universityofgalway.ie/business-public-policy-law/cairnes/</a>

Salary: € 63,624 to € 101,498 p.a. This appointment will be made on the Lecturer scale in line with current Government pay policy and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the University's Remuneration policy. QA321-Updated-PP-Remuneration.pdf (universityofgalway.ie)

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on the 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2025. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.

Garda vetting may apply.

Appointments will be conditional on work authorisation validation. Further details are available at www.dbei.ie

For more information and Application Form please see website: Jobs - University of Galway Applications should be submitted online.

## Applications should be submitted online.

Please note that appointment to posts advertised will be dependent upon University approval, together with the terms of the Employment Control Framework for the higher education sector.

University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.

## JOB DESCRIPTION

#### **About the Position**

Applications are invited for a permanent full-time Lectureship (Type A) in Business Information Systems at University of Galway, Ireland. The appointment will be situated at the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics, within the School's Business Information Systems (BIS) discipline. Type A posts have a teaching focus, with duties spanning *teaching: research: contribution* in the ratio 60:20:20. As such, the successful candidate will exhibit significant teaching experience at third level. We are seeking a talented individual with expertise and teaching experience across a range of areas of Business Information Systems, with particular technical expertise and experience in two or more of the following: Business Analytics, Databases, Applied Cybersecurity, Business Deployment of Artificial Intelligence, Business Application of Data Science. The position is permanent subject to satisfactory probation.

#### **Principal Duties and Responsibilities**

The post-holder duties include, but are not limited to:

#### **Teaching**

To give instruction and supervision, as directed by the Head of School, to students of the University in courses and programmes organised by the School or to which the School contributes to another School or College. Such duties to include curriculum and course design, preparation and delivery of lectures, tutorials, project supervision and general examination and other assessment responsibilities. The post-holder is also required to be available to students for academic counselling and advice. In some disciplines, academic activities may also include laboratory, workshop or clinical instruction, supervision of fieldwork, site visits and other off-campus activities.

#### Research

To engage in research and other creative and innovative activity as appropriate to the discipline. The post-holder is required to disseminate their research in academic publications, other outlets as appropriate and to participate in postgraduate supervision. The post-holder is encouraged to engage in initiatives to seek research funding, as appropriate. The post-holder is also encouraged to promote and engage in the development of collaborative research.

#### **Contribution and Scholarly Activity**

To participate in academic administration at School, College and University levels as part of their contribution to the University. To engage with the wider community regionally, nationally and internationally from a civic, economic, social and cultural perspective as a contribution to the life of the University. In representing the University externally, the post-holder is expected to maintain the highest professional standards, thereby enhancing the reputation of the University. The post-holder is expected to engage in scholarly activity such as, but not limited to, refereeing of journals, membership of discipline related advisory bodies and peer review panels and work associated with external examinership.

The post-holder shall carry out these duties under the direction of the Head of the School or of an authorised senior member of the staff of the School.

The post-holder shall be a member of College/Colleges in accordance with University Statutes.

# **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

# **Person Specification**

Applications will be judged solely against the eligibility requirements below. In their application, applicants should <u>include a document that lists each of the essential eligibility requirements below in turn and provides clear evidence of how they meet each one.</u>

Relevant essential requirements are assessed to shortlist applicants for interview. These and desirable requirements may be further explored at interview stage.

Successful applicant(s) will demonstrate the eligibility requirements below:

# **Essential Requirements:**

- A PhD degree, or equivalent, in Business Information Systems or related discipline.
- An extensive track record of effective teaching across a range of learner groups at third level, related to two or more of the following: Business Analytics, Databases, Applied Cybersecurity, Business Deployment of Artificial Intelligence, Business Application of Data Science.
- A track record in the design of new taught courses at third level.
- Experience of teaching delivery via different means: classroom, online, blended learning.
- Service contributions at third level or equivalent, commensurate with the grade of appointment.
- Research activity commensurate with the position.
- Collegiality, fit with the job description and with the BIS discipline, and excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

#### **Desirable Requirements:**

- A research plan related to the School's research foci, the BIS discipline, and the job description.
- Experience of supervision of student projects and/or dissertations.
- Established relevant networks in academia and/or professional circles at regional and international levels.
- An awareness and appreciation of international best practices in Business Information Systems student education as it pertains to the job description.
- A formal qualification in Teaching & Learning.

The appointments will be made to the J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics and will be associated with the Discipline of Business Information Systems.

# Competency Framework for Lecturer (Contract Type A) Roles at University of Galway

|      | Academic Excellence   |                     | Leadership Excellence   |                     | Organisational Excellence   |
|------|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| CORE | • Excellence in Teaching  The Lecturer (Contract Type A) develops and delivers quality modules and courses which engage and inspire students at all levels towards deriving optimal benefit from their programmes of study. He/she is confident in using a range of teaching techniques, maintains currency with pedagogical developments and innovations in teaching in their discipline and is focused on continually developing her/his own teaching skills. | CORE                | • Personal Effectiveness  The Lecturer (Contract Type A) is committed to her/his discipline and to making a high quality contribution through employing excellent planning, organising, communication and decision making skills to achieve their goals and in exercising flexibility in order to meet the multiple and changing requirements of the Lecturer (Contract Type A) role. | CAPACITY TO DEVELOP | • Strategy & Vision  The Lecturer (Contract Type A) should contribute to the strategic development of the discipline through an awareness of the wider educational environment, maintaining currency with developments in the discipline and how the School/Discipline can develop in the long term to optimise its contribution to the University's programmes. He/She must have the ability to develop proposals for the development of new modules and courses and engage in interdisciplinary initiatives towards the development of the School/Discipline. |
| CORE | Excellence in     Associated Research  The Lecturer (Contract Type A) keeps up to date with research developments in her/his field and incorporates same into teaching as appropriate. He/she engages in the scholarship of teaching.   | CAPACITY TO DEVELOP | • Leading Others  The Lecturer (Contract Type A) must work well with others, providing leadership and direction to students and colleagues in relation to projects or areas of work that they are leading on. In such instances they effectively encourage, support and manage the contributions of others to deliver a project/programme of work to a high level.                    | DEVELOPING          | Collegiate & Community Contribution  The Lecturer (Contract Type A) values and engages in a collegiate approach to working with others, within their own discipline, School, College and University and also within the wider external community. He/She actively seeks to build effective networks and is willing to contribute their time and expertise to University projects.   |

# Competencies for Lecturer (Contract Type A) Roles at University of Galway

#### **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

#### **Competency 1: Excellence in Teaching**

The Lecturer (Contract Type A) develops and delivers quality modules and courses which engage and inspire students at all levels towards deriving optimal benefit from their programmes of study. He/she is confident in using a range of teaching techniques, maintains currency with pedagogical developments and innovations in teaching in their discipline and is focused on continually developing her/his own teaching skills.

- Provides a high standard of teaching to students across a range of programmes in their discipline
- Provides mentoring and supervision to undergraduate and post graduate students / projects
   / programmes as required
- Leads on/contributes to the development and review of the curriculum and programmes delivered and encourages other staff to contribute
- Works to keep programmes 'fresh' and maintains currency of programmes informed by research
- Confident teaching student groups of various sizes and at different levels
- Competent and consistent in setting and organising/co-coordinating the marking of examinations
- Demonstrates, through their teaching, strong enthusiasm for their subject area and a high level of up to date knowledge and expertise in their area
- Competent in a range of teaching methods and strategies and is willing to continually
  evaluate and develop their teaching methods and skills, looking for better ways of teaching
- Open to using technological innovation as part of their teaching and keeps up-to-date with developments in this area
- Organises and structures their teaching logically to help maximise learning and ensure a good student experience
- Demonstrates a commitment to students and gives the time and effort to engage with, and be accessible to students
- Has the ability to give constructive and timely feedback and advice to students
- Balances a concern for students with a focus on being consistent and equitable in their treatment
- Benchmarks against those relevant programmes in other universities and aims to ensure that University of Galway programmes are of a high standard
- Works with students to promote ideas of academic integrity, including the avoidance of plagiarism
- Embraces new modes of teaching and learning

#### **Competency 2: Excellence in Associated Research**

The Lecturer (Contract Type A) keeps up to date with research developments in her/his field and incorporates same into teaching as appropriate.

- Keeps up to date and maintains currency with associated research that furthers the School / Discipline
- Contributes to and supports the research priorities and activities at School / Discipline level
- Builds up collaborative links and networks with external organisations and keeps up to date with research and what is happening in the relevant international research area
- Attends relevant conferences, and works with industry and other relevant external bodies to keep knowledge relevant
- Provides supervision and guidance in relation to the research of students, motivating and encouraging them to help them overcome problems
- Engages/seeks opportunities in the scholarship of teaching and learning

#### **LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE**

#### **Competency 3: Personal Effectiveness**

The Lecturer (Contract Type A) is committed to her/his discipline and to making a high-quality contribution through employing excellent planning, organising, communication and decision-making skills to achieve their goals. He/She will exercise flexibility to meet the multiple and changing requirements of the Lecturer (Contract Type A) role.

- Demonstrates excellent planning, organisational and prioritisation skills, to effectively meet deadlines and to deliver to high standards across the areas of teaching, associated research and administration
- Has good time management skills to manage workload
- Has a reflective approach to their own work and can consistently review it to ensure it is of a high standard
- Flexible and adaptable in managing competing demands while protecting core values
- Shows a strong commitment to keeping up to date and maintaining professional competence
- Is resilient and maintains a positive outlook in challenging and pressured circumstances
- Takes a balanced approach to the demands of the role and is flexible with what the role encompasses
- Understands the importance of programme innovation, related budget management and raising programme funds

#### **Competency 4: Leading Others**

The Lecturer (Contract Type A) must work well with others, providing leadership and direction to students and colleagues in relation to projects or areas of work that they are leading on. In such instances they effectively encourage, support and manage the contributions of others to deliver project/programme of work to a high level.

- Works constructively within a collective collegiate structure
- Consistently works with others to ensure high standards in all aspects of the role
- Is able to get the most of out of people and to secure their support and cooperation in relation to work they are leading/managing
- Gives clear instructions in relation to the contribution expected from others
- Has the ability to manage and encourage others to deliver what is required
- Actively supports the career development of students and newer colleagues
- Organises and delegates work in a way which is consistent and fair and makes best use of resources
- Understands the importance of, and can use a range of strategies to, motivate students and colleagues
- Takes the initiative to put good ideas into practice

#### **ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

#### **Competency 5: Collegiate and Community Involvement**

The Lecturer (Contract Type A) values and engages in a collegiate approach to working with others, within their own discipline, School, College and University and within the wider external community. He/She actively seeks to build effective networks and is willing to contribute their time and expertise to University projects.

- Actively builds strong internal and external networks and collaborative links
- Takes time to build up positive working relationships with others and treats everyone fairly and with respect
- Assumes administrative/organisational roles and tasks to help ensure the smooth running of the School/Discipline
- Acts as chair on committees or acting as representative at school/college/university level and works to develop the skills needed to perform these roles effectively
- Makes an effort to understand and take account of different people's views and perspectives
- Encourages students to get involved in relevant external groups also, where appropriate
- Supports colleagues internally and cooperates with other universities in initiating collaborative programmes
- Possess the skills required to achieve a balance between internal requirements and external requirements
- Participate in relevant professional organisations/networks as appropriate

#### **Competency 6: Strategy and Vision**

The Lecturer (Contract Type A) should contribute to the strategic development of the discipline through an awareness of the wider educational environment, maintaining currency with developments in the discipline and how the School/Discipline can develop in the long term to optimise its contribution to the University's programmes. He/She must have the ability to develop proposals for the development of new modules and courses and engage in interdisciplinary initiatives towards the development of the School/Discipline.

- Has a clear overall vision for what the School/Discipline is trying to achieve and how their work fits in with the overall direction
- Understands how the discipline is developing and brings this to bear on their work
- Undertakes relevant benchmarking against other organisations and avails of opportunities to increase understanding of best practice
- Identifies opportunities for new modules and programmes by assessing what will be viable and of interest in the long term
- Creates, and takes advantage of, opportunities to market programmes to attract high quality students
- Able to negotiate whilst recognising the realities and the resource restrictions and is willing to change and adapt to meet future needs

#### Ollscoil na Gaillimhe

#### University of Galway

#### **PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY**

#### The University at a Glance:



#### **The University Management Team**

The University Management Team (UMT) is responsible for the executive day-to-day management of the University. UMT is led by the President who is the Head and Chief Officer of the University. Our current Interim University President, Professor Peter McHugh, was appointed in 2024. You can read more about him at: www.universityofgalway.ie/president

Acting under the President, the members of the University Management Team (UMT) each have specific leadership responsibilities for delivery of the University's objectives in education, research and management of the organisation. You can see the full UMT membership in the organisational chart above.

Find out more about the University's Governance and Management structures at: <a href="https://www.universityofgalway.ie/governance/the-kube-the-governance-hub">www.universityofgalway.ie/governance/the-kube-the-governance-hub</a> hubhttp://www.universityofgalway.ie/governance/the-kube-the-governance-hub

#### **Colleges and Schools**

The University has four Colleges:

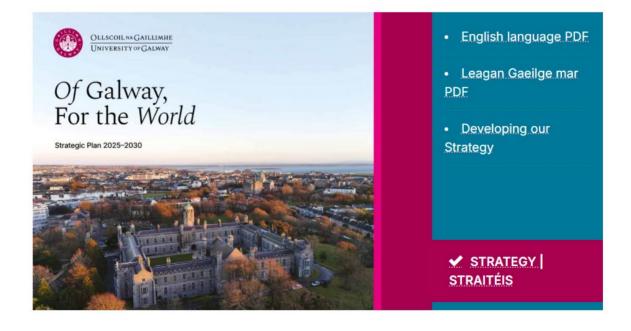
- College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies
- College of Business, Public Policy & Law
- College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences
- College of Science & Engineering

Each of the Colleges is led by an Executive Dean. Within each College, decisions are taken by College Boards, chaired by the Executive Dean, and including the Heads of each School in the College.

For more information on Colleges, Schools and Disciplines, visit:

www.universityofgalway.ie/colleges-and-schools

| College                            | Schools  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| College of Arts, Social Sciences & | School of Political Science & Sociology          |
| Celtic Studies                     | School of Psychology                             |
|                                    | School of Education                              |
|                                    | School of Geography, Archaeology & Irish Studies |
|                                    | School of English & Creative Arts                |
|                                    | School of History & Philosophy                   |
|                                    | School of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures     |
| College of Business, Public Policy | J.E. Cairnes School of Business & Economics      |
| & Law                              | School of Law                                    |
|                                    | Shannon College of Hotel Management              |
| College of Medicine, Nursing &     | School of Health Sciences                        |
| Health Sciences                    | School of Medicine                               |
|                                    | School of Nursing & Midwifery                    |
| College of Science & Engineering   | School of Biological & Chemical Sciences         |
|                                    | School of Computer Science                       |
|                                    | School of Engineering                            |
|                                    | School of Mathematical & Statistical Sciences    |
|                                    | School of Natural Sciences                       |



• **Strategic Plan:** You can read the strategic plan at: <u>Strategy | Straitéis 2025-30 - University</u> of Galway

Our new strategic plan was developed through 18 months of consultation with our university community, with external partners in our city and region, and with the input of experts and supporters from around the world. Despite the diversity of inputs, the message was consistent:

- Be clear in our purpose and our core activities
- Communicate our distinctiveness
- Demonstrate our global impact
- Invest in our organisation to make it an effective university to work in and work with.

Our new strategy focuses on our core mission as a university to nurture talent and generate knowledge for the world. It articulates our ambition to make a distinctive impact through our research and innovation. It demonstrates our drive to enhance our education for the future, both in the excellence of our teaching and learning and the quality of our student experience. And it commits us to investing in our organisation and infrastructure to make it a more effective, sustainable and empowering place for our people.

We have stated these ambitions clearly and concisely. We now warmly welcome the engagement of our university community,

and we invite the community to respond in inspiring and impactful ways. And we invite and encourage partners who share our vision to reach out and join us on our journey.

Building upon our strategic priorities, we have used this opportunity to engage staff, students and partners to define what makes us stand out, in terms of:

- Our Distinctive Place
- Our Research Pillars
- Our Galway Graduates

These have been informed by our shared experience of working and studying in University of Galway, and by external perspectives of our reputation. We will use this framework to guide us in our strategic planning and to communicate our distinctiveness with the world.

To give confidence to our community and partners that we listened to your feedback, we have also detailed where we plan to invest in our organisation in our Priority Initiatives and where we will evidence the impact of our actions in our Measures of Success.

In such a large and complex organisation, we have identified those Key Enablers that support excellence across our activities. Guiding us in our actions, and setting standards of behaviour for our university, our people and partners, we have articulated five Core Values informed by student and staff feedback: Excellence, Respect, Openness, Sustainability, and Belonging.

#### **Student Body**

The total student body, including part-time learners, comprises over 20,000 students, over 25% of whom are studying at postgraduate level.

Over 18% of our students were from outside the island of Ireland, coming to study in Galway from over 122 different countries worldwide. Through the Global Galway project, we are seeking to grow our international diversity further through a greater focus on international recruitment, mobility and partnerships.

#### Research

University of Galway is a globally focused research-intensive university. We recognise that research areas are neither standalone nor static. The problems of the world are not solved from just one perspective. With our knowledge of global challenges, national policy and regional needs our research areas enable an interdisciplinarity approach and impact.

Our research community achieved over €110m in EU research funding during the 2014-2020 programme period. We are now firmly focused on the 2021-2027 programme cycle, with ambitions to achieve in excess of €150m of EU research funding, including Horizon Europe. In 2023, the University had a record €82m annual spend in research, across a breadth of research areas. Engaging with our partners locally, nationally and worldwide, our current university strategy (Strategic Plan 2020-2025) invites ambition in research that underpins the following areas:

- Enhancing policy and society
- Enriching creativity and culture
- Improving health and wellbeing
- · Realising potential through data and enabling technologies
- Sustaining our planet and people

These areas are aligned to the work of our Research Institutes, including:

- Data Science Institute
- Ryan Institute for advancing sustainability and innovation
- Institute for Lifecourse and Society
- Institute for Creativity
- Institute for Clinical Trials
- Institute for Health Discovery and Innovation (launched in October 2024).

For more information on our research institutes, centres and units, visit:

www.universityofgalway.ie/our-research/listings/research-centres-institutes-and-units.html

#### Staff

The University employs approximately 2,500 staff, including full-time and part-time, which includes approximately 1,000 academic staff.

Human Resource issues are managed within the Human Resources Office, under the direction of the Director of Human Resources. In 2023, a new Hybrid Working Policy was launched to facilitate more flexible working arrangements in a post-Covid environment.

#### **Finances**

The University is its own financial authority and has an annual income of over €350m, including contract research income of over €70m. The sources of income are Student Fees (approx. 40%), State Grants and Pension funding (approx. 30%), Research Income (20%) and Miscellaneous (10%).

#### The University and the Irish language

The University's commitment to the Irish language was first set out in the University College Galway Act 1929 and this was reiterated in the University College Galway (Amendment) Act 2006, which states that one of the principle aims of the university is "the provision of education ... through the medium of the Irish language".

The University's Strategy 2020-2025 goes even further and commits to developing and implementing an ambitious and future-focused strategy for the Irish language, in partnership with national stakeholders and Gaeltacht communities, based on our values of respect and sustainability. In 2021, the University published its first Irish Language Strategy and appointed its first Irish Language Officer.

Irish language programmes are delivered primarily through the Discipline of Irish and through Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, our Irish language academy, which has three centres located in the Gaeltacht.



#### **Our Region**

Our regional footprint includes five Medical Academies, three Gaeltacht centres, off-campus research sites in Connemara and the Burren, and a satellite campus in Shannon College, Co. Clare.

#### **Our Campus**

The main University Campus, with an area of some 105 hectares in the heart of the city of

Galway, is attractively situated on the west bank of the River Corrib, and stretches from Nuns' Island in the south to the Sports Grounds in Dangan to the north. Other teaching and research facilities are located outside the city in An Cheathrú Rua, Carna and Mace Head in Connemara, in Shannon, Carron and Finnevara in Co. Clare, and in Gaoth Dobhair in Co. Donegal. The University's medical students and researchers benefit from on-the-ground Medical Academies located in hospitals throughout the region from Portiuncula University Hospital in Co. Galway to Letterkenny University Hospital in Co. Donegal.

**Building for the Future:** The University is in the process of finalising its masterplan for the years ahead, which will include the Nuns' Island creative and innovation district in Galway city centre. Recent years have seen some significant additions to campus, including:

- Clinical Simulation Facility: completed in 2022
- Dunlin Village on-campus student accommodation (674 beds): completed in 2022

The following construction projects have been commenced or approved in recent years:

- Learning Commons (new Library): construction commenced in 2024
- Water Sports Centre: planning permission approved in 2023
- New Law School: design for planning in progress
- New Pharmacy School: funded to planning stage
- New Medical School: funded to planning stage

#### Sustainability

Sustainability is one of the University's core values and we are recognised as a leader in the transition to a sustainable future. We are committed to the SDGs at an institutional level on multiple levels:

- As a signatory to the SDG Accord, we have committed 'to align all major efforts with the SDG targets and indicators, including through our education, research, leadership, operational and engagement activities' and to 'share our learning'.
- Our Climate Action and Sustainability Policy formalises our commitment 'to lead the transition to a sustainable future by embedding the SDGs into all our major efforts'.
- Our Sustainability Strategy 2021-2025, which is mapped to the SDGs, sets out our vision across the campus and beyond.

In the past three years we have been ranked First in Ireland and Top 50 worldwide in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for our progress on the SDGs. In 2023, we established a new Sustainability Office to lead the implementation of our Sustainability Strategy and to embed sustainability across our curriculum and operations.

Through the work of the University's Sustainability Office, the Community and University Sustainability Partnership, colleagues in Buildings and Estates and other university operations, and our Student Societies, we have advanced understanding and action on the urgent need for sustainability, using a Learn – Live – Lead model. Since 2006, we have achieved over 50% reduction in energy usage, exceeding our targets. In 2021, we established our carbon footprint, and we are actively working towards achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.