# UCC GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES PROGRAMME

#BeginBelongBecome

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University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK

# Overview

UCC's unique Graduate Attributes Programme is a highly transformative, student-centric suite of initiatives which will help students to successfully navigate their transition in to, through and out of UCC, enabling them to **begin**, **belong** and **become** the person they want to be! This programme will prepare students to **live**, **learn** and **lead** in a shared, co-created future and will enable them to take an active role in advancing the just and sustainable evolution of our communities, our society and our local and global economies. It will empower students to create more value than they consume and will facilitate their acquisition of key graduate attributes and five values through **curricular**, **co-curricular** and **extra-curricular** channels.

Research Based Teaching

Civic & Community Engagement

Employability

Connected Curriculum

Global Reach

Sustainability

Inter-and transdisciplinary

## UCC's Connected Curriculum framework

A successful application to support our Graduate Attributes Programme was made to the HEA Innovation and Transformation Programme 2018, and continuity funding from the Tomar Trust in April 2020 will widely develop this programme.

TRANSITION IN

TRANSITION THROUGH

TRANSITION OUT

**#BeginBelongBecome**

# GRADUATE
## ATTRIBUTES

UCC **core values** and **graduate attributes** are the bedrock of our student experience. Graduate attributes refer to the skills, knowledge and abilities of our graduates beyond disciplinary knowledge, that are applicable in a range of contexts in their lives.

## ATTRIBUTES

Creators, evaluators and communicators of knowledge

Independent and creative thinkers

Digitally fluent

Socially responsible

Effective, global citizens who recognise and challenge inequality

UCC graduates will be recognised for their distinct **core values** and **graduate attributes.** As well-rounded, curious, self-aware individuals, they will be known for their appetite to continually learn new skills, embrace new ideas and make things happen.

# GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES

# VALUES

**RESPECT:**
For self, others and the environment

**AMBITION:**
Aims high, displays exemplary work ethic and strives to succeed

**COMPASSION:**
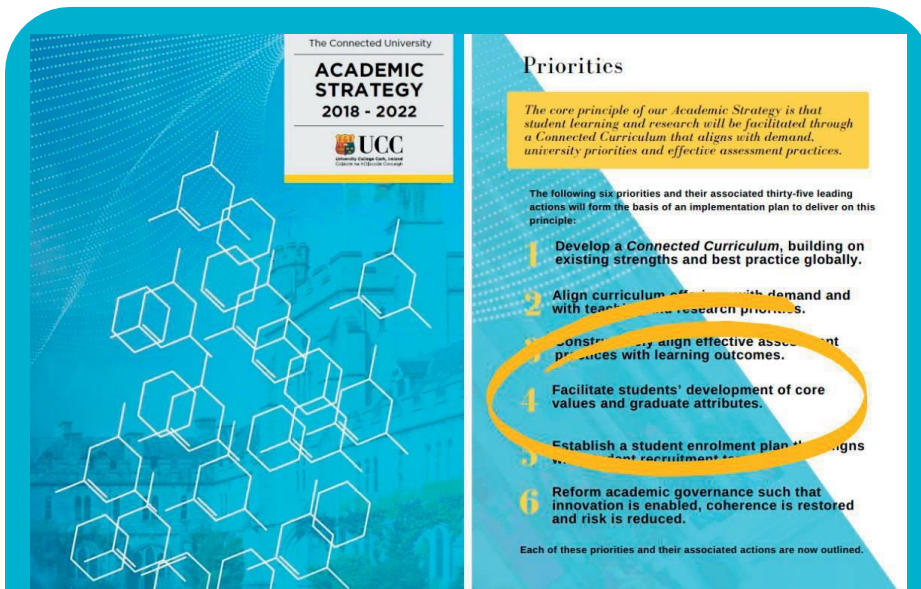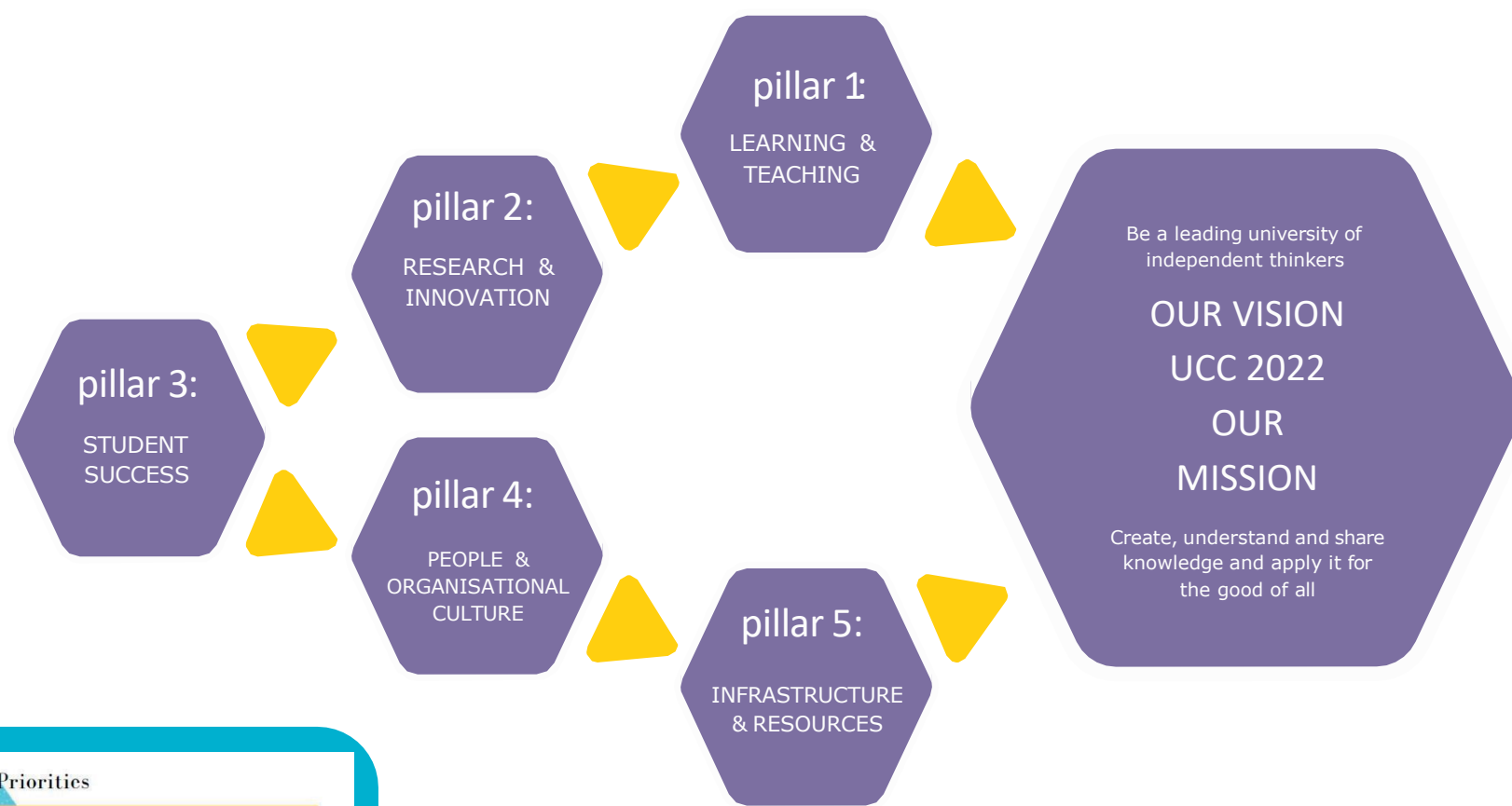Empathetic, demonstrates care for self and others

**RESILIENCE:**
Perseveres, shows capacity for problem-solving and personal well-being

**INTEGRITY:**
Trustworthy, ethical and dependable

In 2020, in response to the challenges that emerged from the Covid-19 crisis, UCC took the opportunity to revise our strategic plan 2017-2022 and delivered a strategic pivot, UCC 2022. The Graduate Attributes Programme is a key component of the first, second and third pillars and it is the subject of a distinct action in Pillar 3 - Student Success.

**pillar 1:**
LEARNING & TEACHING

**pillar 2:**
RESEARCH & INNOVATION

**pillar 3:**
STUDENT SUCCESS

**pillar 4:**
PEOPLE & ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE

**pillar 5:**
INFRASTRUCTURE & RESOURCES

Be a leading university of independent thinkers

OUR VISION
UCC 2022
OUR MISSION

Create, understand and share knowledge and apply it for the good of all



The Connected University
ACADEMIC STRATEGY 2018 - 2022
UCC
University College Cork, Ireland

**Priorities**

The core principle of our Academic Strategy is that student learning and research will be facilitated through a Connected Curriculum that aligns with demand, university priorities and effective assessment practices.

The following six priorities and their associated thirty-five leading actions will form the basis of an implementation plan to deliver on this principle:

1 Develop a *Connected Curriculum*, building on existing strengths and best practice globally.

2 Align curriculum offerings with demand and with teaching and research priorities.

3 Constructively align effective assessment practices with learning outcomes.

4 Facilitate students' development of core values and graduate attributes.

5 Establish a student enrolment plan that aligns with student recruitment targets.

6 Reform academic governance such that innovation is enabled, coherence is restored and risk is reduced.

Each of these priorities and their associated actions are now outlined.

Priority 4 of our Academic Strategy is to facilitate students' development of core values and graduate attributes.



The Academic Strategy 2018-2022 was launched by Deputy President and Registrar, Prof. John O'Halloran in December 2018

# TRANSITION IN

**NURTURING BRIGHT FUTURES**

*Nurturing Bright Futures* is a unique pre-entry transition in programme which has been developed by the Graduate Attributes Programme at University College Cork, in close consultation with internal and external stakeholder groups. This innovative **six module** course will provide a robust framework for students' self-reflection and self-directed learning in preparation for their transition into third level study. This online programme is relevant for all Senior Cycle students, and has been designed with all pre-entry student cohorts in mind including access students and both domestic and international students.

**NURTURING BRIGHT FUTURES**



MARCH 2021

The Nurturing Bright Futures programme was officially launched by Interim President, Prof. John O'Halloran

SCAN TO ACCESS NURTURING BRIGHT FUTURES

WE INTRODUCE NURTURING BRIGHT FUTURES TO PRE-ENTRY LEVEL STUDENTS ACROSS IRELAND. IN MARCH 2022 WE WELCOMED 215 TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS TO UCC AND HOSTED NURTURING BRIGHT FUTURES WORKSHOPS

SIX MODULES INCLUDING...

Module 1:
PICKING A COURSE THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU

Module 2:
DEGREE CHOICES & FUTURE CAREERS

WE HOST AN CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES' FOR GUIDANCE COUNSELLORS

'I really enjoyed participating in Nurturing Bright Futures. It helped clear up a lot of things about college, and as well as that, I found the career assessments to be very useful. One of the best parts of the course for me, was the discussion on living in college, and managing things like your own meals or laundry. I would 100% recommend it to anyone who is unsure about college, as it addresses all of my concerns'
**-Adam Hennessy, Secondary School Student**

# KEY OUTCOMES: TRANSITION IN

**TRANSITION IN**

**10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

NURTURING **BRIGHT FUTURES**

**MY YEAR PLANNER**

PERSONAL LIFE & FAMILY · WORK & STUDY · HOBBIES · HEALTH & FITNESS · MONEY · MY BUCKET LIST

#BeginBelongBecome #youGotThis

202_ TO 202_

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Our year planner help students assess the past year, and plan for the one ahead

**WELCOME TO UCC'S 360° VR CAMPUS EXPERIENCE**

THE QUADRANGLE

#BeginBelongBecome

We look forward to meeting you and to supporting you on your journey to begin, belong and become.

GAP are embedded in the Success Zone Canvas space. The resources here aim to provide students with information and learning materials that they will need while settling into and journeying through their time in college. Some 10,500 students engage with the Success Zone per week

| Welcome | Canvas & IT | Graduate Attributes | Skills Centre | Library | Exams | Bystander Intervention | Career Services |

### STEPS TO THRIVE IN UNIVERSITY
- Introduction to University life
- Working and studying from home
- Netiquette
- Settling into first year
- Building Relationships and Friendships
- Approaching Online Learning
- Minding your Health - Mental and Physical
- Setting goals to help you
- Developing a Growth Mindset

### MONEY MATTERS
- Managing money as you become a student
- How to prepare a budget

### SUCCESS IT'S IN YOUR NATURE
- What is Success: it's in your nature?
- UCC Arboretum
- Looped Walks
- Community Gardens
- The Glucksman Gallery
- Made2Move
- Nature Soundscapes
- Mindful Walking
- CUBA Project
- UCC Pollinator Plan
- Success, it's in your nature - Quiz

# KEY OUTCOMES: TRANSITION THROUGH



Developing a Growth Mindset Resources





**Global Citizenship and Development Education:**
GAP support this 5-credit module available to post first-year undergraduate and all postgraduate students undertaking programmes of study at UCC. We work in partnership with PRAXIS. The Praxis Project aims to integrate 'Development and Global Citizenship Education' (DGCE) into pedagogy, research and capacity building activities across University College Cork.
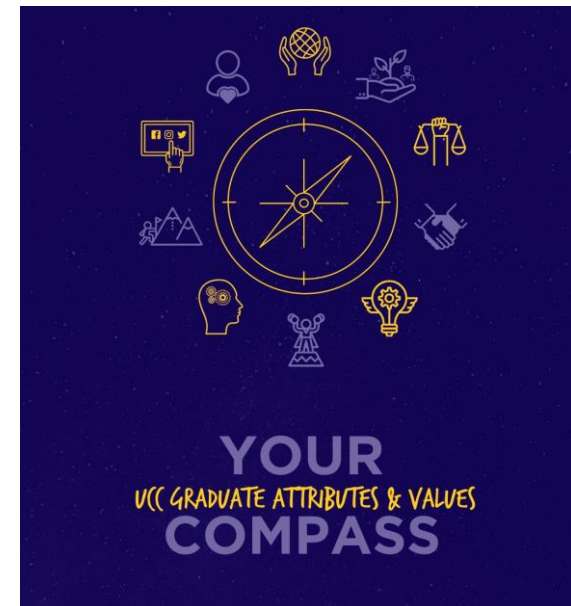
Together with the Student Experience Office, GAP has co-funded the second year of **SilverCloud**, the mental health platform which is freely accessible to all registered students to provide support with their mental health and wellbeing. This software is a key element of the recently launched *UCC Mental Health Strategy.*

This is the signature project of the Graduate Attributes Programme and is the focus of Action 17 of our Academic Strategy. The student self-assessment has been developed and colleagues in the School of Applied Psychology led the development and validation of the items to measure the ten graduate attributes and values.
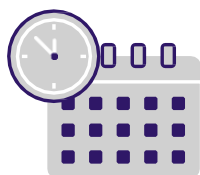
All registered UCC students (almost 23,000) will be invited to complete this self-assessment at annual registration and this will provide key data sets to inform and shape UCC's current and future strategy. A cohesive narrative and bespoke visual identity have been created for the GAP Compass (which integrates all five graduate attributes and five values.



PRESIDENT JOHN O'HALLORAN WILL LAUNCH COMPASS 20TH SEPTEMBER 2022
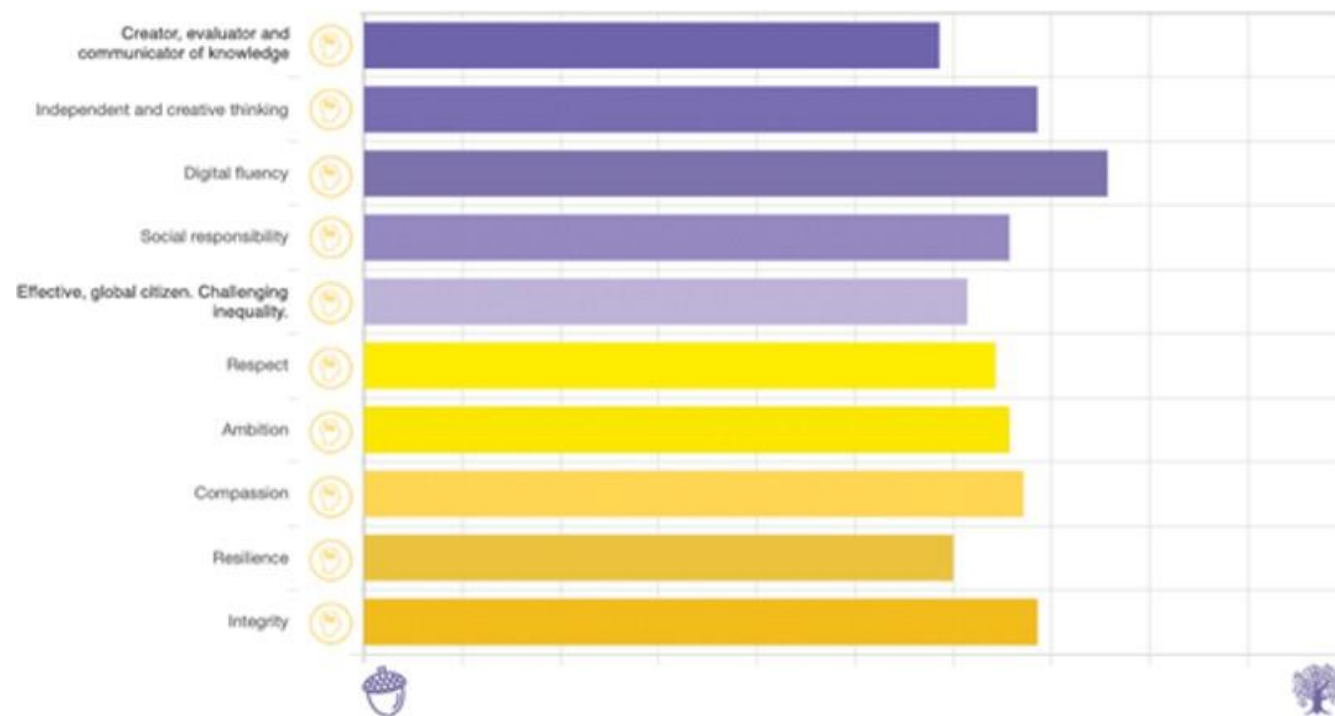


potential.ly

Your UCC values and attributes compass is hosted on the potential.Ly e-learning platform
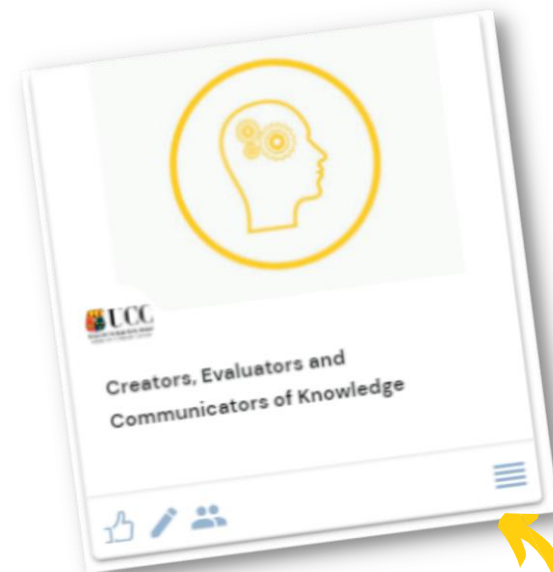


Content to support students in developing each value and attribute have been developed by experts in UCC

# KEY OUTCOMES: TRANSITION OUT


**TRANSITION OUT**


**8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**


Career Confidence & Wellbeing
#BeginBelongBecome


Ace the In-Person Interview
#BeginBelongBecome
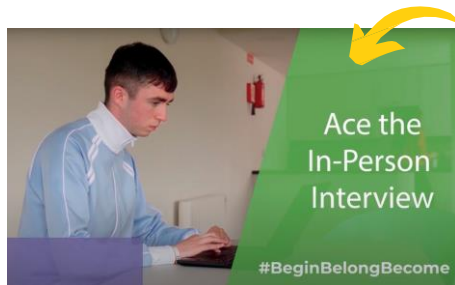
[A suite of 12 transition out videos supports students as](#) they begin their career journey. Developed in partnership with ucc career services and ucc academy


Career Coach
powered by **Linked**in

GAP partnered with UCC Career Services and IT Services to secure MS Career Coach licenses to support the shift to a Work Integrated Learning Model for students going on work placement.


UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK
EMPLOYAGILITY
Awards 2021

Internship pathway

research pathway

volunteering pathway

student life pathway

open pathway (combined participation)

To meet award criteria all participants must submit a reflective report focusing on the values and attributes they have developed. A new category of Higher Award, the **Global Citizen Award,** was introduced, to recognise the part students have to play in local and global communities, which includes sharing values and practices which contribute to equality, fairness, and sustainability.


GRADUATE
ATTRIBUTES
#UCCGradAttributes


CareerSet
**big**interview

With the support of GAP, UCC Career Services launched the CareerSet CV Review tool and the Big Interview AI Interview preparation [tool](#).

Vinyl's Displaying SDG's displayed in Student Hub with the Support of GAP

# CASE STUDIES

## Diandra Ní Bhuachalla | Effective Global Citizen

United Nations Youth Delegate Ireland | MSc International Public Policy & Diplomacy UCC



Since September 2021, Diandra has been serving as the **United Nations Youth Delegate** for Ireland. She represents Ireland's 1.3 million youth on a local, national, and global level. Along with representing the voices of Irish youth on issues of unemployment, discrimination, and education, she has had ample opportunity and agency to help youth worldwide. Most recently, she contributed to a joint-statement on behalf of current and former Youth Delegates from 20 countries on the aggression of the Russian Federation in Ukraine. Diandra enrolled in a University Wide module this semester to help with this, focusing on Global Citizenship Development Education. **Diandra wants to continue educating and representing youth on the SDGs, and how they can use their voice to promote justice, equity, and sustainabilit**y.
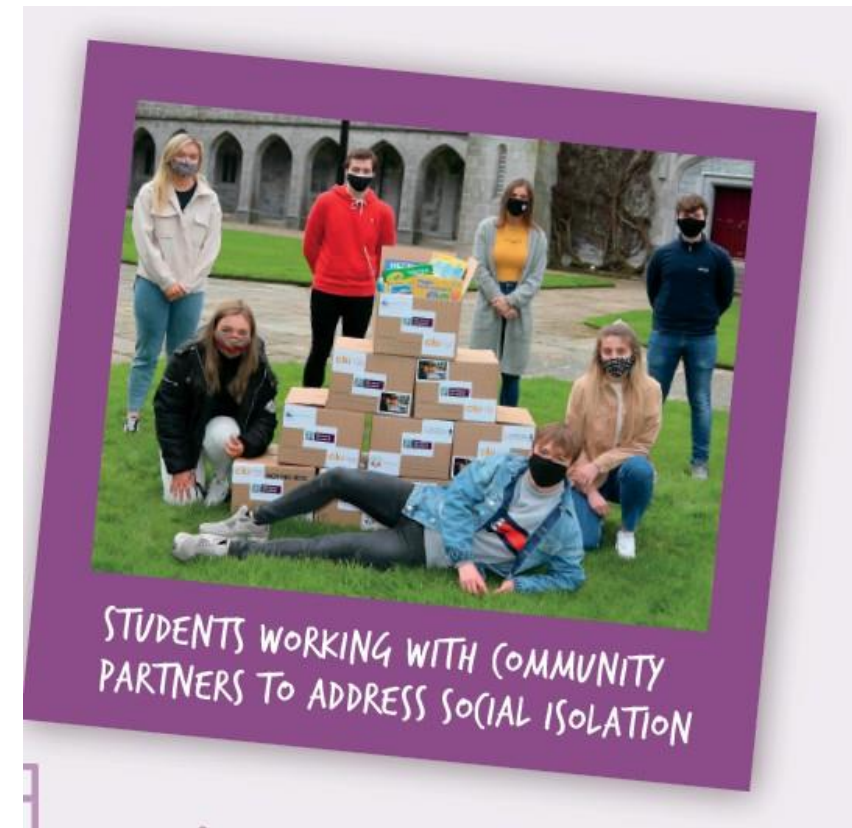
Throughout her time in UCC, Diandra has been Chairperson of UCC Europa Society, won the UCC EmployAgility Star Award, completed an internship with UCC Career Services and worked within her local community to challenge inequality with Hear My Voice Empowerment & Community Action 2022. In March 2022, Diandra won the UCC EmployAgility Global Citizen Award. Diandra will feature on an upcoming episode of the GAP Podcast to discuss how she became an Effective Global Citizen who recognises and challenges inequality.
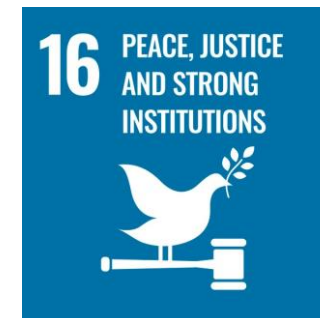
# Community Engaged Learning

The Graduate Attributes Programme and the Civic and Community Engagement office successfully submitted a joint application to the **National Forum's 2020 Network and Discipline Fund** to showcase how Community Engaged Learning (CEL) promotes the development and acquisition of graduate attributes and values, and builds awareness and fosters active 'hands-on' learning of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Working on 'real-life' projects with community partners enabled students to get a fully immersive experience of project development from start to finish, develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, and develop their values and attributes in a real world context.



STUDENTS WORKING WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO ADDRESS SOCIAL ISOLATION



UCC & Cork Migrant Centre: Community Enga...

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HEALTH & WELLBEING REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Watch on YouTube



Cork Printmakers

CampusEngage

Cork Migrant Centre

# GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES AND VALUES ACQUIRED THROUGH THIS PROJECT

**Creators, evaluators and communicators of knowledge**

**Compassion:** Empathetic, demonstrates care for self and others

**Effective, global citizens who recognise and challenge inequality**

**Independent and creative thinkers**

STUDENTS GAINING INSIGHT INTO A RANGE OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE AND WORLDVIEWS

BUILDING ESSENTIAL WORLD AND WORK-READY SKILLS

Purpose of Partnership: To exchange perspectives and skills between graduate students and migrant woman

# For more information

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