

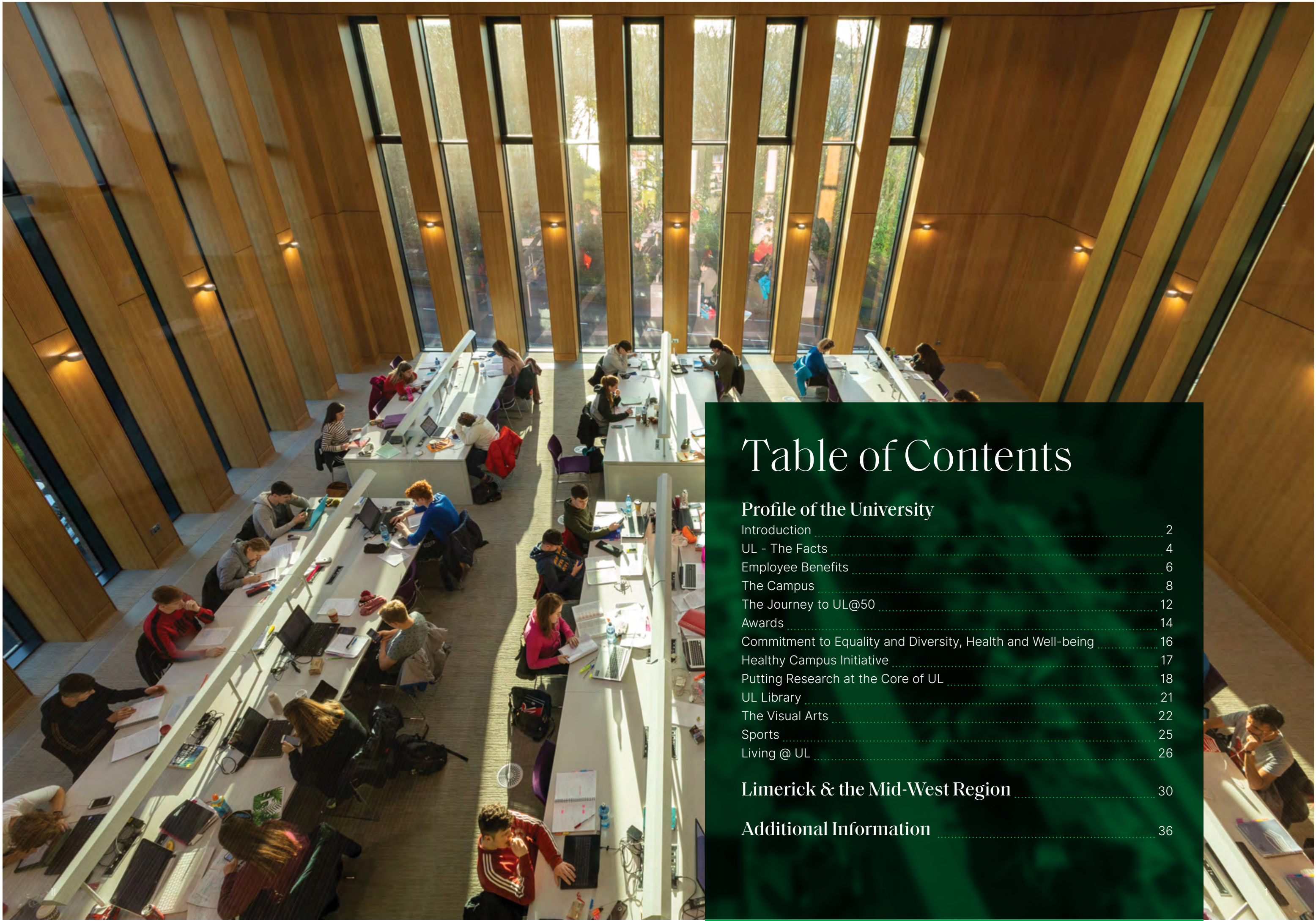
# Welcome

to the University of Limerick



UNIVERSITY OF  
**LIMERICK**  
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH





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# Introduction

Established as an educational institution in 1972 and conferred as University in 1989, University of Limerick is an independent, internationally and research focussed university with over 17,500 students. As one of Ireland's foremost universities, we are recognised for our dedication to the student experience, our commitment to graduate employability, our industry-relevant, award-winning research and extensive community engagement.

UL@50 also reaffirms our vision to create a destination of excellence in education, research and innovation that will attract the highest-calibre staff and the best students from all sections of society, both in Ireland and abroad, and ensure that Limerick and the Mid-West are recognised as great places to live and work.

Located 5km from Limerick City and 20km from Shannon International Airport, University of Limerick is renowned for possessing one of the most spectacular and environmentally sympathetic modern university campuses anywhere in the world.

Our staff adopt a disciplined and rigorous approach to programme design and continual curriculum development that is characterised by an ethos of research-led teaching and learning is a defining feature of the institution.

Since our foundation, the needs of the communities we serve have also been to the forefront of our activities and have shaped our research and teaching programmes. The realisation that we have a responsibility to promote economic, educational and social development unites us with the community and demands that we remain closely connected to the cultural, economic, professional and business worlds in ways that distinguish us as an institution of higher learning.

Employability has always been at the core of our teaching mission and continues to be a central tenet of our distinctive approach to higher education in Ireland. The inclusion of Cooperative Education and work placement as a compulsory element of all our undergraduate programmes is one of the specific strengths of UL; and is for many staff and students, an incentive to choose UL over other Irish universities and colleges.

The result of these sustained efforts means that we occupy a position of immense strength with respect to graduate employability compared to other institutions in Ireland.

We value, support and encourage research excellence among our staff with demonstrable academic and societal impact across all disciplines.

The research portfolio has expanded steadily in recent years, and our state-of-the-art research infrastructure has been enhanced through sustained investment and expansion, including funding for large-scale, UL-led national centres.

Along with our UL based research centres, the campus is a hub for supporting company spin-out activity in the region through the Nexus Innovation centre and is central to the UL Enterprise Corridor which hosts numerous indigenous and multinational R&D companies.

Adjacent to the University is the National Technology Park (NTP), Ireland's first science/ technology park (263 hectares), which is home to more than 100 indigenous and major multinational corporations employing more than 5,000 people.

Our stated mission within our current strategic plan, UL@50 is to

***"build on the expertise of our scholars in creating, harnessing and imparting knowledge for the benefit of our students and the enrichment of our community".***

*Come join the team here at University of Limerick.*



UL fosters curiosity, creativity and academic excellence in an inclusive community committed to social good.

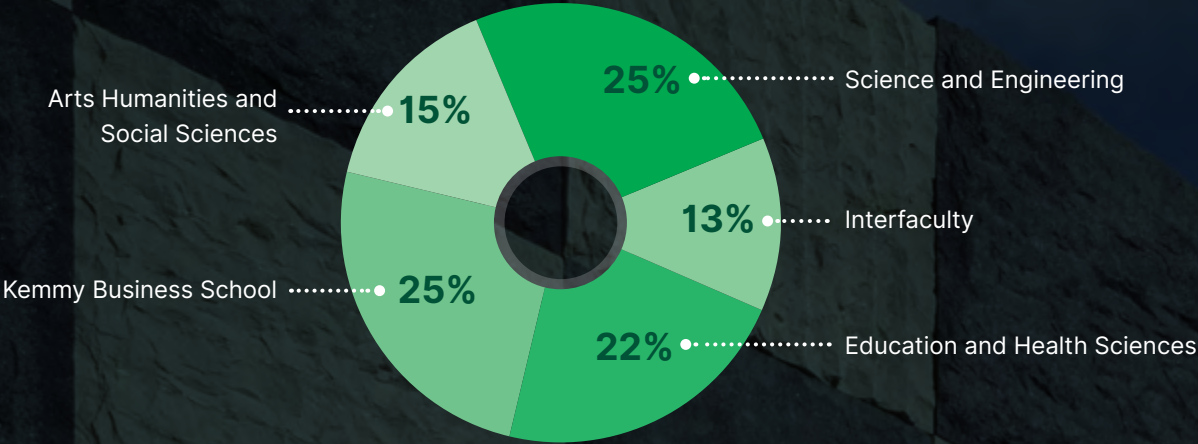
Our **Core Values** are:

- Creative & Innovative
- Inclusive & Diverse
- Ethical & Sustainable
- Supportive & Transformational
- Ambitious & Driven



# UL - The Facts

## Graduates by Faculty 2019/20



## International Student Academic Year 2021/22

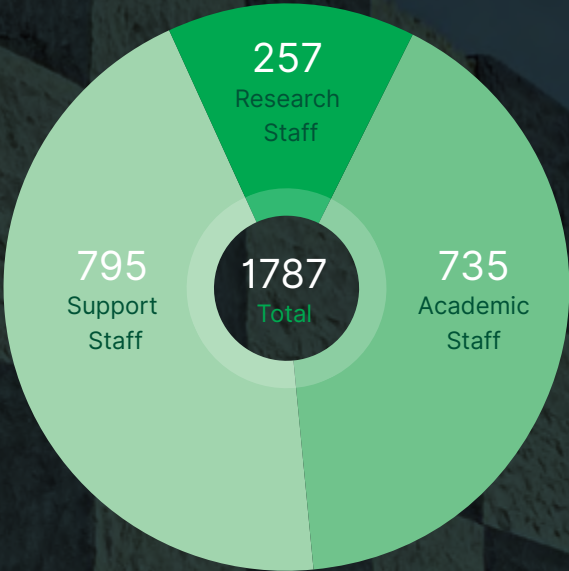
Undergraduate	765
Postgraduate	1087
Exchange	1,266

17% of student population

## Student Enrolment

	Full-time	Part-time	Distance	Total
Undergraduate	11,889	490	515	12,894
Taught Postgraduate Diplomas & Masters	1,884	1,219	483	3,586
Research Postgraduate Degrees (Masters/PhD)	866	83	-	949
Total				17,429

## Faculty & Staff AY 2020/21





**2015-20**  
**Student Numbers**  
20% increase



**↑ 190%**  
**International Students**  
From 2010 to 2017  
(HEA Stats)



**Medical School**  
The first to be established  
in Ireland since 1900



**€322m**  
**Research Funding**  
Since 2014



**2020**  
**Graduate Employment**  
97% employed or pursuing further study  
4% higher rate than national average



**Cooperative Education**  
2,200 students placed annually within a  
global network of 25+ countries across  
all five continents





# University of Limerick Employee Benefits

Just some of the benefits available to our employees in UL:

- + All statutory Leave types and Shorter Working Year
- + Learning and Development incentives, Mentoring Programme
- + Tuition Fees - Training Course Leave, further study, exam leave and conferring leave
- + Career Break, Special Research Leave and Sabbatical Leave
- + Research grant for return academic carers (returning academics)
- + Promotion/Progression for Academics
- + Pensions and Death in Service Payment including financial and pension advice
- + Library Access
- + Relocation Expenses where same are approved in advance
- + Wellness Initiatives/rewards, Healthcare Insurance that can also include family members at a discount, Eye Care
- + Bike to work initiatives
- + Discount to use UL Facilities- Gym, Pool, Concert Hall
- + Travel Pass - Through Tax saver (Bus Eireann, Iarnrod Eireann)
- + The option to join our Sports & Social Club

For further detail on all of the above please visit [A-Z Directory](#) | [University of Limerick \(ul.ie\)](#)





# The Campus

UL's campus area comprises 149 hectares (366 acres), which includes 47 hectares (116 acres) located in the North Bank Campus on the Clare side of the River Shannon.

- + Total area of buildings is 257,870m<sup>2</sup>
- + 419 Laboratories (encompassing undergraduate teaching, research, specialist and high-tech facilities)
- + Eight student villages providing accommodation for 3,000 students and visiting academic staff
- + Total value of investment to date in land, buildings and equipment is over €720 million
- + UL was ranked 17th in the world for its efforts towards campus sustainability and environmentally friendly university management in the GreenMetric Ranking of World Universities 2020

## Main Campus

- + Main University Building
- + Foundation Building
- + Plassey House
- + Computer Science Building
- + Bernal Building
- + Schrödinger Science Building
- + Kemmy Business School
- + Tierney Building
- + Physical Education & Sports Science Building
- + UL Sports Arena
- + Glucksman Library
- + Student Centre
- + Student Accommodation

## North Campus

- + Medical School
- + Health Sciences Building
- + Irish World Academy of Music and Dance
- + President's Residence
- + Student Villages
- + Sports Pavilion

# Capital Development Plan

During the period 2014 to 2020 the University completed the implementation of a €225m Capital Development Plan.

A plan for the period 2020 to 2025 has been prepared and is currently being re-evaluated in light of Covid impact on future capital investment requirements and funding.



## New Developments Underway Include:

### + NEW STUDENT LIFE CENTRE

The new Student Centre, a 3,529 square metre building set over three storeys, is in a prime front of house location adjacent to the Stables Complex and the Glucksman Library. The facility, the total project cost of which is in the region of €20m, is being funded on a partnership basis between the students and the University. The new Student Centre - a 'Centre for Student Life' as articulated by the students - will support the student journey through UL and will be a space where students can relax, play, be informed and supported.

### + CLIMBING WALL

Work on the 250m<sup>2</sup> climbing wall adjacent to UL Arena was completed in October 2020. The design caters for both fun and expert climbers of all ages and capabilities. The climbing wall is Ireland's tallest, standing at 21 metres and equipped with an ability to cater for the new Olympic sports of speed climbing.

### + EXTERNAL LIFT – FOUNDATION BUILDING

Work is underway on the construction of an external lift on the southern elevation of the Foundation Building, University of Limerick consisting of a brick three storey lift enclosure of a height of 13m and an area of 16m<sup>2</sup>, between plaza level and lower ground floor terrace level with a glazed link to the first floor level of the Foundation Building. Construction was completed in 2021.

## Future Capital Developments:

### + CITY CENTRE CAMPUS

The University is committed in its Strategic Plan to the development of the UL Limerick City Campus. In the medium term it is planned to locate a significant landmark building on the former Dunnes Stores site. The timing of the development of this landmark building will be determined by the availability of funding.

The UL Limerick City Campus is expected to involve the development of two linked buildings; a university teaching building, which will accommodate 4,000 students and 350 staff and a self-funded student accommodation residence of 600 study bedrooms. The two buildings will deliver 42,825m<sup>2</sup> of high quality teaching infrastructure and living space.

# innovation & excellence in education research & scholarship



# The Journey to UL@50

1972-75

- National Institute of Higher Education founded (1972)
- 113 students (1972)
- 1,545m<sup>2</sup> campus buildings (1972)
- Students Union established (1975)

1993-97

- University Concert Hall opened (1993)
- Glucksman Library opened (1997)

2005-07

- Lero – The Irish Software Research Centre (SFI Research Centre) established (2005)
- MACSI – Mathematics Applications Consortium for Science and Industry established (2006)
- Living Bridge constructed (2007)
- Epi-Stem – National Centre for STEM Education established (2007)
- Graduate Entry Medical School established (2007)

2008-10

- SSPC – Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre (SFI Research Centre) established (2009)
- IComp – Irish Composites Centre (EI/IDA Technology Centre) established (2010)

2015-16

- Sunday Times University of the Year 2015
- DPTC – Dairy Processing Technology Centre (EI/IDA Technology Centre) established (2015)
- Clinical Education Research Centre (CERC) opened with University Hospital Limerick (2016)
- Munster Rugby moves to campus (2016)
- UL Bernal Institute established (2016)

2019

- Attained expanded charter Bronze Athena SWAN award (2019)
- Sunday Times University of the Year 2019
- Kemmy Business School earns AACSB International Accreditation (2019)
- Ranked world #2 for international student happiness (2019)
- Ranked #35 in the Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings (2019)
- UL ranked within top 75 in Europe for THE Excellence in Teaching and Learning (2019)
- SFI Centre for Research Training in Foundations of Data Science established (2019)

1987-89

- UL Alumni established (1987)
- University status granted (1989)
- 3,490 students (1989)
- University of Limerick Foundation established (1989)

2001-04

- Ireland's first Olympic-size swimming pool opened in UL (2001)
- Building commences on County Clare side of campus (2004)

2013-14

- PMTc – Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Technology Centre (EI/IDA Technology Centre) established (2013)
- NISE – National Institute for Studies in Education established (2014)
- UL Health Research Institute (HRI) established (2014)

2017-18

- Designated as a University of Sanctuary (2017)
- School of Law wins Law School of the Year (2017)
- Ranked in the 101–150 category in the QS Graduate Employability Ranking (2017)
- CONFIRM Smart Manufacturing (SFI Research Centre) established (2018)
- 6th in the world for suburban campus (UI Green Metric World Ranking) (2018)

2020-21

- Best Student Campus 2020 (Irish Education Awards 2020).
- UL appoints first ever woman president of an Irish university. (2020)
- UL Climbed to 17<sup>th</sup> in UI GreenMetric World University Rankings. (2020)
- Ranked 50<sup>th</sup> out of 1,115 universities in Times Higher Education's (THE) Impact Rankings 2021.
- Ireland's highest Climbing wall constructed. (2021)
- The Kemmy Business School recognised as one of the world's top business schools with triple international accreditation awards from prestigious (EQUIS) (AACSB) (AMBA) associations. Placing them in the top 1% worldwide. (2021)



# Awards

UL ranked within the **Top 75 Universities in Europe for Excellence in Teaching and Learning** and **50<sup>th</sup> Globally in the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking 2021.**

- + 471 Partner universities in 68 countries.
- + Top 5 in Europe for career preparation
- + #191-200 Graduate employability ranking
- + First for Graduate Earnings
- + UL has the largest international exchange programme in Ireland
- + Students from over 100+ countries



## UL Business School now in Top 1%

The Kemmy Business School at University of Limerick is recognised as one of the world's top business schools with triple international accreditation awards from the prestigious EFMD Global quality system (EQUIS); the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and the Association of MBAs (AMBA). The triple accreditation from the three centres of business and academic excellence now place the KBS within the top 1% of business schools in the world.



**5 Star rating** in 2021 QS Stars



**Best Erasmus Programme**  
2018, 2019 & 2020



**Best Student Campus**  
2010/2020



**Awarded a Green Campus Status**  
for energy, travel, transport and biodiversity



educating &  
empowering  
our students



# Commitment to Equality and Diversity, Health and Well-being

UL takes great pride in being one of the first institutions in Ireland to achieve (in July 2015) an Athena SWAN (AS) Bronze Institution Award. Since then, we have worked hard to embed AS across all faculties and departments.

UL applied for the Athena SWAN expanded charter, introduced in Ireland in November 2017, rather than renewing the AS STEM standard, which primarily focuses on the careers of women in STEM.

We are the first institution to upgrade our existing award to the expanded charter and the second university in Ireland to be awarded the expanded charter. This award recognises work undertaken to address gender equality more broadly, in arts, humanities, social sciences, business and law (AHSSBL), and in professional and support roles, and for trans staff and students.

Athena SWAN therefore is not just about one gender but promotes equality and diversity across all disciplines.



## Equality and Human Rights Strategy

In 2019 UL produced its Equality and Human Rights Strategy 2019-2022, which builds on UL@50, the University of Limerick Strategic Plan 2019-2024. Setting out core objectives and actions for the next three years, the strategy consolidates our commitment to equality and human rights at the highest level.



# Healthy Campus Initiative

UL is committed to the health and wellbeing of all of its staff, students and community stakeholders. This culminated in the production of a 'Healthy UL' framework 2019-22.



University of Limerick  
'Healthy UL' Framework

## University of Sanctuary

UL remains remain strongly committed to providing access to the University with a particular focus on refugees and asylum seekers. Indeed, UL was awarded the status of University of Sanctuary in 2017 by City of Sanctuary in the UK.





# Putting Research at the Core of UL

The renewed research strategy is currently in development and marks the next phase of our growth. In this phase we seek to put research at the core of our university by building on our strengths, ensuring our systems and supports are enabling research excellence to create a world-class, research-led institution.

Our world is changing rapidly, the global pandemic has tasked us to respond. This responsiveness to some of the world's greatest challenges is part of the UL DNA. We are a community of problem-solvers. By tackling challenges from clean energy to reducing inequalities, championing quality education to creating stronger communities and protecting our environment, this young agile university provides solutions and partners for change.

The research focus at the University of Limerick is characterised by the convergence of discrete disciplines working together to achieve fundamental breakthroughs whilst adopting a translational approach to ensure research is rapidly translated into economic and social impacts for Ireland and beyond.

Our research addresses areas of importance to our society, such as education, languages, healthcare and social inclusion and has significant impact on sectors that are vital to our economy, such as pharmaceuticals, med-tech, software, food, communications and energy.

## Key Highlights

- + €322 million research funding since 2014.
- + 2 campus companies sold for over €100m
- + Highest number of patents filed in Ireland<sup>1</sup>.
- + Over 200 research collaborations with industry.
- + 60% of research publications with international partners.
- + Hosts five externally funded research centres<sup>2</sup> in the areas of pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical manufacturing, dairy processing, advanced manufacturing, software research.
- + Home to four European Research Council (ERC) awardees in the areas of psychology and chemistry health and hate crime. These strengths are coupled with an increasing focus on inter-disciplinary research in application areas such as digital health, cancer, advanced manufacturing, biopharma.

## Externally funded National Research Centres @ UL

**Confirm**  
Smart Manufacturing

**DPTC**  
DAIRY PROCESSING  
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

**PMTC**  
Advanced Technology Solutions  
in Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

**SSPC**

**Lero** THE IRISH SOFTWARE  
RESEARCH CENTRE

<sup>1</sup> In 2019, UL was the top performing university in Ireland for the number of patents filed and research agreements valued between 25K and 500K based on per €10 million research expenditure.

<sup>2</sup> Science Foundation Ireland Centres – Lero – Irish Software Research Centre, Confirm – Smart Manufacturing, Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical centre (SSPC). Enterprise Ireland Centres – Dairy Processing Technology Centre (DPTC), Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Technology Centre (PMTC).



**Bernal Institute** hosts a multidisciplinary team of world-leading materials scientists and engineers at UL. Bernal represents a €100m+ investment in world-class characterisation, modelling and manufacturing facilities concentrated in 20,000m of high-quality research space.

Our mission is to develop disruptive technologies related to Health, Energy and Environment that will create a legacy of scientific achievement in structured materials research that benefits future generations. Bernal research is organised across bio materials, composite materials, molecular and nano materials and process engineering.



**Health Research Institute** is a cross faculty institute that brings together researchers in UL and its partner institutions with a focus on convergent and translational health research. The mission of the HRI is to conduct outstanding person-centred research to enhance the health and well-being of individuals and transform the health environment for the population. The HRI strives to support interdisciplinary research groups that are committed to expanding health research through a variety of collaborative efforts. Within the HRI research is organised into health technologies, lifestyle and health, health services delivery and public and patient involvement in healthcare.



Driven by a responsive research community, the University of Limerick is taking on global challenges including affordable and clean energy, the digital economy and Covid-19 among others.





Over one million  
people visit the  
Library each year

## UL Library

The reimagined and extended Glucksman Library is designed to transform the Library and the University for scholarship in a digital age.

The building includes:

- + Seating for 2,200 people
- + Study areas for silent, quiet and group work
- + Over 150 PCs for student use
- + Wireless access throughout the Library
- + Group study, meeting and training rooms
- + Presentation practice room
- + Faculty Reading Room
- + Graduate Commons
- + Moot Appellate Court
- + Digital Scholarship studio
- + Exhibition space



**350,000**

printed books,  
journals, newspapers,  
theses & magazines



**450,000**

e-books



**62,000**

journals



**200**

electronic  
databases

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## Library Collections

The University's institutional repository ULIR contains UL's research output.

Special Collections & Archives contains the library's collections of archives, rare books and manuscripts relating particularly to the history, literature and culture of Limerick and the Mid-West region.

The Library has assumed care of the Bolton Library; a collection of 12,000 early printed books, manuscripts and incunabulae of exceptional academic and bibliographic importance.

Other collections include; The National Dance Archive of Ireland, the Gilsenan Yeats collection, the Armstrong Collection, the Daly Family Papers and a Kate O'Brien Archive.



# The Visual Arts

The University is the permanent home of several art collections:

- + The National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland
- + The Watercolour Society of Ireland Collection
- + The O'Malley Sculpture Collection
- + The Irish American Cultural Institute's O'Malley Collection of Irish Art
- + The Armitage Collection
- + The Molas Collection donated by Dr Patrick J Murphy
- + The Midnight Court Collection by Pauline Bewick
- + Limerick a positive view by Anne Marie Bourke
- + World-renowned collection of large outdoor sculptures



# Culture

- + Home to the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance
- + Home to the Irish Chamber Orchestra – including its ground-breaking community development initiative “Sing Out With Strings” which provides children with access to music education and provides tangible, long-term benefits for participants, their families and the wider community.
- + 60,000 patrons to the University Concert Hall annually
- + Internationally acclaimed Artists and Writers in Residence - UL Creative Writing Faculty include the award winning authors Joseph O'Connor, Donal Ryan and Sarah Moore-Fitzgerald; and Artists in Residence have included Martin Dyar, Mary O'Malley and Kit De Waal.
- + 11 national visual arts collections housing 1,700 artworks



# Contributing to our Communities

UL has always been renowned for the depth and value of our contribution to the economic, educational, social and cultural life of Ireland in general and the Shannon region in particular. We will continue to increase the level of interaction between our students and community groups, develop a culture of access & lifelong learning in our communities and extend the presence of the University in Limerick city. We will promote the city and region by providing community access to our campus and all its excellent amenities, and we will encourage environmental and social responsibility within and beyond the campus.

- + **Access & Life-Long Learning** – UL has a proud tradition of supporting Access and progression to higher education with almost 30% of our undergraduate students classified as non-traditional entrants. This work is supported by a long established physical presence in the city at UL Access Campus, a community-based facility that aims to raise aspirations amongst school children from disadvantaged communities.
- + **Local Economic Development** – UL actively collaborates with industry; engages in incubation activities; enhances skill levels; creates spin-out companies; and is a key driver of the region's and the nation's economic development goals. UL is also committed to sustaining and extending the range of successful collaborations with Limerick City and County Council as the city and region drives towards the realisation of its highly ambitious and transformative “Limerick 2030” vision.
- + **Student Engagement** - UL has the largest student volunteering programme in Ireland through its annual President Volunteering Award programme which contributes thousands of student volunteering hours each year to local community and voluntary organisations.
- + **Staff Engagement** - ‘UL Engage’ serves as the tangible hub for a wide diversity of civic engagement activities across campus and works with all divisions and faculties to amplify, incubate and co-ordinate the various ways that faculty and staff in the University of Limerick can work to make a difference.



# Ireland's premier sporting campus



## Sports

- + UL Arena - 700,000 visitors annually
- + Ireland's largest all-weather pitch complex
- + Ireland's only indoor rowing tank
- + Training Headquarters of Munster Rugby
- + National 50m swimming pool
- + National Strength & Conditioning Centre
- + College destination of choice for many of Ireland's leading male and female inter-county GAA players
- + Ireland's largest indoor climbing wall
- + Leading Equestrian facilities to support Equine Science programmes (in 2021, UL Equine Science graduate Rachael Blackmore created history by becoming the first woman to win the Grand National)
- + Training camp headquarters for many of Ireland's Tokyo 2021 Olympic athletes





# Delivering an outstanding campus experience



## Living @ UL

- + Distinctive 149 hectare parkland campus
- + Eight student villages providing accommodation for 3,000 students and visiting academic staff
- + Smarter Travel - supporting the promotion of sustainable transport schemes on campus
- + UL Healthy-Campus Framework and Plan
- + 80+ student clubs and societies

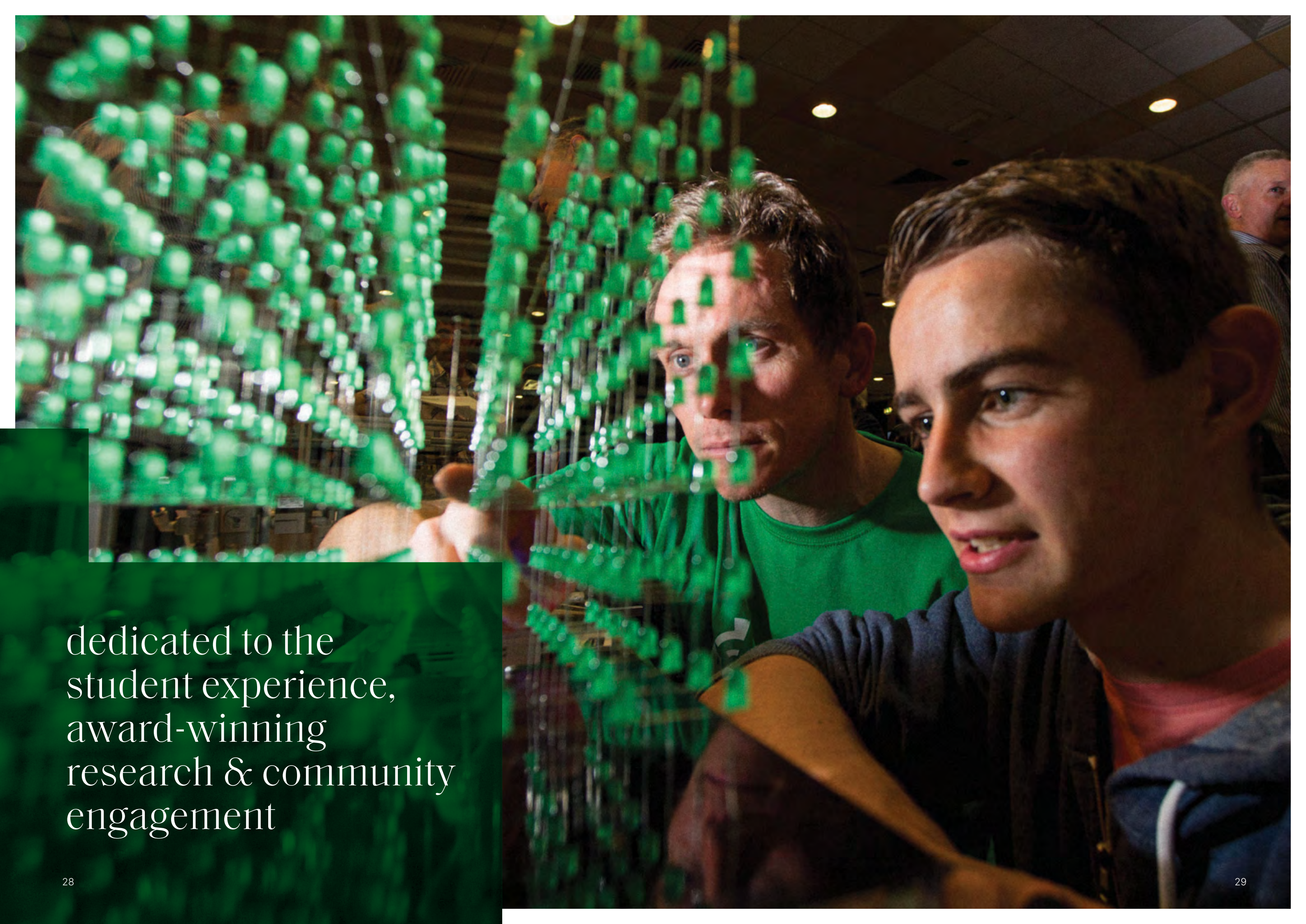
## Campus Life Services

Making UL the best 'campus life' experience for all

Campus Life Services develop and manage student residential and communal facilities and provide the financial and legal management of all physical developments on the campus under the leadership of our development company, Plassey Campus Developments. They are also responsible for the management of a wide range of on-campus social club bar/restaurants, retail units, communal halls (including 1,000 seater University Concert Hall), the vast array of UL Sport facilities and various other commercial operations.

We actively promote the use of the campus facilities and services for conferences and events during the summer vacation from June to the end of August. We attract many Irish and international visitors to all sorts of meetings, events, academic conferences and a wide variety of national and international sporting competitions. This activity brings additional revenue to the region, helps us to maintain our fine campus and raises the profile of the University's visibility and reputation worldwide.





dedicated to the  
student experience,  
award-winning  
research & community  
engagement





# Limerick & the Mid-West Region

Limerick is the third most populous city in Ireland, and is located in Ireland's Mid-West region. It is situated at a strategic position on the majestic River Shannon with four main crossing points near the city centre.

The earliest settlement in the city dates back to the pre-Viking and Viking eras. History also records an important battle involving Cormac mac Airt in 221 and a visit by St. Patrick in 434. Records show that, in 812 the Vikings sailed up the Shannon and pillaged the city. The Normans redesigned the city in the 12th century and added much of the most notable architecture, such as King John's Castle and St Mary's Cathedral.

In early medieval times Limerick was at the centre of the Kingdom of Thomond which corresponds to the present day Mid-West Region. One of the kingdom's most notable kings was Brian Boru, ancestor of the O'Brien Clan of Dalcassians. The word Thomond is synonymous with the region and is retained in place names such as Thomondgate, Thomond Bridge and Thomond Park, home ground of Munster rugby.



In addition to being the region's capital, Limerick City is also a main tourist destination along the Wild Atlantic Way tourist trail that extends the entire Atlantic seaboard along the west coast of Ireland. Limerick also benefits from having an excellent road and rail infrastructure, linking it to other major centres as well as Shannon airport (40 minutes), Cork airport (70 minutes) and Dublin airport (2 hours).

This allows for the pursuit of a vast range of recreational activities including cycling, yachting, kayaking, fishing, shooting, hunting and hill walking to name but a few. It has a number of blue-flag sandy beaches within close proximity; and the country's third largest lake (130 sq.km.), Lough Derg, only a short distance from the city, is one of the region's recreational gems. The University's own Sports Adventure Centre at Lough Derg provides an array of sporting activities with state of the art equipment and professional staff.



Since 2011, when Limerick was named as the European City of Sport, 'Sporting Limerick' has become synonymous for its interest and involvement a wide range of sports.



Rugby, Gaelic games, soccer, golf, horse racing, basketball and tennis are the most popular sporting pastimes in the City.

- + Home of the All-Ireland Hurling Champions in 2018, 2020 and 2021.
- + Headquarters of Munster Rugby - Thomond Park, its home stadium, is a key feature on the city's landscape
- + Home to numerous championship golf Courses and in 2027 the Adare Manor (18 km's from the Campus) will host the Ryder Cup.



# Sporting Limerick



# Limerick – a City Region on the Rise

While Limerick is a long established and proven location for international business, it is also Ireland's most future focused city, committed to innovation and economic growth.

Limerick's current economic resurgence has not happened by chance. Like any success, it's been based on smart planning, hard work and collaboration. The framework for this resurgence has been the Local Authority's 'Limerick 2030 – an Economic and Spatial Plan for Limerick'.

The plan set ambitious targets for over €1 billion in enterprise and investment infrastructure to transform Limerick through the economic, social and physical renaissance of Limerick City Centre and the wider Mid West Region. Encouragingly, it is already way ahead of targets in a number of key areas, particularly employment.

With multiple engines of growth making significant advancements and, more importantly, working in collaboration, it's a region on the rise.



## Economic Renaissance

Sitting on the majestic River Shannon, Limerick is currently enjoying an economic renaissance, with record investment and employment through indigenous and foreign direct investment. Some 12,000+ jobs have been created here over the past five years across FDI and indigenous investment, reflecting a pro-business and competitive operating environment that is winning many over.

Improvements in road infrastructure have brought Limerick's population catchment to 500,000 people living within one hour of the city and almost 50% of them under 35 years. Limerick also has a 70,000 third level student population base within a 90 minute radius, including three third level institutions of its own. The city is also just 2hrs 30mins from the capital.

## Accessibility

In addition to having an international airport, Shannon Airport, on its doorstep with daily services to the UK, Europe and the US, it has an excellent rail and motorway network and two busy commercial ports, one in the city and a second down river at Foynes, at the mouth of the Shannon Estuary, which boasts some of Europe's deepest waters – essential for growth in ship size sailing the high seas.

## Quality of Life

Limerick offers an excellent quality of life, with residential prices 30% lower than the national average. It also offers an outstanding mix of high quality primary and second level schools. It has a vibrant cultural offering. It has the spiritual home of Irish rugby, the world-famous Thomond Park; also boasts one of the country's largest Gaelic Games stadiums and the fourth largest stadium of any kind in Ireland, the Gaelic Grounds; has a thriving arts community, as evidenced by its selection as Ireland's first National City of Culture, having a world-famous school of art and design (Limerick School of Art and Design) and much celebrated night life. Its most recent sporting achievement was Limerick winning the 2018 All Ireland Hurling championship.

Limerick is also a key gateway to the Wild Atlantic Way – one of the fastest growing tourism driving routes in the world – and just 90 minutes from world-famous destinations such as the Cliffs of Moher, Ring of Kerry and the Rock of Cashel.



# Additional Information

## Strategic Documents

UL@50 Strategic Plan 2019-2024

→ [View Online](#)

University of Limerick Equality and Human Rights Strategy 2019-2022

→ [View Online](#)

Excellence and Impact 2020

→ [View Online](#)

University of Limerick ‘Healthy UL’ Framework

→ [View Online](#)

## Video



▷ [UL Campus - Aerial Video](#)



▷ [The University of Limerick Virtual Campus Tour](#)

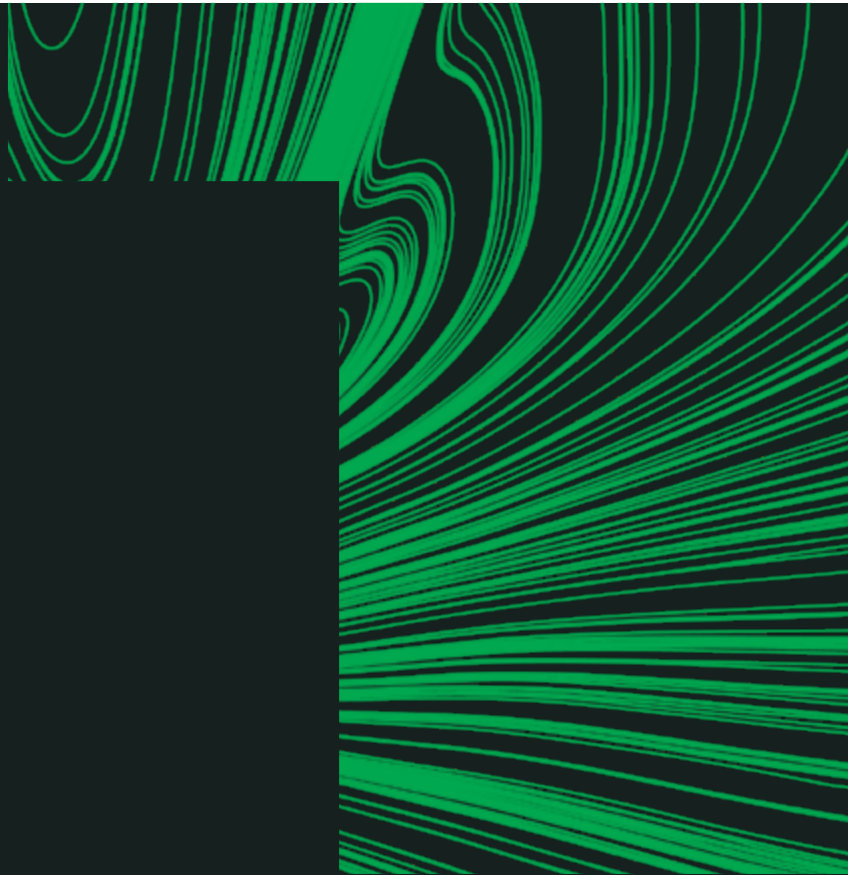
## Websites

UL Research Centres

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→ [www.ul.ie](http://www.ul.ie)