INTRODUCTION

Established in 1972, the University of Limerick is an independent, internationally focussed university with over 13,149 students and 1,449 staff. It is a young, energetic and enterprising university with a proud record of innovation in education and excellence in research and scholarship. Its mission is to be a distinctive, pioneering and connected university that shapes the future through educating and empowering people to meet the real challenges of tomorrow.

The University is recognised as possessing one of the most spectacular and environmentally sympathetic university campuses in the world. The campus is adorned by unrivalled sports and cultural facilities, including Ireland's first Olympic-size swimming pool, an indoor sports arena, a boathouse with a state-of-the-art indoor rowing tank, the 1,100-seat University Concert Hall, the Irish Chamber Orchestra Building and the Irish World Academy with an impressive range of visual art including outdoor sculptures, the National Self-Portrait Collection of Ireland and the Water Colour Society of Ireland Collection. The campus is located 5km from Limerick City and 20km from Shannon International Airport.

The University has been named 'University of the Year 2015 in the Sunday Times Good University Guide. Also in 2015, the University was placed in the top 200 most international universities in the world in the Times Higher Education rankings, which measures international outlook by means of the diversity of both the student and staff body and success in international research collaborations.

The campus is home to the Nexus Innovation Centre supporting spin-out activity in the region and is central to the UL Enterprise Corridor which hosts leading R&D companies including Johnson & Johnson. Adjacent to the University is the National Technology Park (NTP), Ireland's first science/technology park (263 hectares), which is home to over 80 organisations employing over 3,000 people.

Key Developments

- UL is home to the Largest Co-operative Education Programme in Ireland and the largest ERASMUS programme in Ireland, with 1 in 3 undergraduate students spending a semester overseas on study or work placements – this adds greatly to the UL experience.
- The graduate employment rate of UL graduates is now a massive 20% higher than the average for the other six universities in Ireland - over 700 employers visit the UL campus every year.
- UL was one of only two universities in Ireland awarded the Athena SWAN Bronze award which recognises best practice in recruiting, retaining and promoting women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine.
- The University achieved Green Campus accreditation under the Energy, Biodiversity and Travel and Transport themes in 2015. UL has been ranked 16th in the world for its efforts towards campus sustainability and environmentally friendly university management.
- UL has been awarded QS 5 Stars in the areas of innovation, employability, teaching, engagement and internationalisation.
- UL’s total of student voluntary work has gone past the 40,000 hour mark as part of the President’s Volunteer Award scheme.
• University of Limerick is the first Irish university to become a member of the prestigious National Academy of Inventors (NAI).
• Each year, UL awards 50 entrance scholarships, worth €2,000 each, to students who will begin their undergraduate studies in that September. Ten of these scholarships are available to mature students – no application is needed.

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

The University of Limerick operates under national legislation, the Universities Act 1997. As set down in that legislation, overall authority for the affairs of the University is vested in the Governing Authority of the University of Limerick which is appointed in accordance with the Act.

UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

Overall management of the University’s affairs is the responsibility of the Executive Committee of the University.

The academic affairs of the University are managed by the Faculty Boards, the Academic Programme Review Committee and the Academic Council.

The University has adopted a new Strategic Plan, Broadening Horizons, for the period 2015-2019. This plan is the foundation upon which strategic priorities are formulated and implemented. The University Executive Committee and Governing Authority will review the implementation of this plan at regular intervals.
GOVERNING AUTHORITY

The Honourable Mr Justice John L Murray
Chairperson/Chancellor

SENIOR OFFICERS

Professor Don Barry
President

Professor J Paul McCutcheon
Vice President Academic & Registrar

Dr Mary Shire
Vice President Research

Dr Tommy Foy
Director Human Resources

Mr John Field
Director of Finance

ACADEMIC

Professor Tom Lodge
Dean, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr Philip O’Regan
Dean, Faculty of Business

Professor Alison Perry
Dean, Faculty of Education and Health Sciences

Professor Edmond Magner
Dean, Faculty of Science and Engineering

Dr Huw Lewis
Dean, Graduate Studies

Professor Sarah Moore
Associate Vice President Academic

Dr Pat Phelan
Associate Registrar
**STATISTICS**

**STUDENT ENROLMENT AY2014/5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>9,215</td>
<td>901</td>
<td>10,116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught Postgraduate Diplomas &amp; Masters</td>
<td>1,044</td>
<td>1,148</td>
<td>2,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Postgraduate Degrees (Masters/PhD)</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,985</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,164</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,149</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*HEA Statistics AY2014/15*

**GRADUATES BY LEVEL OF AWARD AY2013/14**

**Postgraduate**

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>123</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>935</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Diploma</td>
<td>87</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diploma</td>
<td>570</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Certificate</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,758</strong></td>
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**Undergraduate**

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>197</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>518</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,801</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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</table>

**GRADUATES BY FACULTY AY2013/14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>940</th>
<th>21%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kemmy Business School</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Humanities and Social Sciences</td>
<td>721</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and Health Sciences</td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science and Engineering</td>
<td>1,026</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interfaculty</td>
<td>835</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,559</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FACULTY & STAFF AY 2014/15**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>659</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Staff</td>
<td>236</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Staff</td>
<td>554</td>
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</table>
CURRENT INCOME BY SOURCE YEAR TO SEPTEMBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>€'000</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Grant</td>
<td>35,769</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees Income</td>
<td>83,173</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Other Self-Funded</td>
<td>41,592</td>
<td>24.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8,602</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>169,136</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCESS, WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNITY LIAISON

The University of Limerick is committed to developing and promoting initiatives which encourage the participation of learners from what are recognised nationally as under-represented groups in Higher Education. These include learners from specific socio-economic backgrounds, those with disabilities, mature learners, members of the Traveller community and other ethnic minority groups. The University’s Access Office, Disability Support Services Office, Community Liaison Office and the Mature Student Office within the Student Affairs Division all promote and support the participation of these students in the University. The range of widening participation initiatives include, aspiration/pre-entry activities, provision of flexible entry routes, specifically targeted supports for first year students and additional supports for students throughout their programmes of study. In response to national policy and the University’s Strategic Plan, UL offers supplementary admission routes within the CAO process to school leavers from under-represented socio-economic groups through the HEAR (Higher Education Access Route) scheme and to school leavers with disabilities through the DARE (Disability Access Route to Education) scheme. Mature students over the age of 23 also apply through the CAO for consideration for places on undergraduate programmes. Graduates of UL’s two Access to University Courses have the opportunity to gain direct entry onto our undergraduate programmes. A central aspect of activity in this area is outreach work in the community in Limerick city, through the Access Campus in Roxboro which offers a range of educational initiatives to the school-going population and adult learners. The President’s Volunteer Awards is run and managed through the Community Liaison Office. This initiative is promoted to all students of the University. It links students to community-based organisations through student volunteering in order to foster students’ social responsibility.

CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

The University of Limerick has a proven track record of delivering quality Continuing and Professional Education (CPE) programmes across a range of disciplines – from Cloud Computing to Clinical Practice. Through the use of on-line, blended and outreach delivery UL is committed to offering students the opportunity to fulfil their educational ambitions in as flexible a manner as possible. The CPE division at UL works with the university’s Faculties and Departments to develop and deliver accredited, modular, flexibly-delivered courses for students who wish to increase their knowledge, upgrade their skills or update their professional qualifications. We work closely with industry and professional bodies offering advice and assistance to organisations wishing to strengthen or reposition their business through the up-skilling and re-skilling of their workforce.
UL continues to expand its courses for part-time and distance learners. We offer a range of fully on-line and blended learning programmes. New programmes that were added in 2015 include a blended-learning Level 9 Specialist Diploma in Design for Medical Devices, and an online MSc in Supply Chain Operations, along with programmes in international finance, digital fabrication, automation, mechatronics and data analytics.

The CPE division manages the university’s Springboard programmes. In 2015 we received funding from the Department of Education and Skills to provide 230 places on 18 different programmes all linked to identified skills shortages in the Irish economy. These programmes are fully funded for jobseekers.

We also offer a range of CPE Link-in modules which allow students to receive credits for completing individual modules currently offered at UL. Our Link-in modules include Strength and Conditioning, Lean Leadership, Change Management, Law of Evidence and Foundation Maths.

The CPE division has a very active research portfolio and is involved in a range of EU-Funded programmes including ERASMUS+ and EIT (European Institute of Innovation & technology) covering many aspects of adult, professional and lifelong learning.

**RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES**

The University of Limerick has often been described as innovative, pioneering and connected to the real world. We pride ourselves on a reputation for delivering research which makes an impact for industry, society and the wider community. The research focus at the University of Limerick is on research with consequences for economic and social benefit. This is characterised by the convergence of discrete disciplines working together to achieve fundamental breakthroughs whilst adopting a translational approach to ensure research results are translated more rapidly towards economic and social impacts for Ireland and beyond. UL is committed to research that will enable Ireland to transition towards a knowledge-based economy while supporting the societal implications of such transition.

Graduate studies at UL comprises over 840 postgraduate students pursuing either research masters or doctoral programmes (AY2014/15) and over 2,400 postgraduate students pursuing taught postgraduate diplomas and degrees (AY2014/15). The University’s Graduate School offers a range of themed and generic Structured PhD programmes, which are supported by Generic and Transferable Skills programmes. Many of these structured programmes have links with other Universities, thus offering a wide range of options for the taught elements of the awards.

UL’s research and knowledge transfer activities span all of its faculties and disciplines. The University values and supports the excellence of output and achievement by its research community across all of its research areas. In addition, the University has identified a number of areas of research strength, characterised by having critical mass, addressing common research questions, having a significant body of research inputs and outputs, attracting international scholars, and having a national and international reputation. These areas of strength are:

- Materials
- Advanced Manufacturing
Interdisciplinary research convergence and critical mass are further reflected through UL’s research institutes and centres. Research institutes represent the highest level of research infrastructure within the University, and provide focused support for research, both within faculties and across faculties. UL’s research institutes are:

- Materials and Surface Science Institute (MSSI)
- Lero, the Irish Software Engineering Research Centre
- Stokes Laboratories
- Health Research Institute

UL’s research excellence and leadership are demonstrated through the University’s role in several significant research projects, including the following:

- The University of Limerick Research Impact initiative is driven by the concept of the measurable impact that research can have on industry, society and the wider community. This initiative highlights best practice among the UL research community with the guiding principle of pursuing excellent research that is measurable, achieved through collaboration and focused on the ultimate goal of delivering impact. UL researchers are encouraged to develop research impact case studies demonstrating a clear link between their research and its impact. As part of the launch of Research Impact, four best practice case studies were developed focussing on research that has been evidenced to deliver real impact. These included research in clinical therapies, public participation in politics, the landscape of multinational companies in Ireland and the SFI-funded Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre (SSPC)

- UL leads the Synthesis & Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre (SSPC) that was awarded research funding of €42 million by SFI and industry to conduct world-leading research to make pharmaceutical manufacturing more efficient, cost effective, and environmentally sustainable. The centre is a unique collaboration between 22 companies and 8 academic institutions and will position Ireland as a global hub for pharmaceutical process innovation and advanced manufacturing. SSPC was announced as Pharma Research Centre of the Year and Research & Development Achievement Award winner, at the Pharma Industry Awards 2015.

- UL hosts the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Technology Centre (PMTC) which attracted investment of €5 million from Enterprise Ireland and IDA Ireland. This industry-focussed Centre will deliver advanced technology solutions to contemporary manufacturing issues currently challenging the Irish pharmaceutical sector. The aim of PMTC is to make Ireland the global hub of pharmaceutical process innovation and manufacturing and ultimately support an industry which directly employs over 25,000 people.

- Lero the Irish Software Research Centre, hosted at UL, received €46 million for expansion over six years. The development supports the creation of 90 PhD and 46 postdoctoral research positions over a six year period. €32.6 million of the investment is being funded by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI). Industry is backing the initiative with total contributions worth €13.8 million. Lero’s research team spans 8 academic institutions in Ireland, working in collaboration with a wide range of industrial
partners. Lero was named by Google as one of the global winners of the 2015 RISE Awards.

- UL hosts the Dairy Processing Technology Centre (DPTC), a collaboration of 8 companies and 10 Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) creating 52 new jobs for highly-skilled researchers over the 5 year term of the centre. The €25 million investment by Government and industry will position Ireland as a world leader in dairy innovation, and help to maximise the long term growth opportunities created by anticipated increase of 50% in the Irish milk pool by 2020.

- IComp, the Irish Centre for Composites Research, is a partnership of the leading composites researchers in Ireland, hosted by UL, with 22 industrial members. In 2015, IComp attracted over €5 million from Enterprise Ireland’s Technology Centre Programme to further build on its mission to provide innovative solutions to industry and accelerate economic growth in the Irish composites industry.

- UL is part of the multi-partnered, multi-disciplinary Food for Health Ireland (FHI) centre that was awarded a €21 million investment from Enterprise Ireland’s Technology Centre Programme. The FHI partners provide world-class science and dairy industry know-how in one research centre aimed at developing, manufacturing marketing and selling nutritional ingredients and functional food products to improve people's health and wellness.

- UL was chosen as the winner of the Academic Contribution to Medtech Award by The Irish Medical Devices Association (IMDA). The award was presented to the Department of Mechanical, Aeronautical and Biomedical Engineering for UL’s research collaboration with leading medical devices company Stryker. The research was undertaken by researchers involved in the Bernal Project and the Health Research Institute at the University of Limerick and is funded by the Irish Research Council under their Enterprise Partnership Scheme.

In addition, UL is leading or partnering in numerous other research projects, both nationally and internationally. Examples of international projects led by UL include, among others, European Framework Programme projects on optimising medical and psychosocial primary care for migrants in Europe; cooling systems for concentrated solar power plants; and production of bioethanol from microalgae with low-cost scalable photo bioreactors.

**Innovation**

In the past year, UL was awarded €52.5 million in research funding. The application of commercially valuable research results continues to be a priority for the University. In 2015, 38 new invention disclosures were received from UL researchers (166 in the last 5 years), 10 new patent applications were filed (44 in the last 5 years), 2 new campus companies were formed (8 in the last 5 years), and 23 technology transfer agreements were signed (57 in the last 5 years). UL campus companies have attracted in excess of €40 million in investment funding employing over 80 people.

The University of Limerick signed a funding contract for €1.5 million with Enterprise Ireland under the Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative for a period of 4 years. UL leads a technology transfer consortium involving Limerick Institute of Technology and Institute of Technology Tralee. The consortium is working together to provide consistent mechanisms of engagement, for the benefit of industry in the mid-west region, so as to enhance technology transfer from public sector research investment.
The Nexus Innovation Centre is a growing community of international entrepreneurs located on UL’s enterprise corridor. Nexus is a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem created by effectively leveraged human capital, balanced business development and financial investment. Nexus enables accelerated development of national and international startups with global reach as well as commercialisation of academic research, resulting in the creation of new businesses and jobs. Since its launch in November 2011, the Nexus community has grown to comprise approximately 30 companies with combined job creation of approximately 150 people and a total alumni of 60. Nexus clients raised €6.6 million from angel investors and venture capitalists since incorporation.

UL spin-out company Powervation, a Cork-based designer and producer of ultra-energy-saving computer chips, was acquired by Japanese electronic parts manufacturer ROHM for about $70 million (€64 million) in an all-cash deal. Since its founding in Ireland in 2006 as a UL spin-out, Powervation has established itself as a leading innovator in digital power controllers serving high performance Computing, Cloud and Communications infrastructure markets.

UL’s success in innovation and commercialisation activities has been reflected in a recent QS Stars™ audit. QS Stars™ provides an independent evaluation of the world’s leading universities. UL was awarded a maximum 5-Star rating in innovation (patents, spin-off companies and industrial research). This is a testament to the creativity, hard work and commitment of UL’s researchers and staff and the support and guidance of external partners from the worlds of technology, venture capital and enterprise.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION & CAREERS

Alive to the link between academia and the workplace, UL pioneered the concept of cooperative education (Co-op) in Ireland in 1972. The Cooperative Education & Careers Division is responsible for the management, development and delivery of the cooperative education, careers and school placement programmes at the University of Limerick (UL). Co-op is central to both UL’s educational philosophy and branding and is consistently cited by students as one of their top reasons for choosing UL over other higher education institutions. Based on the North American system, UL operates a centralised model of placement for both its Co-op and School Placement programmes, whereby responsibility for securing placements lies with the University.

Under the Co-op programme, UL undergraduate students across the faculties of Business; Science & Engineering; and Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences undertake a placement as a formal, compulsory and academically accredited element of their four-year degree. Students are required to undertake a six-to-eight-month placement in second or third year, the timing and duration of which are prescribed according to the placement calendar of their programme of study. Spanning some 56 degree programmes, Co-op is the largest placement programme in Ireland and one of the largest in Europe. Some 1,700 placements are secured annually; the placement rate last year was 97%. The international dimension of the programme is significant: more than 20% of students undertake placements within a network of 32 countries across all five continents.

For students of B.Ed. programmes, UL manages the largest School Placement Programme in Ireland, both in terms of placement numbers and disciplinary spread. Under the programme,
700 placements are secured for students with UL’s network of 550 post-primary schools annually.

UL has a strong employability focus and is committed to equipping students and graduates with skills and competencies they will need to build successful careers. During their four years at UL, students have access to an extensive range of employability-focused activities, including placement, careers development programmes, skills development and assessment sessions, and one-to-one consultations, to empower them to prepare for and manage their future careers. The University’s commitment to employability is reflected in our high level of graduate employment. According to the 2015 HEA graduate destination data, UL graduate employment stands at 73%, over 20% above the national average for the university sector. During the past year, UL developed the first national guide for parents of prospective higher education students. Entitled Aiming Higher, the purpose of the guide is to help parents to support their children’s decision-making in the areas of course choice and careers. Over 15,000 copies of the guide have been distributed to 800 schools, parents associations and youth organisations nationally.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

The International Education Division implements the University’s strategic objective to promote an increased international focus in all areas of activity by attracting international students to UL, providing UL students with opportunities to study abroad, receiving visitors from partner universities and providing support for UL teaching, administrative and technical staff to visit institutions in the EU and internationally for research, teaching and training. The University welcomed international students from 99 countries in AY2014/15. UL has been an active participant in the European Union's Erasmus programme for almost thirty years. The University was nominated as an Erasmus Success Story by the EU in 2009 and 2010. There are over 300 University partners in 28 countries in Europe which send almost 600 students to UL every year. This network of European partners allows Humanities, Business, Education and Health Sciences and Science and Engineering students to spend an academic semester abroad as an accredited part of their degree programme. In addition, international exchange students in 2014/15 came from 36 countries. UL has 40 non-EU partners in countries throughout the world, including Australia, Brazil, Uruguay, Canada, China, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and the USA. UL is also a participating partner in five Erasmus Mundus projects, ELECTRA, LOTUS+, LEADERS, INTACT and the Joint EM Masters in Adapted Physical mobility (EMMAPA), attracting high-calibre students from countries as diverse as Georgia, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Vietnam and Cambodia.

The International Education Division has representation and is active in the USA, China, India, Japan, Brazil, the Middle East and Africa for the recruitment of qualified international students for all academic programmes at UL, undergraduate and taught postgraduate. UL is an increasing attractive study destination for international students. The combination of excellent academic reputation and significant student support by IED has led to considerable growth in student numbers. During the academic year 2014/15 UL signed Memorandum of Understanding with a number of universities and international organisations. These MOUs focus on joint academic programmes, staff and student mobility and the recruitment of funded postgraduate research students. UL receives students from a growing number of Chinese partner universities, including Tongji University, Shanghai, the University of Science and Technology Beijing, Tianjin Foreign Studies University, Shandong University
of Technology and Henan Polytechnic University on 1+1 Master’s programmes and 3+1+1 collaborations.

UL currently welcomes over 500 Study Abroad Students annually and is an active participant in engaging with Study Abroad internationally. UL is proud member of the FORUM on Education Abroad with QUIP approval and has recently signed up as a commitment partner for the IIE Generation Study Abroad Initiative. The study abroad experience is pivotal to the college experience for US and UL’s ability to respond to the needs of this student cohort in terms of access to courses across all disciplines, the modular structure of the UL degree, outstanding student support and guaranteed campus housing have significantly contributed to the continuous growth of the study abroad programme at UL. Recent programme innovations allow students to avail of in-service learning ‘practicums’, summer programmes in non-traditional disciplines such as Nursing, Business and Architecture as well as the traditional suite of traditional Irish Studies programmes.

International Student Numbers AY2014/15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Students</td>
<td>738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Students (Taught)</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Students (Research)</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad Programme (primarily USA)</td>
<td>553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Students (EU and non-EU) (incoming)</td>
<td>706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Students (EU and non-EU) (outgoing)</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,021</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BUILDINGS, STUDENT VILLAGES & LABORATORIES

- UL’s campus area comprises 148 hectares, which includes 50 hectares located in the North Bank Campus on the Clare side of the river Shannon.

- Total area of buildings is 222,672m$^2$

- 429 Laboratories (encompassing undergraduate teaching, research, specialist and high-tech facilities).

- Total value of investment in land, buildings and equipment is over €900 million.

- Seven villages provide accommodation for 2,700 students and 24 faculty.

In the last five years, the following developments have taken place:

- The Tierney Building, with a floor area of 3,647m$^2$ incorporating Lero Software Research Centre and Industrial Enterprise Centre was completed in June 2011

- The 1,810m$^2$ Pavilion Building and all weather sports pitches, situated on the North Bank, were completed in 2011. The project comprises of a Sports pavilion with changing rooms, squad rooms, coaching/seminar rooms and a restaurant/bar. The fully floodlit all weather pitches, consisting of one GAA, two Soccer, and one rugby pitch have all been constructed to relevant GAA, FIFA and ERC standards.

- Construction of a new 4,295m$^2$ Graduate Entry Medical School (GEMS) building together with three student accommodation blocks totalling 3,563m$^2$ for 100 residents,
were completed in 2012. The GEMS building provides all the teaching, seminar, problem based learning, clinical skills, anatomical skills, and research laboratories together with faculty and administration requirements of the school in a single dedicated facility.

- Construction completed on a 2751m\(^2\) extension to the Materials and Surface Science Institute in August 2015. It accommodates 60 additional research staff, as well as academic and support staff. 16 specialist laboratory spaces together with seminar and meeting spaces have been provided.

- Construction completed on a 7652m\(^2\) research building named Analog Devices Building in June 2015. The building accommodates 150 researchers led by 10 new professors. Each Professor lead group has been assigned a full bespoke suite of research laboratories. The building also accommodates administrative and support staff accommodation together with conference/lecture and seminar rooms.

- Troy Student Village – purchased December 2014 with 170 beds

- Park Point Centre (including Travel Lodge Hotel) – purchased December 2015 (8,940m\(^2\))

- International Business Centre (IBC) – The University acquired the International Business Centre Buildings from SFADCo in 2013. These two buildings comprise 3,632m\(^2\) of office accommodation, business incubation and collaborative space for industrial/university research activities.

Construction has commenced on the following developments:

- Clinical Education and Research Centre (CERC) – Construction has commenced on a joint venture between UL and HSE at University Hospital Limerick campus. This is a 3400m\(^2\) facility providing laboratory, tutorial, library, research and administration spaces for clinical education. It also has dedicated spaces for the University of Limerick Health Research Institute.

- Arena Extension - Construction has begun on an extension to the University Arena incorporating a new 25m pool with diving and sub aqua facilities, weight training gyms, sauna and steam rooms.

- Munster Rugby Training Centre - Construction has also begun on a Munster Rugby Training Centre incorporating gymnasium, treatment rooms, video analysis rooms and office accommodation for Munster Rugby’s new headquarters.

Planned future developments include:

- Glucksman Library Extension - Construction is due to commence for an extension to the Glucksman Library of 7456m\(^2\). It will accommodate 1000 reader stations, access stations for 140,000 book volumes, automatic storage and retrieval system for 400,000 volumes and individual group study rooms and specialist display and exhibition areas.

- PGA Golf Academy – this facility will provide a driving range (25 bay), practice greens and biomechanics research facilities for golf on campus.
QUALITY

UL’s commitment to quality is articulated in our institutional quality policy, which commits us to a culture of continual improvement and to complying with national statutory quality requirements.

Under Irish legislation, most notably the Qualifications and Quality Assurance Act 2012, each university bears a responsibility to establish, maintain and enhance quality assurance (QA) procedures relating to their activities and services. Such arrangements must take due account of relevant quality guidelines issued by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) and/or predecessor organisations. QQI is the statutory body responsible for reviewing and monitoring the effectiveness of QA procedures adopted and implemented by higher (and further) educational institutions within Ireland.

UL institutional arrangements for developing, monitoring, reviewing, enhancing and managing the quality of our activities are multi-layered and multifaceted. Cornerstone institutional-level QA processes include:

- Ongoing cyclical quality review of all our academic units (details of which, including quality review reports, are available on the UL Quality Support Unit’s website).
- Implementation by all support units of a quality management system (QMS) based on the quality principles specified in the ISO9001:2015 quality management standard. Details of support unit quality reviews and resultant reports are available on the UL Quality Support Unit’s website.
- Application of an external examiner system for all of our taught programmes as well as degree awards by research.
- Our Student Evaluation of Teaching system (SET), a formative teaching evaluation service operationalised by UL’s Centre for Teaching and Learning. The aim of the SET is to gather and collate students’ opinions on the quality of module content and delivery.
- Our Module Satisfaction Survey (MSS), which runs in alternate semesters to the SET. The mid-term MSS encompasses all students registered on all modules undertaken during that term. By acting as a barometer of student satisfaction with their modules, the survey results provide lecturers and heads of department with student feedback while modules are still running. Details of the MSS procedure, along with a summary of institutional-level findings from surveys run to date, are available on the Quality Support Unit’s website.
- The university student exit survey. Based upon the UK’s National Student Survey (NSS), our annual exit survey is distributed to all final-year students. Previous exit survey reports are available on the Quality Support Unit’s website.
- Maintenance, periodic review and update of a comprehensive framework of academic practices and regulations, as articulated in our handbook of academic regulations and procedures.

In line with legislative requirements, all Irish universities periodically undergo independent, external institutional quality evaluation. The resultant report of our last (2012) institutional review confirms that we comply with statutory (quality) requirements and the European
Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ESGs) and follow national, European and international best practice.

**LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES**

Information, in both print and electronic formats, is provided by the Library & Information Services Division located in the Glucksman Library.

- Total print books 363,000
- Total electronic books 275,000
- Total journals 62,400
- Total library workstations 1,450

Other collections include the University’s web based institutional repository, ULIR, which contains UL’s research output such as journal articles and theses. The Special Collections Department contains the Library’s collections of archives, rare books and manuscripts relating particularly to the history, literature and culture of Limerick and the Midwest region. These collections include the National Dance Archive of Ireland, Mc Anally Travel Collection, papers of Kate O’Brien, Maurice Walsh, Jim Kemmy and the Dunraven and Moyaliffe Estates.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The University has:

- Over 5,000 PCs interconnected via network to a cluster of Linux/Windows servers,
- High Speed Internet connectivity at 10 Gbps
- High speed internal fibre network interconnecting all buildings on both sides of the campus
- 1600 PCs for student lab usage
- Dedicated student network connections for laptop usage in the Library
- Over 130 dedicated teaching spaces equipped with multimedia projection facilities
- Wireless coverage across main areas of the University with plans to extend
- On Campus, student accommodation with wired & wireless high speed network connectivity
- Video conferencing and multimedia facilities
- Print production services
- In house postal service delivering thousands of items per week to distribution points across campus
- Dedicated IT service desk for staff and students
- Onsite Computer Lab Assistants providing just in time support for students in computer labs
- Daily student laptop support clinics in the Library
- An extensive range of e-learning and student support applications.
The Information Technology Division (ITD) operates these services and was the first Irish University department to achieve ISO9001:2000 Quality accreditation in 2005.

THE VISUAL ARTS
The University is the permanent home of several art collections, including:

- 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

The Bourn Vincent Gallery is the University’s principal venue for exhibitions with an ancillary programme of seminars, lectures and performances. The Gallery continues to promote an awareness of visual art and contemporary practices with its exhibition schedule throughout the year, last year’s exhibitions included *Hyphae*, *Selfies* and *Gaze*.

The University’s own Arts Collection includes outdoor sculptures by international artists including Michael Warren, Peter Logan, Alexandra Wejchert, James McKenna, Tom Fitzpatrick, Antony Gormley and Sean Scully. These sculptures have added significantly to the artistic and cultural ambience of the University and the region.

UNIVERSITY CONCERT HALL
University Concert Hall (UCH) is the largest live entertainment and conference venue in the Mid-West Region, with a capacity of over 1,000. Since its establishment in 1993, UCH has been responsible for attracting many household names to Limerick from the world of music, comedy, theatre, and opera—Van Morrison, Don McLean, Christy Moore, Sir James Galway, Jimmy Carr, Billy Connolly, Elaine Paige among many others - contributing vastly to the cultural life of the city and wider region.

UCH also provides a professional platform to showcase Community artists and organisations from Limerick and the wider region. Over the past 20 years UCH has become home to anchor performing arts entities such as Limerick operatic and oratorio choirs, youth choirs, local orchestras and musical theatre companies in addition to dance schools. UCH also hosts summer residencies and major conferences for the University and City, in addition to TV and radio broadcasts including the TG4 Gradam Ceoil Awards, and more recently the live RTE Leaders Debate for the 2016 General Election.
UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK FOUNDATION

The University of Limerick Foundation provides, in partnership with UL, national and international leadership and funding for the University’s advancement. With over €200 million raised to date through its international network, the Foundation is a leading recipient of international philanthropic funding in Ireland.

The Foundation constantly strives to strengthen the links that the University has built with its graduate community and the business community on the island of Ireland and beyond. Guided and supported by our Chairman, Loretta Brennan Glucksman, and a board of national and international leaders from business, industry and the arts, the Foundation is proud of the role that it plays in assisting the physical and academic development of the University and in ensuring that the University of Limerick continues to be at the heart of many national initiatives.

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Established in 1987, the University of Limerick Alumni Association (ULAA) is a membership organisation for graduates of the University (now numbering over 81,000). ULAA provides the opportunity for UL graduates to have a lifelong relationship with their alma mater and with fellow-alumni. Membership of ULAA is automatic and free-of-charge for all UL graduates.

Through its various activities – including ‘Universal’ (an online community exclusive to UL graduates), Class Reunions, Chapters and events including the Alumni Lecture Series and the Alumni Awards programme - ULAA provides an active link between graduates and UL in support of both the University and the growing alumni community.