International Peer Learning Activity Perspectives on national strategies to promote learning and teaching - Ireland

Terry Maguire National Forum
Oisin Hassan NStEP
Sue Hacket QQI

November 03-04 2021

QQI
Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

National Student Engagement Programme
Clár Rannpháirtíochta Náisiúnta na Mac Léinn

NATIONAL FORUM
FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

Who we are

Ireland's national body responsible for leading and advising on the enhancement of teaching and learning in Irish higher education

Our vision

A valued and informed teaching and learning culture in Irish higher education

www.teachingandlearning.ie

Background

- Irish Government was funding collaborative teaching and learning projects through the Strategic Innovation Fund
- National Digital Learning Repository – 2005-12
- National Government consultation in 2012
- National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education established by Minister for Education and Skills in 2012

Original Functions of National Forum in 2012 (Multiannual funding, 4 year cycle, academically led board)

- To establish and maintain a strong evidence-base for the advancement of national strategic priorities in teaching and learning in Irish higher education
- To identify key priority themes
- To operate a national teaching fellowship scheme and national teaching awards scheme
- To operate a national grants scheme
- To facilitate academic professional development
- To establish a national digital platform

External Review - 2017

"The National Forum is not a project but rather an essential component of the national-level infrastructure for higher education. Therefore, the mission of the National Forum is essential for the continuous development of higher education and teaching and learning in Ireland."

External Review of the National Forum, 2017

Sectoral Consultation identified 4 Strategic Priorities 2019-2021

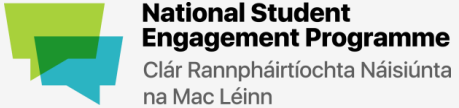
The Professional Development of All Those Who Teach

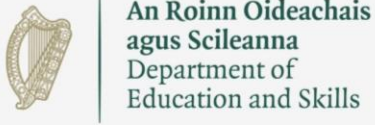
Teaching and Learning in a Digital World

Teaching and Learning Enhancement Within and Across Disciplines

Student Success

Working in partnership





We are inclusive, non-partisan and consultative…

- All those who learn (undergraduate, postgraduate, mature, part-time, etc.)
- All those who teach (researchers who teach, librarians who teach, etc.)
- All institution types (universities, technological HEIs, private colleges)
- Working with the sector, for the sector

- Academic- Led Board, International Advisors
- Student Associate Assembly and Staff Associate Assembly
- Fulltime student intern, staff secondments to the Forum

Our approach

Evidence-based:
Evidence of research and experience

Impactful:
Knowing what works and why

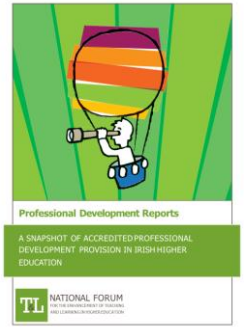
Embedded in Policy:
Informing and being informed by policy

Inclusive:
Working with the entire HE community

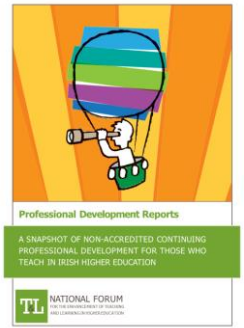
Consultative:
Working with the sector for the sector

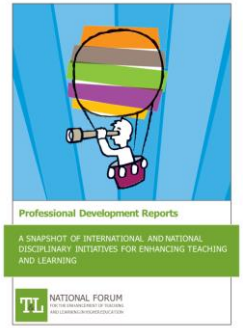
International:
Learning with other countries

How do we support innovation in teaching and learning?



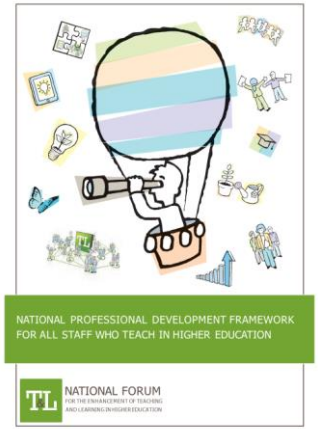
Accredited and non-accredited professional development in Irish higher education





International and national disciplinary initiatives for enhancing teaching and learning

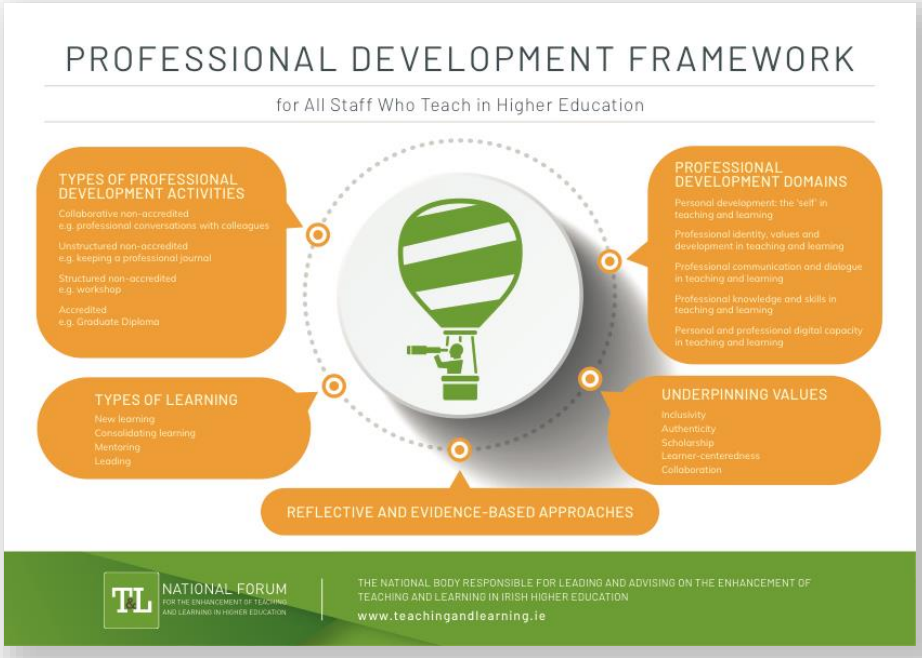
A mapping of pathways and a conceptual model for professional development in Irish higher education



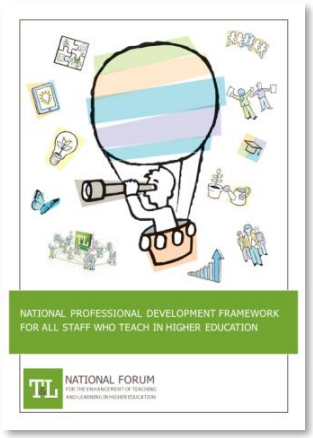
National Professional Development Framework for All Staff Who Teach

Summary findings from initial implementation of National Framework

The Professional Development of All Those Who Teach

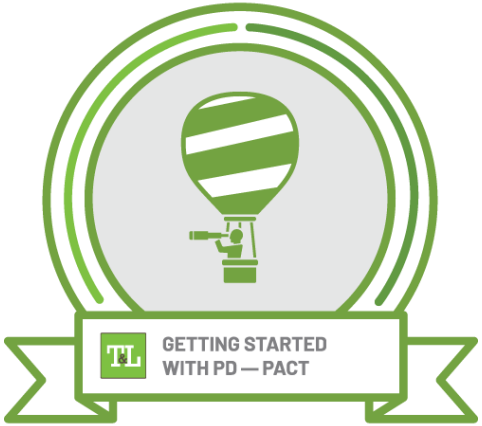


National Professional Development Framework for All Those Who Teach

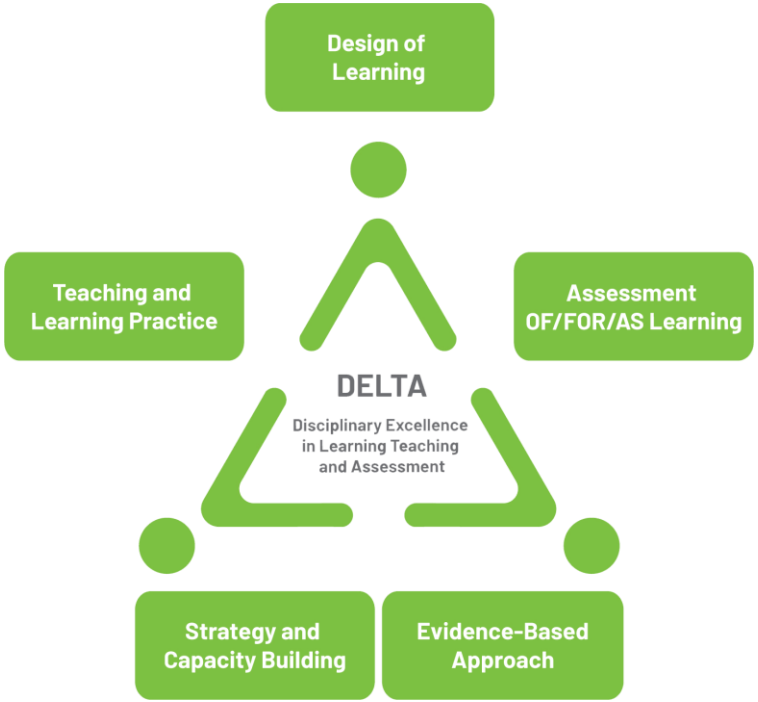


Developing staff capability

PD Open Courses



Teaching and Learning Enhancement Within and Across Disciplines



Disciplinary **E**xcellence in **L**earning **T**eaching and **A**ssessment … a framework for enhancement

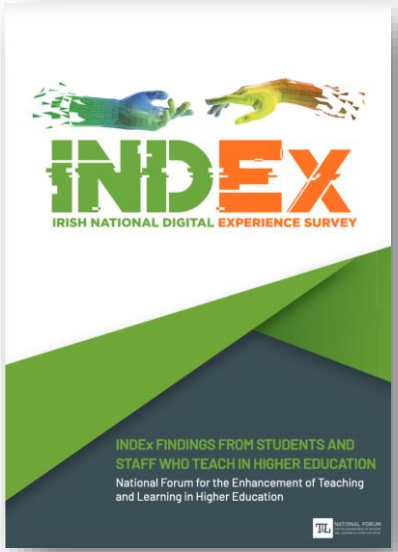
DELTA AWARDEE 2018-2021 Disciplinary Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Assessment

T&L NATIONAL FORUM FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Teaching and learning in a digital world

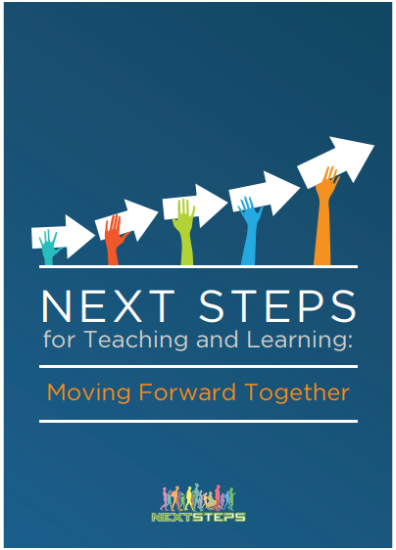
Roadmap, Frameworks and Reviews

Survey of Digital Experiences



Discussing and Collating shared experiences

May 2020: Lessons learned from move to online/remote teaching and learning

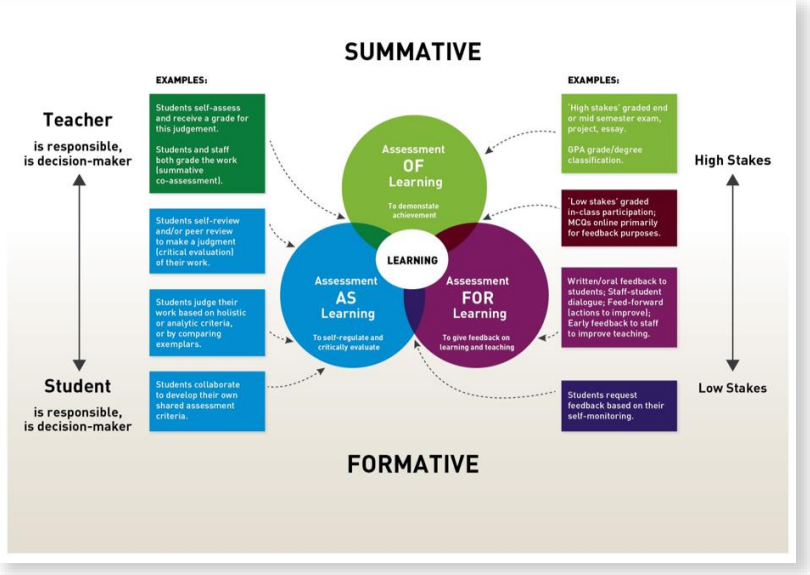


Next Steps for Teaching and Learning: Moving Forward Together

Launch 10 November 2021

Developing a national understanding of key topics

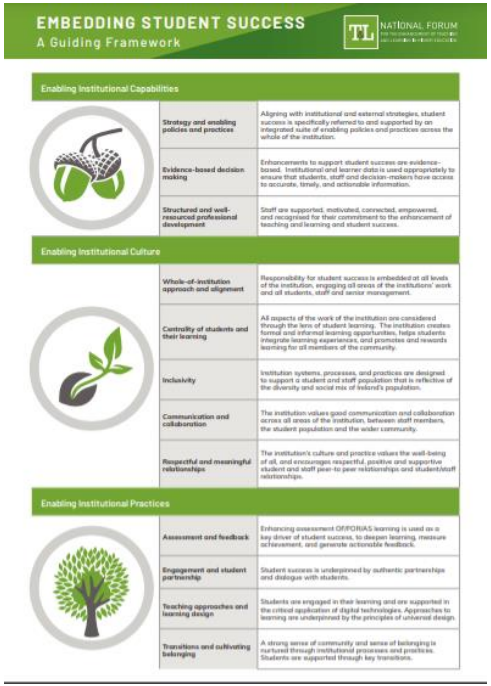
Assessment



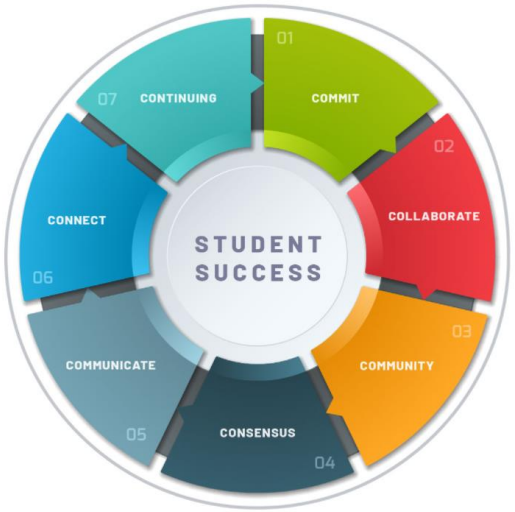
Enabling Policies

In order for a policy to be deemed **implementable** it needs to:	• clearly define the HEI's commitment to the policy area • have an implementation plan • be accompanied by policy instruments such as procedures, and clearly defined areas of responsibility
In order for a policy to be deemed **situated in practice** it needs to:	• be based on consultation • have been tested at operational level • facilitate innovation • be routinely monitored and reviewed for effectiveness
In order for a policy to be deemed **reflective of the HEI's priorities** it needs to:	• be guided by the HEI's vision • be in line with the HEI's strategic objectives • allow the HEI to meet its legal obligations

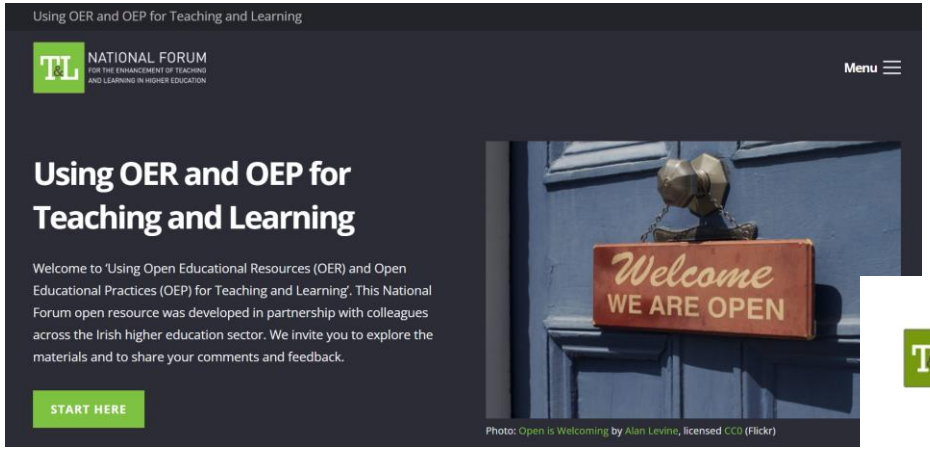
Agreed National Understanding of Student Success



Seven Cs for Embedding Student Success: A Toolkit for Higher Education Institutions



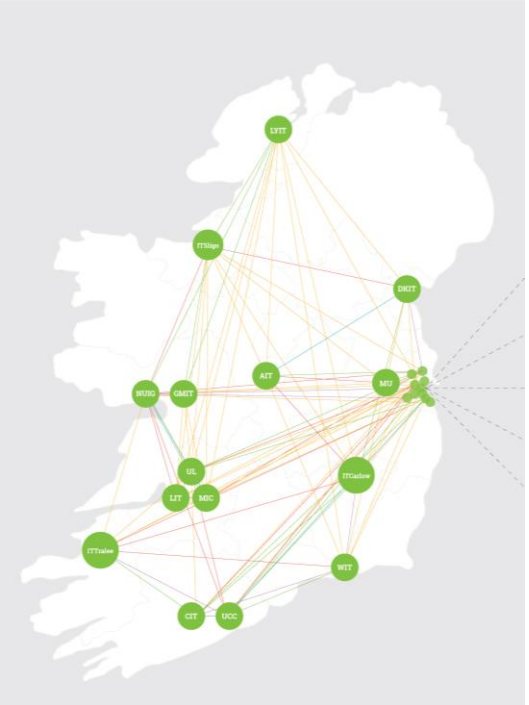
Encouraging collaboration and sharing



Supporting Open Education

Funding Innovations across priority areas

Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement Funding (SATLE)



National Seminar Series

— 600+ seminars since 2014

— focused conversations on assessment, transitions, professional development, digital, student success, enhancement within/across disciplines

Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement Funding (SATLE)

€5.57m Funding	85 Initiatives	>240 Local enhancement projects
1,045 Team members	2,017 Events	21,821 Participants
140 National presentations	75 International presentations	30 Peer-review publications
95 Peer-reviewed articles in preparation	98 Conference proceedings, reports etc.	827 Resources

From January 2022

The National Forum will be established on a sustainable basis under the Higher Education Authority.

It will maintain an academically-led board.

Many thanks for listening

Looking forward to our discussion

Dr Terry Maguire

Email: Terry.Maguire@teachingandlearning.ie

www.teachingandlearning.ie @ForumTL

Student engagement in higher education decision-making

Oisín Hassan, NStEP Programme Manager

National Student Engagement Programme
Clár Rannpháirtíochta Náisiúnta na Mac Léinn

QQI Quality and Qualifications Ireland Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann

USI Union of Students in Ireland Aontas na Mac Léinn in Éirinn

HEA AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Strategy 2019 - 2021

1. *Strengthening the value of student engagement nationally*
2. *Developing the leadership capabilities of students in Irish higher education*
3. *Supporting staff and students across the sector to foster a culture of partnership*

Steps to Partnership

A Framework for Authentic Student Engagement in Decision-Making

4 DRIVERS OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- A CULTURE OF STUDENTS AS PARTNERS
- THE INSTITUTION AS A SITE OF DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP
- THE INSTITUTION AS AN INCLUSIVE LEARNING COMMUNITY
- A CULTURE OF INSTITUTIONAL REFLECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

4 DOMAINS OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

5 PRINCIPLES OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- Dialogue
- Building Trust
- Equity and Inclusivity
- Empowerment
- Students as co-creators

5 ENABLERS OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

- Capacity Building
- Institutional Approaches
- Supportive Policies and Practices
- Communities of Practice
- Sustainability

DEVELOPING A SHARED UNDERSTANDING AND APPROACH TO STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

STUDENT VOICE → STUDENT ENGAGEMENT → STUDENT PARTNERSHIP

National Student Engagement Programme
Clár Rannpháirtíochta Náisiúnta na Mac Léinn

- Creation and maintenance of national framework and ‘understanding’
- Collaborative projects with national and institutional partners
- Informing policy and practice (embedding student partnership)
- National conferences and international collaborations

- Student-led training and development programme
- Creation of resources for students/student representatives
- Promote and support student inclusivity and inclusive practices
- Recognition of student engagement in HE decision-making (awards)

- Analysis of institutional practices and cultures (workshops/reports)
- Professional development for HE staff (with National Forum)
- Network of 29 higher education institutions and 26 students’ unions
- Guidance and resources for student partnership approaches

Get in touch!

studentengagement.ie

nstep@usi.ie

What we do is designed to drive high quality teaching and learning by….

- developing, supporting and approving quality assurance
- reviewing providers of education and training
- maintaining the National Framework of Qualifications
- developing awards and standards
- validating programmes of education and training
- fostering formal international relationship with sister organisations
- setting standards in relation to education for international learners

And how do we do this?

We highlight quality in teaching and learning with our partners by:

- carrying out reviews and discussing outcomes with providers
- developing and publishing Insights providing an authoritative voice on education, training and qualifications, e.g. *Quality in Higher Education and Further Education and Training* (Sept 2019)
- publishing our research, e.g., an impact study on COVID 19 on teaching, learning and assessment in Irish FET and HE (Sept 2020)
- organising and hosting professional development events, solely and jointly with partners, e.g., an annual National Academic Integrity Week
- consulting with stakeholders and publishing key policy documents, e.g., statutory and advisory guidelines
- Developing collaborative publications, e.g., Academic Integrity National Principles and a Lexicon of Common Terms; Guiding Principles for Alternative Assessments – in response to COVID emergency (March 2020)

Our strategic approach:

Focus on dynamic partnership and collaboration – fostering and strengthening partnerships to effect system change.

Current examples of partnerships:

- capturing the student voice through working with NStEP
- coordinating and facilitating the National Academic Integrity Network(HE) including fostering development initiatives
- establishing and developing formal networks with the Professional Statutory Regulatory Bodies
- working with the National Forum on professional development initiatives, e.g., work-based assessment
- sharing and collaborating with international sister organisations e.g., TEQSA, ENQA, QAA, etc