

Forward

As President of UCD Students' Union and on behalf of UCD students, I would encourage all of UCD's community, students and staff, to read this Strategic Vision. UCD has the capacity to host an ever growing student population and our current rate of capital development is steadily leading us towards that. For this reason, coupled with our world's ever alarming rate of environmental change, it's vitally important to take a moment to pause and consider if our campus is developing in a way it's students see fit.

We are blessed to have such a beautiful and expansive campus to host UCD's mission. This is an asset we will do well to use properly. I congratulate all those involved in this consultative project and urge all those who read it to note it's importance.



Barry Murphy
President
UCD Students' Union

Students - Have Your Say!

This UCD Students' Strategic Vision is intended to outline a Vision of how UCD students would like to see the UCD Campus develop into the future, and has been prepared following extensive consultation with students. We now encourage all students to review this Draft and to provide us with any comments or feedback you have, by Friday 29th March 2019.

1. Email your comments and feedback to pep.society@ucd.ie, or request to meet up with us if you have more to say.
2. Go to www.ucdvision.ie and add your comments directly onto a Google Doc version of this file, at the relevant sections.
3. Come along to our launch event on Tuesday 26th March, 5:30pm, Planning & Environmental Policy Building, UCD Richview.

If possible, please submit any comments and feedback by Friday 22nd March, so we can consider and address them, and respond to you before the launch event on Tuesday 26th March. In your comments, please be as specific as possible, making reference to specific sections or measures, and providing suggested wording for any changes you request.

The final date for all submissions is Friday 29th March 2019.

Vision Statement

The UCD Students' Strategic Vision is for a campus which can adequately fulfil its role as a major higher education facility for the Greater Dublin Area, the State, and internationally. The campus will continue to develop in an efficient manner, with new and refurbished facilities to meet the needs of a modern university. Buildings will be of a high quality design, and there will be a strong emphasis to involve students in all stages of the design process for all new developments. The natural environment and parkland setting of the campus will also be preserved and enhanced to maximise biodiversity and amenity spaces.

The campus will be a leader in environmental sustainability, with a strong awareness and culture among the university community. Minimal waste will be generated by the university, while an efficient waste segregation system will ensure that much of what is generated can be reused or recycled. Energy and water usage will be efficient, with renewable and on site generation meeting a large proportion of the university's need. The campus will be easily accessible by all modes of transport, with sustainable travel modes accounting for nearly all journeys to and from the campus.

High quality cycling facilities will make it safe to commute by bicycle, while within the campus pedestrians, cyclists and those with mobility impairments will be able to move freely and find their way around easily. An efficient bus system with high frequency routes and continuous bus priority will reduce waiting and journey times, while a new bus only link from the M50 at Sandyford will provide quick journey times for regional bus services and from park and ride facilities.

Academic facilities will adequately meet the need of students, with sufficient study spaces, computers and internet access available at all times. The additional on-campus student residences will give more students the opportunity to live on campus, while also reducing pressure on the local rental market and helping to lower rents. Students and residents will have access to a good choice of food and retail options, catering for all lifestyle choices and dietary requirements, while also being affordable.

The Student Centre will be further developed to provide additional sporting and leisure facilities, and to support the activities and events of all student societies and sports clubs. During the day, the campus will be a vibrant and lively place, with plenty of places and seating to hang out and socialise, while at night there will be sufficient opportunities to socialise on the campus, without having to leave the campus.

Finally, the campus will be a diverse, inclusive community where students of all backgrounds, culture and ability are treated equally. All activities, events and facilities will be open and readily available to all students, while a range of different supports will be available and promoted to cater for the varying needs of students physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Strategic Priorities and Measures

Strategic Priority 1: Promote the orderly development of the Belfield Campus, enabling UCD to fulfil its role as a major higher education facility for the Greater Dublin Area, the State, and Internationally

Measure 1.1: Develop the campus in a land and space efficient manner

Measure 1.2: Refurbish and modernise older academic buildings to bring them up to the standard required for a modern university

Measure 1.3: Provide additional building capacity to meet the needs of an expanding university and student population

Measure 1.4: Protect the character and heritage of historic buildings and features on the campus

Measure 1.5: Ensure high quality design in all future developments on the campus

Measure 1.6: Involve students in the design process for new developments

Measure 1.7: Support the relocation of existing teaching uses in Richview to new purpose built facilities in a more central location within the campus

Measure 1.8: Support the preparation of a local community plan for the Clonskeagh and UCD area

Strategic Priority 2: Preserve and enhance the natural environment and parkland setting of the Belfield Campus

Measure 2.1: Protect the woodlands, natural features and recreational spaces of the campus from future development

Measure 2.2: Consolidate parking spaces into underground and multi-storey facilities, to remove the impact of surface parking on the landscape

Measure 2.3: Increase the amount of trees and planting to maximise biodiversity on the campus

Measure 2.4: Determine the amount of carbon sequestered by the campus, and examine the potential for UCD to become a carbon neutral campus

Strategic Priority 3: Promote a culture of sustainability among the campus community

Measure 3.1: Improve awareness of the importance of sustainability on the campus and the role that students can play

Measure 3.2: Support student projects and campaigns related to sustainability or the environment

Measure 3.3: Introduce successful waste segregation across the campus

Measure 3.4: Provide financial incentives to use reusable alternatives instead of disposable items

Strategic Priority 4: Minimise the amount of waste generated by the university

Measure 4.1: Reduce the amount of non recyclable waste available on the campus

Measure 4.2: Replace disposable items with reusable alternatives

Measure 4.3: Provide an adequate number of water fountains around the campus

Measure 4.4: Discourage use of paper for class handouts and assignment submission

Measure 4.5: Transition UCD's promotional material away from paper

Strategic Priority 5: Minimise UCD's energy and water usage, through infrastructure improvements, and more sustainable behaviour by students and staff

Measure 5.1: Support infrastructure improvements which reduce energy and water usage

Measure 5.2: Create a leaderboard across buildings or departments to encourage energy and water savings through competition

Measure 5.3: Set up a network of volunteer ambassadors in each building to switch off lights/computers when not in use

Strategic Priority 6: Make it easier and safer to access the campus by walking and cycling

Measure 6.1: Support the implementation of the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan

Measure 6.2: Improve the safety of entrances to the campus

Measure 6.3: Provide additional bicycle parking where required

Measure 6.4: Provide adequate facilities for cyclists

Measure 6.5: Remove all barriers and obstacles to internal movement within the campus, particularly for pedestrians, cyclists and those with mobility impairments

Measure 6.6: Prepare and implement a wayfinding strategy for the campus

Measure 6.7: Create an umbrella sharing scheme between buildings on the campus

Strategic Priority 7: Significantly improve access to the campus by public transport

Measure 7.1: Support the implementation of the BusConnects Dublin Area Bus Network Redesign

Measure 7.2: Support the implementation of the BusConnects Core Bus Corridor Project

Measure 7.3: Enhance connections between UCD and nearby rail services

Measure 7.4: Address legacy issues of buses not serving UCD in the late evenings and night due to antisocial behaviour

Measure 7.5: Support the introduction of 24 hour services on key bus corridors in Dublin, including past UCD

Strategic Priority 8: Encourage a shift from car commuting to more sustainable travel modes, while facilitating car access for those who have a genuine need for it

Measure 8.1: Consider possible incentives to encourage and promote sustainable commuting

Measure 8.2: Better manage parking to facilitate car access for those who require it, while discouraging driving for those who could easily use a more sustainable mode

Measure 8.3: Facilitate and support carpooling, where appropriate

Measure 8.4: Provide an accessible car club for short term car use

Measure 8.5: Develop an off campus park and ride site which is more easily accessible from the motorway network

Measure 8.6: Develop a public transport only link between the M50 motorway at Sandyford and the UCD Campus, along the Dublin Eastern Bypass Reservation

Strategic Priority 9: Ensure that academic facilities and resources, teaching and study spaces, and library and technology services adequately meet the needs of students programmes and modules

Measure 9.1: Provide additional study spaces, particularly during exams

Measure 9.2: Provide better monitoring and enforcement of vacant study spaces

Measure 9.3: Provide a power source at all study and lecture spaces

Measure 9.4: Provide a sufficient number of computers for students to use

Measure 9.5: Improve Wi-Fi availability and quality in poor patches throughout the campus

Measure 9.6: Provide a facility for students to view the availability of rooms for computer and study use

Strategic Priority 10: Ensure that the availability or cost of student accommodation is not a barrier to studying in UCD

Measure 10.1: Support the development of the UCD Student Residences Masterplan

Measure 10.2: Support the development of off-campus student accommodation in the vicinity of the campus

Measure 10.3: Provide incentives to residents in the local community to rent any spare rooms to students at an affordable rate

Measure 10.4: Provide UCD Students' Union with adequate resources to support students seeking accommodation

Strategic Priority 11: Provide a sufficient choice of food, retail and residential services, to cater for the increasing student and residential population of the campus

Measure 11.1: Improve the opening hours of food and retail outlets, particularly during the evenings and at weekends

Measure 11.2: Examine the affordability of food on the campus

Measure 11.3: Improve the quality and selection of food, better catering for lifestyle choices and dietary requirements

Measure 11.4: Provide higher quality food outlets

Measure 11.5: Provide more self catering options for students and residents

Measure 11.6: Provide a large supermarket or convenience store on the campus

Strategic Priority 12: Develop and expand sport and leisure facilities, to adequately cater for the activities of students, societies and sports clubs

Measure 12.1: Support the holding of a referendum to retain the student centre levy, to fund the development and expansion of sport and leisure facilities

Measure 12.2: Improve Astra Hall to make it more functional

Measure 12.3: Provide a purpose built rehearsal space for performing arts uses

Measure 12.4: Provide additional storage space for societies and clubs

Measure 12.5: Provide additional sports hall facilities

Measure 12.6: Provide additional gym facilities and equipment

Measure 12.7: Support the development of a new athletics track

Measure 12.8: Provide more specialised facilities for specific sports

Strategic Priority 13: Promote a lively, vibrant and safe social life on the campus, day and night

Measure 13.1: Provide a suitable platform to increase awareness of student activities and events

Measure 13.2: Provide students, societies and clubs with sufficient support to facilitate the successful running of their activities and events

Measure 13.3: Provide additional seating areas around the campus and more spaces to hang out and socialise

Measure 13.4: Provide a dedicated space for informal creative arts uses

Measure 13.5: Provide sufficient opportunities to socialise during the evening and night, without having to leave the campus

Measure 13.6: Encourage more activity in the centre of the campus during the evening and night

Strategic Priority 14: Promote UCD as a diverse, inclusive community where students of all backgrounds, culture and ability are treated equally and supported appropriately

Measure 14.1: Make awareness of diversity and inclusion a part of the orientation for incoming students

Measure 14.2: Support student projects which raise awareness of diversity and inclusion on the campus

Measure 14.3: Ensure that activities and events are accessible to all students

Measure 14.4: Ensure that all facilities can cater for the needs of all students

Measure 14.5: Provide facilities for students to relax and get away from everything

Measure 14.6: Provide clear and sufficient information to students about the supports available to them, and where they can access various types of support

Measure 14.7: Provide a group therapy space within the UCD Health Centre

Strategic Priority 15: Ensure that this Students' Strategic Vision is realised and has a positive influence on the future development of the UCD campus

Measure 15.1: Seek from UCD Students' Union, the approval and adoption of this Vision, to form part of official Students' Union Policy

Measure 15.2: Seek from university management and Estate Services, the recognition of this Vision, and a commitment that it will be fully considered and taken into account in future plans and proposals by the university

Measure 15.3: Establish an implementation group to support the implementation of this Vision

Measure 15.4: Prepare an annual progress report on the implementation status of this Vision

Measure 15.5: Review this Vision on an annual basis, and ensure it is kept up to date and stays relevant