The National University of Ireland Galway and the city of Galway: A values driven collaboration
Ireland

- A member of the EU
- 6.6 million living in the Island of Ireland (Republic 4.75, North 1.85)
- Dublin (the capital city) is growing fast and currently attracting international business investment

Galway

- Located on the West coast of Ireland
- Population of around 258,000
- An Irish speaking region of the country
Galway (City and more)

• European Capital of Culture 2020
• Reputation for art, music and culture
• Tourist destination
• Very strong growth in medtech and data science companies
• Current population of 258,000 - expected to grow by 50-60% by 2040.
The University and the City

‘The beating heart of the city’
NUI Galway Campus

- €400m – Capital Development Programme has transformed the campus
- NUI Galway – fastest expanding campus in the country
- Open campus – public spaces, river walks, tour boats sail past, walking tours, curate a number of museums
Based on the QS World University Rankings, NUI Galway is ranked in the top 1% of global universities.

In 2018 NUI Galway secured the Sunday Times University of the Year.

We’ve completed a multi-million euro capital programme, to ensure the best teaching and research environment.

We have been voted as one of the top 30 most beautiful campuses in Europe.

98% of our graduates are in employment or further study within six months of graduating.

10% of students are undertaking their studies through the language.

Our university...at a glance

• >18,500 students
• >2,500 staff
• >90,000 alumni
• >175 years of tradition
• >100 hectares

98% of our graduates are in employment or further study within six months of graduating.
Driving diversity in the region

>3,000 international students from 115 countries
Innovation ecosystem

1. University-wide innovation and entrepreneurial supports
   - Undergraduate Entrepreneurship Programmes
     - LaunchPad
     - Explore

2. Research development and impact pathway support
   - Research Office supports
   - Innovation Office supports

3. Research and knowledge transfer
   - Collaborative research
   - Technology licensing
   - Knowledge transfer and sharing
   - Public engagement

4. Incubation supports
   - Business Innovation Centre
   - Block E BioInnovate and BioExcel hubs
   - Dangan Life Sciences Innovation Hub

5. Training programmes, hubs, accelerators
   - BioInnovate Ireland
   - Health Innovation Hub Ireland
   - BioExel Medtech Accelerator
   - TechInnovate

Start-ups

Entrepreneurs

Our students and staff

Our research community

Research & Innovation

Industry & public

University-wide innovation and entrepreneurial supports

Research development and impact pathway support

Research and knowledge transfer

Incubation supports

Training programmes, hubs, accelerators
University and City: Values driven approach

• ‘NUI Galway is for the public good’

• ‘NUI Galway is a University of our time, dedicated to nurturing global citizens and addressing key questions facing our world’

• NUI Galway is a globally distinctive educational institution’
Our Values

- Respectfulness
- Excellence
- Openness
- Distinctiveness
- Sustainable
Strategy intended to speak to more than academia

The University wants the city to join in owning the strategy
Challenges

• Academia (often) looks elitist, inaccessible and uses language that isolates itself (even inclusive language is complicated)

• Galway local government structures are complex, fragmented and lack scale

• University and local government struggle to organise collectively to capitalise on strategic funding (Project Ireland 2040)

• The University crosses the boundary of city council and county council

• ‘Key questions facing our world’ aren’t always the questions local communities feel relevant to them
A city is more than the council and a University is more than it’s management team

• Through staff and students we have strong links to innovation, enterprise, community initiatives and voluntary organisations

• The values are asking staff and students to look outside the University

• By framing the strategy through values rather than academic activities (research, education etc.) creative collaboration between NUIG and the City of Galway is ‘our business’
Thank you