College of Health and Agricultural Sciences

Vision, Mission and Strategic Objectives
7,501 students registered with the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences

1,128 faculty, research and support staff are employed across the College

955 average annual publications

504 average annual internationally co-authored research papers

70% staff satisfaction measure

42.1% Male

57.9% Female

1.87 field weighted citation impact

4 subjects in Top 100 QS World Rankings

Source: UCD Institutional Research
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Foreword

The UCD College of Health and Agricultural Sciences was established in 2015 and brings UCD’s health professionals and agricultural scientists together to exploit synergies and opportunities which exist across the One Health spectrum.

The College comprises five schools, the School of Agriculture & Food Science, the School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems, the School of Medicine, the School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science, and the School of Veterinary Medicine.

The College supports the indigenous agriculture and food sectors, and animal health and medical professions through education, cutting-edge research and other services to our community and stakeholders. We offer a spectrum of health professional courses across the constituent schools of the College, including an extensive portfolio of graduate education for healthcare professionals designed to fit their busy clinical schedules.

The One Health Initiative links the health of all living things together with the existing synergies between human and animal health, public health and food and environmental science.

This document articulates the activities and ambitions of the College and supports UCD strategies.
Our Vision

To lead the advancement of human, animal and environmental wellbeing for the benefit of society.

Our Mission

To foster the integration and delivery of impactful education, research and services in health, wellbeing and agriculture with excellent people and facilities.
Objective 1: Research
Increase the quality, quantity and impact of our research, scholarship and innovation

Objective 2: Education and Training
Be at the forefront of providing the best education to prepare our students for challenging careers and to be lifelong learners

Objective 3: Internationalisation
Build our engagement with students and partners in Ireland and around the world

Objective 4: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
Promote and drive EDI initiatives across the college to create a workplace culture of dignity and respect for all

Objective 5: Infrastructure
Champion the development of world-class infrastructure and facilities to support our vision

Objective 6: College Leadership
Coordinate and represent the diverse activities within the College

Objective 7: External Impact
Leverage the activities of the College, with its stakeholders and partners, for the benefit of society
The vision of One Health UCD is to maximise the health and well-being of humans, animals and the environment through academic excellence, collaborative research, education and outreach. UCD aims to provide students with a broad perspective of the world, enabling them to be adaptive, reactive, and capable of solving problems that impact the health of the planet and those on it by considering solutions from multiple angles. UCD also strives to carry out world-class, multi-disciplinary research that improves the health of humans, animals and the environment. This One Health approach is a central philosophy that underpins the teaching and research in the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences, for the benefit of all.

The UCD Health Affairs is part of the UCD College of Health and Agricultural Sciences (CHAS) and works with the five CHAS schools to enhance collaboration and provide a formal channel for cooperation between the Ireland East Hospital Group’s (IEHG) primary academic partner UCD and the 12 affiliated hospitals and four Community Healthcare Organisations (CHO) in IEHG. The integrated approach to health care, with strong collaboration across the various hospitals, University and community will drive the development of an Academic Health Science System (AHSS). Patients do better when managed in an AHSS because integrating teaching, training, research and innovation with the clinical service improves recruitment and retention of quality staff.
Institutes and Centres

UCD Institute for Food and Health

The UCD Institute of Food and Health is a research centre of excellence with a focus on Food Quality and Processing, Food Safety, Personalised Nutrition and Health, and Food Chain Sustainability. Central to the Institute’s philosophy is the translation of its research for commercial, economic and societal impact, and also to utilise its scientific evidence basis to shape food and health policy. Research is conducted in purpose-built state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities based in the UCD O’Brien Centre for Science and at other locations including pilot plant facilities in the UCD Agriculture and Food Science Centre. By interacting across the four key research themes of the Institute, Food Quality and Processing; Food Safety; Nutrition and Health; and Food Chain Sustainability and by linking in with campus, national and international initiatives, Institute researchers can ensure that their contributions are relevant to a broad spectrum of scientific, health, legal and social arenas.

UCD Conway Institute

The UCD Conway Institute is a leader in biomedical research and innovation that supports the translation of this knowledge, through industrial, academic and clinical partnerships, to benefit the health and well-being of society in Ireland and beyond. Critically, the Institute recognises the high value of high-quality ‘blue skies’ innovative research in the biosciences and the opportunities that it provides for novel future ground-breaking research efforts. Close alignment of research, optimisation of infrastructure and development of an innovation agenda are essential for continued success, as is the fostering of a culture where new discoveries can flourish. To achieve this, it is critical to implement structures to support integrated research activities, which can bundle the capability available at the Institute to tackle the big questions in biomedical science. In addition to facilitating team-based science, the Institute also needs to be a home for individually excellent scientists, particularly in respect of ‘blue skies’ research, and to welcome and foster interdisciplinarity.

School of Agriculture and Food Science

UCD Centre for Forest Research
UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action

School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science

National Nutrition Surveillance Centre at UCD
UCD Centre for Food Safety
UCD Centre for Safety and Health at Work
UCD Centre for Support and Training in Analysis and Research
UCD Centre for Translational Pain Research
UCD Childhood and Human Development Research Centre

School of Medicine

UCD Academic Centre on Rare Diseases
UCD Bioinformatics Centre
UCD Centre for Arthritis Research
UCD Centre for Emergency Medical Science
UCD Centre for Experimental Pathogen Host Research
UCD Centre for Human Reproduction
UCD Centre in Translational Oncology
UCD Diabetes Complications Research Centre
UCD Perinatal Research Centre
UCD Centre for Precision Surgery

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems

UCD Centre for Interdisciplinary Research Education and Innovation in Health Systems

School of Veterinary Medicine

UCD Centre for Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis
Objective 1: Research
Increase the quality, quantity and impact of our research, scholarship and innovation

New knowledge is at the heart of what a university is, and the College is strongly committed to excellence in research and innovation to deliver impact locally, nationally and globally. By building an outstanding base of scholarship within all our disciplines, we generate new knowledge and ideas that inform policy, support enterprise, deliver innovation, and enrich society.

College Actions
- Foster and support excellent research and innovation to generate impact
- Identify and coordinate research opportunities in thematic and priority areas
- Seek opportunities for, and facilitate, interdisciplinary collaborations
- Develop the College organisation, support services and systems for the management of research, innovation and impact including our research facilities
- Create an environment and culture that is supportive of all investigators from graduate research students to senior faculty
- Facilitate the training of the investigators of the future
Examples

**Systems Biology Ireland (SBI)**
SBI has successfully developed an integrated computational and experimental research programme focusing on the design of new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to diseases, primarily cancer, based on a systems level, mechanistic understanding of cellular signal transduction networks. SBI uses mathematical and computational modelling approaches in combination with cutting edge experimental technologies in genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, advanced microscopy and flow cytometry as well as cell biology and molecular biology methods.

**The UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology**
The UCD Charles Institute of Dermatology is the premier academic institute devoted to dermatology research and training in Ireland. The Institute’s vision is to become a world leader in this area of medicine, to advance improved patient care through the discovery of new treatments and therapies. The clinical need is significant, not least as up to 20% of all visits to GPs in Ireland have some skin focus. This vision in experimental and translational dermatology research integrates a wide range of stakeholders, where our ecosystem of students, researchers, clinicians and patients benefit as a whole.

**Institute for Sport and Health**
The School of Public Health, Physiotherapy & Sports Science is home to UCD’s Institute for Sport and Health. The Institute supports worldclass research and service activities in the Sports and Exercise Sciences for the university and its wider community. It is home to the Ad Astra Elite Sports Programme which provided 21 Olympians, current students and alumni, to the Tokyo Games, has an accredited Human Performance laboratory, a postgraduate research hub and a sports medicine service.

**Lyons Farm**
UCD Lyons Farm is a leader in sustainable agriculture and veterinary research, education, knowledge transfer and innovation. Home to the UCD Lyons Dairy Education and Research centre, the UCD Lyons Long-term Grazing Platform and the AgTech UCD Innovation and Herd Health Hub, Lyons Farm hosts research, innovation and extension activity, co-funded by Industry that provides solutions to the most pressing issues facing food systems and our environment. The greatest asset at UCD Lyons Farm is the expert staff, spanning farm staff specialists, technicians, post graduate and post-doctoral researchers and academic staff, which support research activity valued in excess of €20million.

**UCD Clinical Research Centre (CRC)**
The CRC offers a patient-centred environment with comprehensive clinical facilities that provides access to professional and experienced clinical research support staff for our clinical community. Our expert staff are delivering programmes of research that are enhancing health care and impacting patients’ lives. The CRC also offers training in clinical research. The CRC was recently awarded significant HRB funding to continue to enhance patient-focused research, increase opportunities for patients to participate in clinical trials and increase the critical support available to investigators from facilities, through to study design and sponsorship.

**UCD Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, Education and Innovation in Health Systems (UCD IRIS Centre)**
UCD IRIS is located in the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems and spans a number of other schools in the health and social sciences. Utilising interdisciplinary approaches to identify problems in existing service provision, particularly in the areas of leadership, teamwork and organisational culture, the research synthesises evidence, co-designs and evaluates new models and approaches to improve the quality and safety of healthcare.
Objective 2: Education and Training

Be at the forefront of providing the best education to prepare our students for challenging careers and to be lifelong learners

Collectively the Schools within the College provide a holistic education experience that challenges students to learn, enquire, create, reason and innovate so they can gain knowledge and attitudes to be personally successful, be life-long learners and shape local and global society.

College Actions

- Foster excellence and be recognised internationally for scholarship across all disciplines
- Drive developments in teaching, learning and assessment methods with due consideration to issues of access, equality, diversity and inclusion and student wellbeing
- Prepare competent graduates who contribute to society and their professions
- Foster student engagement and an outstanding student experience
Examples

**Clinical Skills Centre at UCD School of Veterinary Medicine**
The School of Veterinary Medicine has expanded its clinical skills training through the re-development of the existing clinical skills laboratory into the re-launched Clinical Skills Centre which supports clinical skills development in undergraduate veterinary medicine and veterinary nursing students. This enhanced facility continues to develop and become further integrated into the core undergraduate curricula as well as being a supportive space for students to use in their own time to develop their skills.

**UCD Physio Hub**
Led by colleagues in UCD Physiotherapy and based in UCD’s sports facility, the UCD Physio Hub is an exemplar of innovation in health professional education, providing ‘real world’ student learning opportunities in community health, physical activity and exercise prescription for both healthy and chronic disease populations. Students engage with clients and colleagues on campus and through community outreach activities. Adopting an evidence based approach, students at Physio Hub are encouraged to be creative in addressing the diverse community health needs.

**BSc in Human Nutrition**
The BSc in Human Nutrition covers many aspects of nutritional sciences, from biochemistry to molecular and public health nutrition, and includes topics such as nutrition communication and food regulatory affairs. Teaching on the programme is delivered by research active academic staff from several Schools in a variety of human nutrition related fields from the exploration of the relationship between diet, lifestyle and health with a view to enhancing public health to the investigation of diet-genome interaction and the role of human genetic variation in the metabolism of dietary substances.

**The PILLAR Centre for Transformative Healthcare**
UCD and the Mater Hospital have worked in partnership since 1861, and the hospital plays a key role in delivering a number of academic programmes. Together the two institutions have demonstrated a commitment to stimulating a culture of learning and enquiry which has led to the establishment of one of the foremost centres for clinical training in Ireland.

**Virtual Reality Simulation in Medical Imaging**
The Radiography & Diagnostic Imaging Section has embedded both 2D and 3D Virtual Reality simulation learning into its curricula to offer innovative learning experiences to Radiography students as they develop their practical skills. Significant investment has afforded 6 “State of the Art” virtual reality suites which are used to support student learning. In addition to the on-campus experience where the students can fully immerse themselves into a 3D X-ray suite and perform patient examinations the students also have access to a virtual x-ray room on their personal laptops, so they can practice their radiography skills at times convenient to them.
Objective 3: Internationalisation

Build our engagement with students and partners in Ireland and around the world

The College will attract a diverse cohort of international students and staff, and offer educational opportunities for our own students around the world. The College advocates for the realisation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and by highlighting global challenges in sustainable health and agricultural sciences, our graduates will emerge with the skills, experience and perspectives necessary to be global citizens.

College Actions

• Champion the relevance of the Sustainable Development Goals through our education and research programmes
• Support synergistic collaboration in international engagement initiatives across the Schools
• Increase the engagement with incoming international delegations and visitors such that the full range of academic interests across the College are effectively leveraged
• Strengthen links with the UCD Global
• Develop and promote use of College Global Engagement Partnership Plan in collaboration with the Schools and UCD Global
Examples

**UCD and South China Agricultural University (SCAU)**
The Guangzhou Dublin International College of Life Sciences and Technology was established in 2020 and is the culmination of a long standing relationship between UCD and South China Agricultural University (SCAU). GDIC is located on the SCAU campus in the city of Guangzhou, and its focus is on Life Science & Technology in the context of the agriculture and food science environments. Degree programmes in Biological Sciences, Food Quality and Safety and, Horticulture are delivered by staff from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science, UCD School of Biology and Environmental Science and South China Agricultural University. With an intake of 180 students per annum currently, all programmes involve four years of full time study structured around an international educational model. GDIC provides a world class international educational experience that equips its multilingual graduates with the talents to thrive in an increasingly globalised and technology connected society. GDIC is one of three joint international colleges UCD operates in China.

**RCSI and UCD Malaysian Campus (RUMC)**
RUMC is Malaysia’s first accredited private medical school, and is owned and was established by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and UCD. Formerly the Penang Medical College, the RUMC has recently been awarded University status by the Malaysian Ministry of Education as a Foreign University Branch Campus, one of the highest levels for a foreign-owned institution in Malaysia. RUMC remains as the only Irish university in the region and recognised by the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC) and Irish Medical Council (IMC) as graduating high performing doctors. Students are recognised for practice in the USA, Canada and others by the ECFMG and FAIRMER with the institution listed as an Irish medical school in the World Directory of Medical Schools.

**International Statistics**

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<th>Countries of Student Citizenship</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Nigeria</th>
<th>Singapore</th>
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<td>97</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>71</td>
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- **34** Poland
- **88** Middle Eastern Countries
- **236** Malaysia
Objective 4: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Promote and drive EDI initiatives across the college to create a workplace culture of dignity and respect for all

CHAS recognises that creating an equal and diverse environment is essential for the wellbeing and benefit of all its community. It wishes to ensure that the College is a place where everyone is treated with dignity and respect and all members have a sense of belonging. The College Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee is concerned with driving equality, diversity and inclusion related initiatives throughout the College across the 10 grounds of discrimination that are currently recognised by UCD. These are Age, Civil status, Disability, Family status, Gender, Membership of the Traveller community, Race, Religion, Sexual Orientation and Socio-economic status.

College Actions

- Promote an environment of inclusion and equality for all staff and students
- Foster faculty and staff development and progression
- Support the constituent Schools to develop and implement their EDI and Athena SWAN strategies
- Raise awareness of the UCD Bullying and Harassment policy, UCD Sexual Misconduct Policy, the UCD Dignity and Respect Support Service and the associated reporting tools to all staff and students in the College
Examples

Athena SWAN
All five of the college’s constituent Schools have been awarded an Athena SWAN Bronze award. UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science, UCD School of Medicine, and UCD School of Veterinary Medicine all achieved their bronze awards in 2019 and are eligible to apply for a silver award. In 2021 UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems and UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science also achieved the bronze award. The Athena SWAN awards recognise the advancement of gender equality in higher education, and the receipt of these five bronze awards is testament to the work of faculty and staff across the college.

Neurodiversity
The UCD CHAS Neurodiversity Project is a working group of the CHAS EDI Committee, established in 2020. The UCD Neurodiversity Project aims to recognise and provide support for neurodiverse students and staff. The group works with external partners such as ADHD Ireland to run conferences and webinars to promote awareness and understanding of neurodiversity across the university and to the wider public. In December 2020, a professional Certificate in Neurodiversity was launched by UCD School of Medicine, designed for those who work with neurodivergent individuals in any settings, such as clinical practice, education, or other workplaces.

University for All Faculty Partners
The University for All Faculty Partnership Programme is a collaboration between UCD Access & Lifelong Learning, UCD Teaching & Learning and UCD Equality, Diversity & Inclusion. The Programme is designed to support and accelerate the implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) throughout the University. This Faculty Partnership Programme is intended to develop the confidence and skills of participants in order to support colleagues with the implementation of UDL and the creation of an inclusive educational environment for our diverse cohort of students. The programme was rolled out in summer 2021 with 17 partners appointed across the university in the first call. Eight partners were appointed to the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences, and each of the college’s constituent schools was represented. There are now 27 partners across the university.
Objective 5: Infrastructure

Champion the development of world-class infrastructure and facilities to support our vision

A University infrastructure defines its capabilities and enables its ambition. The Schools in the College have benefited from state of the art facilities and infrastructure during stages of their development, but these now need to be enhanced to enable the College to deliver on its ambition and vision.

College Actions

- Identify and catalogue infrastructure and facility needs
- Drive the development of shared facilities within the College
- Develop a compelling rationale to attract external funding for development
- Seek and attract funding to deliver the infrastructure needs
Examples

**UCD Lyons Farm**
UCD Lyons Farm is a 250 hectare world-class platform for delivering outstanding teaching and research in agriculture, veterinary medicine and environmental science, and across the One Health spectrum, that address global challenges in an Irish context. The Farm includes dairy and beef cows, sheep, horses, pigs, and land for tillage and environmental science teaching and research.

**Medical Bureau of Road Safety**
The Medical Bureau of Road Safety (MBRS) is the national specialist forensic body responsible for the scientific testing of intoxicants (both alcohol and other drugs) in driving in Ireland. It is a statutory body established in 1968 located in a modern state of the art facility (from 2007) in the UCD Health Sciences Centre utilising the premises and staff provided under an agreement with UCD in place since its founding. In that time it has continued its close medical, academic and scientific association with the Schools of Medicine and of Public Health, particularly in the medical specialist areas of Forensic & Legal Medicine and public road safety through Road Traffic Medicine.

**UCD Veterinary Hospital**
The UCD Veterinary Hospital (UCDVH) is composed of a small animal area with dedicated surgical suites and intensive care facilities, and a large animal area with dedicated farm animal and equine facilities, all of which are complemented by modern diagnostic imaging and laboratory equipment. Equipment and facilities continue to be second to none, and they now include:
- A full range of video endoscopic equipment for large and small animals
- The first dedicated veterinary 4 slice spiral CT scanner in Ireland
- A veterinary blood donor clinic
- Radioisotope scanning
- Access to small animal MRI

**National Virus Reference Laboratory (UCD NVRL)**
Established in 1963 UCD NVRL plays an important role in the Irish Health Service through the provision of a national diagnostic, reference, and clinical liaison virology service for clinicians investigating virus infections. Accredited by INAB (Irish National Accreditation Board) and the WHO (World Health Organisation) the laboratory currently performs over 900,000 tests annually, involving some 170 tests for the diagnosis of at least 45 different pathogens. UCD NVRL played a pivotal role in the pandemic and made an enormous contribution towards diagnostic capacity for COVID-19 and continues to provide investigations for emerging and re-emerging infections.
The College provides leadership in synergising the activities of its constituent Schools. The College recognises that the Schools are its fundamental academic units and that students enrol in programmes in Schools, but the College coordinates and facilitates communications between constituent units and also advocates for its constituent Schools on University-level working groups and committees.

**College Actions**

- Establish regular and engaging fora with opportunities for discourse and collaboration across the Schools
- Facilitate the cascade of information from each School to all others
- Build a consensus position on items of strategic importance and represent these views strongly across the University
- Identify opportunity for cross-College collaborations and facilitate good engagement by our students and staff in the life of the University
College Organisational Chart
Objective 7: External Impact

Leverage the activities of the College, with its stakeholders and partners, for the benefit of society

The College aims to deliver major benefits to society and contribute to resolving global challenges in health, agriculture and the environment, through the range of core disciplines within its constituent Schools. While each School has the expertise and knowledge to deliver within its own domain, the College delivers impact that is beyond the reach of individual Schools. It achieves this by promoting and amplifying the outcomes of multidisciplinary, teaching, research, and innovation, to stakeholders and partners and by actively lobbying for priority projects and initiatives.

College Actions

• Strengthen links with stakeholders and partners
• Champion the multidisciplinary approach of the College to tackle global problems
• Lobby for the College to benefit society
Examples

UCD Volunteers Overseas
UCD Volunteers Overseas (UCDVO) is one of the leading international volunteering and development education programmes within the Higher Education sector in Ireland. Now in its 15th year, UCDVO works with local partner organisations in 5 countries – India, Haiti, Nicaragua, Tanzania and Uganda. Since 2003, a total of 1,533 UCD students, staff and graduates have engaged in overseas placements, enhancing their awareness of key international development issues and the potential which they have to bring about positive global change. Key achievements include the following – construction of health centres, schools, agricultural facilities, and the development of computer labs in schools; educational workshops and skills sharing in IT skills, English language and health education for teachers, health workers and school children; awareness raising on children’s rights and environmental protection through rallies, workshops and group projects. Through the UCDVO Programme, volunteers become active global citizens, ensuring their time at UCD has been a truly international experience, which in turn, benefits some of the world’s most marginalised communities.

Pandemic Response
Over the course of the COVID-19 Pandemic, faculty, staff and students across the College drew on their expertise to respond to the events of these remarkable times, many making substantial contributions to the national effort. The university established a framework for pandemic response on campus, including a Medicine and Public Health Committee, chaired by College Principal Professor Cecily Kelleher. The UCD Contact Tracing Centre, established in March 2020 with leadership from UCD SPHSS, was the first satellite CTC of the National Contact Management Programme. During the second half of 2020, it became apparent that there would be a need for additional SARS-CoV-2 testing capacity within the public sector. Thanks to the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine, the National Virus Reference Laboratory (NVRL), with support from the HSE, was able to secure access to laboratory space at the Backweston Laboratory Campus in Celbridge. The NVRL Satellite Laboratory went live on 4 January and is the largest public laboratory performing SARS-CoV-2 testing, employing 55 staff, working 7 days a week. Working together with UCD Health Affairs and the Ireland East Hospital Group, the college facilitated the opening of a HSE vaccination centre at UCD O’Reilly Hall. In its four months of operation, there were 9,000 vaccinations per week, totalling 127,000 in the period. The UCD Veterinary Hospital continued to operate throughout the pandemic so it was essential to mitigate the risk of bringing the virus into the hospital. Rapid Antigen Diagnostic Testing began to be used in April 2021, and faculty, staff and students in the hospital were tested every Monday and Thursday, on a voluntary basis.

201 students from the College of Health and Agricultural Sciences have participated in the UCD Volunteers Overseas programme in the last three years.
Global Health Initiatives

The Global Health (gHealth) Research group is a multi-disciplinary team of researchers focused on gHealth issues in low- and middle-income countries and is developing new innovative strategies for diagnosis, treatment and management of disease that include biomarker & therapeutic research, mHealth (mobile health) and health care system reform. Capacity building and implementation science are key objectives of the gHealth Research group And these are central features to achieving a successful and long lasting global health impact. We are currently mediating this through our strong collaborations between Ireland, Malawi, Uganda, UK, Norway, and the USA.

CSTAR

The Centre for Support and Training in Analysis and Research (CSTAR) is an approved UCD academic centre for research and training within the School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science UCD. Specialising in statistical analysis, CSTAR offers a consultancy and training service to individuals, institutions and companies carrying out health research in Ireland. Services include support and advice for the preparation of grant applications, study design, data management, statistical analysis, report writing and manuscript review and generation. Clients come from a broad remit of areas and disciplines, including PhD candidates, researchers involved in the biomedical and clinical sciences, and even researchers in the humanities. CSTAR provides training programmes in data management and statistical analysis.
CVERA
The UCD Centre for Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis (CVERA) was set up to conduct scientific research to support policy decision-making on a diverse range of issues relevant to animal health and welfare in the Irish agriculture and food industries, and is based in the School of Veterinary Medicine. Research from CVERA directly contributes to policy decision-making in animal health and welfare policy by the Irish Government. Key areas of impact include bovine tuberculosis (bTB), animal health surveillance, cadmium mitigation, on-farm antimicrobial usage, and the management of on-farm animal welfare incidents. The beneficiaries of the research by this team include farmers, consumers and the food industry, with positive environmental impact being a consequence of the work.

The UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action
The UCD Centre for Humanitarian Action (CHA) is a multi-disciplinary research and teaching Centre focused on international humanitarian action: actions aimed at saving and preserving life, preventing and alleviating human suffering, and supporting life with dignity for those affected by man-made and natural disasters. The CHA is based in the School of Agriculture & Food Science and draws on expertise from other Schools and Institutes in the College and UCD. The CHA also has formal links with a worldwide network of universities, and governmental and non-governmental organisations.