

# Dublin City University Institute of Education; the story so far....

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Once upon a time.....

Three independent teacher  
education colleges and one  
university school of education



# Context

- Policy changes (as just presented) and a new focus on research-led initial teacher education
- Higher Education policy focused on consolidation rather than expansion
- Financial crisis making funding of small colleges more challenging

# Catalyst

- **Leadership** in all four institutions wanted the process to succeed, and in particular in the University and in the oldest and best known teacher education college
- Government wanted the process to succeed
- Institutional leadership was prepared to invest time and resources into the change process which took the best part of four years to complete.
- For the final two years, twenty staff worked full-time on the process of incorporation

# The non-capital costs were significant.

The Higher Education Authority provided

€11.25 million

Dublin City University provided

€12.1 million

# DCU Institute of Education

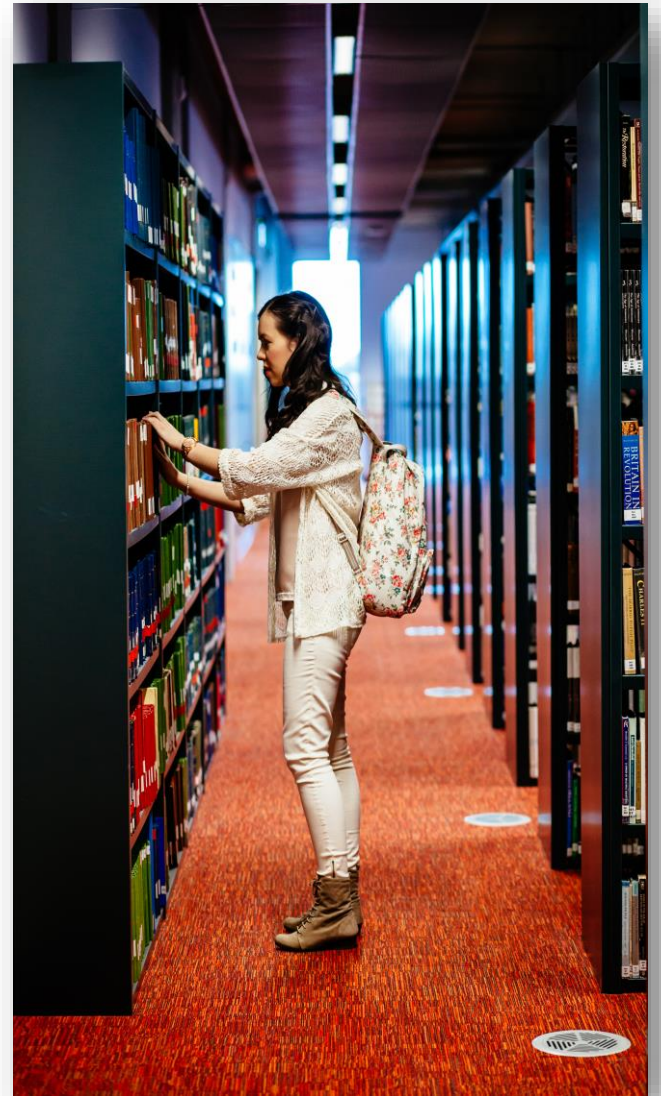
## 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016

- Just under 4000 students enrolled in 33 undergraduate and post-graduate programmes
- 140 academic staff
- The fifth faculty of DCU



DCU

Ollscoil Chathair  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City University



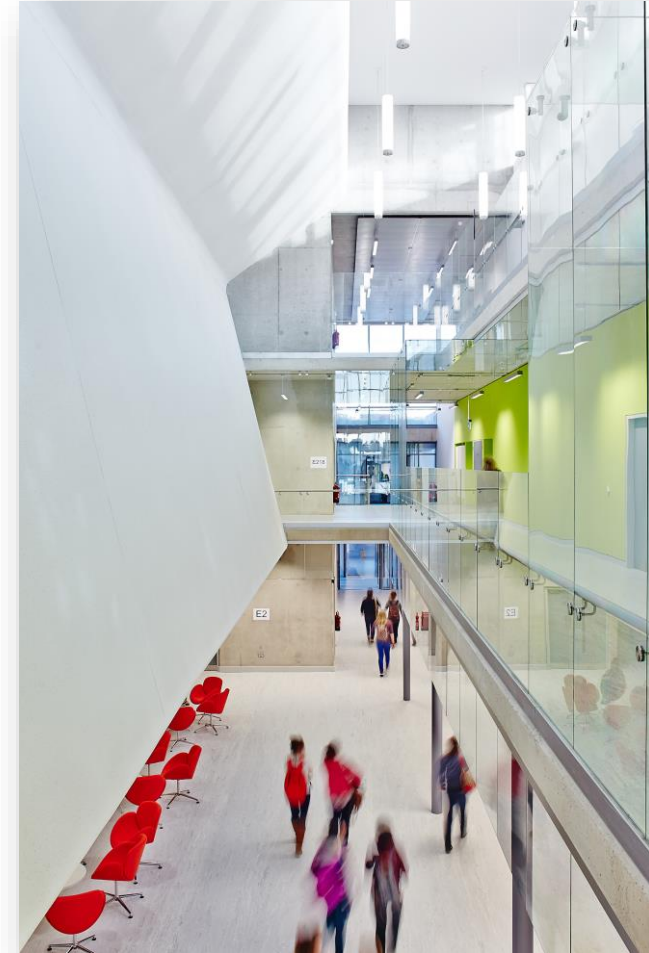


Our first IoE  
students

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# Six schools

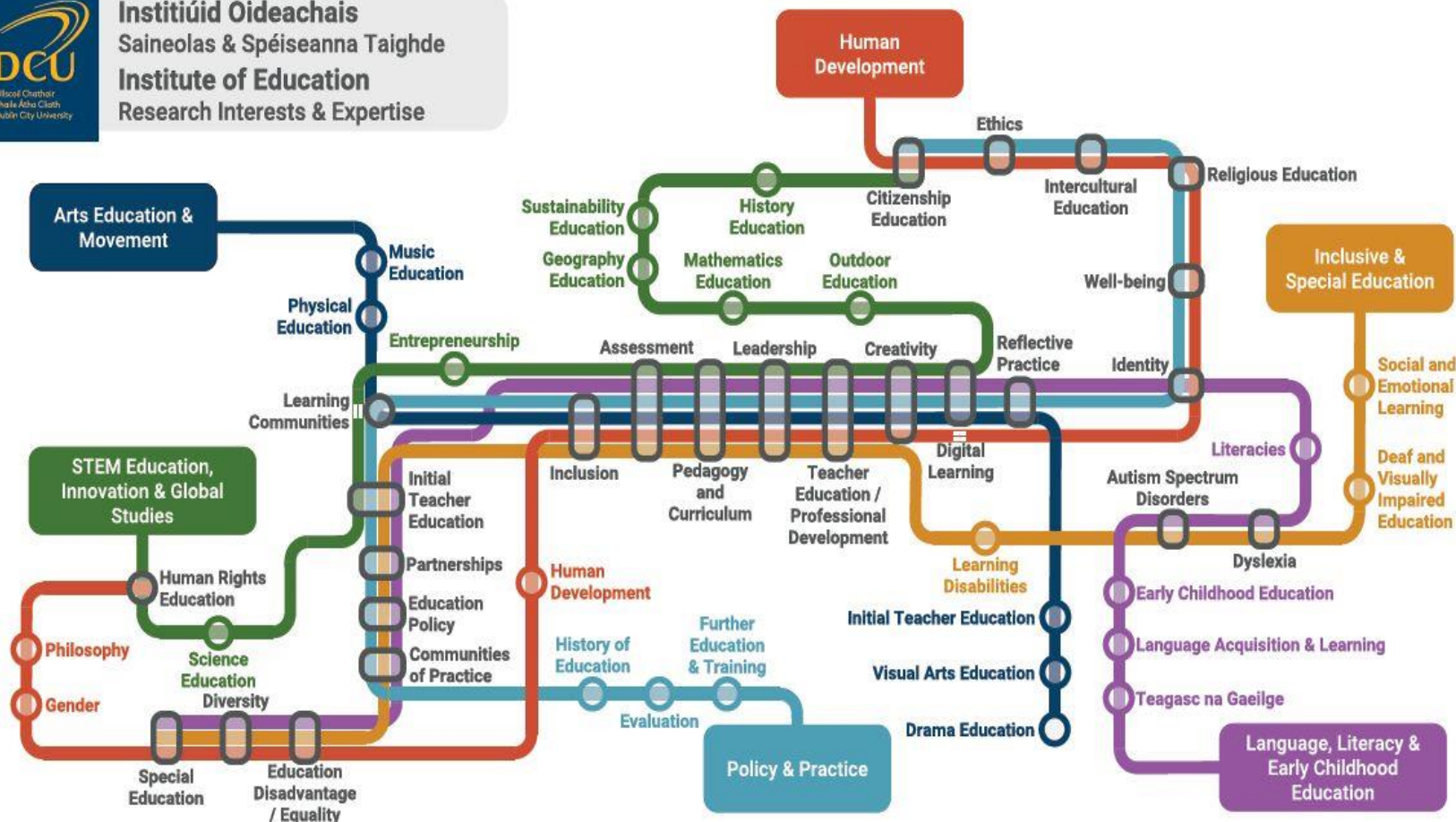
1. School of Human Development
2. School of Policy and Practice
3. School of Inclusive and Special Education
4. School of Arts Education and Movement
5. School of STEM Education, Innovation and Global Studies
6. School of Language, Literacy and Early Childhood Education



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# Research at the IoE

 **Institiúid Oideachais**  
Saineolas & Spéiseanna Taighde  
**Institute of Education**  
Research Interests & Expertise



# Research Centres

- Evaluation, Quality and Inspection
- Centre for Assessment Research in Policy and Practice in Education
- Anti-Bullying Centre
- Global Citizenship and Human Rights Education
- Early Childhood Studies

And more.....

- Lego Innovation Studio
- Minecraft Centre

And more....

# Research Students

- From across Ireland and the globe
- Irish Research Council Laureates
- Funded PhD and post-doc posts for education
- Competitive grants and philanthropic funding
- Strong ERASMUS PLUS projects
- Emerging community of research students within IoE and visible in the University

# New programmes

- A new Irish Sign Language strand in the undergraduate primary teacher education degree
- A new undergraduate post-primary teacher education degree for language teachers
- A new EdD programme with 40 part-time students from the school, medical, training and e-learning sectors

# Developing existing programmes

- The programmes just ‘migrated’; they were not transformed.
- Now, the transformation is beginning
  - Through University curriculum review processes
  - Through the need to align school and setting placement
  - Through staff engagement, observation, and enquiry
  - Through student engagement, observation and enquiry



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President,  
International Literacy  
Association



Dr. Bernadette  
Dwyer

UNESCO Chair on  
Tackling Bullying in  
Schools and  
Cyberspace



Professor  
James O'Higgins  
Norman

Desmond Chair of  
Early Childhood  
Education



Professor Mathias  
Urban

Prometric Chair in  
Assessment



Professor  
Michael  
O'Leary

President, Education  
Studies Association  
Ireland



Dr. Enda Donlon

President, European  
Educational Research  
Association



Professor Joe  
O'Hara

# Challenges - operational

Academic structures – a glitch every day!

A daily unforeseen issue around student registration or records

Professional staff skill mapping

Academic salary scales

# Challenges - strategic

Teacher Education in the University – a process of mutual understanding

Government, sectoral and public recognition for IoE

Scale is both an opportunity and a challenge

New expectations of staff, but recruitment has been competitive and attractive to international candidates

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