Transforming Lives & Societies through Education (The 21st Century Teacher)

Professor Brian MacCraith
President, DCU

18th November 2016
DCU 2016

- 1980  200 students
- 2015  ~13,700*
- 2016  >16,000

*Ireland’s fastest growing university!

Ranked 44th of ~10,000 Young Universities
The Purpose of Education?

To enable students to flourish in 21st Century society:

- Personal lives
- Civic society
- Workplace
21st Century Society

Connected
Globalised
Knowledge-based
Digital
Ageing
Developing
Urbanised
Key Issues for 21st Century Teaching

• Development of Personal Skills
• Assessment
• Innovative Pedagogies (IBL; PBL)
• Technology / Digital Learning
• ......
• Complex problem solving
• Critical thinking
• Creativity
• People management
• Coordinating with others (teamwork)
• Emotional intelligence
EDUCATION CONTINUUM

Early Childhood → Primary → Secondary → Third Level → Fourth Level
“What you assess is what you get; if you don’t test it, you won’t get it!”

Lauren Resnick
Engage with information in a radically different way

Learn best as active participants rather than passively

Peer-to-Peer collaborative learning is key

Information - Knowledge - Wisdom
DCU Strategic Plan

‘Transforming Lives & Societies’

4 Core Pillars:

- **Transformation**
- Enterprise
- Translation
- Engagement
“… the Review Panel recommends that teacher education should be facilitated in a university setting, … provide … for the full range of teacher education, spanning early childhood to adult education. This would facilitate greater synergies between the different levels of education.

It would also provide a critical mass for improving capacity for high quality research ….
DCU Institute of Education

- Ireland’s 1st Faculty of Education
- Teacher Education along full continuum (ITE; CPD)
- Denominational, Non-denominational, Multi-denominational
- Research-Intensive
DCU Institute of Education – Research-Intensive

Research Centres:

• STEM Education
• Digital Learning
• Assessment**
• Special Needs Education
• Language & Literacy.
• Educational Disadvantage
• …..
• Less Formal Classroom instruction – activity-based learning
• Interpersonal skills, creativity and problem-solving
• Need to be able to assess development of these skills
• Personal road-map for learning for each child
Thank You!
Go Raibh Maith Agaibh!
A bold ambition for Ireland!

- Education the #1 Priority
- Vision & Execution
- Coherence
- Funding
- International Best Practice
- World-class teachers
- Student-centred
The value of a college education is not the learning of many facts but the training of the mind to think.

- Albert Einstein

www.quotesworthrepeating.com