

Employability and Education: Producing Work Ready Graduates

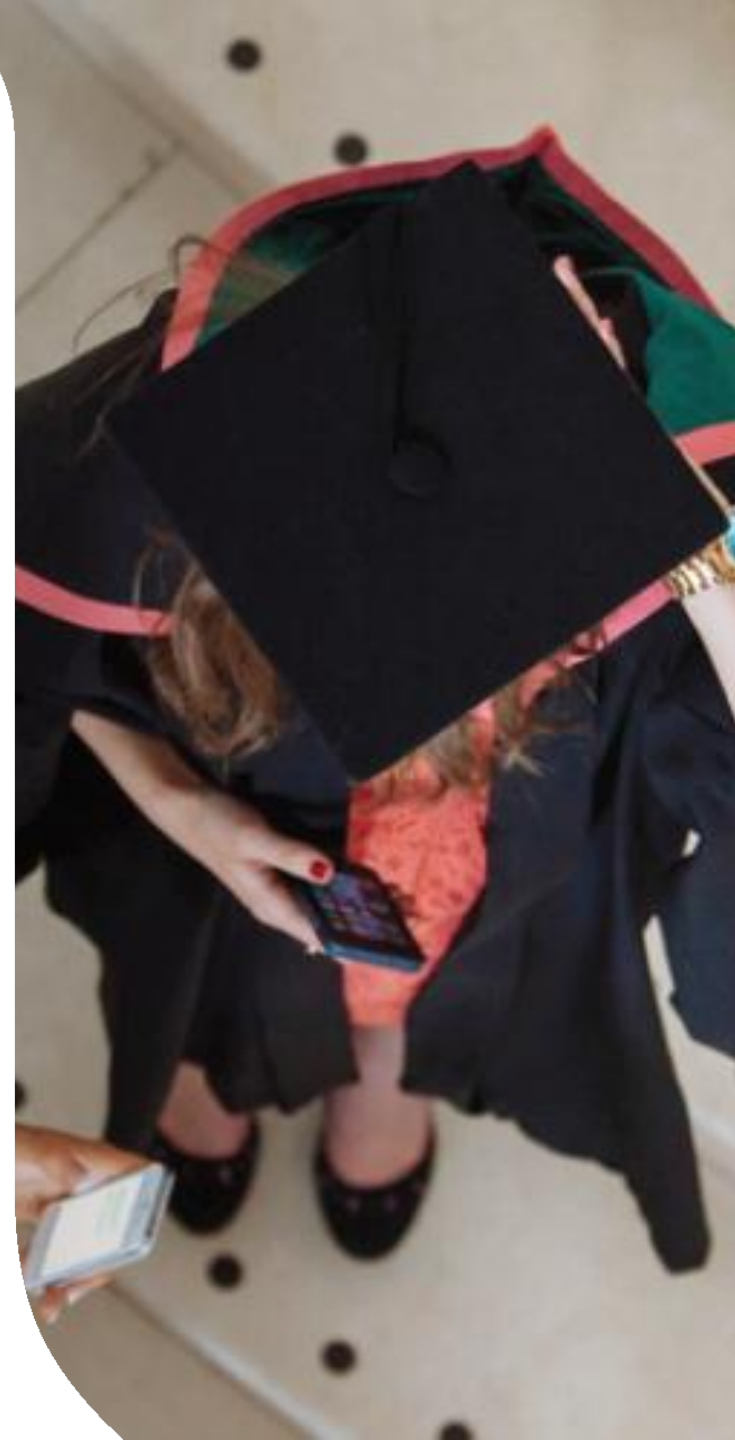
Shauna McCloy

Head of Employability



Ulster University

- Established 1984
- Multi Campus, 27,000 students/3000 staff
- Research Lead/ Global outlook
- Portfolio of vocationally relevant & professional accredited courses
- Career focus learning central to delivery of the student experience



Institutional Strategy

5 and 50 Strategic Plan

Structured around four priorities, this plan is focused on delivering a university that is innovative and sustainable with a strong academic and international reputation.

Civic Contribution

- Employment and Widening Access
- Social and Economic Development
- Campus Identities
- Meaningful Networks

Academic Excellence

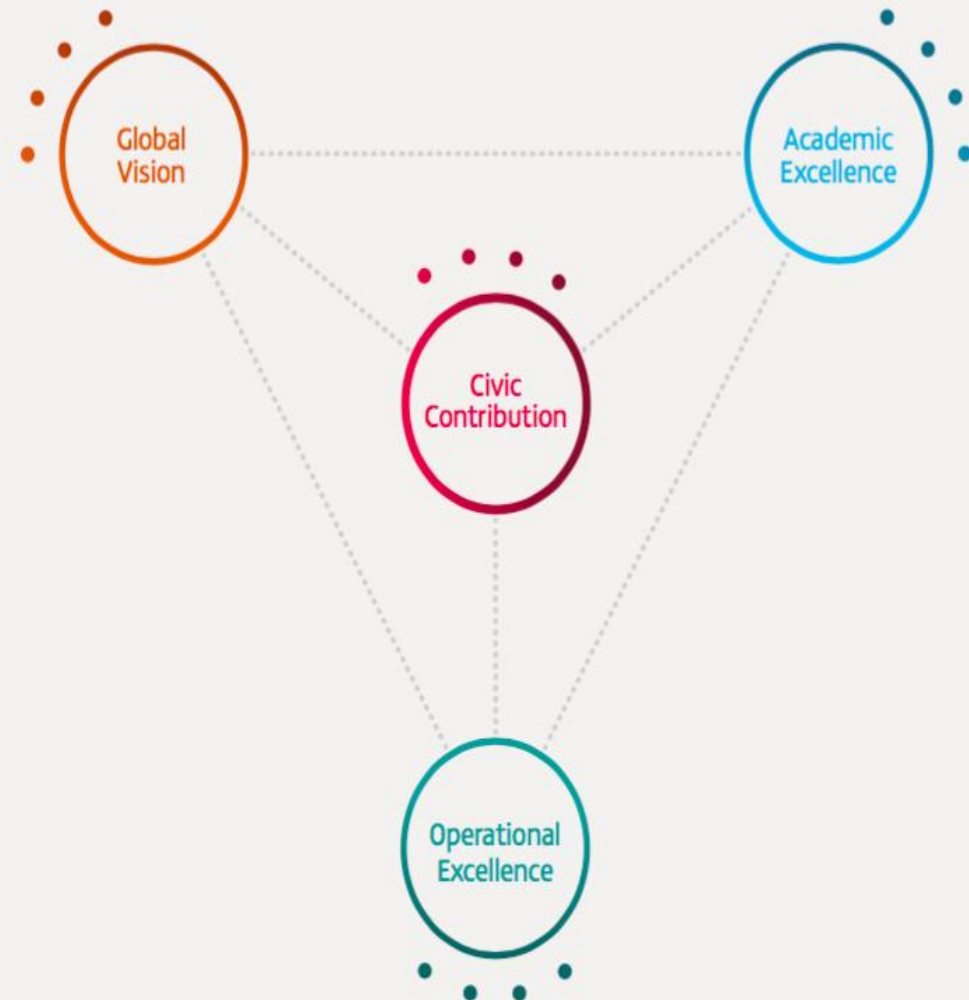
- Teaching Excellence
- Student Experience
- Research with Impact
- Researcher Development

Global Vision

- Global Citizenship
- International Networks
- Global Challenge, Local Impact
- Diverse University Community

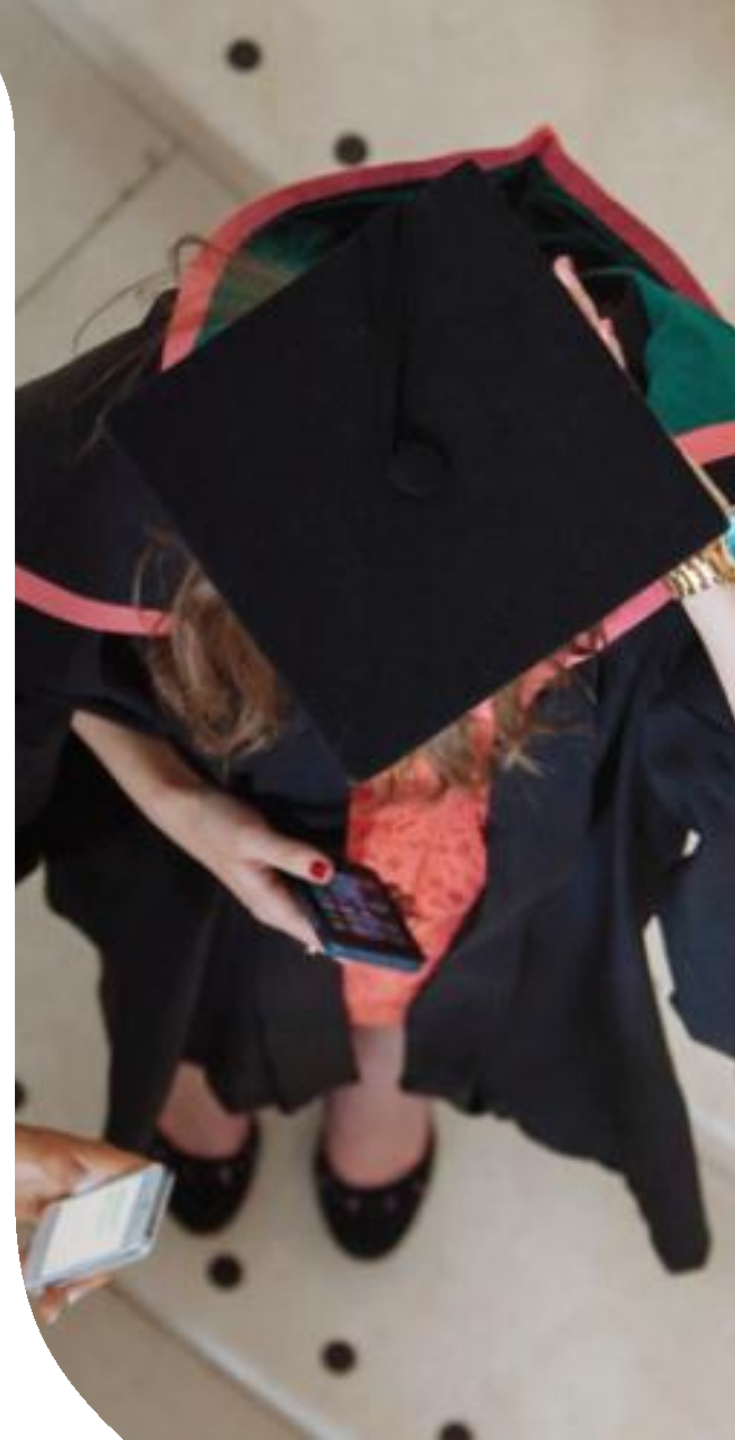
Operational Excellence

- People and Culture
- Reputation
- World-Class Infrastructure
- Financial Sustainability

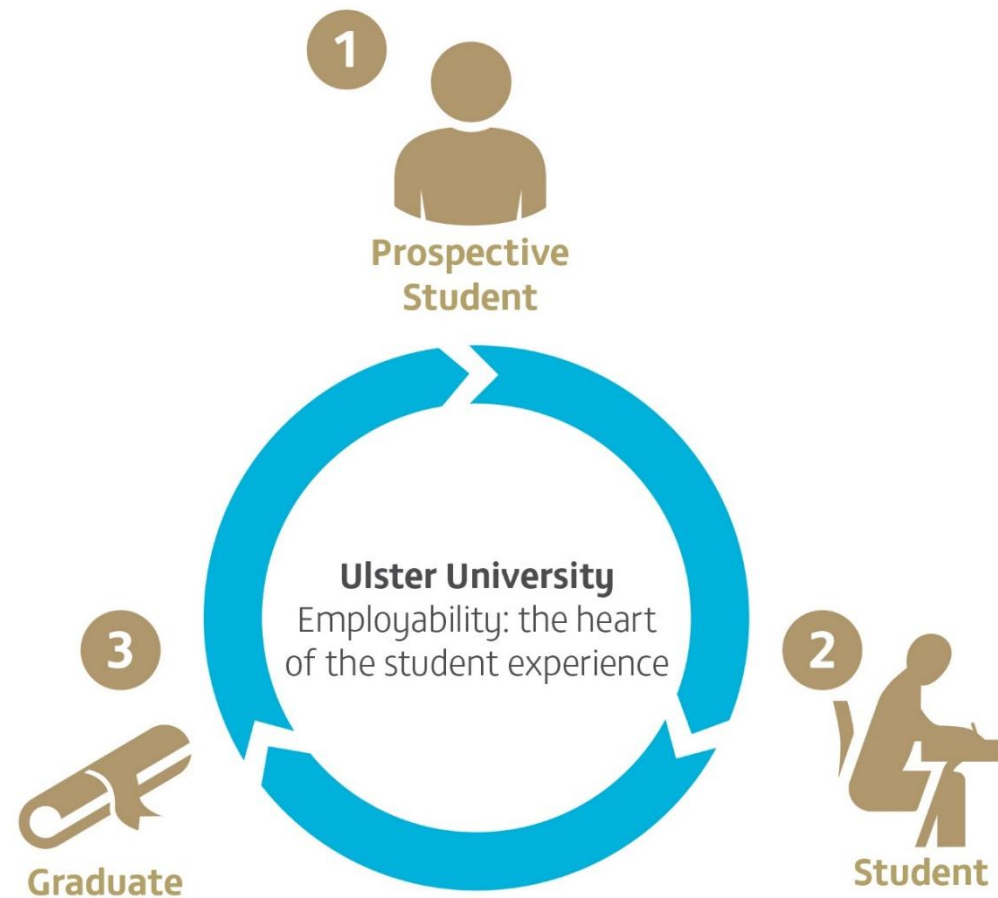


Employability in Higher Education

- KPIs
Retention/Employability/NSS
- Quality of Schools Careers Advice/Guidance
- Measuring Added Value – ***Employability*** rather than Employment
- Providing a holistic student experience



Ulster's Employability Framework



Stage 1: Prospective Student



School Pupils

Career Exploration

School Subject Choice

Degree Choice and Transition to HE



Careers/ Subject Teachers'
and Principals

Employability Resources

Careers Teachers' Forum

Engagement



Parents

Careers Information and Guidance

Stage 2: Student

Induction	Curriculum interventions	Extra and co-curricular	Employer Engagement	Work Experience	Online Support
Student Employability Journey (Careers Registration)	Embedded 'core' employability/ professional practice modules	Generic EDGE activities	Sector specific graduate and placement recruitment events	Diploma in Professional Practice	School-specific online resources
School Level Employability Audit	Co-curricular employability modules (EDGE)	School-specific EDGE activities	Careers spotlight events	Diploma in International Academic Studies	Student Employability Portal
Overview of Career Development Centre Services	School specific employability lectures/ programmes (careers, employers, alumni)	Alumni – mentoring	Employer-led guest lectures	Short-term placements	Staff Employability Portal
EDGE Registration	Open accredited employability modules (EDGE)	Tutoring in schools	Placement Employer of the Year Awards	Summer Internships	PACE System
Epigeum – Transition into University modules (EDGE)	Epigeum – Enterprise Skills for Work modules (EDGE)	EDGE Champions and Ambassadors	Engagement with Professional Bodies	International experience options	RECRUIT Vacancy Management System
Incoming Students web/ video content			Employer site visits	Credit for part-time work (EDGE)	Social Media
Introduction to professional bodies				Self-Employment	Webinars, Podcasts, Blogs and Vlogs
				Volunteering (EDGE)	Blackboard Learn

Stage 3: Graduate



Career Transition

Graduate Internships

Information, Advice and Guidance (3 years)

Graduate Bootcamps



Career Destination

DLHE Survey

Ulster Alumni Network

Engagement through LinkedIn



CPD

Choose Ulster Postgrad

Festival of Study

Career Nav

Addressing Barriers to Student Success

HEFCE Learning Gain

HEFCE Catalyst Fund: Levelling the playing field for widening access students

Peer Assisted Study Skills

Placement and WBL

Bespoke Career Development Learning

