



Dublin Institute of Technology

Strategic Plan 2011-2014

Introduction

With a history stretching back over one hundred and twenty years, Dublin Institute of Technology has been recognised as a pioneer in technological higher education. The Institute's alumni have played important roles in technical and scientific innovation, economic and social development and culture and education both in Ireland and internationally. We nurture innovation and creativity across and between academic disciplines and are committed to making education accessible to people from diverse backgrounds. We develop knowledge which benefits the sustainable development of society. DIT has a distinctive role and a comprehensive offering in the Irish higher education landscape and provides opportunities for progression for students at different stages of their careers.

Today, DIT is one of the largest Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) in Ireland, with over 14,000 full-time equivalent students. The Institute enjoys a diverse student base, where students pursue a wide range of apprenticeship, ordinary degree, honours degree, master's and doctoral programmes. Our modularisation programme and a range of student support initiatives have enhanced the services and supports available to the student. Research activity is an increasingly important component of the Institute's work including a significant enhancement of technology transfer efforts. We continue to develop our vibrant Community Links initiative working with local communities to enhance their access to education. Organisation change designed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Institute is in train. We continue to plan for the development of DIT's Grangegorman campus, a leading edge development representing a total investment of over €1 billion, the largest investment in higher education in the history of the state.

Building on these successes, DIT is committed to responding to the changes that have emerged in Irish higher education in recent times and embracing the consequent challenges and opportunities, including institutional collaboration, widening participation, growing community engagement and the enhancement of the internationalisation agenda within the Institute. In doing so, we will focus on the 6 themes set out below in this plan:

Learning:

To be the HEI of choice in arts, tourism, business, engineering, built environment, sciences & health for career-focused education through quality teaching and learning

Research:

To be an important source of discovery and underpin DIT's education programmes and its contribution to the economy and society

Engagement:

To be valued by academic, industry, community and other partners, nationally and internationally, for the transfer of knowledge and skills relevant to sustainable development

Student Services:

To be recognised in Ireland for the quality of our services to students

People:

To maximise and harness the collective talents and abilities of all colleagues within DIT

Organisation Development:

To transform DIT to become more streamlined, agile and dynamic

Vision, Mission and Values

Vision:

Recognised internationally, DIT will be the first choice in Ireland for people who seek professional, career-focused learning and discovery in a vibrant environment renowned for innovation, creativity, the application of research and engagement with the community.

Mission:

Located in the heart of Ireland's capital city, Dublin Institute of Technology provides an innovative, responsive and caring learning environment for a diverse range and level of programmes to students of all ages and backgrounds.

In doing so, DIT:-

- combines the academic quality of a traditional university with career-focussed learning, discovery and the application of knowledge
- emphasises excellence in learning, teaching, scholarship, research and support for entrepreneurship,
- contributes to technological, economic, social and cultural progress, and
- is engaged with and within our community.

Values:

- **Student-Centred** - Students know what, when and how they will learn and be assessed on each specific part of their programme with opportunity to provide timely feedback on programme content and delivery. Library, ICT, social and specialist resources provide environments for individual and group work that form integral parts of programmes. Administrative services and supports are of a quality to facilitate students in fully participating in their programmes of study and are appropriately responsive to their needs.
- **Useful** - Preparing students for professional careers including exposure to international perspectives emphasising the importance of integrity, responsibility and entrepreneurial skills alongside the utility of knowledge and contributions to economic social and cultural development.
- **Challenging** - Challenge orthodoxy via rigorous processes of discovery, critical enquiry and innovation. Making distinctive, relevant and timely research contributions to advance human knowledge.
- **Inclusive** - Striving to create a friendly, collaborative and trusting community, where diversity is valued, individuals are treated with respect, encouraged to develop their potential and make their contribution, and pride is shared in our collective identity.
- **Open, honest, professional and accountable** - Proactive sharing of information; acting in the Institute's best interests; with devolved authority and accountability for decisions and actions within a framework of regulations, policies and procedures.

The 2011-2014 Strategic Plan continues to be built around the Institute's three main strands of activity;

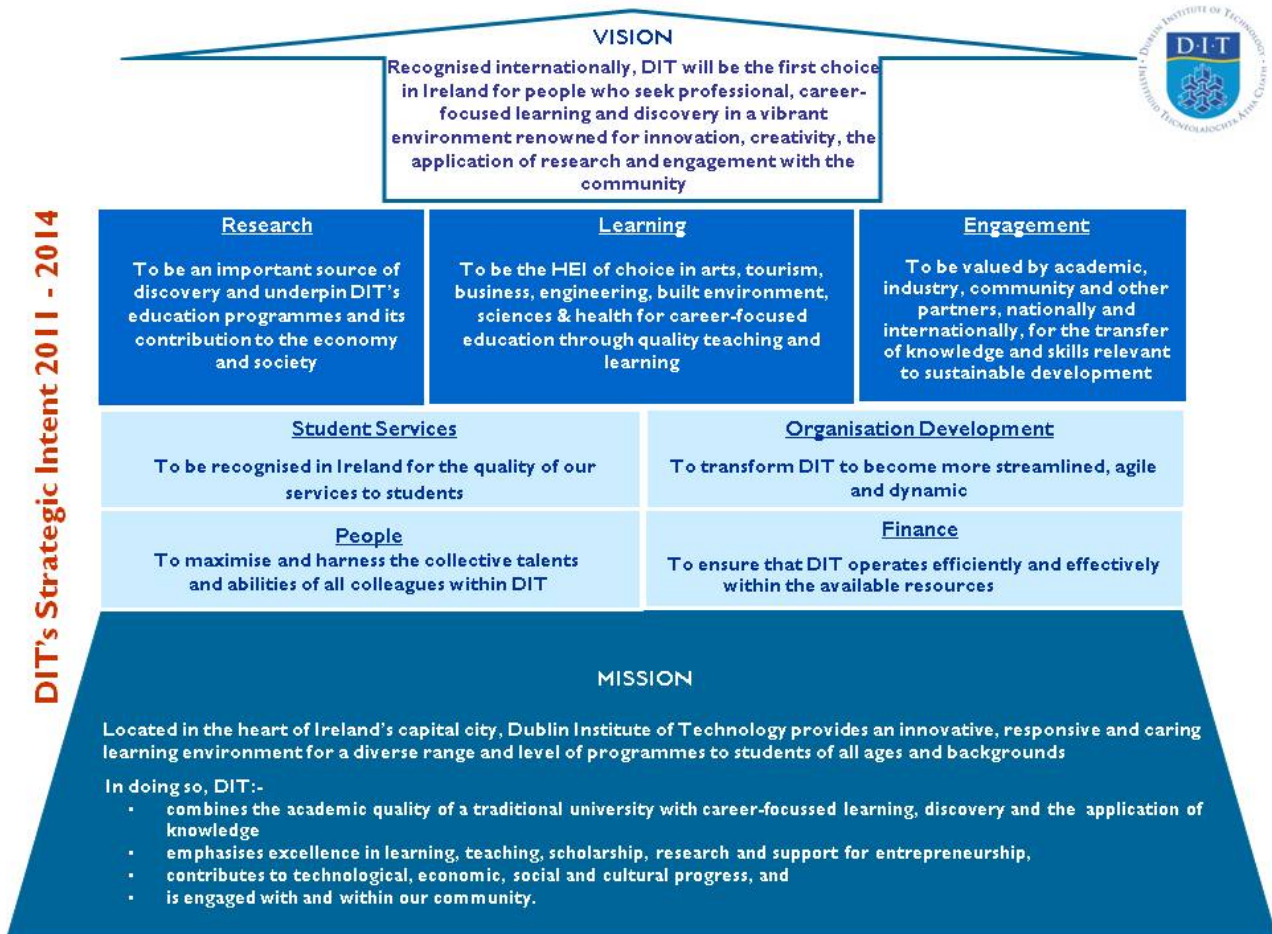
Learning and Teaching and the assimilation of knowledge;

Research and Scholarship and the creation of knowledge; and,

Engagement with industry, community, academia and the public sector in the support of the transfer of knowledge.

Underpinning the core enterprise of the Institute are strands concerned with delivering excellence in **Student Services**, utilising the skills and knowledge of our **People**, the **Organisational Development** of DIT to ensure institutional effectiveness and that we are fully responsive to the needs of our key stakeholders and the need to operate efficiently and effectively within our **Financial** resources.

The following section details the respective objectives under each of these seven strands of DIT's Strategic Intent for the next three years.



Strategic Objectives

LEARNING - To be the HEI of choice in arts, tourism, business, engineering, built environment, sciences & health for career-focused education through quality teaching and learning

Objectives

1. DIT's provision will be focused on offering professional, career-focused learning and discovery for a diverse range of students supported by strong industry engagement
2. Maintain standards of teaching and learning, curriculum development including modularisation and quality assurance, within the available financial envelope

RESEARCH - To be an important source of discovery and underpin DIT's education programmes and its contribution to the economy & society

Objectives

3. Concentrate and consolidate research activity, including PhD study, in fields of verifiable strength and national significance in order to achieve greater coherence and enhance competitiveness and sustainability
4. Ensure greater integration between research and innovation, and teaching and learning;
5. Strengthen and embed technology transfer and entrepreneurial activity.

ENGAGEMENT - To be valued by academic, industry, community and other partners, nationally and internationally, for the transfer of knowledge and skills relevant to sustainable development

Objectives

6. DIT will embed engagement with key external stake-holders (including Government, national/regional development organisations and local communities) within our core activities
7. DIT will continue to apply its resources to support underpinning the economic, social and cultural development of the country focussed on the development of Irish enterprise and employment creation

STUDENT SERVICES - To be recognised in Ireland for the quality of our services to students

Objectives

8. DIT will develop an enhanced student experience for all students, underpinned by curriculum design and appropriate support services. The latter will be delivered through a more integrated student services function

PEOPLE - To maximise and harness the collective talents and abilities of all colleagues within DIT

Objectives

9. Ensure that the talents and ability of our staff are recognised and developed to their fullest possible potential.
10. Through strategic and tactical deployment/re-deployment ensure that the individual and collective skills and abilities of our staff support the ongoing delivery of DIT objectives

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - To transform DIT to become more streamlined, agile and dynamic

Objectives

11. Complete the structural and process change phases of the Organisation of DIT and EIA programmes
12. Progress the necessary detailed planning required to underpin the relocation of DIT to its new campus at Grangegorman and ensure that the new campus will underpin DIT's Strategic Plan and foster the goal of 'one DIT' across the Institute.
13. Enhance DIT's national and international positioning through appropriate designation, mergers and collaborations.

FINANCIAL - To ensure that DIT operates efficiently and effectively within available resources

Objectives

14. Fully implement agreed framework for the allocation of resources across colleges, schools and support services including identification of priority areas for investment

**Issued by the Office of the President
Dublin Institute of Technology**



Approved by Governing Body, 20 July 2011