Making An Impact

- **+450**
  - 450 World Experts at U21 Meetings

- **+2**
  - 2 New Members

- **365**
  - Office 365 Implemented

- **+80**
  - 80 Participants in the PwC/U21 Innovation Challenge

- **+4,600**
  - 4,600 Student Exchanges in U21 Universities

- **+33%**
  - +33% Votes for 3MT® Year on Year

1st
- 1st Major Collaboration with Corporate Partner (PwC)

+$30k
- $30,000 in GCRA Funding ($100,00 to Date)

+100
- 100 attendees at the U21 Health Sciences Doctoral Student Forum at the University of Melbourne

11/4
- U21 Meetings in 11 Countries and 4 Continents

U21 Members

- University of California
- University of Maryland
- University of Auckland
- University of Melbourne
- University of Glasgow
- University of Nottingham
- University of New South Wales
- University of Lund
- University of Singapore
- University of Johannesburg
- University of Queensland
- University of British Columbia
- University of Amsterdam
- University of Zurich
- Universidad Autónoma de Baja California
- Universidad de Monterrey
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2018 was the year in which Universitas 21 (U21) became 21 years old, and the members rightly used the occasion to remember the past, celebrate the present and look to the future over the year. One of the year’s memorable highlights was our Annual Presidential Meeting and AGM at the University of Melbourne, the university where U21 was founded in 1997. We owe a great debt of gratitude to our Melbourne colleagues for hosting a magnificent event which allowed us to mark this important milestone in such style.

One of the core principles of the U21 network since its inception has been to support the internationalisation of higher education and to do so by harnessing the collective power of the network. Looking at the work accomplished within the U21 network over the past year, as outlined in this report, it is clear that U21 sets itself impressively high goals in what it wants to achieve in research, student experience and educational innovation. Not only that, but this report also demonstrates how much network members work together, committing time and sharing expertise and resources, so that all partners in the network benefit substantially from their membership of U21.

U21 has grown this year, with two new members joining the network – McMaster University, Canada and the University of California, Davis, USA. We warmly welcome our new colleagues and look forward to working with them. As always, my sincere thanks to the U21 Secretariat team, led by Jade Bressington, who work with skill and great professionalism to deliver an impressive range of opportunities to members and to U21’s Provost, Professor Bairbre Redmond who guides the academic direction of the network.

Professor Sir David Eastwood
Vice Chancellor, University of Birmingham
Chair of Universitas 21

From the Chair

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Provost’s Update

The quality and the reach of U21’s impact starts and ends with our members. In my role of Provost of U21, I am always aware of the energy, expertise and interest that our members contribute to the design and delivery of our events, projects, opportunities and initiatives. The network achievements from the last year showcased in this report, and the value that these offer the network, areinstructionally aligned with the commitment of individual academics and professional staff in our member universities, achieving more together than is possible alone.

This spirit of collaboration runs throughout this year’s impact report, not least U21’s new collaboration with PwC, working together to create mutually beneficial links between U21’s global student groups and PwC’s top clients across its International network of companies. One of this year’s highlights for me was being invited to hear presentations from graduate students who had been funded by U21’s collaborative research grants to work on projects with other students from across the world – hearing how U21 had supported projects from teacher perceptions of indigenous learners to the impact of ocean acidification on Hong Kong oysters was exciting and enlightening.

The year ended on a high with a group of research leaders from U21 universities being invited to meet MEPs, Director Generals, Chefs de Cabinet etc. at the European Parliament to give their perspectives and advice on the role of international collaboration in Horizon Europe, an ambitious €100 billion research and innovation programme that will succeed Horizon 2020.

I want to acknowledge the major contribution that the U21 team makes in designing these opportunities for collaboration and the support that they provide to bring them to success. Sally Cockcroft, Rachel Edwards, Caroline Hetherington and Connie Wan are all in their first year with U21 and have brought freshness, skill and creativity to the work of the network, under the very able direction of Jade Bressington. It is a pleasure to work with them.

Professor Bairbre Redmond
Provost
Universitas 21

Professor Sir David Eastwood
Vice Chancellor, University of Birmingham
Chair of Universitas 21
Universitas 21 makes a tangible difference. In a world where social and cultural barriers are increasing, we believe the universal need for more open, collaborative interaction has never been more profound. By connecting the expertise within 27 world-class universities and enabling truly global collaboration, U21 aims to make the world a more knowledgeable, enlightened and inclusive place.

At the core of everything that we do is the belief that we are better together and all U21 projects and initiatives aim to harness this ‘collaborative advantage’ for the benefit of all staff and students within our member institutions.

U21 takes a selective approach to membership – the network currently comprises 27 research-intensive universities with a firm commitment to enhance their international footprint, within 17 countries, across 6 continents. Our relatively small size enables members to utilise the network in a bespoke way to meet their needs e.g. student mobility arrangements in strategic countries, whilst U21’s economies of scale (the network represents more than a million students and 200,000 staff) ensure that we can offer our members access to initiatives that would not be possible through a single university or bi-lateral arrangements e.g. access to the U21 / PwC Innovation Challenge (see Page 12).

Unlike many other University networks, we are committed to offering tangible programmes and resources to U21 staff and students. We offer a holistic range of opportunities to our members, enabling them to benefit from the network in whichever way best suits their needs e.g. enhancing the experience of their students, increasing innovation across education initiatives and / or supporting early career academics and graduate students to achieve more. The impact of these initiatives and the potential that they create for further partnership between our members is illustrated throughout this report and we hope that you enjoy reading these stories.

The U21 Difference

President Patrick Deane said, “McMaster is focused on providing high-quality, innovative education, enabling cutting-edge research, and proactively engaging with the broader community. This membership will help us continue to strengthen partnerships and collaboration within a global network of institutions.”

Founded in 1905, the University of California, Davis is the most academically comprehensive university on the West Coast of the USA. It is ranked first in the world in veterinary science and in agricultural economics and policy. Nationally it is first among best-value colleges for women in STEM. University of California, Davis’ ambitious Global Education for All has set an ambitious goal to provide 100% of students—undergraduate, graduate and professional—with international or intercultural learning experiences before graduation, preparing them to succeed in this global job market and interconnected world.

University of California, Davis’ Chancellor Gary S. May said, “University of California, Davis is a leader in working across disciplines and borders to solve today’s most pressing challenges related to food, health, the environment and society. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the U21 network on international research, teaching and service projects, which will open doors for students, faculty and staff and communities around the world.”

University of California, Davis and McMaster University bring North American expertise to the Network
The U21 Awards – Rewarding true global vision in Higher Education

Professor John Spinks from the University of Hong Kong and Professor Kazuo Kuroda, from Waseda University, Japan have won the 2019 U21 Awards for Internationalisation.

The Awards celebrate the work of individuals who demonstrate a true global vision in higher education, who have furthered effective international opportunities for students and staff and improved collaboration within the university and with external partners.

In 1998 Professor Spinks initiated and developed the ‘non-local’ recruitment of students to HKU starting with just 30 students; HKU now has an intake of around 750 outstandingly talented students. He has played an especially decisive role in boosting mobility and exchange, creating double and joint degrees, promoting internationalisation of the student experience and creating the first online undergraduate degrees for HKU. He recently set up the HeForShe Impact Champion Scholarship scheme, based on the UN movement of that name and amongst other positions has been Chair of the Committee (HUCOMSCI) responsible for charting the development of international education in Hong Kong.

Professor Spinks said, “Setting up partnerships with other universities around the world, and liaising with governments, educational bodies, foundations and schools, not to mention prospective students, across Asia and beyond, must be one of the most rewarding jobs in academia.”

At Waseda University, Professor Kuroda oversaw the largest International Affairs Division of any Japanese university. This division succeeded in promoting short and long-term exchange programmes, enhancing the quality of exchange programmes, including introducing double degree programmes. His work also helped to cultivate research and educational initiatives with potential partners as well as strengthening existing strategic partnerships.

Professor Kuroda is a Visiting Research Fellow at the JICA Research Institute, a leading think-tank in international cooperation. He has also been a member of several advisory committees at the Japanese Ministry of Education (MEXT) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, an executive board member of the Japan Society for International Development (JASID) and the Japan Comparative Education Society (JCES), as well as a member of the Research Standing Committee of the World Congress of Comparative Education Societies (WCCES).

Professor Kuroda said, “It is a wonderful surprise for me to receive such an honorable award from U21! As a practitioner and researcher in the field of Internationalisation of Higher Education (IHE), I have believed for many years that the primary purpose of IHE is to contribute to the global world.”

MEPs consult U21 Research Leaders on Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe in Brussels

Following the publication of the U21 EU Position Paper, a group of U21 Research Leaders from 10 Universitas 21 universities met with Members of European Parliament, Director Generals and other stakeholders at the European Parliament in November 2018 to give their perspectives on Horizon 2020. They also gave advice on the role of international collaboration in Horizon Europe, an ambitious €100 billion research and innovation programme that will succeed Horizon 2020.

The group attended round table and bilateral meetings in the European Parliament with a wide range of MEPs and Commissioners demonstrating real influence and impact on the wider Higher Education sector.

Provost of U21, Professor Bairbre Redmond said, “This is an unprecedented opportunity for U21 university members to work together to influence international policy and the future of world-wide research funding. The meeting reflects the considerable collaborative strength of U21, offering its members opportunities to access and inform EU decision-makers and others in ways that would not otherwise be possible for any single institution.”

Impact:
- Raised the profile of U21 in European Parliament
- Demonstrated that the network has a voice and accessible expertise
- U21 is a network with collaborative strength
To celebrate the 21st anniversary of the founding of Universitas 21, extra funding was offered on a competitive basis for projects, initiatives and events, to be held in 2018, which would help to demonstrate the value of U21 to students, staff, academics and broader external audiences across the wider international Higher Education community. The impact of this funding can be seen from accounts of two of the eight projects:

**The Truth About Fake News**

Students from the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at the University of Hong Kong travelled to Tokyo, Japan in May with Dr. Masato Kajimoto for a news literacy workshop at Waseda University, where they explored the truth about Fake News. In response to increasing ‘Fake News’ claims, students from Waseda University and JMSC, University of Hong Kong applied to U21 for funding for a workshop to explore news literacy, fact-checking and verification. The Universities won funding for the project from the U21@21 fund, which was offered for projects, initiatives and events, which enhanced the international student experience.

The 19 students spent time fact checking more than 20 stories that they had collected on each other’s countries, in order to verify them. After the 2-day workshop, the students worked on specific case studies which they presented to an audience at a public symposium held at Waseda University.

“Exchanging our knowledge and trying to learn new things together with the brilliant students from Hong Kong was the most fruitful I think, as we all got very much motivated with each other,” said Kaori Nakamura, a third year Political Science student at Waseda University.

Dr. Kajimoto, who led the trip, felt that the collaboration was very successful. He recounted, “Many working journalists and media literacy educators at the symposium were completely engaged with students’ presentations. I believe it was a great learning opportunity for both JMSC students and their counterparts from Waseda. We are now discussing how to continue our joint effort and try to organise another workshop again in the future.”

**U21@21 anniversary funding – Teaching Practices Survey Study available for U21 members**

Many post-secondary institutions are largely unaware of what teaching practices are employed in the classroom as institutions rarely collect information on teaching practices (Tagg, 2008). Such dearth of information both limits the ability of institutions to measure educational effectiveness and positions teaching and learning support units in a challenging situation, as effective support should ideally be tailored to fit the institutional teaching culture.

The U21 Teaching Practices Survey study presents information gathered from a survey on the teaching practices employed in the classroom within U21 Universities. The study has also produced a tool, “The Teaching Practices Survey Instrument” (available to U21 members) which is designed to explore teaching practices; to gain insight into changes in the way that classes are delivered over time; and to probe attitudes towards teaching, learning, and institutional support for these activities.

The U21 survey is a customised version of a tool originally produced by the University of British Columbia. In 2015 this tool was used to collect data from teaching staff at 8 Universities in East Asia, Europe, Oceania and North America.

The study noted 5 key findings around:

- Concerns around increasing class sizes
- The need for teaching support
- Belief student-centered pedagogies are important for student learning
- Concerns regarding workload expectations
- The perception that institutions do not value teaching as highly as research

Access to the full report and survey tool is via the U21 website www.universitas21.com/tps
U21 Graduate Collaborative Research Awards enrich Researcher Engagement

The GCRA awards encourage doctoral candidates to think innovatively about how their research could benefit from engagement with other members of the U21 network. Awards of up to US$5,000 are available for projects, with a total of US$30,000 available each year. Six projects were awarded funding in 2018 and here are two of the best examples:

Art and Conflict: Investigating Cross-Disciplinary Methodologies Laura Petersen, University of Melbourne

The GCRA funding enabled not only the Art and Conflict project members, but also other emerging and established scholars and artists from different disciplines and Universities (Amsterdam, Queensland and Connecticut) to come together over two eventful days in Melbourne. The gathering was designed to encourage cross-methodological thinking by inhabiting art institutions and encouraging the experience of particular art works in particular settings. Our research project Art and Conflict has been enormously enriched by the workshop – not only for the new directions and research areas that the discussions opened up – but also through the new networks and opportunities it has created.

The next step for the project is to draft a proposal for a Special Issue of a relevant peer-reviewed journal that enables some of the findings of the workshop to be published in a wider forum. Project members are also planning talks regarding continued collaborations with different institutions (for example with the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne) in order to continue the work of the Art and Conflict project in other University and public forums in the future.

The group has also produced a blog (www.artconflict.wordpress.com) which is now aimed at listing events, research publications and information on the themes of art and conflict.

A two-stage comparative study of doctoral researchers’ motivation for, engagement with and perceptions of international networking for personal and professional development Omolabake Fakunle, Universities of Edinburgh, Nottingham, Melbourne, and Connecticut

This project contributed to the under-studied exploration of the doctoral researcher experience in a global environment, exploring how and to what extent postgraduate students draw on networking opportunities both within and outside their immediate academic community.

The Project Lead, Omolabake Fakunle (University of Edinburgh), won the Estelle Bisard Memorial Prize for her paper ‘A Conceptual Framework of International Student Rationales for Study Abroad’ which derived from her research as part of this U21 project. The prize is awarded by the Scottish Educational Research Association for the best research paper written by an early career researcher based in Scotland and is presented annually at the SERA conference.

Impact:
- 2 Day conference in Melbourne designed to encourage cross-methodological thinking
- Blog – www.artconflict.wordpress.com
- Continued collaborations with different institutions

U21’s Early Career Researcher Workshop seeks ‘sustainable futures’

The 2018 U21 Early Career Researcher (ECR) workshop, hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University, brought together 56 delegates from 14 U21 member universities, showcasing the cutting-edge research conducted by the network’s community of ECRs. The group tackled issues highlighted in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals such as climate change, food poverty and environmental ethics.

The delegates addressed the importance and necessity of innovative research and collaboration in paving a route towards a sustainable and resilient future as highlighted in the UN’s SDGs. The workshop also focused on developing key research capabilities and skills for a sustainable career in academia.

Notable speakers at the workshop included Professor Yong Geng (Dean, School of Environmental Science and Engineering, SJTU), Professor Christoph Stickselberger (Executive Director, Geneva Agape Foundation) and Professor Fujita Tatsuyoshi (Director of the Center for Social and Environmental Systems Research, National Institution for Environmental Studies, Japan).

Participants said:
- “This was the best meeting I’ve ever attended in terms of systemic awesomeness of the delegates, exposure to exciting out-of-my-comfort zone knowledge and encouragement to think outside the box to fight to make a positive impact on our environment, biodiversity, health, quality of life and food security.”
- “The workshop provided me with the opportunity to meet lots of people from different disciplines and backgrounds who are working towards a common goal. This kind of experience and the level of exchange that happened in the workshop is not something one comes across that often.”

Universitas 21 Early Career Researcher Workshop Sustainable Futures

A forum for doctoral students in material culture, attribution and art conservation, supported by a U21 Graduate Collaborative Research Award.
The U21/PwC Innovation Challenge creating real opportunities for graduate researchers

2018 saw the launch of the U21/PwC Innovation Challenge, bringing together two globally-focused organisations to offer Masters and PhD students at U21 institutions access to global professional development opportunities. The challenges themselves, set by PwC, saw students communicate their specialist knowledge, skills and talents in response to future world of work scenarios by producing a 3-minute video judged by PwC Partners and their client CEOs.

Humberto Jimenez Martinez from The University of Queensland won the first group round of the U21/PwC Innovation Challenge competition. As part of his prize, he spent a week in Dubai meeting staff, CEOs and their clients at PwC Middle East and received 1-2-1 career development coaching at the PwC Academy.

Humberto has since been hired by PwC Brisbane as a Risk Assurance Consultant and started his post in early 2019. He said, “Winning this competition has given me a boost of confidence, I know for a fact that I have the necessary skills to be successful in consulting, which is what I want to pursue. The coaching offered by PwC was excellent. The coach was a really good motivator and he was very passionate. He provided a good framework for me to set goals for my future.”

At the time of writing, Rounds B & C are in progress and we look forward to more positive outcomes for students still competing.

Impact:
- Professional Development training and mentoring
- Exposure to potential employers
- Development of professional profile
- Expansion and creation of professional networks

The U21 Three Minute Thesis® - showcasing outstanding PhD work globally

The U21 Three Minute Thesis® (3MT®) competition provides PhD candidates who have won their own institution’s 3MT® to compete on a global platform with members from all over the world and showcase that work to an international audience.

Jonathan Berengut from UNSW Sydney won the 2018 U21 Three Minute Thesis® competition with a presentation of his PhD thesis Bio-Nano Robo-Mofos, which uses a technique called ‘DNA origami’ to construct billions of nanoscale robots – each one thousands of times smaller than the thickness of a single hair – to accomplish complex molecular tasks.

He said, “I’m stoked to have won the U21 3MT® Final. I saw the other U21 3MT® videos, and to be put in the same category as them is pretty amazing, let alone to win it.”

The runner up was Phoebe Kirkwood from the University of Edinburgh, Deanery of Clinical Sciences. Her thesis, The Secrets of Scarless Healing studies the scar-free wound healing event that takes place in the endometrium following menstruation with a view to applying this knowledge to other tissue systems that largely undergo fibrosis in response to injury that causes irreversible damage.

The competition is immensely popular for the network; this year over 6,000 votes were cast for the U21 People’s Choice Award which was won by Roshaida Abdul Wahab from University College Dublin. It remains one of U21’s flagship competitions and showcases the excellent research that is taking place across the member universities.
U21 celebrates its 21st birthday at the Melbourne AGM

U21 21 - many congratulations, and I am proud to be part of it.

Peter Millican
Edinburgh & c. 2019

Happy 21st U21.
As always, thanks for another wonderful evening. It shows us what we can do together.

Martin Wong
University of Melbourne

Happy Birthday to U21 @21
生日快乐！
It’s been such a pleasure to grow with U21!
Best wishes from SNU.

Gwiling

Happy 21st U21.
Here to celebrate 21 years and more.
It has been a privilege being part of U21’s success story.

Thank you.

Ozair Haq
University of Melbourne

So thrilled to be part of U21 representing Korea, University at U21’s historic 21st anniversary.
May 2018

Sunkyuk Kim
**Winter School**

For the first time, U21 has been able to support an additional student mobility opportunity, running during the southern hemisphere summer break and enabling students around the globe a chance to attend a U21 Winter School.

U21 partnered with Korea University to offer scholarship places. The KU International Winter Campus was selected to host the U21 scholars based on its unique programme of seminars about Korean society, cultural excursions, and visits to corporations including Samsung and Hyundai.

*Viewing the world as a global community can influence our approach to political, economic and social issues, appreciating that these issues affect all of us and that we all have shared responsibilities. Although the IWC has ended, we will each maintain this sense of connectedness and inter-dependence on returning to our respective home countries.*

Sinead Mulroy, Student at University College Dublin

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**Summer School**

In July 2018, U21 offered 25 scholarships to students from all its member universities across the globe, which enabled them to join the University of Nottingham Malaysia International Summer School at the university’s Kuala Lumpur campus. Alongside an academic programme offering options in business, politics, creative writing, Mandarin and more, students had an incredible opportunity to immerse themselves in Malaysian life and culture.

U21 scholarship students also had the chance to give back to the community during their time in Malaysia, visiting a village in Semenyih and supporting a housing development project by painting one of the new brick houses.

Being an ambassador for the U21 Summer Program was certainly a great highlight of my university life. I met so many people who came from various backgrounds at one event and got to learn about their cultures and practices. If given another chance, I’ll never hesitate to be part of such a great experience again.

Dinash Jayabalalan, University of Nottingham Malaysia Student

Following such a well-received and enjoyable programme, U21 is pleased to be returning to the University of Nottingham Malaysia for its summer school in July 2019.

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**Summer & Winter schools for all seasons**

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Sinead Mulroy, Student at University College Dublin
2018 saw the most successful year of the Global Ingenuity Challenge (GIC) to date, with 29 teams of undergraduate students tackling the topic 'Global Issues: Student Responses'. Teams were tasked with designing innovative solutions to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Projects ranged from student mental health and gender equality in academia to high school outreach programmes and community partnerships.

Top prizes went to teams at Shanghai Jiao Tong University for a solar water filter design, and the University of Amsterdam for a food-sharing app, both inspiring, innovative and feasible solutions. Three other projects were recognised in the fields of food waste and clean energy from teams based at the University of Edinburgh, the University of Melbourne, and the University of Queensland.

“It really is a global project...when else in your life are you able to engage and compete with people across the world?”

George Smith, Geography student, University of Nottingham (UK)

A new challenge for 2019
The GIC competition has been running for 4 years, U21 is currently redesigning the challenge, shifting the focus from ideas into action whilst keeping societal benefit at its core. This exciting new student opportunity will be launched later in 2019 and more information will be available on our website.

Informing the Student Experience Agenda

In 2018, U21’s Student Experience Steering Group commissioned a multi-method research project to explore the impact of mobility and on-campus opportunities on students’ academic and employability outcomes. This research project will inform and focus the student experience agenda of U21, with the network delivering contemporary thinking regarding students’ learning and employability gains.

U21 has a strong history of facilitating and supporting student mobility, but increasingly our members are looking towards local opportunities to widen students’ horizons and offer them a global perspective. Through this research project, U21 is exploring how these local co-curricular activities compare with travelling abroad, and how we can help students to maximise their value for their personal, academic and professional development.

The project is one of the widest-ranging pieces of research undertaken by the network, with participation from 13 members in either a quantitative or qualitative study.

Members that participated included: McMaster University, National University of Singapore, University of Nottingham, University College Dublin, University of Birmingham, University of Queensland, University of Hong Kong, University of Glasgow, University of Amsterdam, University of Auckland, Lund University, University of Connecticut and University of Edinburgh.

The full research findings will be published in mid-2019.

Impact:
- a multi-method research project to explore the impact of mobility
- delivering contemporary thinking regarding students’ learning and employability gains
- exploring how local co-curricular activities compare with travelling abroad
The U21 2018 Educational Innovation Leadership Symposium was hosted by the University of Hong Kong on the topic of Future directions in curriculum design in undergraduate education for research-intensive universities. The Symposium is an annual forum for university leaders to learn from each other and from world-leading experts in education innovation. It was attended by senior educational leaders from 19 member universities across the network, many at VP/PVC level.

Over three days in October 2018, the senior delegates explored the challenges that they face leading institutional educational enhancement within a rapidly-changing higher educational environment, most particularly, one in which most students operate to a growing extent through the world of online social media. The forty-five delegates shared both experiences and resources to assist those in the network to find the right balance in achieving high-quality learning through both online and on-campus experiences, and by developing new approaches to successful face-to-face learning opportunities.

A position paper was drawn up from the symposium debate around the questions:

1. What are the major challenges facing the traditional undergraduate curriculum?
2. How can we make our undergraduate programmes more open, accessible and relevant?
3. How can the U21 Network add value to the development of the curriculum of the future in research-intensive universities?

The paper will inform U21’s continuing contribution to educational excellence and can be downloaded from the website: www.universitas21.com/futuredirections

Conversations Across the Sea Seminar Series

This new initiative, developed by the College of Arts & Humanities at University College, Dublin (UCD) and the Faculty of Arts at the University of Nottingham (UoN) is the first College-to-College/ Faculty-to-Faculty MoU signed between the two universities under the auspices of U21, working together to explore a range of activities from research collaborations to joint PhDs and student mobility.

In October 2018, the University of Nottingham hosted Wolfgang Marx (Associate Professor of Music, UCD) within the Department of Music to lead a Masters Research seminar and a lecture on ‘Critiquing One Self Back into Business? Post-Factual Narcissism in Musicology’. This was the second event in the U21 UCD and UoN Conversations Across the Sea Seminar Series, promoting collaboration in research and graduate studies. These seminars showcase research at both institutions, as well as the visiting academic leading a master class for Graduate students. The departments of Philosophy and English have also hosted seminars and other subject areas are planning joint seminars too.

Professor Bairbre Redmond said,

"Collaborating in Education and Student Experience will also allow both institutions to exchange knowledge on pedagogy (including assessment and feedback) and to curate joint PhD supervision based in research and teaching areas of excellence and promote these areas to potential students. I look forward to seeing the results of your work and I congratulate Professor Sarah Prescott and Professor Jeremy Gregory and colleagues for their foresight and energy in forming this important new partnership."
Our U21 Health Sciences Group Annual Meeting kindly hosted by the University of Melbourne took place in September on the theme of Building Healthy Communities. This event, which attracted over 200 guests, offered delegates the chance to come together to share ideas and collaborate on both new and established projects. Key to the meeting were the themes of Student Mental Health and Gender Based Violence.

And finally, in September, as part of the Annual Meeting week, we also hosted a very popular Doctoral Student Forum where over 100 Doctoral Students came together to present their research, network and participate in a series of masterclasses on the theme of ‘Developing my Career Beyond the PhD’.

This year we are very much looking ahead and are excited to offer students our third Global Learning Partnership programme, again in Nepal building on the links already well established, as well as the University of Birmingham hosting our Summer School on the theme of Antimicrobial Resistance. We also have a new Interprofessional Education Special Interest Group that has attracted over 30 members with the aim of sharing knowledge, developing a joint research project and building useful resources.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming members to our next Annual Meeting which will be hosted by the University of Glasgow on 9 -13 September 2019. Professor John Paul Leach and his team are putting together an exciting and dynamic programme. Further details can be found on our website www.u2health.org/glasgow-2019.
The U21 Experience

“...I firmly believe that travelling and studying internationally is definitely a benefit because companies are all looking global now so if you can kind of have an understanding of different cultures, you’re definitely an asset.”

McMaster student

“...U21 opens up many doors for our University.”

U21 Senior Leader

“...Before [studying abroad] I always approached people with this sense of uncertainty whether I could talk to them or not. But now... the question doesn’t pop up into my head, that doubt whether I can talk to them or not. It just comes into my head as, ‘let’s see what happens’.”

Nottingham Malaysia student – studied abroad in Nottingham, UK

“...I see the whole world as, as sort of somewhere I could be. You sort of become more aware of your own limitations, but also you become aware of what you’re capable of and... you start to see yourself as having no limits.”

University College Dublin student.

“...We share important experiences of internationalisation and share cases of success... and of failure. We share the knowledge.”

U21 Senior Leader

“...Being part of such a network allows us to build up, expand and deepen relationships.”

U21 Senior Leader