



RCSI

UNIVERSITY
OF MEDICINE
AND HEALTH
SCIENCES

2021/22



RCSI's Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals



Pursuing world-leading research and education for the benefit of society has always been at the heart of RCSI and as Ireland's only university dedicated solely to medicine and health sciences, we are in a unique position to direct our research, education and clinical care towards the world's most pressing health issues. The United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a global call to action to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. Given the unique role universities play in creating and sharing knowledge, as a community they are critical contributors to achieving the challenges set out in Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At RCSI we recognise and embrace our responsibility to achieving a sustainable future for all. Through international partnerships and a continued focus on environmental and sustainable processes, RCSI is making a real difference in our society. The university is proud to be a global leader in transnational education. With 12 active research centres, international student electives in

HIGHLIGHTS

NEW EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE

In March, we were joined by Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Leo Varadkar TD, as we turned the sod on a new €22 million Education and Research Centre at Connolly Hospital in Blanchardstown.

THE IMPACT RANKINGS

RCSI is committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG) and proud to rank top 50 in the world in Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2022 published in April for its contribution to the UNSDG 3 'Good Health and Well-being'.

BEACON STATUS IN SUSTAINABLE HEALTHCARE

In February, RCSI became the first institution in the Republic of Ireland to be awarded Beacon Status in Sustainable Healthcare. Achieving this reflects RCSI's commitment to integrating a more environmentally, socially and financially sustainable approach to healthcare education.

MS. AMINA J. MOHAMMED DELIVERED THE 29TH CARMICHAEL LECTURE

In February 2022, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group delivered the 29th Carmichael Lecture and was also awarded an Honorary Fellowship, RCSI's highest distinction. Delegates gathered both in-person and online for the prestigious address, held in RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences in Dublin. Ms Mohammed spoke on 'Transforming Education to Transform our World by 2030'.

SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH

This year, we also established a new School of Population Health with Professor Edward Gregg as Head of School. Together with a multi-disciplinary team of committed researchers and advocates, Professor Gregg will be at the forefront of RCSI's commitment to delivering educational programmes and driving research which improves the health of human populations across the world. The School's first educational

focus will be on a series of postgraduate taught programmes aimed at upskilling the public health workforce.

RACE EQUALITY ACTION PLAN

In November, RCSI became the first university in Ireland to publish an action plan aimed at advancing race equality and tackling racism. As one of the country's most internationally diverse universities, RCSI's Race Equality Action Plan reinforces its commitment to ensuring that the experience of its students, trainees and staff is defined by respect, equality and inclusion. In November, RCSI became the first university in Ireland to publish an action plan aimed at advancing race equality and tackling racism. As one of the country's most internationally diverse universities, RCSI's Race Equality Action Plan reinforces its commitment to ensuring that the experience of its students, trainees and staff is defined by respect, equality and inclusion.

BEAUMONT RCSI CANCER CENTRE - OECI ACCREDITATION

The Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre – a collaboration between RCSI, Beaumont Hospital and St Luke's Radiation Oncology Network – has been accredited by the Organisation European Cancer Institutes (OEI) who set comprehensive standards for cancer centres in Europe. The Centre, independently evaluated by a team of experts, was praised as "a patient-centred organisation with well-coordinated research structures and a dynamic education system".





TRADE-RELATED ASPECTS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (TRIPS) WAIVER

RCSI became the first higher education institution and postgraduate training body in Ireland to call on the Irish government to endorse the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) waiver which would pave the way for the generic production of medicines and provide low- and middle-income countries access to COVID-19 vaccines and other treatments.

PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

REACH RCSI piloted a new initiative with the RCSI School of Physiotherapy for students to promote physical activity among local primary school children.

BEST GREEN CAMPUS AWARD

RCSI was announced as winner of the Best Green Campus Award at the annual Education Awards ceremony on 6 April, 2022. The Education Awards recognise, encourage, and celebrate excellence in the third level education sector on the island of Ireland from both State and privately funded institutions. The award was made to RCSI in recognition of its strong

commitment to making a positive environmental impact and contributing to a sustainable future. The award recognises the commitment of RCSI's team to sustainability and its commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

TREE PLANTING

The securement of a 200 native tree saplings donation and the planting of native trees, installation of boxes for birds and a wild flower meadow at its campus in north Dublin

Professor Cathal Kelly
Vice Chancellor and
Chief Executive/Registrar

PROGRESS ON SDG PRIORITIES FOR 2021/22

Target	Status
Relaunch of RCSI Engage Committee	Complete
Establish New School of Population Health	Complete
Begin construction on Project Connect	Complete
Development and launch of Race Equality Plan	Complete
Embed SDGs further into RCSI curricula	In Progress

SDG PRIORITIES FOR 2022/23

- Participate review by the UK Climate and Health Alliance of Net Carbon Zero in healthcare
- Commit to achieving net zero carbon by 2050
- Establish new Sustainability & Climate Health Committee
- Develop & launch Junior Researcher Programme for local post-primary school students
- Launch new Arts Strategy
- Continue to work with Irish Doctors for the Environment (IDE) and Climate Health in Medical Education (CHIME) to integrate themes of sustainability, climate change and ecological instability into the health professional curricula.



The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals



Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

- **4,092** collaborating research institutions worldwide (SciVal 2012– 2021)
- Completion of **SURG-Africa project** to improve access to surgical care for district and rural populations in Africa.
- **Kapuscinski Development Lecture** on surgery, poverty and international development delivered by RCSI Chair of Global Surgery

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



- **Zero to landfill** policy for waste
- **Elimination of paper cups** from staff rooms
- **Single-use plastic** removed from cafés

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



- **38,957** registrations for free online courses on **The Science of Health and Happiness** from the Centre for Positive Psychology and Health
- RCSI Library exhibition celebrating **Sir Charles Cameron** and his contribution to public health in Victorian Dublin
- **5,380** registrations for RCSI MyHealth public lecture series 2021/22

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



- **Race Equality Action Plan** published, aimed at advancing race equality and tackling racism
- RCSI **guide for Ukrainian doctors** coming to work in Ireland

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



- **#33** in the world in Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Ranking 2022
- Strong health research: **5,996** publications and **82,000** citations (SciVal 2017-2021)
- **Beacon Status Award** from the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (first institution in Ireland)
- Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre designated **Cancer Centre status by OECI**
- **National Surgical Research Support Centre** launched
- Inaugural **Chair of Population Health** appointed



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



- **RCSI Summer School** in its 12th year
- New BSc in **Advanced Therapeutic Technologies**
- **28,000** health professions alumni across 98 countries
- Student electives in 20 countries with **223 collaborating healthcare institutions**
- First cohorts of **313 Lifestyle Medicine** certificate participants
- 29th Carmichael Lecture by Ms Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations, on **'Transforming Education to Transform our World by 2030'**

5 GENDER EQUALITY



- Fourth year of the **PROGRESS Women in Surgery Fellowship**
- **Scholarship in Positive Health** launched in collaboration with the 30% Club
- **Women in Vision and Eye Research** conference
- **Athena SWAN bronze awards** for the School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences and Department of Physiology and Medical Physics

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



- **100% green** electricity procured
- **40% improvement** in energy efficiency(kWh/sqm) since baseline 2006
- **Best Green Campus Award** at the 2022 Education Awards

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



- **KeepWell Mark** re-accreditation by IBEC for commitment to employee well-being
- Business & Finance 100 top companies for **Workplace Wellbeing**



5,380

REGISTERED TO RCSI MYHEALTH LECTURE SERIES 21/22



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