



Healthy UCD Annual Report Year 8 (2023/2024) September 2024

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FOREWORD BY CHAIR

Following the significant changes in the Academic Year 2022/23, this year has involved considerable learning and evolving for Healthy UCD. Changes in personnel have brought new energy and determination to advance the prioritisation of health and wellbeing on our campus. We have developed new partnerships within and external to UCD and have fostered new collaborations with Higher Education Institutions in Ireland through the Higher Education Authority (HEA) Healthy Campus Network.

One of the highlights of the year was the HEA Conference on 'A whole institution approach to health and wellbeing' held in June. This provided an opportunity to network and hear from other Universities experiences of developing and implementing healthy campus initiatives.



Left to right: Mags Carey, Prof. Barbara Dooley, Dr. Jessica Surdey, Dr. Celine Murrin, Niall Dennehy

A key milestone reached this year was the Platinum Status awarded to UCD by the Fédération Internationale du Sport Universitaire (FISU) Sports. The award recognises Universities that promote opportunity and access for students and staff to engage in healthy lifestyle behaviours as part of campus life.

UCD receives FISU Healthy Campus Gold Accreditation

The FISU Healthy Campus programme, proposed and developed by the International University Sports Federation, aims to enhance all aspects of well-being for students and the campus community at large. The programme believes that universities should be an enabling environment, encouraging its community to practice a healthy and sustainable lifestyle where access and opportunity in the areas of physical activity, health and nutrition are a daily part of campus life.

Healthy UCD, with the support of the Bursar's office, has been working towards FISU Healthy Campus Accreditation since early 2023 and we are delighted to announce that UCD has recently been awarded FISU Healthy Campus Gold Accreditation.

This award highlights the hard work taking place throughout the campus and the university's commitment to the Healthy Campus programme. Healthy UCD is excited to continue on this journey, working towards the next level of FISU Healthy Campus accreditation.



The work programme for Healthy UCD has primarily involved supporting our students either through our own initiatives, such as Healthy Eating Active Living Week (HEAL) and Smoking Cessation programmes, and through our extensive engagement with the Students Union, Student Services and UCD Estates. We have ongoing collaboration with UCD Culture and Engagement to support and promote health and wellbeing among our staff. This year we have developed new working relationships with UCD Global, Equality Diversity and Inclusion and with the Health Service Executive Community Leads for Health and Wellbeing.

This progress has been primarily led through the energy, initiative and hard work from Mags Carey, Healthy UCD Co-ordinator, who has proactively driven the Healthy UCD agenda throughout the UCD campus and beyond with positivity and collegiality.

Several new members were invited to join our Healthy UCD Steering Committee bringing considerable new expertise and energy to progress our work. I would like to thank the Committee for their continued commitment throughout the year and for their dedication to support staff and student health and wellbeing. We look forward to engaging with the new UCD Strategy later in the year and work towards developing a new strategy for Healthy UCD which strives towards weaving health and wellbeing into the fabric of our community.

Dr. Celine Murrin

Celine Murin

Chair, Steering Committee for Healthy UCD

INTRODUCTION

The Healthy UCD strategy sets out ambitious but achievable goals for the next number of years and aims to consolidate and build on the contribution of Healthy UCD to healthy campus life. This year, we developed the Healthy UCD wheel, to further inform the scope of our remit, with a view to form the basis of the next strategy. We have highlighted the progress made under each of the health priorities and enablers below.

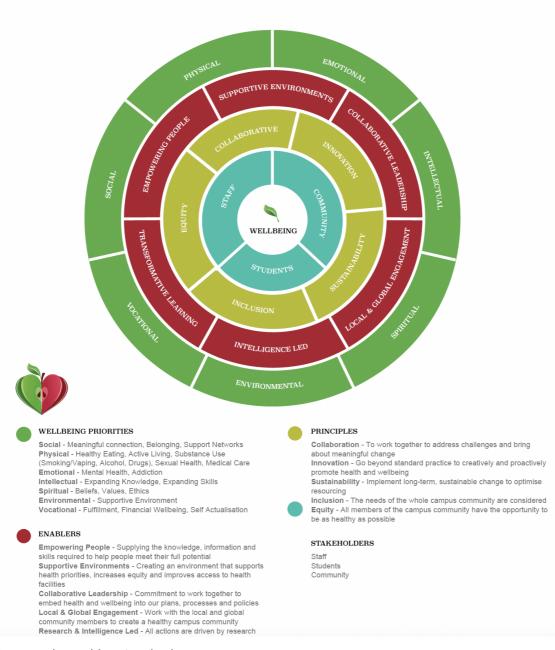


Figure 1 - The Healthy UCD wheel

HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRIORITIES

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Sexual Health and Wellbeing

Healthy UCD / HSE STI Campaign

The Healthy UCD Sexual Health and Wellbeing Subgroup collaborated with the HSE and UCD Student Health to design an STI awareness campaign that will be rolled out on campus at the start of term in September 2024 (see Figure 2 below for a mockup of the campaign).



Figure 2 - Mockup of Healthy UCD/HSE STI Awareness Campaign

This campaign is one of the many actions documented as part of the Healthy UCD Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan, which will continue to be implemented over the coming year.

Goal v	Objectives	v Actions
(1) Reduce STI's	(a) Increase condom use	(1) Improve condom availability in advance of next term by reviewing existing locations and expanding where appropriate
		(2) Provide a map of all condom locations on the Healthy UCD website
		(3) Use social media to promote messaging - e.g. how to find the locations, how to use condoms, how to negotiate condom use with a partner
		(4) Ensure HUD website is up to date with the latest messaging
		(5) Do an activation with Durex to promote the various condom options available (not a one size fits all approach, condoms to enhance your experience)
		(6) Partner with Student Health on condom messaging
		(7) Distribute condoms as part of each HUD activation on campus, including the distribution of HUD lycra card holders for phones
		(8) Partner with SexualWellbeing Roadshow* event)
		(9) Partner with UCDSU during Shag Week to target condom use(opportunity for a focus group*)
		(10) Explore Peer Mentor programme and opportunities to discuss Sexual Health and Wellbeing on their module
		(11) Use of digital screens throughout the campus to promote condom use
	(b) Increase STI awareness	(1) Partner with the HSE to deliver billboard STI awareness campaign
		(2) Use social media channels to share target messaging (include different cohorts) - e.g. STI testing steps (demonstrating how easy it is), who to test/how often etc. (e.g. key points in the year), why you should test (why different groups are at risk*)
		(3) Signpost to Student Health services, highlighting their offerings
		(4) Raise the potentially prohibitive cost of STI Student Health appointment to HUD Steering Committee
		(5) Use of digital screens throughout the campus to promote STI testing
		(6) Explore the use of vending machines for dispensing STI kits
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		(3) Social media messaging campaign
		(4) Use of digital screens throughout campus to promote contraception use
		(5) Identify barriers to contraception including religion, international students (no PPS)
		(6) Explore the possibility of accessing data on unplanned pregnancies from Student Health in order to track the impact of this intervention
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(3) Promote Positive Sexual Health	(a) Improve sexual intimacy communication skills	(1) Develop a social media campaign on sexual intimacy
		(2) Deliver workshops on sexual intimacy during Shag Week
		(3) Disseminate key messages from the EDI Sexual Consent Policy
		(4) Use of digital screens throughout the campus to promote messaging

Figure 3 - Healthy UCD Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Active Living

A Physical Activity subgroup has been established, with Dr Grainne O'Donoghue taking the lead, supported by Healthy UCD. The plan is to develop a set of objectives for the coming year, focusing on "Exercise is Medicine" and how to incorporate movement into every day for both staff and students on campus.

Staff Initiatives

A wide range of wellbeing activities for employees were delivered by Healthy UCD in partnership with UCD Culture and Engagement. Healthy UCD was delighted to attend the Employee Wellbeing Day in October, where the focus was on incorporating movement into daily activity, with a fun game to test your reaction speed. In the autumn, an "Active Autumn" range of classes were offered, with yoga, pilates bootcamp, and a learn-to-swim programme, which all proved very popular.



Figure 4 - UCD Culture and Engagement Collaboration

FitFeb took place in February and saw teams come together from across the University to compete in the walking challenge. This event proved very popular with over 50 teams registered and was a fun way to promote increased activity among staff. HealthyUCD was delighted to sponsor the event and provided goodie bags for all participants at the celebratory lunch.



Figure 5 - FitFeb walking challenge

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Health Eating

The healthy eating subgroup, led by Dr Celine Murrin with support from human nutrition and dietetics colleagues, is proposing a food policy for UCD which will incorporate a set of principles for catering outlets on campus, focusing on areas such as sustainability and food poverty. Healthy UCD will continue to work closely with UCD estates to ensure that a variety of cost effective and nutritious offerings are available on campus and that the needs of those with specific dietary requirements are met.

UCDSU Collaboration

Free breakfasts and dinners were provided during revision/exam weeks, in collaboration with the UCDSU, which proved very popular and helped to ease the burden on students at this time. Early morning breakfasts for commuters also proved popular, not just in providing a nutritious start to the day for commuters but also in providing a safe and welcoming space for students facing long commutes.



Figure 7- UCDSU Collaboration

Healthy Eating Active Living Week

Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Week took place during the week of the 7th of November and was coordinated by the students from the Masters in Nutrition & Dietetics and Masters in Physiotherapy programmes. Included in the activities on offer were physio-led exercise sessions followed by healthy breakfasts options, QR codes in the village gym linking to physio-

led demonstrations of how to use the equipment and the installation of "FitFoods" vending machines to provide healthy hot meals outside of restaurant hours.

The students created a real buzz on campus, while also developing sustainable initiatives. Overall, it was a great effort by this cohort of students and a very well run and well received event.



Figure 8 - A sample of social media HEAL posts

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Smoking

A Smoking and Vaping subgroup has been established, led by Dr Kate Frazer. A Student Health and Wellbeing survey, including a large section on smoking/vaping, will be carried out at the start of next term, to help inform our initiatives in this area and bring a renewed focus to the Smoke Free Campus policy. We continue to promote the smoking cessation courses run by

The Department of Preventative Health and Health Promotion at St Vincent's University Hospital.



Figure 9 - A sample of social media smoking posts

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Medical Care

The collaborative relationship between Healthy UCD and UCD Student Health continued this year and we were happy to help promote many health initiatives including vaccination booster programs for MMR, HPV and COVID, the free contraceptive campaign and raising STI awareness.

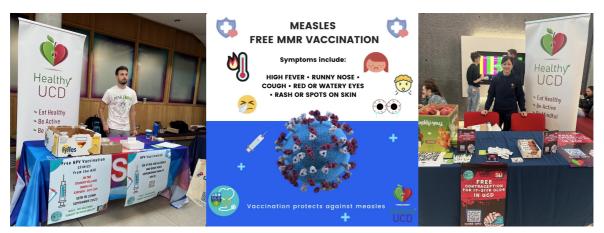


Figure 10 - Student Health Collaboration

INTELLECTUAL & VOCATIONAL HEALTH Expanding Knowledge

Experiential Learning

Experiential learning opportunities were provided to UCD students through a combined Healthy Eating and Active Living Week, which was designed and delivered by MSc Clinical

Nutrition and Dietetics and MSc Physiotherapy students as part of a new interprofessional learning initiative between the two programmes, with support from Healthy UCD.

We are delighted to be working with UCD Landscape Architecture and students from the Socio-environmental Studies elective module to scope the requirements for a neurodiversity garden on campus, based on the recommendations from the UCD Neurodiversity Report, which was launched in April 2024, which highlighted the growing need for both indoor and outdoor neurodiversity-friendly spaces.

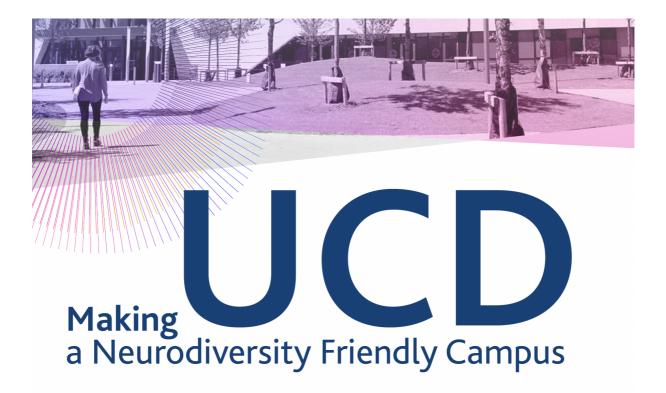


Figure 11 - UCD Neurodiversity Report 2024

Health and Wellbeing in the curriculum

The Student Health and Wellbeing elective module (PHPS10010) ran for the fifth consecutive year in the Spring Trimester with 68 students registered, an increase of 9 from the previous year. Students conducted research for their final assignments on the UCD campus; researching and designing initiatives for students which could be implemented on the UCD

campus. They worked on topics including healthy eating, physical activity, mental health, sexual health and drug/alcohol use.

Peer Mentor Programme

Healthy UCD developed a short presentation introducing the initiative for use in peer mentor training, which was used in the Orientation Brightspace module. We also collaborated with the Peer Mentors during their Healthy Eating week, advising on suitable content for their social media platforms.



Figure 12 - PREZI for Peer Mentor Programme

Raising Awareness

During the past year, regular, high-quality content was produced for Healthy UCD's Instagram and X accounts which has contributed to sustained growth in followers. These mediums are an excellent channel to help disseminate information to students.

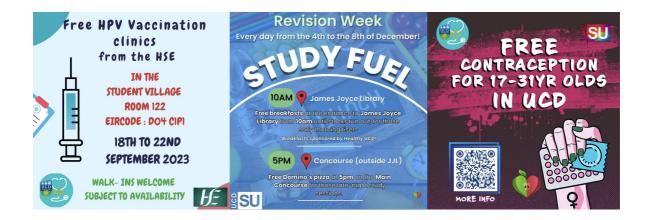


Figure 13- A sample of social media posts during the year



ORIENTATION WEEK (2023-2024)

Orientation took place on-campus during a two-week period in September to facilitate the orientation of incoming first-year students. Healthy UCD had a stand outside the Student Centre, promoting upcoming events and growing followers on social media. Healthy UCD merchandise was given out at the stand including water bottles, t-shirts, pens and bags, including information and signposting to various supports and services, to increase awareness of the initiative and all of the excellent supports available to students on campus.



Figure 14 - Healthy UCD Stand During Orientation

UCD IN THE COMMUNITY

Healthy UCD was delighted to feature in this year's UCD Community Engagement report, highlighting all of the health initiatives that we are involved in on campus.

Healthy UCD Featured in UCD's Community Engagement Report



Healthy UCD featured in the UCD Community Engagement report that was launched by Professor Colin Scott in May this year. The report highlights and showcases the wide variety of community engagement that is happening across UCD, from community-engaged research and innovation, teaching and learning and volunteering. Healthy UCD highlighted some of the initiatives that took place on campus, including Healthy Eating Active Living week, Wellbeing Wednesday, the UCD Festival and Staff Wellbeing Activities.

The full report can be viewed here.

Figure 15 - Healthy UCD in UCD's Community Engagement Report



LOCAL AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Healthy UCD continues to engage with other Irish universities and colleges and took part in the Higher Education Authority Annual Conference on "A Whole of Institution Approach to Health and Wellbeing" in June 2024. The aim of the conference was to bring together leadership and staff from across the higher education sector working on the implementation of the HEA Healthy Campus Charter and Framework and the National Student Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Framework.

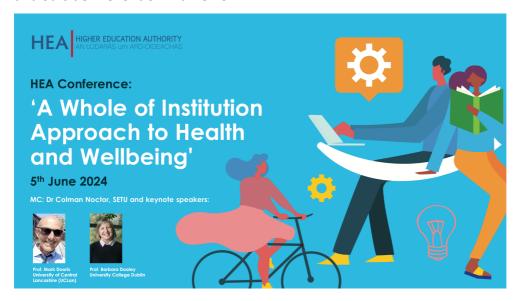


Figure 16 - HEA Annual Health and Wellbeing Conference 2024

Dr Celine Murrin was part of the panel discussion on the day which focused on challenges and opportunities around the implementation of the Healthy Campus framework in HEI's. Healthy Campus Case Studies were showcased, including one from UCD on the successful UCD Commuter Breakfasts initiative.



Figure 17 - HEA Conference Case Study and Panel Discussion

HEA Healthy Campus

Dr Celine Murrin was part of the team of experts from HEI's involved in the development of a 6-week open course "Supporting a Whole Campus Approach to a Healthy Campus" which will run in Autumn 2024. The aim of the course is to help staff and key stakeholders in Higher Educational Institutions develop and implement the Healthy Campus Charter and Framework effectively and efficiently. Peer Learning will be a central feature, allowing for cross institution and interdisciplinary collaboration.



Figure 18 - HEA Open Course

Professor Patricia Fitzpatrick continues to be the UCD Irish Universities Association representative on the Higher Education Authority Healthy Campus Framework and Charter Advisory Group.

Intelligence Led

RESEARCH PROJECTS

The research and work behind providing experiential learning opportunities in UCD modules was presented both nationally and internationally, including at the International Conference on Higher Education Advances in Valencia in June 2024 and the Irish Network of Health Educators in the RCSI in January 2024.

International Conference on Higher Education Advances 2024

Nicola Dervan (Dietetics Special Lecturer/Practice Tutor) presenting at the 10th International Conference on Higher Education Advances (HEAd'24) on June 19 in Valencia, Spain. Nicola presented on behalf of the dietetic and physiotherapy Masters programmes and Healthy UCD.





Pictured: Ms Nicola Dervan presenting at HEAd'24

The aim of the study was to assess the effect of a design thinking approach in an authentic learning environment (development and delivery of Healthy UCD's HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living) week on interdisciplinary collaboration and problem solving skills among physiotherapy and dietetic students.

Figure 19 - Nicola Dervan presenting at the International Conference on Higher Education Advances

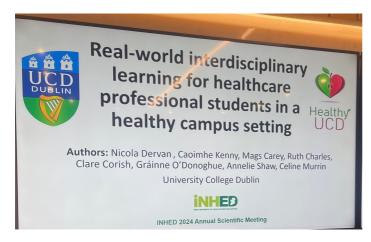


Figure 20 - Presentation at the INHED 2024 Meetin g

Ethical approval has been secured to carry out a Student Health and Wellbeing survey, focusing on the smoking/physical activity and nutrition habits of students and will be carried out at the start of next term, to help inform our initiatives in these areas.

Have your say!

Take part in the Healthy UCD
Student Health and Wellbeing survey





Figure 21 - Healthy UCD Student Health and Wellbeing Survey

PRESENTATIONS

Healthy UCD presented at national and international conferences in the past year, as detailed below.

Table 1: Details of Healthy UCD presentations, 2023-2024				
Presentation type	Conference	Details		
Oral	Irish Network of Health Educators, Jan 2024	Dervan N, Kenny C, Carey M, Charles R, Corish C, O'Donoghue G, Shaw A, Murrin C. Effect of an authentic design thinking experience on collaboration, social-problem solving and satisfaction in physiotherapy and dietetics students.		
Case Study	Healthy Campus Network Conference. Higher Education Authority, June 2024	Carey M. Healthy UCD – UCD Free Commuter Breakfasts		
Oral	International Conference on Health Education Advances, June 2024	Dervan N, Kenny C, Carey M, Charles R, Corish C, O'Donoghue G, Shaw A, Murrin C. Real-world interdisciplinary learning for healthcare professional students in a Healthy Campus setting.		

Collaboration

Collaboration with the Students' Union continued this year and this partnership continues to be very successful. A big focus for this year was to listen to the student voice and develop initiatives accordingly. We look forward to continuing this strong partnership again this year with the new SU President and Sabbatical officers.

Healthy UCD was delighted to be invited to sit on the UCD EDI Active Consent working group, chaired by Professor Jason Last and to be given an opportunity to share progress on the Healthy UCD Sexual Health and Wellbeing Strategy, focusing on STI awareness and prevention.

Relationships with many external partners have been strengthened, including the HEA, developing an open course in Health Promotion and the HSE, collaborating on an STI prevention campaign which will be in place on campus for the 2024 term.

Health Priority Actions for the coming academic year 2024/2025

PHYSICAL HEALTH

1. Sexual Health and Wellbeing

Group Lead: Dr Cathal O'Broin

Supported by: Dr Eadaoin Lysaght, Dr John Gilmore, Mags Carey

Aim: To promote positive Sexual Health and Wellbeing among UCD staff and students

- 1.1 To carry out an STI survey in the first term, to help inform our initiatives in this area
- 1.2 To collaborate with the UCDSU and UCD Student Health
- 1.3 To implement the Healthy UCD Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan (see below)
 - 1.3.1 To assess the impact of the Healthy UCD STI Hoarding Campaign on campus
- 1.4 To continue to be a part of the EDI Consent Working Group

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		(3) Use social media to promote messaging - e.g. how to find the locations, how to use condoms, how to negotiate condom use with a partner
		(4) Ensure HUD website is up to date with the latest messaging
		(5) Do an activation with Durex to promote the various condom options available (not a one size fits all approach, condoms to enhance your experience)
		(6) Partner with Student Health on condom messaging
		(7) Distribute condoms as part of each HUD activation on campus, including the distribution of HUD lycra card holders for phones
		(8) Partner with SexualWellbeing.ie to promote condom use ("Sexual Wellbeing Roadshow" event)
		(9) Partner with UCDSU during Shag Week to target condom use(opportunity for a focus group*)
		(10) Explore Peer Mentor programme and opportunities to discuss Sexual Health and Wellbeing on their module
		(11) Use of digital screens throughout the campus to promote condom use
	(b) Increase STI awareness	(1) Partner with the HSE to deliver billboard STI awareness campaign
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		(3) Signpost to Student Health services, highlighting their offerings
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		(2) Deliver workshops on sexual intimacy during Shag Week
		(3) Disseminate key messages from the EDI Sexual Consent Policy
		(4) Use of digital screens throughout the campus to promote messaging

Active Living

Group Lead: Dr Grainne O'Donoghue

Supported By: Orla Flynn, Mary Davis, UCD Sport, ISH, Mags Carey

Aim: To facilitate Active Living and the incorporation of movement into daily life among UCD staff and students

- 2.1 To carry out the Student Health and Wellbeing survey during the first term in order to collate data on physical activity habits among UCD students
- 2.2 To develop a PA action plan for the coming academic year including:
 - 1.2.1 To explore collaboration with the PhysioHub
 - 1.2.1 To explore past successful initiatives such as Better Bones, Better Hearts and Get in Gear
 - 1.2.2 To further develop the Active Campus Europe intervention
 - 1.2.3 To incorporate the EIM approach to PA initiatives, targeting the most common chronic health conditions and how EIM can help in terms of prevention/management
- 2.3 To deliver HEAL week in collaboration with MSc Dietetics and Physiotherapy students, with a focus on sustainable active living initiatives
- 2.4 Continue to collaborate with UCD Culture and Engagement (WellUCD) in the provision of physical activity programmes for staff

3. Health Eating

Group Lead: Dr Celine Murrin

Supported By: Dr Eileen Gibney, Dr Aifric O'Sullivan, Dr Sarah Browne, Nicole Black, Mags

Carey

Aim: To facilitate Healthy Eating among UCD staff and students

- 3.1 To carry out the Student Health and Wellbeing survey during the first term in order to collate data on eating habits among UCD students
- 3.2 To develop a Food Policy for UCD, including a set of principles/guidelines for catering outlets
- 3.3 To work with UCD Estates on the implementation of these principles throughout the catering outlets, including recommendations around the removal of sugar sweetened beverages (SSB's)
- 3.4 To deliver HEAL week in collaboration with MSc Dietetics and Physiotherapy students, with a focus on sustainable healthy eating initiatives
- 3.5 Collaborate with the Institute of Food and Health and UCD Sustainability on resources to support sustainable healthy eating
- 3.6 Develop a set of resources for staff and students around healthy eating, including the provision of healthy recipes and a healthy eating booklet
- 3.7 Continue to collaborate with the UCDSU on the provision of meals for students during vulnerable times

4. Smoking/Vaping

Group Lead: Dr Kate Frazer

Supported By: Dr Ricardo Segurado, Mark Simpson, Mags Carey

Aim: To provide a Smoke Free campus for UCD staff, students and the wider community

Objectives:

- 4.1 To carry out the Student Health and Wellbeing survey during the first term in order to collate data on smoking/vaping habits among UCD students
- 4.2 To develop a smoke free campus action plan for the coming academic year including:4.2.1 The provision of discounted NRT through the UCD Procare Pharmacy
- 4.3 Continue to signpost to St Vicent's Smoking Cessation courses
- 4.4 Collaborate with the HSE and UCD Student Health on the provision of an in-house smoking cessation course and supports

5. Mental Health

Group Lead: Dr Amanda Fitzgerald

Supported By: Dr Triona Byrne, Jigsaw, Mags Carey

Aim: To support the Mental Health and Wellbeing of UCD staff and students

- 5.1 To carry out/use existing research to collate data on the mental health of UCD students
- 5.2 To develop a mental health action plan for the coming academic year
- 5.3 To collaborate with the existing Student Mental Health working group
- 5.4 Deliver heartful mindfulness classes to staff

Substance Use (Drugs/Alcohol)

Group Lead: Dr Sarah Morton

Supported By: Donal Kiernan, Mags Carey

Aim: To promote awareness of substance mis-use and provide support for UCD staff and students who identify as having harmful patterns of use.

- 5.1 To carry out/use existing research to collate data on substance use among UCD students
- 5.2 To develop a substance use action plan for the coming academic year

New provisional targets based on actions to be delivered in the short-term from the new Healthy UCD Strategy, 2022-2026		
Action (from strategy)	Target 2024/2025	
1.3	Review and identify areas relevant to Healthy UCD within the Healthy Ireland Healthy Workplace Framework.	
2.5	Engage with minority groups through practical workshops to identify and address health and wellbeing needs and opportunities through Healthy UCD initiatives, messaging and supports.	
2.6	Seek representation from UCD Student Communications on the Healthy UCD Steering Committee.	
3.1	Engage with other Universities to exchange research initiatives and methodologies and highlight opportunities for research collaboration.	
4.2	Host a Healthy UCD event that brings together people from other Irish third-level institutions to share experiences and learn from one another.	

Appendix: Healthy UCD Steering Committee 2023-2024

Name	Position
Celine Murrin	Chair, Healthy UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science
Ricardo Segurado	Chair, Healthy UCD Research Committee
Mags Carey	Research Assistant, Healthy UCD
Dominic O'Keeffe	Director of Student Services & Facilities
Mark Simpson	Senior Manager, Engagement and Internal Communications
Catherine Blake	Head of School, School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science
Gráinne O'Donoghue	Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Science
Aishling Kennedy Dalton	Facilities Manager, UCD Estates
Andrew Myler	Head of Customer & Management Services, UCD Estates
Nicole Black	UCD Commercial Director, UCD Estate Services
David Kelly	Bursar
Amanda Gibney	Head of School, School of Civil Engineering
Kevin Griffin	Director of UCD Registry
Amanda Fitzgerald	School of Psychology
Kate Frazer	School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Systems
Cathal O'Broin	School of Medicine
Dr Eadaoin Lysaght	Student Health
Miranda Bauer	Students' Union Campaigns & Engagement Officer
Jill Nellis	Students' Union Welfare Officer
Ciaran Hannigan	Nominee of Nutrition Society
Christine Coffey	Nominee of Athletic Union Council
Robert Grendon	UCD Societies Council