



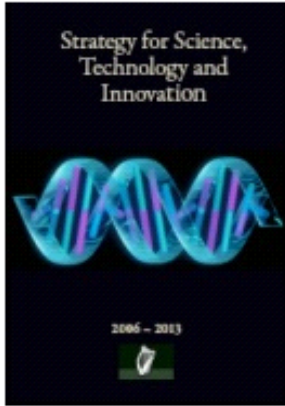
**IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL**  
**An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn**

**Welcome**  
**Céad Mile Fáilte**  
**Dr. Eucharía Meehan**



Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar  
Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh  
Irish Presidency of the Council  
of the European Union  
**eu2013.ie**

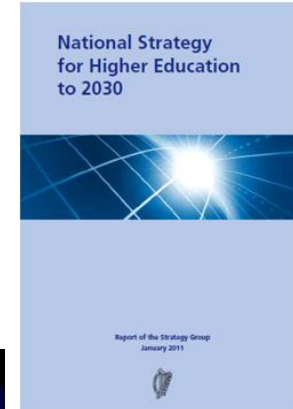
# Policy Drivers – Capacity & Optimising Impact



Top 1% of  
research HEIs  
in world in 18  
fields of  
research



Top 20 countries in world for citations



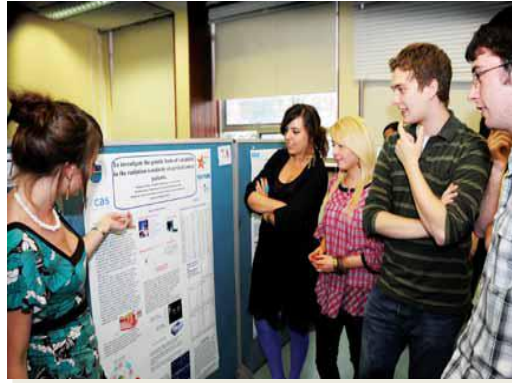
# Preparing Doctoral Candidates for the future; What is changing?

An environment  
with groups of students

Structured instruction in  
discipline of choice/area of  
research

An education and training  
programme with thesis  
at core

Exposure to the best on this island  
in the area of research

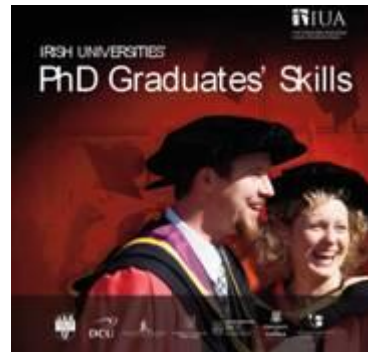


Training in generic  
and transferable skills

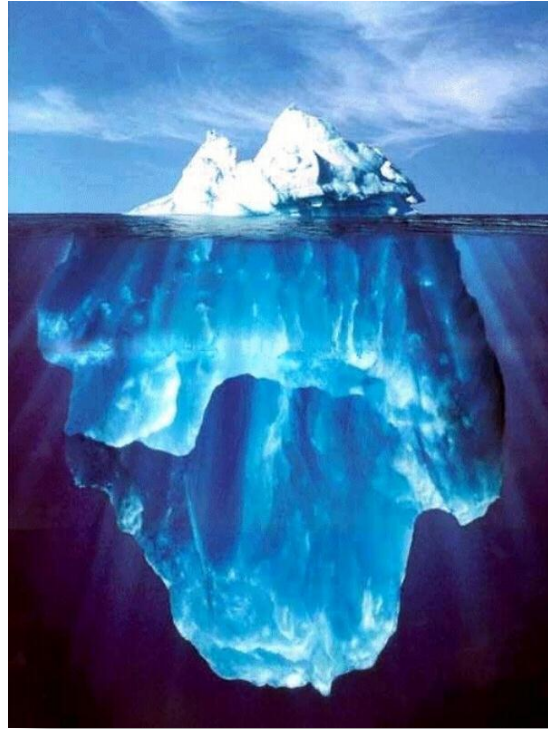
Formal  
acknowledgement of  
course work, skills and  
competencies developed

Career development  
plans

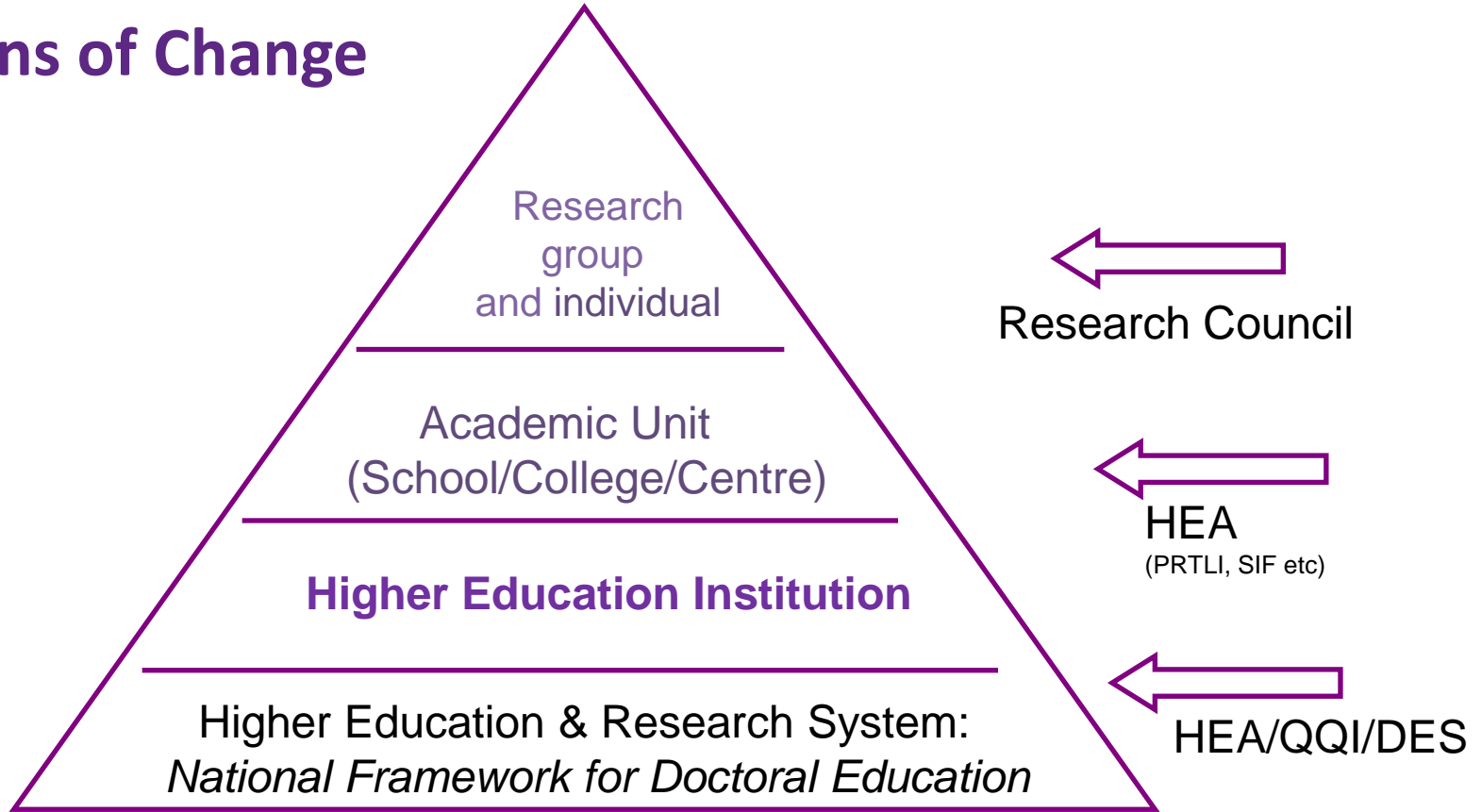
Ideally spend time at an  
international laboratory  
and/or in the workplace



16 May, 2013



# Domains of Change



# Investing in People

Early stage career  
development +  
Skills



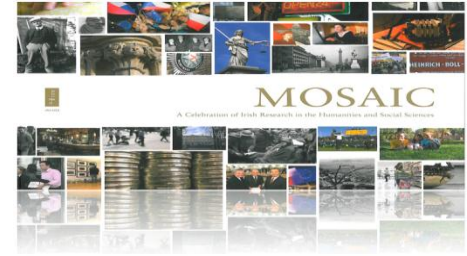
Individual  
researchers



Exploratory  
Research

Investing in  
Excellence

# Policy advisory role



All Disciplines



# Doctoral Programmes – Case Studies



Ireland's EU Structural Funds  
Programmes 2007 - 2013

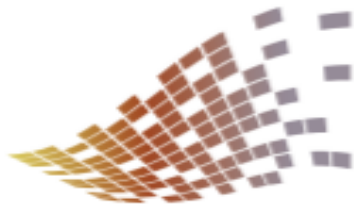
Co-funded by the Irish Government  
and the European Union



EUROPEAN REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT FUND



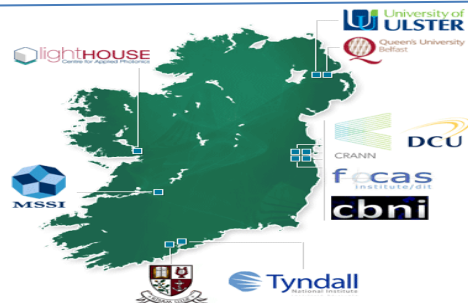
An Roinn Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta  
Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation



digital arts & humanities PhD



Molecular  
Medicine  
Ireland



## Combination of Characteristics

<b>Linkages</b>	Link with multiple partners industry/ national/ international (including non-traditional partners)
<b>Non-academic input</b>	Industry mentor assigned to each student
	Publicly advertise one page pitch on desired work placement and invite companies to consider hosting student
	Modules developed to be accessible to industry partners and PhD students from outset
Facilitate studying while working	Part-time option – develop value statement of how student and sponsor benefit
<b>Skills development</b>	
Grant writing skills	Students involved in writing mock grant applications and receive feedback
Record of learning and transferable skills	Student training logs/ professional development plans record transferable skills and learning
	Modules archived for future reference
Alternative to traditional lectures	Bootcamp training – intensive training with key speakers



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- ❑ Building diverse research careers
- ❑ Options for Employer-Academia-Social engagement

❖ Enterprise Partnership Scheme

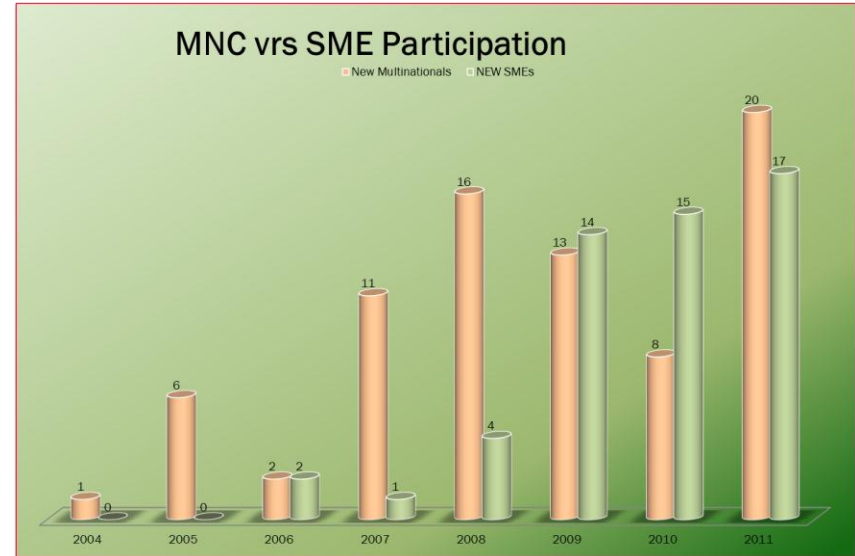
❖ Employment-Based Postgraduate Programme

❖ Elevate Postdoctoral Programme



## ❖ Enterprise Partnership Scheme

- **Researcher based in Irish HEI**
- **Option for placement in Enterprise Partner anywhere in world**
- **Project agreed between HEI & Enterprise Partner**
- **Enterprise Partner provides professional guidance and mentoring**
- **Access to experimental resources, facilities or data**
- **Commitment of enterprise partner to co-fund at a rate of one third for the duration of the award**





# ❖ Employment-Based Postgraduate Programme

- A 'co-educational' programme
- Researcher is an employee of the enterprise/employment partner
- Researcher to be based primarily on employment partner premises - 50 to 70%
- Irish Research Council contributes to salary + University fees etc
- Company must be able to provide the necessary environment and mentorship
- Employment Partner must have operation in Republic of Ireland



## **Value for Companies**

## **Benefits for Researchers**

**Access to exceptionally talented pre-assessed researchers & potential future employees**

**Mentoring from Enterprise Experts**

**Build research networks and collaborations with Irish Universities and Institutes of Technology**

**Enhanced Employability**

**Low level of bureaucracy – Streamlined process from application to award**

**Transferable skills**

**Maximise potential for innovation – People and Ideas**

**Exposure to commercially orientated research environment**



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**Enabling and sustaining a vibrant and  
creative research community  
in Ireland**

**[www.research.ie](http://www.research.ie)**

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