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## Synergies in scholarship at the research teaching nexus

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# Synergies in scholarship at the research-teaching nexus in TU Dublin

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT FOR INFORMED CONSENT:

This is a short (6-8 minute) survey comprising 16 questions for academic colleagues at TU Dublin. The aim of the survey is to UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT TEACHING THAT SUPPORTS RESEARCH OUTPUT. Much debate exists about the research teaching nexus and this survey will help provide meaning for academics in TU Dublin. Synergies are identified by research outputs that are either similar or complementary to teaching activities. Although there are many excellent examples of research led and research informed teaching in the university, it is less understood how teaching activity supports research practice and outputs.

Before proceeding please read the information below to ensure that you are giving informed consent and you understand the nature and use of this survey. Your submission will remain anonymous unless you choose to provide your contact details at the end.

If you have any questions please email [deirdre.mcquillan@tudublin.ie](mailto:deirdre.mcquillan@tudublin.ie) (<mailto:deirdre.mcquillan@tudublin.ie>) who is carrying out this survey as part of an MSc Education project. Results (anonymised) will also be shared with an ongoing interest group on the research teaching nexus at the Polytechnic Summit 2021 which will be hosted by TU Dublin (See: <https://www.tudublin.ie/explore/events/all-events/polytechnic-summit-2021> (<https://www.tudublin.ie/explore/events/all-events/polytechnic-summit-2021>)).

Participants in this survey are staff at TU Dublin involved in teaching and/or research activities. You do not need to provide your contact details but if you choose to do so, personal contact data collected will extend to your work email address only. Personal data will be separated from survey responses and stored in a password protected file within the IT account of the researcher. FAIR Principles to data management according to the European Commission in Horizon 2020 will apply. More information on this can be found on TU Dublin's website: <https://www.dit.ie/dsrh/data/fairdata/> (<https://www.dit.ie/dsrh/data/fairdata/>). The results of the study will be used to write an academic paper as required for the administrators dissertation project. Results will also be disseminated through a report format to assist in the development of research supports at TU Dublin and presented at the Polytechnic Summit 2021.

\* Required

## Informed Consent and Categorisation Questions

## 1. PARTICIPANT CONSENT

- I have read and understood the Participant Information Statement in this survey.
- I have had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the study and I have received satisfactory answers to my questions.
- I understand what personal data will be collected and how it will be used.
- My role in TU Dublin involves teaching and/or research activities.
- I understand that I am free to withdraw from the study at any time prior to the completion date of the study (Apr 2021)

Please choose response 1 or 2 below \*

- Yes - I agree with all of the above and consent to participate in the study
- No - I do not consent to participate in the study

## 2. In which field would you mostly align your teaching activities to? (Categories based on Broad fields of education in ISCED-F 2013)

- Education
- Arts and humanities
- Social sciences, journalism and information
- Business, administration and law
- Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics
- Information and communication technologies
- Engineering, manufacturing and construction
- Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary
- Health and welfare
- Services

3. Please indicate your academic level?

Professor

Senior lecturer

Lecturer

Assistant lecturer

Other

4. Please indicate your gender

Male

Female

Other

Prefer not to say

5. Please indicate your highest degree award

Primary degree

Masters degree

Doctoral degree

Currently registered on Doctoral programme

6. For how long have you held an academic appointment in a third level institution

- Less than 5 years
- Between 5-10 years
- Between 11-15 years
- more than 15 years

## Research role

These questions collect information on your research activities and outputs in TU Dublin

7. To what extent do you consider yourself to be actively engaged in research?

Ranking from:

1 (almost none of my work activity involves research) to

5 (almost all of my work activity involves research)

1    2    3    4    5  
           

8. Please check any and ALL options that currently apply

- I supervise masters level research students
- I supervise PhD level research students
- I am a PI, co-investigator or collaborator on one or more active research grants
- I am a member of a research centre, group or cluster
- I work independently on my own research outputs
- I regularly partake in research workshops and information seminars across TU Dublin and elsewhere (e.g. seminar on IRC Coalesce funding or Early Career Researcher Development initiatives)
- I engage in research activities occasionally but would not consider myself as a (continuously) active researcher

9. Please give an indication of your research outputs IN THE PAST TWO YEARS through the following pathways (answer all types listed selecting '0' if you have no output for any single type)

	0 - no output	1 output	2 outputs	3+ outputs
Presentation at conference, exhibition of work, performance or recital	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Media, artefact or composition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research related service such as Editor on peer review journal (ongoing)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Receipt of research project funding (from any third party to TU Dublin - e.g. Irish Research Council, European Commission)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Patent/trademark/invention disclosure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Co-creation of innovative solutions, knowledge exchange and enterprise start up support with Hothouse, The LINC or Synergy Centre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Submission of own thesis - either doctoral, masters or UG project	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. Please give an indication of your research outputs IN THE PAST TWO YEARS through a publication pathway (answer all types listed selecting '0' if you have no output for any single type)

	0 - no output	1 output	2 outputs	3+ outputs
Publication in International Peer Review Journal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Publication in Irish Peer Review Journal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Publication in non-Peer Review Journal, case study or professional publication	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scholarly book or book chapter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Commissioned policy report or government working paper	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Datasets containing permanent URLs for published datasets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other publication	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Research Teaching Linkages (Nexus)

Definition: The research teaching nexus has been defined as the multiple sorts of linkages and relationships in various forms and directions between teaching, research, scholarship and consultancy. This survey is concerned with understanding the links between teaching and research in the direction of teaching's influence on research - e.g. journal publication from UG or PG project supervision; or, own doctoral thesis based on action research from classroom based student assignments.

11. How well do you consider you understand the concept of the 'research-teaching nexus' or 'research-teaching linkages'?

- not at all
- a little
- well
- very well

12. How important do you think it is to have good research-teaching linkages in TU Dublin?

- not at all important
- a little important
- very important
- extremely important

13. To what extent are your research activities and your UNDERGRADUATE teaching activities Similar in the following areas? (Please answer for each set of activities listed)

\*Research activities are those activities that contribute to research outputs listed in questions 9 and 10 of this survey.

\*\*Similar research and teaching activities are those activities that are the same or close to each other (e.g. - a) student lab experiments collected and written up into a journal paper; b) student art work presented in an exhibition; c) developing content for an entrepreneurship module used in writing a government policy report or working paper on entrepreneurship in Ireland; d) student participation in Hothouse/The LINC/Synergy Centre initiatives).

	Not at all Similar	Sometimes Similar	Often Similar	N/A
UG module themes and content	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
UG module structuring and design (e.g. teaching pedagogies)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
UG module teaching and delivery (e.g. student participation in research output)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
UG student examination and assessment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
UG module reflection and feedback (e.g. reflective journals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supervision of UG dissertation or thesis projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other UG teaching activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. To what extent are your research activities and your POSTGRADUATE teaching activities Similar in the following areas? (Please answer for each set of activities listed).

\*Research activities are those activities that contribute to research outputs listed in questions 9 and 10 of this survey.

\*\*Similar research and teaching activities are those activities that are the same or close to each other (e.g. - a) student lab experiments collected and written up into a journal paper; b) student art work presented in an exhibition; c) developing content for an entrepreneurship module used in writing a government policy report or working paper on entrepreneurship in Ireland; d) student participation in Hothouse/The LINC/Synergy Centre initiatives).

	Not at all Similar	Sometimes Similar	Often Similar	N/A
PG module themes and content	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PG module structuring and design (e.g. teaching pedagogies)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PG module teaching and delivery (e.g. student participation in research output)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PG student examination and assessment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
PG module reflection and feedback (e.g. reflective journals)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supervision of PG dissertation or thesis projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other PG teaching activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. To what extent does your UNDERGRADUATE teaching activity Complement your research activity in the following areas?

\*Teaching activities are listed in Questions 13 and 14 above.

\*\*Complementary research and teaching activities are those activities that are different in ways that enable them to fit or work together well. Complementariness often relates to shared resources, facilities, personnel or shared goals.

(e.g. - a) introduction to technologies or people through teaching activity that supported empirical research or co-authoring opportunities of research output; b) embedding diversity considerations across teaching and applying for EU funding for migrant integration as part of common goal to create better awareness, understanding and supports for migrants; c) access to research sites through student engagement that influenced research output; d) student surveys collected underpinning research output.)

	Not at all complementary	Fairly complementary	Very complementary	N/A
Individual or co-authored publication, media, artefact, composition, patent or invention disclosure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Socialisation of research through exhibition, performance, conference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Receipt of external research funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Co-creation of innovations, knowledge exchange, enterprise, industry and community engagement through Hothouse, The LINC, Synergy Centre, Civic Engagement Office or similar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research related service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Own thesis - either doctoral, masters or UG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Not at all  
complementary

Fairly  
complementary

Very  
complementary

N/A

Other

16. To what extent does your POSTGRADUATE teaching activity Complement your research activity in the following areas?

\*Teaching activities are listed in Questions 13 and 14 above.

\*\*Complementary research and teaching activities are those activities that are different in ways that enable them to fit or work together well. Complementariness often relates to shared resources, facilities, personnel or shared goals.

(e.g. - a) introduction to technologies or people through teaching activity that supported empirical research or co-authoring opportunities of research output; b) embedding diversity considerations across teaching and applying for EU funding for migrant integration as part of common goal to create better awareness, understanding and supports for migrants; c) access to research sites through student engagement that influenced research output; d) student surveys collected underpinning research output.)

	Not at all complementary	Fairly complementary	Very complementary	N/A
Individual or co-authored publication, media, artefact, composition, patent or invention disclosure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Socialisation of research through exhibition, performance, conference	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Receipt of external research funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Co-creation of innovations, knowledge exchange, enterprise, industry and community engagement through Hothouse, The LINC, Synergy Centre, Civic Engagement Office or similar	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Research related service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Own thesis - either doctoral, masters or UG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Not at all  
complementary

Fairly  
complementary

Very  
complementary

N/A

Other

17. Please indicate more broadly how your teaching activities and your research activities are linked. My research and teaching activities are mostly:

Integrated

Autonomous

18. Please use this box to include any other thoughts or ideas that you want to share about synergies at the research teaching nexus.

## Thank you and consent to be contacted again

Thank you for completing this survey. If you would like to stay involved in this research focused on understanding the research-teaching nexus at TU Dublin please provide your email address below. Future participation may involve an in-depth interview or focus group and you will be provided with a new Participant Information Statement and Consent Form at that time.

In addition an ongoing interest group on the research teaching nexus is being organised prior to the 2021 Polytechnic Summit to be hosted by TU Dublin in June 2021. If you would like to be part of this interest group please also provide your email address below and we will be in touch with further details. You can also email me separately about this if you prefer to remain anonymous for survey purposes.

The survey is now complete and you can hit the Submit button below to send your response once you have considered whether you want to include your email address.

19. Please enter your work email address if you are happy to be involved in future research concerning the research-teaching nexus at TU Dublin or wish to be part of the 'research teaching nexus' ongoing interest group for the Polytechnic Summit 2021.

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