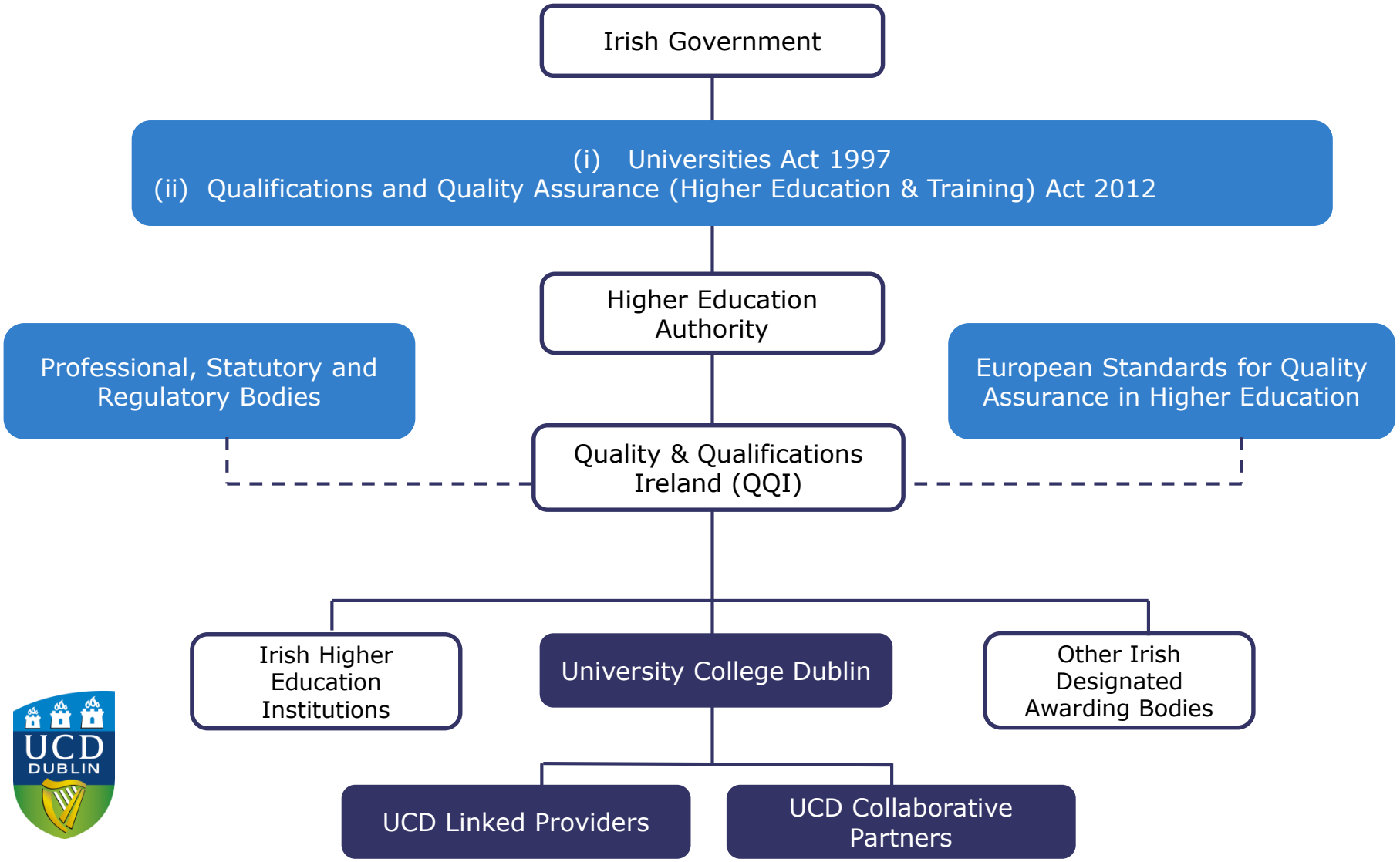
Quality Assurance & PSRB Accreditation at UCD

19 June 2019

Framework for Irish Higher Education Quality Assurance



What is Quality at UCD?

As defined in the Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) Core Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines (2016):

"Quality assurance (QA) is a term generally used to describe the processes that seek to ensure that the learning environment (including teaching and research) reaches an acceptable threshold of quality. QA is also used to describe the enhancement of education and training provision and the standards attained by learners."

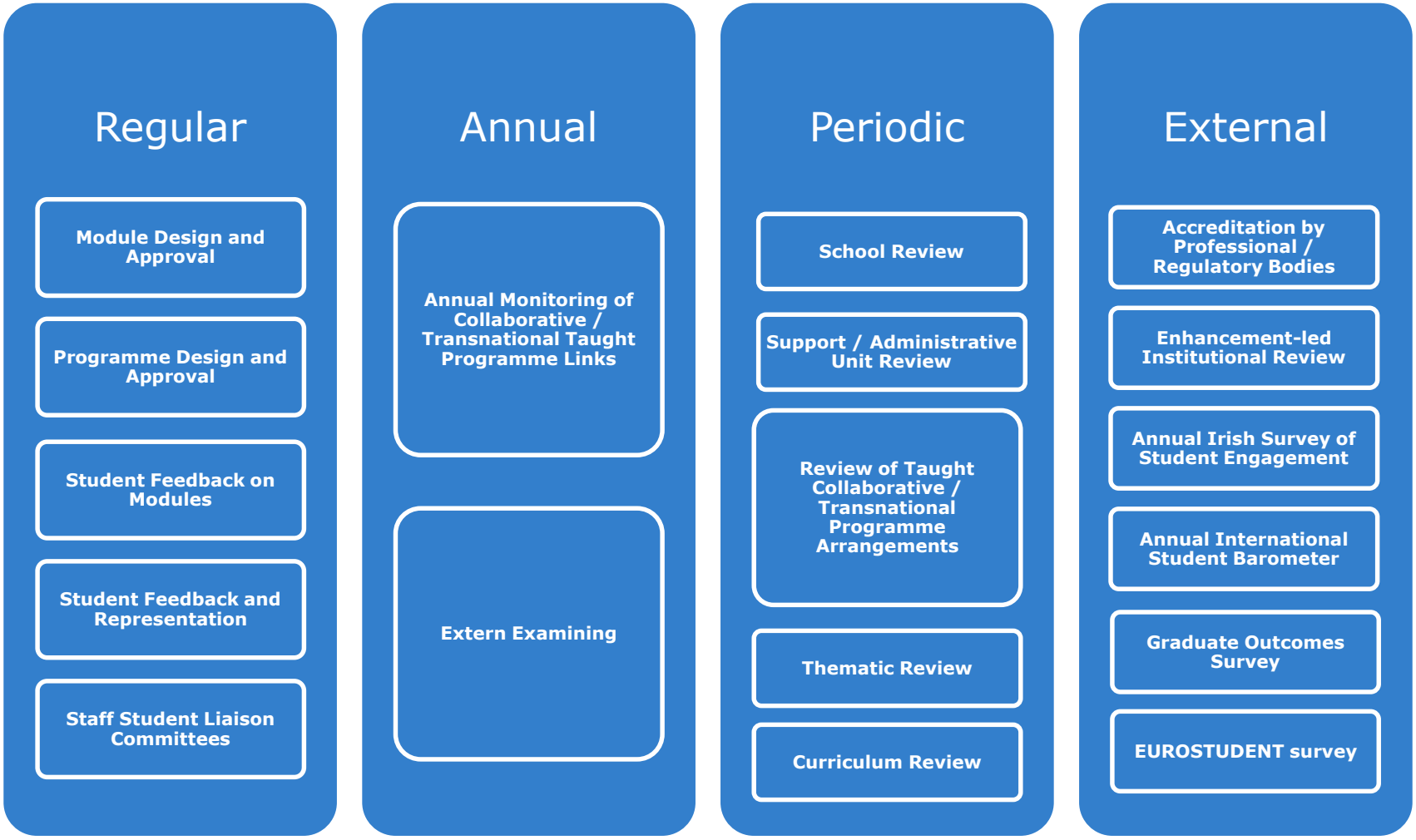
Quality enhancement is the process of continuous improvement.

External QA Framework

Quality Assurance arrangements at UCD are operationalised within an external guidance and statutory framework including:

- Universities Act (1997)
- Qualifications and Quality Assurance Act (2012)
- QQI Core Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines
- European Standards and Guidelines
- QQI Sector Specific Quality Assurance Guidelines (e.g. Postgraduate Research Degrees, Blended Learning)
- QQI Code of Practice for the Provision of Education to International Learners

UCD Quality Framework



The University places importance and value on student involvement in its processes and seeks to promote student engagement in quality activity wherever appropriate.

Focusing on One Key QA Mechanism

Periodic Review of Schools, Support Units and Taught Collaborative Provision:

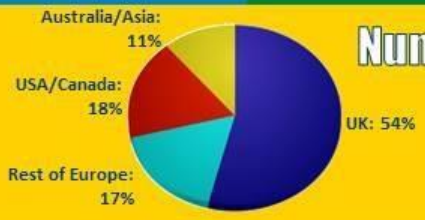
- 7-year cycle of review – approx. 10 reviews undertaken per year
- Self-reflection and analysis – evidence-based
- Site visit by a Review Group
- Planning for quality improvement to address Review Group recommendations
- Monitoring progress

EVALUATING QUALITY AT UCD 2013-2018

Quality Reviews of UCD Schools and Support Units

50

Types of Review	#	%
UCD Schools	31	62
UCD Support Units	12	24
Collaborations	7	14
	50	100



Number of External Reviewers

106

External Reviewers from top 1% of leading global institutions, e.g.

UK
University of Oxford
University of Cambridge
University of Edinburgh
University of Bristol

Rest of Europe
University of Groningen (Netherlands)
Humboldt University Berlin (Germany)
Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)
Lund University (Sweden)

USA/Canada
University of California, Berkeley
McGill University
Colorado State University
Cornell University

Australia/Asia
Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)
University of Melbourne (Australia)
University of Auckland (New Zealand)
University of Nottingham Ningbo (China)

Review Group Reports and Quality Improvement Plans (QIPs)

- Review Group Report considered by UMT in discussion with Chair of Review Group
- UMT prepares a commentary on each Review Group Report for consideration (with the Report) by Governing Authority (GA)
- School/Unit prepares a QIP
- Head of School/Unit meets with UMT to discuss QIP
- Upon approval, the QIP is published
- Progress against QIP is monitored after 12 months

Internal reporting / oversight of Quality Assurance

Includes:

- Periodic Review of Schools and Support Units
- QIP and follow-up to School/Unit Reviews
- Publication of Review Group Reports and School/Unit QIPs
- Annual Reports on Quality to GA, AC, UMT from ACQEC
- Oversight of QA activity by the Academic Council Quality Enhancement Committee (ACQEC)
- Dissemination of Positive Practice identified in Review Group Reports
- Themed and/or Consolidated Reports based on Review Group Report recommendations (e.g. Teaching and Learning, Research, Human Resources)
- Annual report on Taught Collaborative Provision and Linked Providers

2017/18 Quality Review Group Report Recommendations By Theme

2017-18 Quality Review Group Report Recommendations by Theme (*N=10)	Number of Recommendations	% Recommendations per Category
Unit Org, Mgt & Admin	65	19.4%
Strategic Planning and Development	61	18.2%
Human Resources & Staff Development	51	15.2%
T&L, Assessment, Curriculum	41	12.2%
University Supports, Space and Facilities	27	8.1%
Research Activity	26	7.8%
Student Experience	20	6.0%
Collaborations & External Relations	20	6.0%
Quality Assurance & Enhancement	19	5.7%
Workload management	4	1.2%
Finance/Budgets	1	0.3%
Total recommendations	**335**	**100.0%**

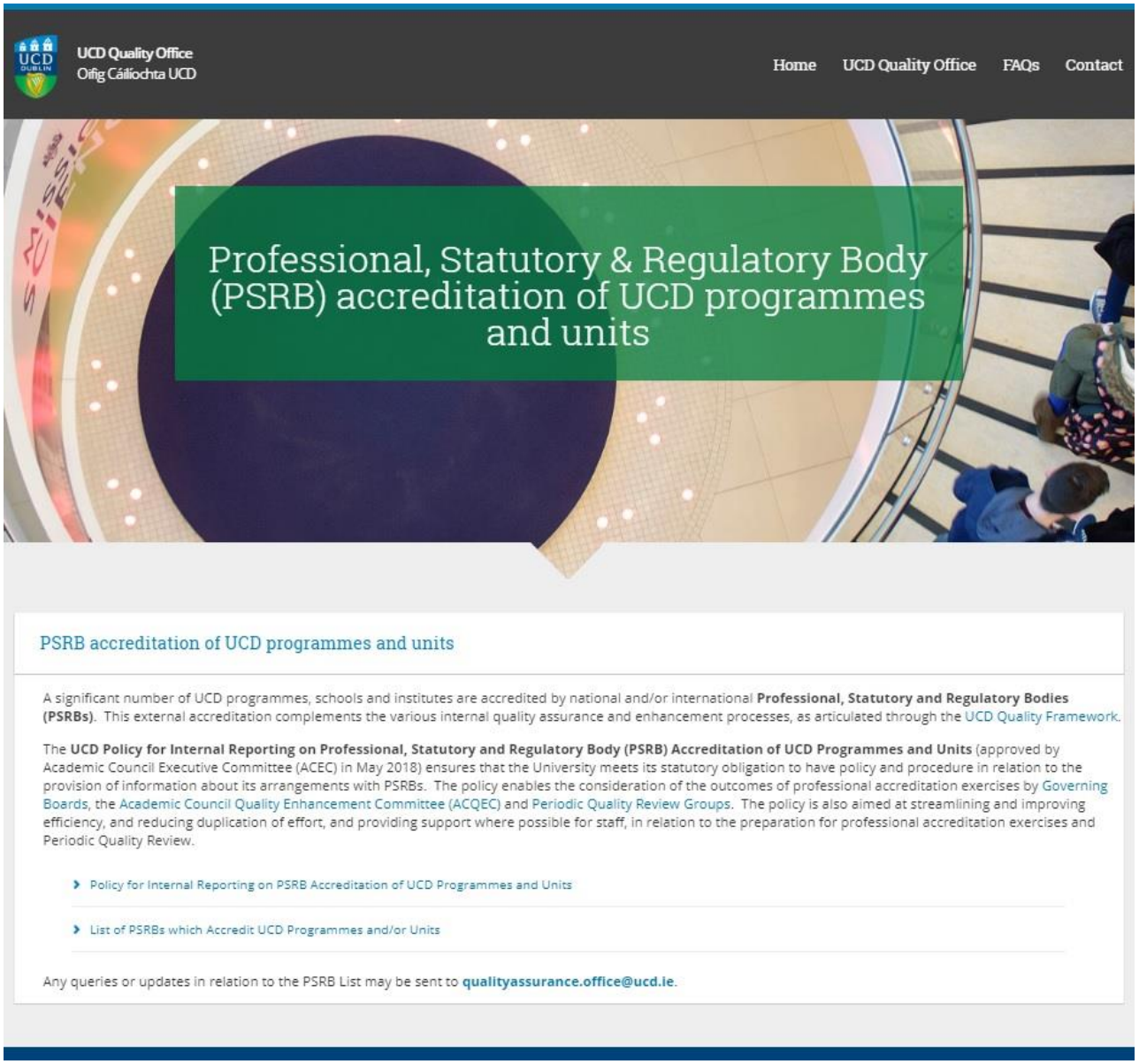
External reporting / input on Quality Assurance

Includes:

- Annual Institutional Quality Report (AIQR) to QQI
- Annual Dialogue Meeting with QQI
- Institutional Cyclical Quality Review (UCD – October 2019)
- Extern Examiners
- Industry Advisory Boards
- International benchmarking (e.g. external reviewers)
- UCD academic programme accreditation by PSRBs

Focus on PSRB accreditation

- Jan-May 2017: internal UCD PSRB survey & analysis
- Oct 2017: UCD PSRB policy proposal
- Nov 2017: QQI/PARN Survey initiated
- May 2018: UCD PSRB policy approval
- Sept 2018: Publication of PSRB List and PSRB Policy on UCD website
- Sept 2019: UCD PSRB policy review



http://www.ucd.ie/quality/professionalstatutoryandregulatorybodiespsrbs/

UCD Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) List

NOTE: This list is subject to ongoing update

(last updated 10 October 2018)

College	Unit	Accredited Programme(s) or Unit	Governing Board	Accrediting Body	Date of last accreditation	Date of next accreditation	Date of last School or unit Periodic Quality Review	Date of next School or unit Periodic Quality Review
Arts & Humanities	History	Professional Certificate Archives Management Professional Certificate Records Management MA Archives & Records Management	Arts & Humanities Programme Board	Archives and Records Association (UK & Ireland) Prioryfield House 20 Canon Street Taunton Somerset TA1 1SW UK http://www.archives.org.uk/	2013	2018	2014-15	2021-22
Business	Business	School of Business	Business Undergraduate Programme Board Graduate School of Business Taught Programmes Board	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) International 777 South Harbour Island Boulevard, Suite 750 Tampa, Florida 33602 USA http://www.aacsb.edu/	2018	2023	2011-12	2018-19
Business	Business	School of Business	Business Undergraduate Programme Board Graduate School of Business Taught Programmes Board	European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS) EFMD Rue Gachard 88 - box 3 1050 Brussels BELGIUM http://www.efmd.org/accreditation-main/equis	2015	2020	2011-12	2018-19
Business	Business	School of Business	Business Undergraduate Programme Board Graduate School of Business Taught Programmes Board	Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) PRME Secretariat Foundation for the Global Compact 685 Thurd Ave, 12th Floor New York, NY 10017 USA http://www.unprme.org/	2017	2019	2011-12	2018-19
Business	Business	School of Business	Graduate School of Business Taught Programmes Board	Association of MBAs (AMBA) 25 Hosier Lane London EC1A 9LQ UK https://www.mbaworld.com/	2017	2022	2011-12	2018-19
Business	Business	Master in International Management	Graduate School of Business Taught Programmes Board	Global Alliance in Management Education (CEMS) CEMS Head Office 1, rue de la Liberation 78350 Jouy-en-Josas FRANCE http://www.cems.org/	2015	2020	2011-12	2018-19
Business	Business	Bachelor of Commerce Bachelor of Commerce (International) Master of Accounting	Business Undergraduate Programme Board Graduate School of Business Taught Programmes Board	Chartered Accountants in Ireland (CAI) CAI - Dublin HQ Chartered Accountants House 47-49 Pearse Street Dublin 2 IRELAND https://www.charteredaccountants.ie/	N/A	N/A	2011-12	2018-19

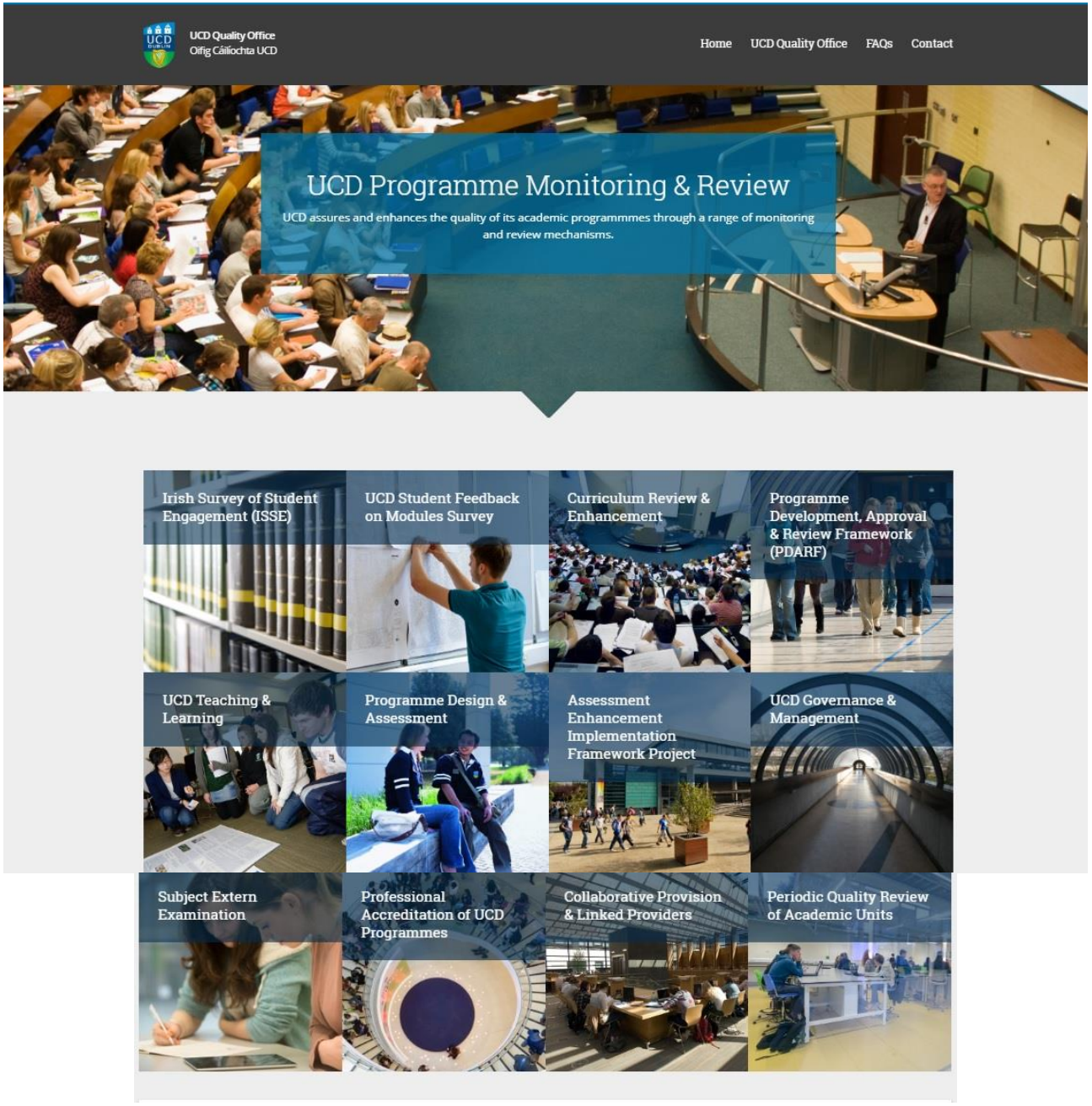
UCD DUBLIN

http://www.ucd.ie/quality/professionalstatutoryandregulatorybodiespsrbs/

Focus on PSRB accreditation

Summary of PSRB accreditation of UCD programmes and units:

- Schools with School-level professional accreditation: **3** (Business, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine)
- Institutes with Institute-level professional accreditation: **1** (Institute of Sport & Health)
- Total number of PSRBs which accredit UCD Schools, programmes or units: **74**
- Professional accreditation by College (# of PSRBs that accredit programmes or units in each College):
    - Arts & Humanities: 1
    - Business: 15
    - Engineering & Architecture: 10
    - Health & Agricultural Sciences: 32
    - Science: 7
    - Social Sciences & Law: 9



http://www.ucd.ie/quality/ucdprogrammemonitoringreview/