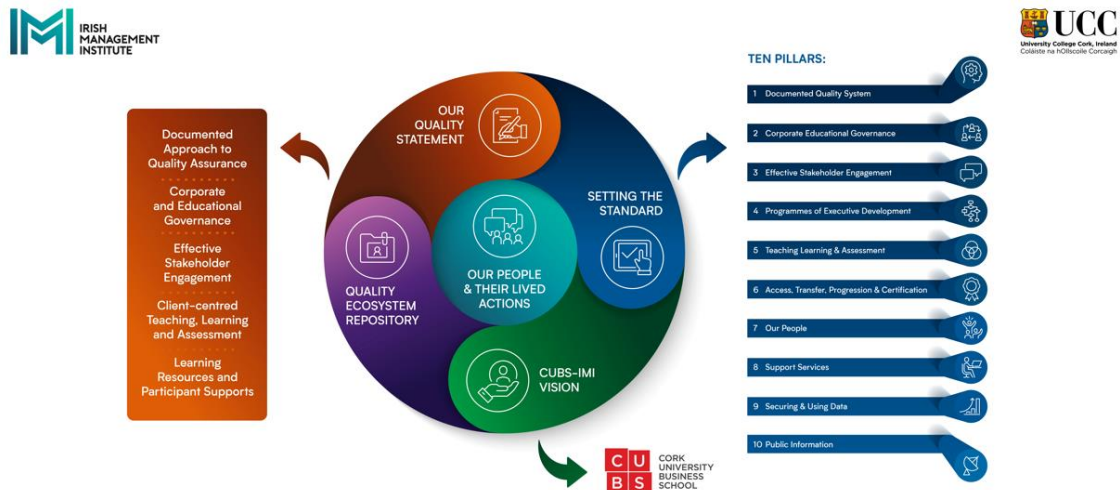


Quality at IMI

IMI is a subsidiary of University College Cork, located within the College of Business and Law, aligned to Cork University Business School (CUBS). Quality and Quality Assurance is at the core of all of our activities. It sets benchmarks for our performance, it establishes expectations for our clients, including our learners on all types of programmes, it identifies indicators which demonstrate excellence, and it provides a coherent documented system which can be implemented in a consistent and supportive way ensuring excellence in our services to our clients.

A Quality Ecosystem



IMI's Quality Ecosystem is composed of:

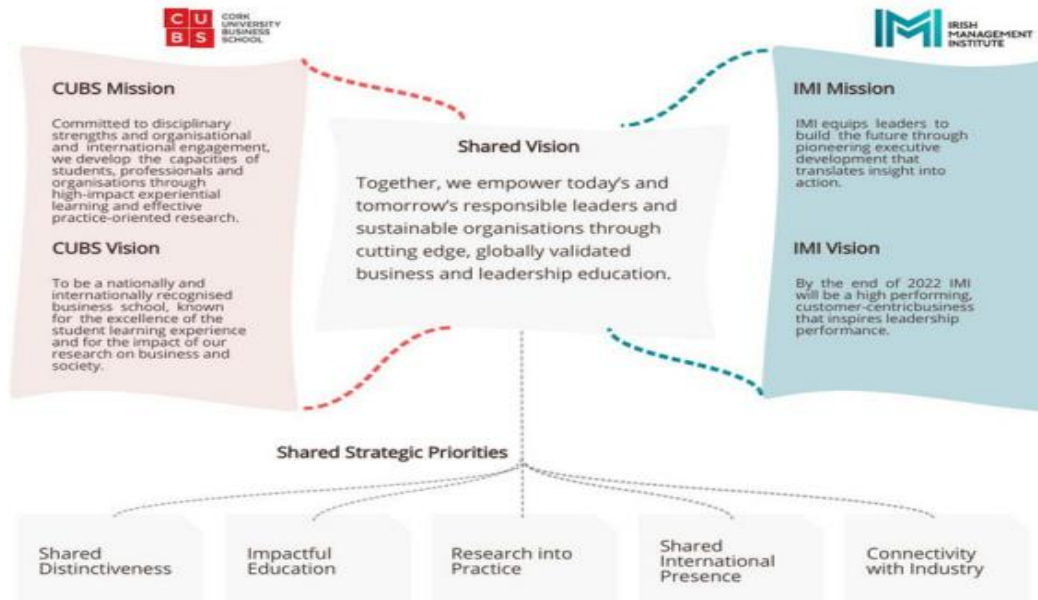
- This Quality Statement
- CUBS IMI Shared Vision
- Documented standards and procedures, grouped by ten defined areas, or pillars, under which *all* work of IMI represented. They reflect an understanding of the *organisation as an integrated whole*, and the documents are stored on an accessible [repository on SharePoint](#). They are mapped to [core UCC academic policies](#) which govern IMI activities.
- The lived actions of our people

Approach adopted

IMI's approach to quality assurance is comprehensive: it is rooted in the culture of higher education, a culture where autonomy and responsibility are mutually exercised. As an educational institution wholly owned and governed by UCC, and as a body corporate with its associated regulatory responsibilities, IMI has a holistic approach to the pursuit of excellence across its educational and corporate contexts. It aims to operate seamlessly within the University policy infrastructure like any other academic unit, whilst also fulfilling all additional statutory compliance requirements which pertain to companies and subsidiary companies of the University.

Executive Development

IMI, organisationally situated in the College of Business and Law, and aligned with Cork University Business School (CUBS) is the University's executive education provider. IMI focuses on the provision of executive development education to post-experience organisation leaders. Together IMI and CUBS share synergies and complementarities and have a shared vision for business education. Whether leading to UCC awards or to a certificate of attendance all IMI Executive Education is conducted under the [UCC IMI Academic Governance Framework](#) (2021).



CUBS IMI Shared Vision (2021)

National and University context

Rooted in principles and commitments of the *University College Cork Quality Enhancement Policy*, IMI’s Quality Ecosystem is also embedded in QQI’s *CORE Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines*, the 2015 *Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area* (known as the ESG) and also standards established for executive business education by bodies such as, but not limited to, **AACSB**, **AMBA** and **EQUIS**. It also ensures compliance with the Code of Governance for Subsidiary Companies of Irish Universities, and the UCC IMI Subsidiary Operating Agreement.

As a provider of programmes which lead to awards on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), and also a provider of a large volume of programmes of executive education which lead to certificates of attendance or participation, IMI is cognisant that UCC has responsibility for the quality of *all* of its provision – accredited and unaccredited. In particular IMI is guided by the commitment of the UCC Quality Enhancement Policy to *[work] collaboratively to develop effective evaluation approaches that allow critical reflection on achievement of strategic goals and objectives and an appraisal of the known and anticipated needs of stakeholders*, cognisant that IMI has a distinct set of stakeholders in its company *members* and in its diverse client base. IMI’s programme participant mix is approximately 25% on programmes leading to awards on the NFQ and 75% leading to IMI certification¹.

An integrated, whole-organisation system

Using the lens of the *Core Statutory Guidelines* as well as the ESG, where relevant, IMI has developed bespoke procedures to implement university academic policy, as well as policies to discharge its distinct corporate responsibilities, grouping them under “ten pillars”. Standards have been set for each pillar, and the quality assurance tools – policies, procedures, guidelines, etc. are articulated to map to these standards. Any bespoke educational procedures are considered by the Curriculum, Quality and Standards Committee, which was established by Academic Board, and are approved via the University established governance process².

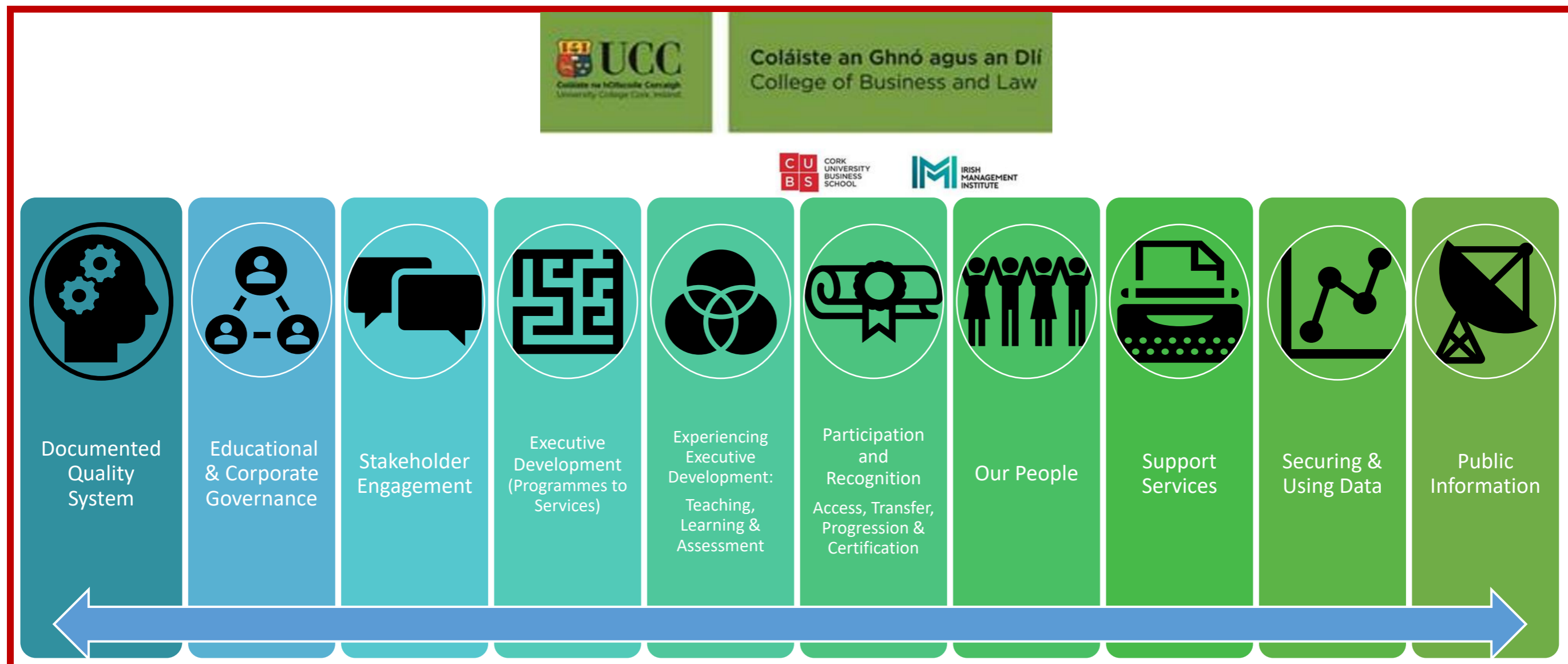
¹ As a unique number rather than an FTE

² [UCC IMI Academic Governance Framework](#) (2021)

Ten Pillars and Pillar Statements

IMI is committed to “building and embedding a culture of quality which is engaged, reflective and connected” (UCC, Quality Enhancement Policy). It aims to consciously design-in quality when developing all programmes and establishing systematic practice. It does so by implementing standards, policies and procedures for enabling and assuring:

1. A **documented approach to quality assurance and quality enhancement** that is shared publicly, and which is based on the principles and commitments established in the UCC Quality Enhancement Policy.
2. Models of effective **corporate and educational governance** which ensure oversight for the provision of high-quality executive development which effectively align with the complementary compliance contexts of being a subsidiary of the University, and a separate body corporate.
3. Models for **effective stakeholder engagement** which are sensitive to client needs, provide opportunities for improvement as well as evidence of the impact of executive development initiatives.
4. As specified within Cork University Business School (CUBS), models for **designing and developing; for approving; and for evaluating and reviewing all types of executive development** provided.
5. A **pedagogical model** designed specifically for executive development which is equitable, participative and transformational with client-centred teaching, learning and assessment which implements University assessment policy.
6. Effective **access to and participation in** programmes, and the granting of relevant **recognition** and, where appropriate, **certification** to participants, as guided by University policy on entry, assessment, the recognition of prior learning, and certification.
7. Models to ensure competency and capacity of **our people** in fulfilling their roles and associated review models.
8. Excellence in the provision of **learning resources and participant supports** fit for the executive education context.
9. Safe **storage of data** and **wise use of information** to inform decision making to support the provision of an excellent client experience both within IMI and when shared with the University.
10. Relevant and accurate **information in placed in the public domain** so all stakeholders can have knowledge of and confidence in our work.



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10. Relevant and accurate information placed in the public domain so all stakeholders can have knowledge of and confidence in our education services.

IMI Quality Statement

Document Type	Standards/Policy
Document Title	IMI Quality Statement
Document Description	This document establishes the principles, scope and framework by which IMI will seek to deliver quality and operate good practice in all of its activities. It is a 360° approach to the organisation and recognises that educational quality is at its core. It locates IMI within its UCC home, the College of Business and Law, aligned with the Cork University Business School (CUBS).
Department where document was drafted	Office of the Registrar
Document prepared by	Dr T Ryan, Registrar
Document approved by	Dual approval: College Council and IMI Board on recommendation from CQSC and SMT respectively
For use/access by (mark for each)	IMI Staff x UCC Staff x Associates x Public x
Linked to Pillar #	Pillar One – Documented Quality System
Date of Approval	<p><i>Draft reviewed by Board of Dir and CQSC in Spring 2020. Significant dialogue followed leading to enhancements in 2021 and 2022. CQSC on October 27th 2022 considered the revised Statement and recommended it for approval to College Council. On November 17th, Council endorsed it and forwarded it to CUBS Board for review at its Board on November 23rd for review. CUBS Board advised that it had no additional observations, and the College is presenting the Statement to Academic Board for noting on December 7th 2022.</i></p> <p>Approved by IMI Board on December 9th, 2022.</p> <p><i>The approved Statement will be shared with the University Quality Committee in January 2023 by the UCC Director of Quality Enhancement.</i></p>
Date of Scheduled Review	
Documents linked to	University College Cork Quality Enhancement Policy University College Cork – Policies and Procedures CORE Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines (QQI) Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area
Version	1.1
Version History	1.0 09/12/2022; editorial updates 24/04/2024 1.1

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