"You will work hard. You will never stop learning. You will take pride in your work. You will touch the lives of many people. You will make a difference."

Professor B.G. Loftus
Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
What is the NUI Galway medical curriculum about?
The medical curriculum in Galway is an integrated, five-year modular programme, following which you will be conferred with the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine (MB), of Surgery (BCh) and of Obstetrics (BAO). This is a new, re-focused curriculum in which your learning is centred on the systems of the healthy body and the treatments when these are affected by disease. Our focus is on patients and in training our students to deliver the best patient outcomes, and to be caring and ethical as well as highly competent in the process. This educational approach is delivering very positive outcomes for our medical students, who are now leading strongly in national prize schemes, such as the Henry Hutchinson Stewart Medical Scholarships, a competition run annually in the NUI universities across 16 different categories which is open to students of medicine, nursing and related health areas.

In 2010 the School of Medicine achieved 14 awards in the 13 medical subject areas – six firsts, five seconds and three thirds – yet again an exceptional result for the NUI Galway School of Medicine. This was repeated in 2011. Our students have also won the national Spike Milligan competition in psychiatry and the Jack Flanagan medal in geriatric care. All these awards reflect the very high standard of medical education and commitment from teaching staff and engagement in learning by our students. In addition, undergraduate research is encouraged. Once again our students are leading in obtaining national research funding awards from the Health Research Board and, internationally, from the Welcome Research Trust. You could even have the opportunity to complete a PhD in parallel with your medical studies! As a medical student at NUI Galway, you are in a position to compete with your peers for awards and medals in various subject areas. These are awarded on graduation day.

How is the programme taught?
In keeping with leading trends in medical education throughout the world, we have developed a highly integrated and modular curriculum for you over your five-year programme. Teachers from different disciplines will teach together in modules that connect up material from different disciplines, related to the body’s healthy systems, their diseases and the treatments which are indicated. For example, in first year you will do a module on the cardiovascular system, which will give you an integrated picture, with contributions from several disciplines, instead of learning about it in a piecemeal way in four or five disconnected courses.

While the course brings you into contact with patients from the beginning, the early years of the programme are based on the healthy body and developing the foundations of medicine. This allows you to enter a clinically-based programme from mid-way in third year. After graduating as a newly qualified doctor, you will work in hospitals as an intern for one year prior to obtaining full registration as a licensed medical practitioner with the Irish Medical Council.

Tell me about the School of Medicine
The School of Medicine has an enrolment of around 800 students, including many from overseas. University Hospital Galway, conveniently located beside the University campus, is the major teaching hospital. All students spend one full clinical year, also at one of four medical academies, located in Sligo, Letterkenny, Castlebar and Ballinasloe. School staff are highly qualified and the University has an extensive and well-funded programme of medical research.

The University is committed to providing the most up-to-date facilities and resources for the study of medicine and health sciences at the Galway campus. New buildings are coming on stream to accommodate new programmes and expanding enrolments: A new Medical Education Centre opened in the hospital campus in 2007, and a Human Biology Building (HBB) and a Clinical and Translational Research Facility (CRF/TRF) are in the planning stages.
How will you help me to become a medical practitioner?

We recognise that you are a self-motivated student, able to take responsibility for your own learning, where we can assist you achieve your goals. Healthcare delivery is a team activity and good communication is a central professional skill – we will emphasise it through all of your undergraduate training and you will greatly value this yourself when you come to practise as a doctor. If you are a natural communicator, we can teach you to improve and if communication is difficult for you, we teach you how to overcome this. During your education and throughout your professional life, you will need to recognise and reflect on your own attitudes, values and prejudices, and to consider how they might impact on your professional role. We teach you to gain greater self-knowledge and an appreciation of diversity, which will help you to conduct yourself in a caring and sympathetic manner. It is important to understand also that the award of your medical degree is only the beginning. A physician’s life involves continued, life-long learning.

What are the special features of the medical curriculum?

The programme has a number of special features:

1. The clinical component of the programme from mid-way through third year will see you on clinical rotations in the Galway University Hospitals and in our regional medical academies: Sligo General Hospital; Letterkenny Hospital; Mayo Hospital, Castlebar; and Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe.

2. We promote the total student experience and encourage volunteering. You will have the opportunity for summer work overseas in developing countries, where your new skills in healthcare will be put to good use.

3. We offer a unique range of Special Study Modules (SSMs) in a wide range of topics, from Paramedic Skills to Medicine and the Arts.

4. We have recently established a Medical School Orchestra and a Medicine in the Arts programme, for students who enjoy the creative arts.

What further education options will I have?

Honours graduates can also pursue higher degrees in a wide range of related disciplines, for example:

- Doctor of Medicine, MD
- Master of Surgery, MCh
- PhD
- Postgraduate Diploma and Master of Medical Science (Health Informatics)
- Postgraduate Diploma and Master of Medical Science (Endovascular Surgery)
- Master of Science (Sport and Exercise Medicine)
- Postgraduate Diploma and Masters in Health Sciences (Primary Care)
- Postgraduate Diploma and Masters in Health Sciences (Clinical Education)
- Postgraduate Diploma/Certificate (Clinical Primary Care)
- Master of Science (Regenerative Medicine)
- Master of Science (Medical Physics)
- Master of Science (Clinical Research)

Are there any work placement opportunities on the programme?

In partnership with HSE, and our regional hospitals, the School of Medicine assists in an Intern Placement Scheme. The purpose of the scheme is to ensure that medical graduates receive the appropriate training and experience to become registered physicians. We work hard to ensure that as many graduates as possible obtain 12 months placement in recognised intern posts.

What about international study opportunities?

The School of Medicine is involved in the exchange and placement of clinical students through the Erasmus/Socrates programme. The school welcomes the contribution of overseas students and encourages mobility among its own students so that their education gains an international dimension that will benefit them as individuals.

What career opportunities will I have?

Graduates from this programme will find employment in:

- Hospitals
- Private practice
- Education and research
- Community rehabilitation services
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Medical device companies
- Health insurance companies
- Medical journals

What our students say

Melanie Hennessy
Medical Student
One of the Junior Chamber International top ten ‘Outstanding Young Persons of the World’ 2010.

Studying medicine at NUI Galway has been one of my best decisions. The atmosphere around the medical school is really relaxed and friendly, almost like a family, with everyone looking out for each other. This year I got the chance to spend three months abroad in Sweden as part of my studies. It was such an amazing experience. I was able to learn Swedish, see how the medical system works in another country and, most of all, experience living in another country.
Foundation Year
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Foundations of Medicine

Year One
- Anatomy
- Biochemistry
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Cardiovascular System
- Gastro-intestinal System
- Human Nutrition
- Renal System
- Respiratory System
- Professionalism

Year Two
- Central Nervous System
- Endocrinology
- Genetics
- Molecular Medicine
- Reproduction and Development

Years Three – Five
- Clinical Laboratory Sciences:
  - Pathology
  - Microbiology
  - Public Health
- Clinical Disciplines:
  - Medicine
  - Surgery
  - Paediatrics
  - Psychiatry
  - Obstetrics and Gynaecology
  - General Practice
  - Anaesthesia
  - Radiology

COURSE OUTLINE

SPECIAL STUDY MODULES
(SSMs) currently offered in first and second year:
- Adolescent Medicine
- Asylum and Refugee Healthcare
- Basic Surgical Skills
- Community CPR Teaching
- End of Life Enhancement
- Exercise Physiology
- Head and Neck Anatomy
- High Altitude Medicine
- Homelessness Project
- Learning to Teach
- Malaysian Culture and Eastern Medicine
- Medical Electronics
- Medical English
- Medical Humanities
- Medical Orchestra
- Medicine and the Arts
- Pre-Hospital Emergency Care
- Presentation Skills
- Regenerative Medicine
- Sign Language
- Sports Psychology
- Sports Science Research
- Teanga an Leithis
- Teenage Mental Health Promotion
- Understanding
- Complementary Medicine

Find out more: The School of Medicine Clinical Sciences Institute, NUI Galway
T +353 91 544 475
medschool@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/medicine
What do occupational therapists do?
Occupational therapists work with both children and adults with acquired conditions such as stroke or spinal cord injury, people with mental health problems or congenital conditions such as cerebral palsy or spina bifida, and with many others. Occupational therapists aim to facilitate independence in daily ‘occupations’, such as self-care, work, financial management, leisure pursuits or education. Any illness, trauma or disruption can result in difficulties in these areas due to problems with moving, thinking or carrying out the tasks. Occupational therapists design and deliver intervention programmes to address these difficulties.

What work placement opportunities are offered?
All students are required to complete 1,000 hours of Practice Education successfully under the supervision of a qualified occupational therapist. Practice Education is a process of work-based learning which involves a partnership between the practice educator and the student in the practice setting. Practice Education takes place at the end of Semester 2 in first year (one week), Semester 2 of second year (2 x 8 weeks) and Semester 1 of fourth year (2 x 8 weeks). Students may be required to undertake practice education anywhere in Ireland and can also avail of the opportunity to go on an international placement.

What career opportunities can I expect to have?
Graduates of the degree course will have a professional qualification and may work in a variety of settings such as:
- Hospitals
- Voluntary organisations
- Mental health services
- Child and adolescent services
- Physical and sensory services
- Community rehabilitation
- Disability services

What our students say
Edel Siney
BSc (Occupational Therapy)
As part of my fourth year in the Occupational Therapy programme, I had the opportunity to complete a block placement in India. I worked alongside a team of healthcare professionals committed to promoting the rehabilitation and recovery of clients with brain injury and spinal cord injury. This experience is a once in a lifetime opportunity made possible by the support and encouragement of the discipline of Occupational Therapy in NUI Galway.

COURSE FACTS
- CAO Code: GYS02
- Course Level: 8
- Duration: 4 years
- Minimum Entry Points 2011: 505
- Leaving Certificate Grades Entry Requirements: Minimum Grade HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O Level in the Leaving Certificate including Irish, English, another language, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject (i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science) and any other subject recognised for entry purposes.
- A-Level/GCSE Entry Requirements: See page 152 for matriculation entry requirements.
- Additional Requirements: Students must satisfy the Garda/Police vetting and medical clearance requirements.
- Average Intake: 25

COURSE OUTLINE
Year One
- Principles for Practice/ Fundamentals I
- Psychology
- Anatomy
- Human Body Function
- Mental Health 1
- Mental Health 2
- Enabling Occupation – Physical Disability
- Group work and Professional Skills

Year Two
- Fundamentals of Occupational Therapy II
- Neuroanatomy
- Neurophysiology
- Health Psychology
- Enabling Occupation – Paediatrics
- Enabling Occupation – Intellectual Disability
- Practice Education I & II
- Case Study I & II

Year Three
- Fundamentals of Occupational Therapy III & IV
- Cognitive Neuropsychology
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Enabling Occupation – Community
- Standardised Testing in Occupational Therapy
- Enabling Occupation – for Older Adults
- Emerging Areas of Practice
- Research Methods
- Social Policy
- Neurology

Year Four
- Practice Education III & IV
- Case Study III & IV
- Management and Leadership
- Preparation for Practice
- Research Project

Find out more: Occupational Therapy
The School of Health Sciences, Áras Moyola, NUI Galway
T +353 91 492 957
healththerapies@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/occupational_therapy/
What does a speech and language therapist do?
Speech and language therapists enable people with communication disorders and swallowing disorders to achieve their maximum potential. They are involved in assessing their clients’ communication and swallowing difficulties, and developing treatment programmes to meet their needs. They work closely with other members of the team, such as nurses, doctors, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, teachers, etc, and work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, primary care health centres and schools.

What work placement opportunities are there?
Practice education begins in first year, when students visit pre-schools and centres for people with disabilities. Throughout the course, there is a combination of one-day weekly placements in the on-site clinic and block placements in the community where students are given the opportunity to learn under the supervision of a qualified speech and language therapist. The Irish Association of Speech and Language Therapists (IASLT) requires that speech and language therapists in training undertake a minimum of 450 hours clinical education, 300 of which must be with a speech and language therapist and 150 of which can be clinically related.

Why should I become a speech and language therapist?
Speech and language therapy is an exciting and dynamic health-care profession concerned with the assessment, diagnosis and management of communication and swallowing disorders.

What career opportunities can I expect?
Graduates of the degree course will have a professional qualification and may work in a variety of settings such as:

- Community clinics/health centres
- Day centres
- Rehabilitation centres
- Individuals’ homes
- Child development centres
- Hospitals
- Mainstream and special schools
- Language classes

What our students say

Aimee O’Connor
BSc (Speech and Language Therapy)

Speech and Language Therapy is a really interesting and diverse course. As an SLT you can work in many different settings, such as hospitals, clinics, in the community, rehabilitation centres, with opportunities provided to work with a wide variety of clients. I really like the balance the course has between the social sciences and the medical sciences. The class is small, so you get to know your classmates and lecturers very well, which leads to a great learning environment. Also, because of the on-site Speech and Language Therapy clinic, and other clinical placements, there are plenty of opportunities to develop your clinical skills over the four years.

Find out more: Speech and Language Therapy
The School of Health Sciences, Áras Moyola, NUI Galway
T +353 91 492 957
healththerapies@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/speech_language_therapy/
What is Podiatry?
Podiatry is a healthcare profession that specialises in the management of disease and disorder of the lower limb and foot. The foot is a highly complex structure, which can develop problems affecting a patient’s overall health and quality of life. Podiatry can significantly improve people’s quality of life by promoting and maintaining mobility. Therefore, podiatry as a career can be extremely rewarding and fulfilling, giving immense job satisfaction. Podiatrists are educated in diagnosis and in planning and implementing interventions for all age groups. As a podiatrist, you will work as an independent, autonomous practitioner, demonstrating expertise in assessing, diagnosing and managing lower limb and foot-related problems. You will work alongside other health professionals, such as doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and orthotists.

What work placement opportunities are there?
Clinical Practice, a process of work-based learning which involves a partnership between the Clinical Educator and the student in the practice setting, is an integral part of the programme. All students are required to complete 1,000 hours of clinical practice successfully under the supervision of qualified podiatrists. Clinical practice will be integrated into each year of the programme and primarily takes place in Merlin Park Podiatry Clinic, based at Merlin Park Hospital, Galway. This facility provides an outpatient podiatry service to patients with a variety of medical and surgical conditions, children, people with sports injuries and patients requiring soft tissue surgery. The programme is the only such professionally accredited qualification in the Republic of Ireland.

What career opportunities can I expect?
Graduates of the degree course will have a professional qualification and may work in a variety of settings such as:
- Hospitals
- Sports centres
- GP practices
- Nursing homes
- Private practice
- Education and research
- Community rehabilitation services
- Opportunities for further postgraduate studies

What our students say
Aisling Phelan
BSc (Podiatry)
I chose Podiatry as I like working with people on a one-to-one basis and want to work as part of a healthcare team. I really enjoy the clinical aspect of the course as it allows you to put the theory you have learned into practice. I enjoy the confidence boost you feel after treating patients and knowing the immediate effect you have on their mobility when they leave the clinic.

COURSE FACTS
CAO Code: GY504
Course Level: 8
Duration: 4 years
Minimum Entry Points 2011: 450
Minimum A-Level Grades: AAB (A-Level) & b (AS) or equivalent combination
Leaving Certificate Entry Requirements:
Minimum Grade HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O Level in the Leaving Certificate including Irish, English, another language, Mathematics, a laboratory science subject (i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science) and any other subject recognised for entry purposes.
A-Level/GCSE Entry Requirements: See page 152 for matriculation entry requirements.
Additional requirements: Students must satisfy the Garda/Police vetting and medical clearance requirements.
Average Intake: 25

COURSE OUTLINE
Year One
- Introduction to Clinical Studies
- Podiatry Theory I
- Human Anatomy
- Human Body Function
- Professional Development
- Redefining Health and Wellbeing

Year Two
- Clinical Studies II
- Podiatry Theory II
- Pathophysiology
- Functional Anatomy and Biomechanics
- Research Methods I
- Introduction to Pharmacology

Year Three
- Clinical Studies III
- Medicine and Surgery
- Pharmacology in Health and Disease
- Research Methods II
- Podiatry Theory III
- Health Promotion in Podiatry

Year Four
- Clinical Studies IV
- Skills for Practice
- Footwear and Orthoses
- Research Dissertation
- Working with Vulnerable Adults
- Contemporary Practice

Find out more: Podiatry, The School of Health Sciences
Áras Moyola, NUI Galway
T +353 91 495 814
podiatry@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/podiatry/
What is the BSc in Nursing Science about?
The Bachelor of Nursing Science (General) course is a four-year degree programme that will qualify you as a nurse. Successful students are awarded the Bachelor of Nursing Science (General) degree and are eligible to apply to register with An Bord Altranais, the nursing profession’s regulatory body. The programme is offered in partnership with the Health Service Executive (HSE) West.

How is the programme run?
The first three years are run within the academic year and include a combination of theory modules and clinical practice modules. Practice modules will require students to be in clinical practice for 35 hours per week. Year four comprises clinical/theory instruction in semester one and a 36-week internship of clinical practice which runs from January to September. During this period, the student will be an employee of the HSE West and paid a salary. The theoretical component comprises lectures, seminars, workshops, experiential learning, skills training and reading time.

What other work placement requirements are there?
Students are required to complete their clinical practice placements within the HSE West region. While on clinical placements, students will be supervised by a nurse who has been specially prepared to guide and direct student learning. Students are also supported by the clinical placement co-ordinator, who ensures that learning outcomes are identified and achieved.

What further education options are there?
Graduates have the option to study a variety of nursing programmes at postgraduate, diploma, masters and PhD levels.

What career opportunities will I have?
Nurses have the opportunity to work in a variety of settings both in the hospital and the community. The Bachelor of Nursing Science degree is recognised internationally and many nurses choose to work overseas to broaden their experience.

What our students say
Suelyn Sibanda
BSc (Nursing)
I enjoy the way the programme is set out, with due emphasis given to both theory and clinical experience components. I’ve had the chance to learn many things, not just about nursing but also from biological sciences and social sciences, making the course all the more dynamic and enjoyable. I have also gained clinical experience in medical and surgical nursing, midwifery, and psychiatric and public health nursing.

COURSE FACTS
CAO Code: GYS15
Course Level: 8
Duration: 4 years
Minimum Entry Points 2011: 445*
Minimum A-Level Grades: AAB (A-Level) & b (AS) or equivalent combination
Leaving Certificate Entry Requirements: Minimum Grade HC3 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at H or O level in the Leaving Certificate including Irish (not Foundation Level), English, Mathematics (not Foundation Level), a laboratory science subject (i.e. Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics with Chemistry (joint) or Agricultural Science) and any two other subjects recognised for entry purposes.
A-Level/GCSE Entry Requirements: See page 152 for matriculation entry requirements.
Additional requirements: All successful applicants who are offered places on the degree programme will be required to have medical screening and Garda vetting: this will include medical assessment, screening and, if necessary, vaccination prior to the first clinical placement, in accordance with the policies of NUI Galway and the HSE West.
Average Intake: 60
* Not all students on these points were offered a place.

COURSE OUTLINE
Year One – Three
- Biological Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Nursing Theory
- Nursing Practice
- Health Promotion
- Research

Year Four
- Research
- Leadership and Clinical Governance in Nursing and Midwifery Practice
- Transition to Professional Practice in Nursing and Midwifery Practice
- Clinical/Theory instruction – Semester 1
- Clinical internship which runs over 36 weeks – Semester 2

Find out more: The School of Nursing and Midwifery
Áras Moyola, NUI Galway
T +353 91 493 432
nursing.midwifery@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/nursing.midwifery
Bachelor of Nursing Science (Psychiatric)

What is the Psychiatric Nursing programme about?
This four-year programme, offered in partnership with the Health Service Executive West, leads to the award of Bachelor of Nursing Science (Psychiatric) and eligibility for registration in the Psychiatric Division of the Nurses’ Register, maintained by An Bord Altranais, the nursing profession’s regulatory body.

What do psychiatric nurses do?
Psychiatric Nursing aims to assist in the recovery of people experiencing mental health issues and to promote mental health and wellbeing. At the heart of psychiatric nursing is the development of therapeutic relationships, engaging with patients, their carers and their families.

What work placement obligations are there?
Students undertake a 36-week clinical internship in semester two of year four. Clinical practice modules require students to complete clinical placements within the Health Service Executive West region. While on clinical placements, students will be supervised by an appropriately trained nurse. In accordance with An Bord Altranais regulations, the total requirements of the programme are 144 weeks clinical placement. During the clinical internship period, students are paid a salary.

What further education options will I have?
There are a variety of continuing professional development opportunities available to graduates of this programme, in particular postgraduate programmes within the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

What career opportunities are there for this profession?
Graduates of the Psychiatric Nursing degree programme will be in a position to work in a variety of settings, including:
- In-patient mental health services
- Community mental health services
- Child and adolescent services
- Voluntary organisations
- Recovery and rehabilitation services
- Services for older people
- Substance misuse treatment services
- Primary mental health care

What our students say
Evelyn Mullers
BSc (Psychiatric)
I was always interested in caring for people and I had a particular interest in mental health, so deciding to be a psychiatric nurse was an easy decision. I chose to study Psychiatric Nursing at NUI Galway because of the state-of-the-art new nursing building on the campus, the nursing library, which has great, up-to-date books and accommodating staff, the wonderful new computer suites in the building, and the fact that the University is close to the hospital.

Find out more: The School of Nursing and Midwifery
Áras Moyola, NUI Galway
T +353 91 493 432
nursing.midwifery@nuigalway.ie
www.nuigalway.ie/nursing.midwifery
What is the Bachelor of Midwifery Science programme about?
The Bachelor of Midwifery Science course is a four-year degree programme provided in partnership with the Health Service Executive (HSE) West. The programme consists of theoretical and clinical modules. The theoretical content aims to provide students with the knowledge necessary to underpin their professional practice. It comprises lectures, seminars, workshops, experiential learning, skills training and reading time. Clinical modules are undertaken in the practice setting. Following completion of the programme, students are eligible to apply to register as a midwife with An Bord Altranais, the regulatory body.

How is the programme run?
The first three years are run within the academic year and include a combination of theory and clinical practice modules. Clinical practice modules will require students to be in clinical practice for 35 hours per week. Year four comprises clinical/theory instruction in semester one, and a 36-week internship clinical practice, which runs from January to September. During this period, the student will be an employee of the HSE West and will be paid a salary.

What work placement obligations are there?
Clinical placements are undertaken in the HSE West: in University Hospital Galway, Mayo General Hospital, Castlebar, and Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe. Placements also take place in community and mental healthcare settings in the HSE West area. While on clinical placements, students will be supervised by a midwife who has been specially prepared to guide and direct student learning and act as a preceptor to the student. Students who are required to travel to distant placements may apply to the HSE West for support in meeting travel and accommodation costs.

What further education options will I have?
Students can pursue further study at masters and PhD level.

What career opportunities are there as a midwife?
There are many career opportunities for midwives both in Ireland and abroad, including in the hospital and community settings.

What our students say
Emma Doyle
BSc (Midwifery)
I really like our modern Nursing and Midwifery building; it’s such a lovely environment and really conducive to learning. It gives a realistic insight into what it’s like to work in a hospital. I enjoy the fact that class sizes are small so you really get to know other students. The lecturers are so enthusiastic about their topics that it makes learning enjoyable and a lot easier! The support and teaching in the clinical setting is also great.
“Speech and Language therapy is a very rewarding and exciting career. Studying at NUI Galway was really great. The course offers a broad range of subjects, practical work and placements. The staff and facilities are fantastic, especially the on-site clinic. Since graduating, I’ve completed a Masters in Voice Pathology at University College London and taught on the SLT course, and I’m currently working as part of a multi-disciplinary team with children with autism and intellectual disabilities. I work closely with all team members to ensure delivery of the best possible intervention for the children on our caseload. The best part of my job is the satisfaction that comes with seeing the children make progress and achieve their goals. I also love how every day is different and I get to make a positive impact on people’s lives everyday.”

Jenna O’Neill, Bachelor of Science, Speech and Language Therapy

“Obtaining my Bachelor of Nursing Science Degree at NUI Galway was a truly positive experience. I would highly recommend nursing in Galway to anyone considering this career. The School of Nursing and Midwifery is located in a purpose-built building with great learning facilities, and in a brilliant location just next door to University Hospital Galway, where the majority of my clinical placements were based. The staff in the School of Nursing and Midwifery offered great support and endless encouragement, which aided and promoted both my academic and professional development. I really enjoyed my time at NUI Galway and completing this degree programme has proved invaluable to me and has provided me with endless opportunities. I have travelled and worked in other parts of the world where my qualifications are fully recognised and highly regarded. I have since specialised and I am currently working as an oncology nurse in a specialised oncology unit having also completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Oncology) at NUI Galway.”

Eimear Butler, Bachelor of Nursing Science (General)

“I am employed as lecturer in Medical Education and Clinical Skills at NUI Galway. I also have clinical duties in travel medicine and preventative cardiology. Studying medicine at NUI Galway gave me the confidence needed to fulfil my own potential, to have respect for others, to work in a team environment, to care for patients, to innovate, to recognise my limitations, and to strive for excellence. NUI Galway is famed for the quality of its medical graduates, many of whom have gone on to work, study and teach in the finest medical institutions worldwide. I am very proud to serve NUI Galway, its students and the wider community. This is a wonderful privilege and a responsibility I take very seriously.”

Dr Gerard Flaherty, Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, and Bachelor of Obstetrics (MB, BCh, BAO)
Medical students go M.A.D.

In 2011 the School of Medicine added to its dynamic suite of Special Study Modules with a new Medical App Development SSM. Students use the school’s new iPad Suite to design, develop and utilise medical-specific apps. The marriage of technology and medical education continues to develop at a fast pace and the school is committed to ensuring that medical students have access to these technologies as they become available.

The concept for this module stems from the Pocket Anatomy project which was launched in September 2010 in conjunction with the college. The Pocket Body app for medical students and other healthcare professionals was launched in Apple’s App Store. Pocket Body features a fully anatomically accurate human character with nine layers of musculoskeletal content, enabling the user to navigate from the skin layer through the superficial to deep musculature, and on through to ligaments and the skeleton. In each layer, structures are pinned for identification and associated with each pin is additional concise relevant information, including clinical notes. All of the information is presented in an interactive, mobile and accessible format, which makes full use of the features of the iPhone, iPad and iTouch devices on which the app runs. This is in marked contrast to the 2D printed pictures and diagrams commonly used in the teaching of advanced human anatomy today.

www.nuigalway.ie/colleges/mnhs/newsandannouncements.html

First Podiatry Graduates

In September 2008, NUI Galway opened its doors to the very first cohort of undergraduate Podiatry students in the Republic of Ireland. This monumental occasion is helping to shape and change the profession of podiatry in Ireland. These students graduated from the programme in 2012 and will, through an integrated and professionally accredited programme, become the future podiatrists of Ireland. The overall focus of the final year of the BSc in Podiatry degree is to offer academic education and training for students in their final year of studies to prepare the student for the transition into the workplace – from podiatrists in training to professionals in practice. The final year will consolidate all clinical aspects of the programme and ensure that the graduates have the range and scope of practice which is essential to meet the standards of proficiency for podiatrists, international benchmark standards, and the required competencies for graduate podiatrists.

www.nuigalway.ie/podiatry/student/studentviews.html

Our students have done it again!

For the sixth year in a row, a School of Nursing and Midwifery fourth year student has won first prize in the prestigious NUI Dr Henry Hutchinson Stewart Medical Scholarships awards. This competition is run across the four NUI Universities and the award is based on students’ results from the final degree examinations in Nursing/Midwifery. Our first graduates were in 2006 and since then, students from the School of Nursing and Midwifery have won the first prize every year. This year HHS awarded the 2010 and 2011 awards to Ester Afolalu and Laura Coyne. Both Ester and Laura are General Nursing students and both are from Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

Professor Kathy Murphy commented that “winning again this year is yet another great achievement for the school. Our students have now got first place each year for the past six years. That’s a remarkable achievement and demonstrates the high calibre of NUI Galway students”. Second prize was also won by one of our midwifery students, Ms Siobhan Eccles. Siobhan hails from Ennis, Co Clare. Ireland’s first Professor of Midwifery, Professor Declan Devane, commented: “I’m delighted for Siobhan and her colleagues on their wonderful achievement. It is fitting recognition of the quality of their work and of the quality of the nursing and midwifery education at NUI Galway. I have no doubt that they will each make a substantial contribution to the quality of healthcare.”

Pictured above are the victorious students (left to right): Siobhán Eccles, Ester Afolalu and Laura Coyne.