

Dear all,

Over the next two weeks or so, three different staff surveys are going to be coming your way:

1. A national Survey of Staff Experiences of Sexual Violence and Harassment in Irish HEIs will be issued this week. This survey is being conducted by the HEA at the request of Minister Simon Harris to monitor the experiences of staff in relation to sexual violence and harassment with a view to informing national equality, diversity and inclusion planning processes.

2. 2021 Staff Pulse Survey on Remote Working: As a follow-up from the survey last June, UL wishes to gather feedback on the impact that the pandemic continues to have on UL Staff. In particular, the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion office wants to learn about the effect that remote working is having on your career, your productivity levels, and your physical and mental wellbeing to identify issues that need to be addressed by the University.

3. UL Payroll Customer Satisfaction Survey: As you may recall from an earlier email, UL is one of four higher education bodies taking part in the *Higher Education Payroll Shared Services Project (HEPSS)* project. To help evaluate the HEPSS model when it is introduced, we need to carry out a customer satisfaction survey on our current system.

None of these surveys should take too much of your time to fill in and they will contribute to planning for the future, both for UL and nationally. If you can find a moment, please do contribute your opinions.

UL@50 Consultation Update

Professor Maura Adshead has produced a draft synthesis of the Phase 1 feedback with the aim of identifying topics for further consultation in Phase 2. All colleagues will be invited to participate in Phase 2 and may choose the topic that they are interested in further exploring. The focus of these consultations will be to identify and recommend a series of actions for change to help demonstrate the University's alignment with its strategic goals.

The synthesis of Phase 1 will be shared once the content has been agreed by the members of the Consultation Review Group.

Vaccination Rollout Expressions of Interest

Thanks to everyone who expressed an interest in helping with the rollout of vaccinations in the Mid-West Region. Most of you who returned the form before Easter have been contacted by the HSE by now and anyone else will be liaised with over the coming weeks. Most of the roles have been filled but over the coming three to six months, they will be looking for additional suitably qualified vaccinators. If you are interested, please complete the UL vaccination support application form available [here](#).

UL 50th Anniversary

Thanks also to everyone who has sent in their ideas for how we might mark this milestone in the history of UL. All proposals are welcomed by the Planning Group and if you have a new or existing initiative that you would like included, please email your completed [UL 50 Event Proposal Form](#) to consultation@ul.ie, ideally before the end of April in this first call out for proposals.

Finally, today the remainder of pupils returned to school as a welcome first step in the gradual easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Some young people have missed more than seven months of classroom-based learning but all the while educators and organisations were coming up with alternative ways to reach them. In the KBS Untold Stories of COVID-19 series this week, Elaina Ryan, Children's Books Ireland and UL Alum, Suzanne Kelly, RTÉ and Fiona Kearney, The Glucksman, UCC reveal how they continued to provide access to education, reading, art and culture throughout the pandemic.

Have a good week,

Eoin