

About Health Sciences Academy

The Health Sciences Academy (HSA) is a partnership between the University of Limerick, the UL Hospitals Group and the Midwest Community Healthcare Organisation.

Based at the Clinical Education and Research Centre (CERC) in University Hospital Limerick, the Health Sciences Academy aims to improve health and wellbeing for the people of the Midwest.

It will achieve this by:

- strengthening the links between research, innovation and clinical practise,
- delivering transformative education and training, and
- driving innovation in healthcare delivery and technologies through research, which all address the needs of the health services and the people in the Midwest.

For more details, please view our newly launched website:

www.healthsciencesacademy.ie

The Health Sciences Academy is an innovative and ambitious undertaking, with the vision of being a bridge between the academic expertise and clinical practise between the organisations, benefitting patients and staff alike.

Meet the Health Sciences Academy Team



Professor Burke has been a Consultant Vascular Surgeon at University Hospital Limerick, and St John's Hospital since 1994. He has just completed his three-year tenure as Chief Clinical Director for the UL Hospitals Group. He was also the clinical lead during the Reconfiguration of Surgical and Emergency department services in the Midwest between 2008 and 2011.

[Read more about Prof Burke \(Click here\)](#)

**Professor Paul Burke,
Chief Academic Officer/Vice Dean (Health Sciences)**



Miriam's previous roles in the UL Hospitals Group include PALS (Patient Advocacy & Liaison Services) Manager & End-of-Life Coordinator. She has a primary Degree in Physiotherapy and worked clinically for several years before moving into the non-clinical field. She holds a Masters in Health Services Management, a Diploma in Quality & Leadership and is a qualified professional coach.

[Read more about Miriam \(Click here\)](#)

**Ms Miriam McCarthy,
Health Sciences Academy Manager**



Verity is the HSA's newest member of the team. Originally from Australia, where she worked for one of the country's largest construction companies for over 12 years. She led a team of 8 Prestart Consultants, responsible for the signing of building contracts and explanation/alteration of residential house plans.

**Ms Verity Hayes,
PA to Chief Academic Officer**

Current projects include:

- Prevention, self-management and treatment of Type 2 diabetes
- Allied Healthcare Professionals research group
- Interprofessional student education
- Health Sciences Academy for primary school, post-primary school students to foster an interest in health sciences as a career
- Limerick Cancer Research Centre

Meet our Executive Partners

UL Hospitals Group (ULHG)



"The CERC is a world class educational and research facility, and the Health Sciences Academy will direct the energies of practitioners and researchers alike, in our hospital, community & academic settings to unite us in our common objective of improving health & wellbeing for people throughout the Mid-West. Both of which I have prioritised during my time as CEO of UL Hospitals."

**Ms Colette Cowan,
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**

University of Limerick



"Through the Health Sciences Academy and CERC, we will continue to educate the next generation of medical professionals in a space that allows for innovation while also giving us a direct line into the health services. CERC will be a two-way street of virtual and physical communications that will lead to real and tangible impacts in society."

**Prof Rachel Msetfi,
Executive Dean Faculty of Education &
Health Sciences
Director of Health Research Institute**

Mid-West Community Healthcare



"From a community perspective, there are real opportunities to develop integrated care pathways, in particular relating to chronic diseases. The health policy document, Slaintecare, recognises the importance of Integrated care being delivered as close to home as possible, and the Health Sciences Academy can help realise this."

**Ms Maria Bridgeman
Chief Officer**

Launch of the Health Sciences Academy and Opening of the CERC

Monday, December 9th 2019

At the launch of the Health Sciences Academy, Minister of State Mr Jim Daly stated: "It is vital that we look to encourage and support innovation, collaboration and integration in healthcare. The development of the Clinical Education & Research Centre alongside the Health Sciences Academy, are significant initiatives in this regard, that will greatly benefit the Mid-West region and help improve patient care."

[Read more.....](#)



We are really excited to be involved with other departments and continue to build on the projects we have identified to date. If you have any enquiries about the Health Sciences Academy or would like to discuss an opportunity, please contact Miriam McCarthy, Health Sciences Academy Manager:

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