

Grasp the nettle

CRITICAL CHOICES FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT STRUCTURES

PETER SCOTT, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN



There is no perfect research support structure

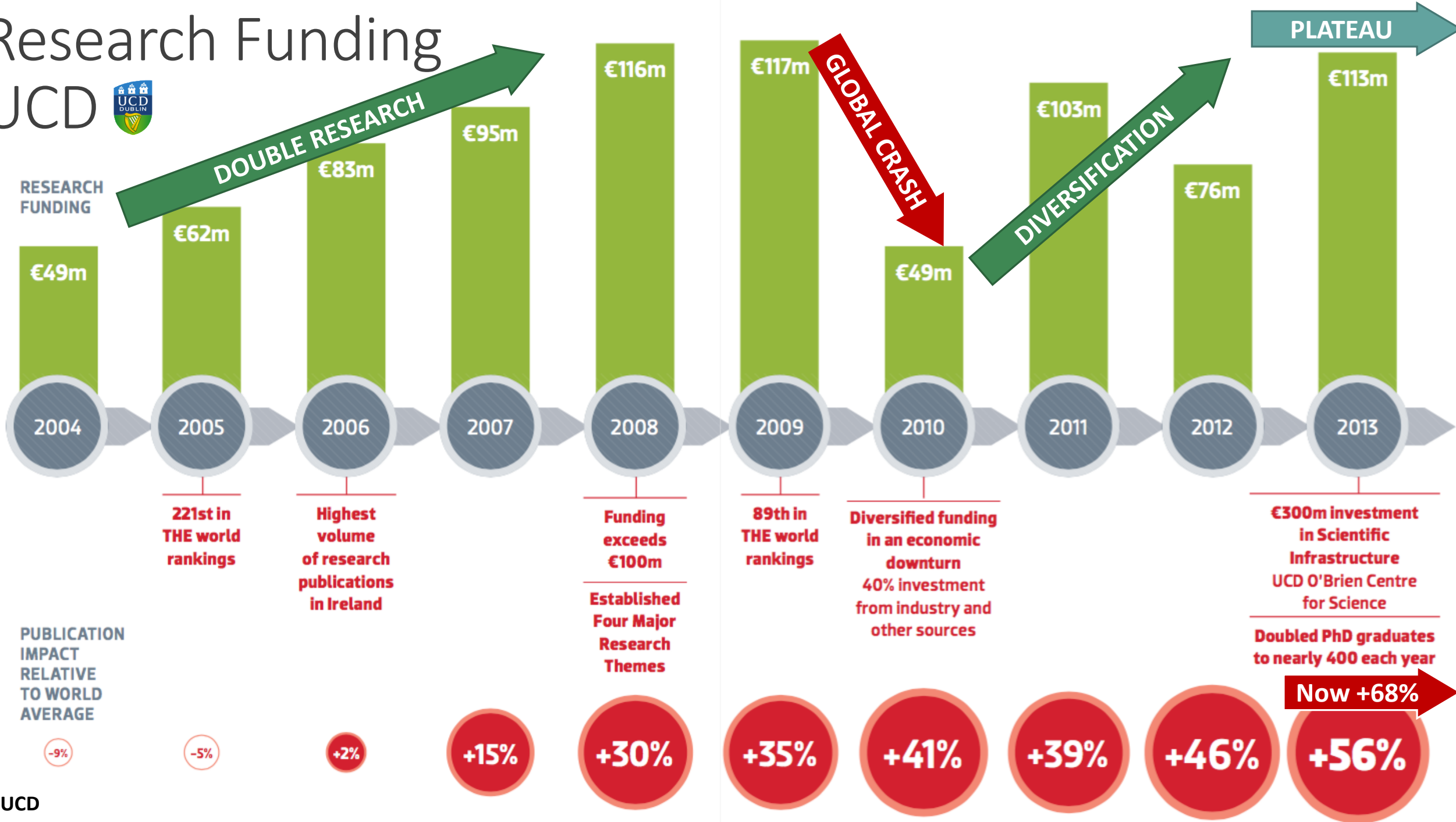
EVERY STRUCTURE HAS TRADE-OFFS

Making deliberate choices about structure lets you pick the right trade-offs

ACTIVELY MAKE CHOICES THAT SUIT YOUR MISSION OR STRATEGY



Research Funding UCD



2015 Central Research Office Restructure
2017 Review of total research support
2018 University wide change programme
RMAs: approximately 30 Central 100 Local





Johan Åkerman
Sigridur Beck
Christian Bonnici
Henrik Engell-Hedager
Eva Maria Moar
Sóley Morthens
Luigi Pellegrino
Peter Scott
Astrid Souren
Kristin Sverdrup
Maddalena Tognola
Paolo Della Porta
Jan Andersen
Renata Schaeffer
John Donovan

Linköpings University
University of Gothenburg
University of Malta
IT University of Copenhagen
Eurac Research
Hafrannsóknastofnun
Università Bocconi
University College Dublin
Radboud University Nijmegen
Oslo and Akerhus University of Applied science
Universität Bern
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Technical University of Denmark
University of Cambridge
Dublin Institute of Technology

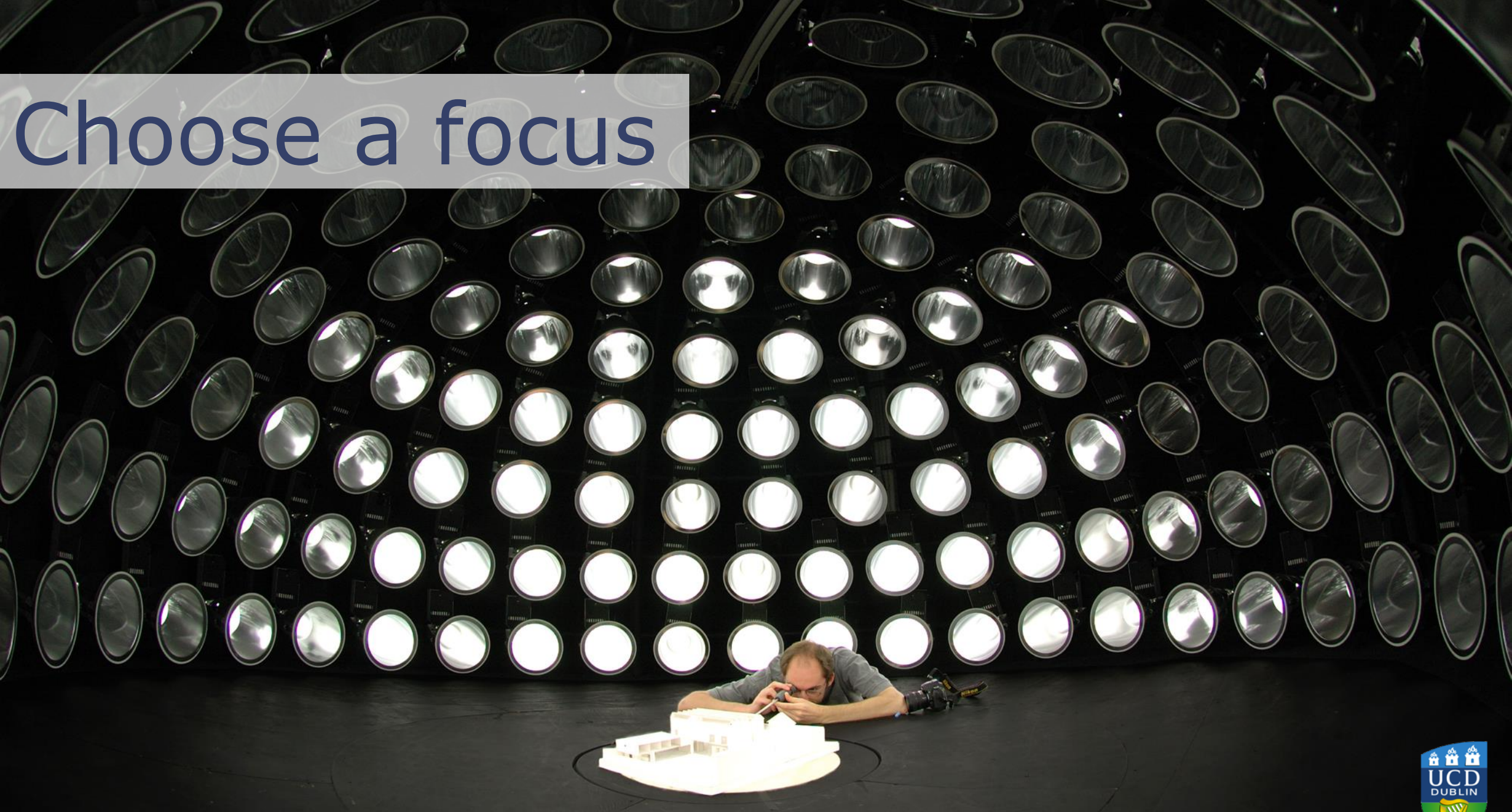
- Benchmarking of scale of support
- Interviews with 15 Institutions

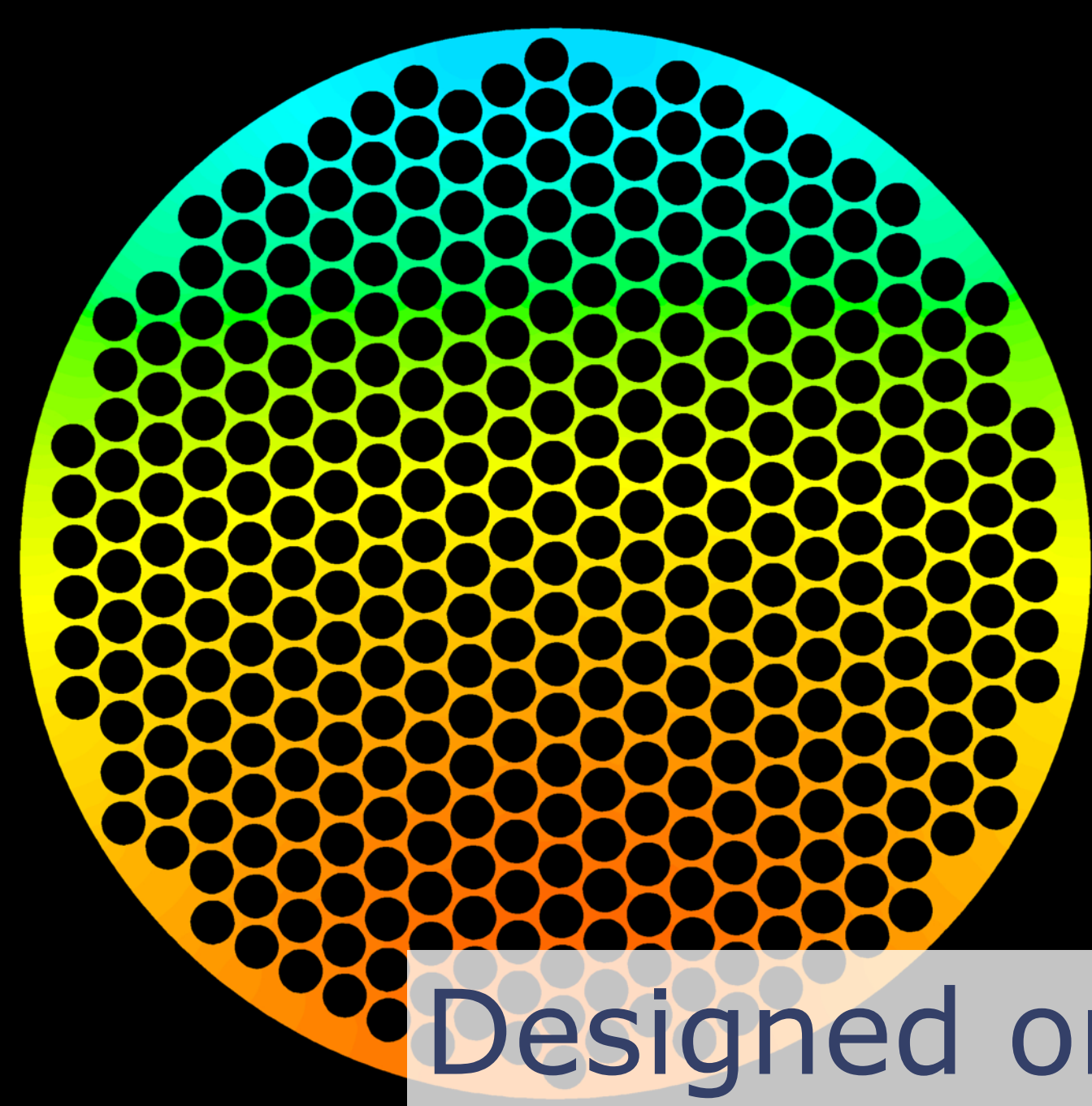


Overview

- Choose to focus or choose not to
- Designed support systems versus ad hoc
- Central office versus local supports
- Cradle to grave support versus pre-award post-award
- Topic specialists versus funder or mechanism specialists
- Fixed term roles or permanent

Choose a focus





Designed or ad hoc?



Central or local support?



Central or local support?





Cradle to grave vs pre and post

The secret of life, Dr Yolanda Alvarez, UCD

Dead men do tell tales, Rene Gapert, UCD



HORIZON 2020



Funding experts or topic experts?





Fixed short term vs permanent



Fixed short term vs permanent

Summary

- Choose to focus or choose not to
- Designed support systems versus ad hoc
- Central office versus local supports
- Cradle to grave support versus pre-award post-award
- Topic specialists versus funder or mechanism specialists
- Fixed term roles or permanent

Summary

- Choose to focus or choose not to
- Designed support systems versus ad hoc
- Central office versus local supports
- Cradle to grave support versus pre-award post-award
- Topic specialists versus funder or mechanism specialists
- Fixed term roles or permanent

What next for UCD?



- Make the case to strengthen local supports
- Design the 'to-be' structure options